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**WASECA  
COUNTY  
PIONEER**

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 19 Vol. IV \$2      Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca      Thursday, May 8, 2025

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**Prom**



The Sacred Heart School marathon included 107 students and a great many family members and supporters, leading to a total of more than 300 participants. The April 30 event highlighted the completion of the school's annual fundraising campaign, during which students helped meet the year's fundraising goal of \$37,500. Prior to the celebration, a fundraising activity included an opportunity for students to put a pie in a faculty member's face. Photos from the Sacred Heart Facebook Page



Fast or slow, following the marathon, runners and walkers were treated to brats and burgers at the Sacred Heart School on Wednesday, April 30, 2025. They brought in a total of \$37,500.

# Sacred Heart marathon reaches fundraising goal

**By BEN REVERMANN**  
Staff writer

Sacred Heart School held their marathon and following celebration the evening of Wednesday, April 30. There were around 200 participants, from young to old, runners or walkers and they met their fundraising goal of \$37,500.

The trip around Loon Lake is about two miles. Before the marathon was to begin, Father Glenn Frerichs said a prayer asking the Lord to watch over those participating

and thanking the almighty for the good weather. A debate took place about where the start line was, with those deciding the corner in front of the school was the best spot. There was a slight false start, but the volunteers were able to play it off. The kids were simply too excited to wait for someone to yell 'start.' There were no people with stop watches however, but there were winners. First place was Cruz Lynch, Second was Owen Sommers, Third was Dominick Mansfield and Fourth was Carson Roesler. Fifth was Auggie Melecha. Melecha was also the first

Sacred Heart student to cross the finish line, a second grader who turned eight years old on Wednesday, April 30. The finish line was an arch of balloons, a volunteer standing nearby said, "We used to do a banner across the finish line so they could run through it, but about four years ago we decided to replace it with the balloons, and everyone said they liked that better."

Stephanie Tesch had blueberry iced drinks for those who crossed the finish line and needed hydration. "We're from 212 Drinks. They asked us to prepare 250 drinks for the

marathoners today, last year we only had 200 and we ran out, but not this year, no sir. There's lots of vitamins in these drinks to help them replenish." The drinks were prepared during the marathon, so they were nice and cold when people started arriving.

Lillyan Jewison was wearing a pink t-shirt and black shorts, a fifth grader at WIS, when asked why she's participating today, she replied, "I used to go here. I just like being a part of it and seeing if I can help." Tonya Lenz was with her three children, who are still pretty young. One of them is still in a

stroller, "I have Mary, Emma and Noah, they're too young to run ahead so they will just be walking with me." There were 107 students who signed up, the rest were family along for support.

After the race, there was a feast for the marathoning people, assorted chips donated by Walmart, Buns donated by HyVee. Around 60 brats donated by Fischer Family Farms, burgers donated by Morgan's Meat Market.

**Photos requested for Memorial Day**

The Waseca County Pioneer will run a special section honoring those who served in our second annual Memorial Day edition of the paper. We are kindly requesting people call, email or write the Pioneer to request who they would like to see pictured in this year's edition. Please email or bring photos in person to:

Email: [news@wasecacounty-pioneer.com](mailto:news@wasecacounty-pioneer.com)

In person: 111 Elm Ave. W, Waseca.

**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 \$40 for two weeks.

Please email: [news@wasecacounty-pioneer.com](mailto:news@wasecacounty-pioneer.com) or call: 507-837-6767

*A word from  
The Word*

*With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love. Ephesians 4:2*

## Solberg and Hoppe Exhibit

**By MELANIE PILTINGSRUD**  
Staff writer

The Waseca Art Center hosted a reception on Thurs. evening, May 1 for an exhibition of artwork by Olivia Hoppe and Mary Catherine Solberg, two artists from far afield.

Considering the pouring rain on Thurs. evening, the reception was surprisingly well attended.

Mikhail Rostislavovich, current president of the Waseca Art Center (WAC), kicked the evening off by introducing WAC board members: Brad Donner; Katie Youngberg; Missy Donner, past president; Jeanne Sexton; Caitlin Roberts; Ann Staloch; Commissioner Brad Milbrath; and Christy Easton, director of education and programming; and Penny Vought, vice president; and Diane Beckmann.

Rostislavovich then introduced the two featured artists: Hoppe and Solberg.



**From left: Olivia Hoppe, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Mary Catherine Solberg, and Penny Vought.**

Solberg spoke about her work over the years, explaining that the paintings fall into various categories. What Solberg calls "swim girls," are paintings that are "less about swimming than about transformation." The religious iconography of her Catholic upbringing resulted in a series on icons, in which she depicts people or animals, such as a squirrel or a groundhog, and elevate them to the sacred level using gold leaf. A collection of animal paintings is deeply personal for Solberg, because her inspiration are photographs taken by her late brother, Jim Solberg. In these paintings, Solberg always adds a personal touch, such as the piece of candy corn in the painting "Groundhog Devouring Candy Corn."

Solberg enjoyed creating art all her life, but initially took the 'sensible' approach and avoided making a career of it. "I always was good at drawing faces," said Solberg, who remembers drawing a caricature of one of her teachers. "But you can't make money doing art, right?" Solberg became a land surveyor, but always found herself wanting to squeeze art into her schedule.

Solberg opened a gallery in La Cross, Wis. and supported other artists. Finally, her husband, Patrick, an architect, told her she should make art her full-time work, and he would support her.

Each of Solberg's paintings has a

## JWP senior expands to professional productions

**By DEB BENTLY**  
News Editor

Eric Daschner, a senior at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton schools, has not only been an active participant in his district's music programs—including band, choir, and school musicals—he has performed in four professional-level productions at the Mankato Playhouse in the Civic Center Plaza.

Daschner is currently finishing up an April 25 to May 11 run of "Jesus Christ Superstar," the "Rock opera" which tells the story of Jesus Christ's last week of life from the perspective of Judas Iscariot. Daschner is cast as a member of the ensemble, one of the "disciples."

"Jesus Christ Superstar" I have been a part of 7 different shows at JWP, my first one being the leader of the Lollipop Munchkin Guild from Wizard of Oz when I was in the fourth grade. I have been apart of Band, Choir, the Musical, and Swing show. I have played the Clarinet in band since 5th Grade, becoming the Principal Clarinet in 10th Grade. I have also been in choir for two years and sing tenor and occasionally alto. Besides Honor Bands and Choirs, I



**JWP senior Eric Daschner has participated in seven JWP musicals, and four productions at the Mankato Playhouse Theater. His final performances in "Jesus Christ Superstar" will be this coming weekend.**

also occasionally sing at churches in the area.

I have been part of four JWshows at the Mankato Playhouse, two adult shows and two teen editions. My first time auditioning outside of my school was at the playhouse for Into the Woods Jr. which was last summer. I was encouraged by a couple friends from speech who were also auditioning, as well as trying to find a new place to learn more about

**Daschner continued on 4**

Exhibit continued on 5





# Compostings

by Al Batt

## Songbird Trail

### ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

I want to travel to Iceland. But I'm not sure which way to go. Whatever means necessary. No, it doesn't.

### DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It's easy to see the road signs of spring. Various red or orange markings indicating roadwork will occur.

I love seeing the big leaves of the pieplant. Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote about being newly married and making dinner for a threshing crew, where she referred to pieplant, and that she needed to bake a pie from it. She didn't add any sugar to it, so the rhubarb pie wasn't a resounding success. Marco Polo brought rhubarb from China to Europe. Benjamin Franklin is credited with introducing rhubarb seed to North America in 1770, but John Bartram had been growing the edible rhubarb in Philadelphia 40 years before that. In the 17th century, the English became the first to eat rhubarb, but ingested the leaves because they resembled chard. The leaves contain an oxalic acid that causes cramps, nausea and worse. By the 18th century, Europeans had discovered that the tart stalks were the part to eat and were perfect for tarts. A neighbor boy, who enjoyed rhubarb sauce and crisp, called rhubarb the "good celery."

### I'VE LEARNED

In 1948, Music Digest estimated that Bing Crosby's recordings filled more than half of the 80,000 weekly hours allocated to recorded radio music in America.

As a boy, I never asked if the chicken house needed cleaning. It always needed cleaning.

If they're not otherwise identified, celebrities who appear in TV commercials should wear name tags.

I'm grateful those lilac bushes were allowed to grow and blossom after the house's demolition. Their intoxicating smell brings a rush of memories. It was a part of the dreams of those who had planted them. Lilac comes from the Persian "nilak," which means bluish. Lilacs were used to test fidelity. Five common lilac petals were eaten in succession; if that was done without a petal getting stuck in the throat, then one's lover was true. People planted lilacs in memory of the deceased or to mark graves. Their pleasant smell caused lilacs to be planted near out-houses. They persist as living markers, reminding us of the past. A farm may be gone, but the lilacs remember.

### BAD JOKES

### DEPARTMENT

"I'm sorry" and "I apologize" usually mean the same thing, but not

at a funeral.

Scuba is an acronym for self-contained underwater breathing apparatus. Tuba is an acronym for terrible underwater breathing apparatus.

Why was it called the Dark Ages? It was because of all the knights.

Why do the numbers 1 through 12 work the hardest? It's because they're always on the clock.

They put jokes on the back of bacon packages. My favorite one is: Serving size: 2 slices.

### NEWS FROM HARTLAND

#### HAROLD

I'll miss Harvey Berg, a former Hartlander who settled in faraway Waseca. He was a good guy and a good friend. I miss his kind ways.

The multi-use trail that will run from Hartland to Albert Lea on abandoned railroad tracks has an official name—the Songbird Trail.

#### NATURE NOTES

"How can I tell if a ladybug is a multicolored lady beetle?" This beetle is originally from Asia and was first released for biological control of other insects in this country in 1916. It's not known for certain whether the establishment of lady beetles in the US resulted from accidental entries, planned releases or both. The beetle's color ranges from yellow to orange to red, with zero to 19 black spots. The wings could even be black with red spots. That's why its name includes "multicolored." A consistent pattern is the black "M" on a white plate behind its head, just above the wings. It could be an "M" or a "W," depending upon whether the beetle is viewed from the front or rear.

Starling, starling. First starling I see today. I wish I might, I wish I may, have this wish I wish today. That's right, I wished upon a starling. May never leaves me dismayed. Everyone should go outdoors if for no other reason than it's safer than going out windows. It was a gee-whiz morning for me. The suet feeders had a rush of business made up of rose-breasted grosbeaks, brown thrashers, woodpeckers (downy, hairy & red-bellied), starlings, nuthatches, chickadees and blue jays. It was the time of the whistling sparrows, and I loved the company of white-throated, Harris's and white-crowned. It was a time when I remembered how much I enjoy wren and thrasher music. It was like hearing a nearly forgotten Etta James song again.

Life is made of little moments. I was thrilled to see meadowlarks flapping with short, stiff, grouse-like wingbeats and gliding as I listened to the snoring sounds of leopard frogs. A western meadowlark sings, "Have-you-planted your wheat yet?" and an eastern meadowlark sings "Spring of the year!"

### MEETING ADJOURNED

"In a world where you can be anything, be kind."—Clare Pooley.

# Maybe it felt like more of an ending

The day has finally arrived, the time is here. The last day of instruction has come and gone and I no longer have to attend any more classes — unless I choose to. It's a weird thought and one I have not yet wrapped my head around. How do you say goodbye to college?

My mom came up to visit me last week; she took graduation pictures of my roommates and me. It was all rather similar to June of my senior year of high school, but this went better. Or maybe it just felt like more of an ending. In our white dresses, caps and gowns, sashes and more, we walked to the main part of campus and had fun finding different spots to be in the background. It was nice to take pictures with my best friends, those I have become so close with in college. I know I will look back at these pictures years later to sigh and reminisce. Isn't that the point?

I know my grandma, and prob-



## To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

ably many other people, still regularly meet with their college friends to grab lunch, give updates on their lives, and probably gossip and reminisce about their college days. I love that, and hope it will be the same for me.

However, because everyone is finishing up their college careers and going on to do fun and exciting adult things with lots of responsibility, I've noticed an increase in drinking. I overheard one girl the other day say that her roommates went to the same bar four days last week. I have colleagues who have invited others out to numerous occasions within a week as well. And then there are

all the bar crawls put on by different organizations. I guess everyone is celebrating being done—my theory is they don't want to accept they are graduating and leaving.

Seems like we're all stressed about life as we've known it coming to an end. My roommate said she got really sad thinking everyone is going home for the summer while she will be staying. We have a friend who is moving by himself to Eddyville, Iowa, for a job. We looked it up on Google: Eddyville has a population of 958, has two bars, and about four churches. I mean, what else can you ask for?

And as for me, well, I'm mov-

# Why legally define homeschooling?

By DR. MELANIE PILTINGSRUD

On Thursday, April 24, the Minnesota Senate passed Amendment 29 to Omnibus Education Bill SF 1740 that has homeschooling families up in arms, as these laws would make Minnesota's homeschool laws among the most onerous in the nation.

The new amendment, which was introduced late, giving the public no opportunity to testify, would limit who is allowed to educate in a homeschool setting, where they are allowed to educate, and drastically alter the logistics currently utilized by most of Minnesota's 31,216 homeschool students and their families.

Much confusion regarding the amendment has phones at the Minnesota Association of Christian Home Educators (MACHE) and the Homeschool Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) ringing off the hooks. "I've basically been answering questions about it all day," said HSLDA attorney Amy Buchmeyer.

Much of the confusion comes from the definition in Article 1, Sec. 1, Subd. 4a and 4b of a homeschool as education directed by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) with the primary address being a residence in Minnesota. People unfamiliar with homeschooling practices might see nothing wrong with this definition, but the amendment exhibits an outdated idea that homeschoolers are socially isolated individuals with little or no opportunity to interact with other adults or play with other children.

"I don't think the intention of the authors when they wrote this was necessarily to make it as restrictive as it is," said Buchmeyer, who sites a hypothetical instance where, currently, parents may teach not only their own children, but the children's cousins and even the neighbor kid. This law, however, is stating that a homeschool is among students who are related to each other by their parents or who have the same legal guardian(s). "Which immediately kind of limits the universe of what a homeschool is," said Buchmeyer.

SF 1740 – A 29 further states that, with a parent's or guardian's written permission, someone else can direct, but the amendment still presumes the limited number of students for whom the parents or guardians are legally responsible.

"That's ridiculous, ancient, archaic, horribly out-of-touch law making," said Dr. Seann Dikkers, Chief Product Officer for Portals Academy, who selects curriculum for the Minnesota based company that creates daily lesson plans for homeschool families. Dikkers pointed out that people often instruct grandchildren, nieces or nephews. "So even within the family network, they're not recognizing that you may have families beyond a traditional parent and child home."

Furthermore, since homeschooling was legalized in all 50 states by 1993, homeschool families across the nation have discovered how valuable it is for students to learn in co-ops in which parents take turns teaching classes according to individual expertise. "Minnesota has a very robust co-op community and it has a large network of families homeschooling together," said Buch-

meyer.

"It's a face-style education, and it's really good, and it's working," said Dikkers. "And that's the odd part; they're passing laws like this with no regard for what's actually working in the state."

Since homeschoolers regularly score higher in academic achievement than the national average, Dikkers asks why limit an educational model that is thriving and produces such great outcomes? Per Dikkers, "They don't have any basis on which to say it needs to be limited."

One fear already voiced in the Minnesota homeschooling community is that a student won't be able to take private music lessons and claim it on their transcript. Buchmeyer said she was "just guesstimating," because the language of the amendment is vague, but the argument she would make in that situation is that the parent or guardian in that case is still, per the language of the amendment, "directing" the education of the child. "The parent could 'direct' a piano teacher to educate their child," Buchmeyer theorized.

Another problematic part of the amendment is the stipulation that the primary location of homeschooling must be "a residence in Minnesota." Homeschooling takes place in many different places. Sometimes co-ops or 'micro-schools,' defined by a larger group of homeschool students, make use of a church or other convenient location. The amendment does not say that homeschooling needs to occur exclusively in a home residence, and the percentage of learning hours that would define a location as the "primary address" is not stipulated, but Buchmeyer said, "Best assumption here is at least 51%. There's no case law on this, so best guess is more than half."

Yet a third problem for homeschoolers is the amendment's prohibition of any family from homeschooling "if any other adult residing in the home or home school setting has been convicted of or admitted to a crime," whether felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor level crime, and whether the crime involved a conviction, admission to, or Alford plea in relation to the crime. This portion of SF 1740 – A 29 is redundant, because we already have a system in place whereby courts determine when a crime is such that the perpetrator should have limited or no access to children. The concern for HSLDA is, per Buchmeyer, that this amendment states in effect: "A child is fine to live with their parents, be at home; we [the legislators] have no concern unless that parent wants to take charge of their child's education, and at that point we [the legislators] draw the line," an idea which Buchmeyer calls discriminatory. She explained, "In every other context, [the legislators] are fine with the parents being around their children. The court has decided that they're safe to be around their children." But homeschooling is a no-go.

"This assumes that, if you have a criminal conviction in the past, basically you are nonredeemable," said Buchmeyer, "In the name of protecting kids, we just demonize a large swath of society."

Not only that, but this law employs, if not the idea of collectivist

### EDITORIAL

guilt, then at least the idea of collectivist punishment, where not only the former criminal continues to pay for their crime, but potentially their spouse or parents and the children as well.

Buchmeyer hastens to add that minimizing horrendous crimes is not the objective, but courts should and do determine the outcomes of criminality on an individual basis. "It's not wrong to have the conversation – and our goal is to protect kids and give them the best education possible – but it needs to happen in the criminal justice statutes, not in the homeschool statutes," said Buchmeyer.

Buchmeyer's hypothetical is an 18-year-old, who, in sowing his wild oats, committed arson, and now he can't come home until his younger sibling finishes homeschooling. "There's so much breadth to how much this implicates, where it's not just the parents, not just the person homeschooling, but truly anyone [living in the house]," said Buchmeyer, even those who, under an Alford plea, accept a conviction while maintaining their innocence.

Which brings up the uncomfortable truth that, due to the criminal justice system's rampant use of plea deals, people often plead guilty in order to avoid a lengthy prison sentence or worse, which means they now carry that 'guilty' label around for the rest of their lives, whether they ever committed a crime or not. According to Alexandra Natapoff, Harvard Law Professor and author of Snitching: Criminal Informants and the Erosion of American Justice, 95% of all criminal cases in the U.S. are resolved not with a trial, but with a plea deal, and a significant number of those people are innocent.

Suspending discussion of the unfortunate victims of the judicial system, isn't such a law still worthwhile if it protects children?

According to Buchmeyer, Utah passed a similar law prohibiting the criminally convicted from homeschooling a couple of years ago, and then eliminated it again in the last legislative session. It did nothing to protect children, but it did create a paperwork nightmare.

The argument typically made is that homeschoolers don't have as many adults around to keep an eye on them to make sure everything is fine. Per Buchmeyer, "I don't think that really holds up." Homeschoolers tend to be involved in a lot of extracurricular activities. They're involved in their communities. They're surrounded by an abundant number of adults who mentor and encourage them. "It's not just this vision of, okay we're sitting at a table doing math all day," said Buchmeyer. "Homeschooling is all about getting out into the community, and real world, hands-on experience for that child's individual needs. It's not isolation." Buchmeyer calls the assumption of homeschooling isolation a "false narrative" that is being argued right now at the Minnesota legislature.

What makes the logic of this amendment even harder to understand is the fact that a child living with a former criminal could still le-

ing to Denver in August. See? Everyone is going their separate ways.

But that's okay because I keep reminding myself that change is good. Well, some change is good. I am not a fan of all the changes happening in society nowadays, but no one can ever truly be

At least the weather is nice. Walking around wearing tank tops and shorts brought me some genuine joy, it was like a cure to stand in the sun and bask in the rays. Plus everyone comes out of the woodwork to lay on the grass areas around campus or on hammocks with their laptops. Still always on the grind, but at least getting some sun.

I hope you guys have a great week, it's about time we get one.

My Determination: "If you got money, no attachments, nothing to do. I started partying. It got wild." — White Lotus, Season 3

gally stay home 24 hours a day taking online classes, as long as those classes are official public school online classes. Nor does this law apply to anyone else involved in education, such as school board members or teachers. For homeschool families, the double standard is hard to swallow. "If they care about felons working with children, they should have made similar provisions added to teachers, substitute teachers, school boards and administrators," said Dikkers.

Another part of the amendment involves the very public school truancy laws that make some parents decide that homeschooling would be a better option. Article 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 12 states that parents must apply to the school district, which may require a note from a physician or a mental health provider, in order to obtain permission to take their kids out of school for any given period. But the truancy laws are a one-size-fits-all solution that often just doesn't. "[E]specially for families with a child with any kind of chronic health issue, it is very difficult for families to navigate the public school truancy withdrawal," said Buchmeyer. Post Covid, many states have instituted stricter truancy laws, partly because, after having experienced Covid, parents are more health conscious; they want to keep their children at home if there's an illness going around. "Because of that, there's this huge backlog in the courts of truancy situations," said Buchmeyer.

This tension over the boundary between parental rights and the rights of public schools to decide what's best for the child is a major factor in parents choosing to homeschool.

Another bone of contention that butts up against this same impasse is another bill under consideration: HF 3239, which would strip parents of their right to conscientious exemption from the MMR vaccine mandate for their children, a reversal of traditional parental authority, which, for those who feel strongly about it, may precipitate not just an exodus from public schools, but an exodus from the state.

Buchmeyer summarized: "Especially post-Covid, many public schools have seen a loss in student numbers, and a lot of it is because parents are discovering that they can provide an education for their child [...] that is specific and tailored to that child's needs, interests, and goals in a way that public education cannot by its very nature, because it is a mass production of education. And when you start trying to put [homeschooling] in a box like this, and say it has to look this way, you limit how much it can be tailored. You basically cut out what makes it so impactful." HSLDA always advises parents to follow the laws, but, as Buchmeyer put it, "Compliance should not be so onerous on parents that they need to consider breaking the laws to provide that education to their child."

If SF 1740 passes with Amendment 29 in the House, the new laws will come into effect July 1, 2025.

Senator Erin Maye Quade, who introduced Senate File 1740 – A 29, was not available for comment.

If you feel strongly about these or other laws currently under debate at the Minnesota legislature, please contact your legislators.



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OBITUARIES

Robert Beelow

ROBERT ORVILLE BEELOW, age 72, of Janesville, passed away peacefully on May 1, 2025, at home surrounded by his family - after a long battle with cancer.

“Bob”, “GrayBeard” or “Papa” to those that knew him best, was born on November 16, 1952, in Waseca. He was the son of Harriet (Pagel) and Orville Beelow. He attended Trinity Lutheran School and graduated from Janesville High School with the class of 1970. Bob enlisted into the MN National Guard following graduation, where he served for 6 years before being honorably discharged in 1976. On September 24, 1977, Bob was united in marriage to the love of his life, Paula Eustice. Together they built a home in Janesville. Bob’s first job, after working on the family farm, was with Pluym Masonry in Janesville. Little did he know this would turn into his lifelong passion and career - owning and operating Beelow Masonry. His passion for masonry work was evident in his pride for his craft. He was also extremely proud to have his sons, brothers-in-law, and granddaughter work by his side throughout the years. Bob’s greatest pride was in his five children and twelve grandchildren – always a fierce protector and defender of his family. Even though his job required him to be “tough as nails” he was affectionately called the “baby hog” when it came to his grandkids - always finding a baby asleep on Papa’s chest. While Bob’s love for his kids and grandkids was abundant, his love for Paula will forever be unmatched – true soul mates. Bob and Paula’s love was a true testament to their wedding vows “for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.”

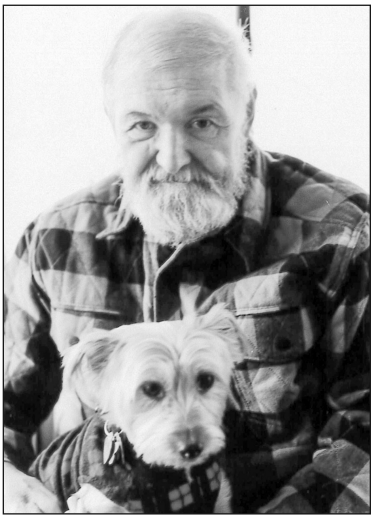
Bob was blessed with an amazing group of friends – he cherished the time they spent bowling, playing softball, horseshoes and, of course, their card nights. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing. Later in life, Bob enjoyed playing “bags” - even using physical therapy to help him adjust his throw when his mobility was affected. He’s always enjoyed casino visits and trying his luck with lottery tickets. But most of all, he loved following his children and grandchildren’s activities. Bob was active in his community as a member of the Janesville Jaycees and Irish American Club of Southern Minnesota. Bob and Paula were honored with the title of Mr. and Mrs. Emerald Isle to recognize their involvement in the Irish American Club. They were also Grand Marshal’s for Janesville Hay Daze. Last, but not least, his most prestigious title was – Mr. Legs!

Bob will forever be remembered as a loving, hardworking, protector (and don’t forget “storyteller”) who loved his family. He will be dearly missed.

Bob is survived by the love of his life, Paula of Janesville; their children: Robert Beelow Jr. of Montgomery, Beth (Loren) Kesteloot of Marshall, Michael (Jaimie) Beelow of Le Center, Amanda (Zachary) Loken of Janesville, and John (Jessica) Beelow of Delavan; their grandchildren: Leighton, Declyn, and Taryn Beelow; Hailey, Brianna and Kailyn Kesteloot; McKenna, Wyatt and McCoy Beelow; Madisyn Loken (Benjamin Schrom – Fiancé) and Gavin Loken; and Blake Beelow. He is also survived by his siblings: Shirley (Dale) Huelsnitz of Waseca, Patrick (Karla) Eustice of St. Cloud, Joseph (Renee) Eustice of Ortonville, AnnMarie Eustice-Brygider (John) of Washington, Susan (Tim) Anderson of Walker, Thomas Eustice of Mankato, David (Angie) Eustice of South Carolina, Bernard (Callie) Eustice of Janesville, Willie (Tracy) Eustice of Mankato; brother-in-law, Kenneth Radke of Janesville and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents – Harriet and Orville Beelow; sister - Sharon Radke; in-laws – Patrick and Patricia “Patty” Eustice; sister-in-law - Maureen Eustice; brothers-in-law – Henry “Hank” Eustice and Richard Eustice.

Visitation was from 4:00 – 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, in Janesville at Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt. The visitation continued for one hour prior to the service at church on Wednesday. Funeral Service were held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Interment with military honors followed at Smiths Mill Cemetery.



Robert Beelow

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Earnest Fortner

EARNEST WILLIAM FORTNER, age 68 of Waterville, died on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at Mayo Clinic Health System in Waseca.

Born on May 7, 1956, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, he was the son of Earnest Ray and Marlene (Juene-mann) Fortner. He attended Blooming Prairie High School, graduating with the class of 1975. Earnie continued his education at Pine Tech in Pine City where he studied Taxidermy. Following his education he lived in Pine City for a few years, and he started a family with Cindy Davis. Together they had three daughters that he cherished deeply. They moved as a family to Columbia Heights before living in Fridley for several years. In 1997 Earnie moved

to Waseca and lastly made Waterville his home.

Earnie was a skilled taxidermist, working for generations of families as well as traveling around the country preparing animals for Cabela’s Animal Exhibits where he received his certificate in Pachydermy with which he went on to mount elephants and other large game . He was an artistic individual who also dabbled in woodworking and painting. He loved what he did! In his free time Earnie enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing guitar, and enjoying the outdoors. Although Earnie wasn’t a regular church goer, he was raised in the Catholic faith and he carried his strong faith with him daily. He will be remembered as a strong man with integrity and as the most loving father his girls could have asked for.

He was a blessing in the lives who loved him.

Earnie is survived by his daughters: Crystal Fortner of Minneapolis, Jessica Fortner of Minneapolis and Jennifer Fortner of Memphis, TN; three grandchildren: Jaelyn Fortner, and Jayveon and Cameron Knox; the mother of his children, Cindy Davis of Robinsdale; dear friend and neighbor, Gail Hildebrandt; sister, Pam (Scott) Carlson of Blooming Prairie; nephew, Jake (Brittany) Wheeler; nieces: Melissa Morton-Nussbaum and Heather Morton; other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, Juanita (Terry) Wheeler.

A private family celebration of Earnie’s life will be held. DSOfuneral.com



Earnest

Ag Education Day returns on May 17

Mankato, MN – On May 17, children and families are invited to experience a FREE Admissions Day for Ag Education Day, an immersive event that brings agriculture to life through interactive stations, real farm equipment, and engaging exhibits. This fun and educational day will highlight the journey of food from seed to table, offering children and caregivers a unique opportunity to connect with the agricultural industry.

Ag Education Day is a hands-on event where children and caregivers can discover the fascinating world of agriculture and the trucks that transport food from farms to our tables. From planting seeds to stepping into a combine simulator, this event highlights the innovation and dedication that drive food production," said Rob Grover, CMSM Committee Chair and Owner of Grover Farm Trucking.

Spanning 3.5 acres in the heart of downtown Mankato, Ag Education Day will feature:

- Over 10 semi-trucks and authentic tractors
- Cutting-edge drones and a state-of-the-art combine simulator
- A Play Zone where children can climb, crawl through large drainage systems, jump into Corn and Soybean Pits, participate in a "truck wash," and plant their own seeds

With over 30 community partners and industry experts coming together to create an unforgettable experience, Ag Education Day promises a day of exploration, discovery, and fun for the whole family.

-More-

“Ag Education Day is a fantastic opportunity to showcase the technology and innovation that drive modern agriculture. We’re proud to partner in this event and help connect children and families with the people and processes that bring food from the farm to their tables," said KC Graner, CFS CEO.

Ag Education Day is proudly presented by Central Farm Serv-

ice and Central Advantage.

Join us on May 17 from 9 AM to 4 PM at 244 Lamm Street, Mankato, MN 56001, for a day filled with hands-on activities and agricultural adventures!

For more information, visit Childrens Museum of Southern Minnesota | PLAY. It’s what we do. (cmsouthernmn.org)

About the Children’s Museum:

The Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota is a nonprofit organization with a mission to ignite the natural curiosity of every child through the power of play in a dynamic, awe-inspiring environment. The Museum engages diverse audiences from across our region and enriches children and families with opportunities for hands-on play.

Since opening its doors in 2015, over 100,000 visitors—young and old—have visited annually. A central draw to the Museum is its interactive exhibits and a wide variety of programs, which focus on play, exploration, and ongoing education; STEAM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) programs; theater and cultural experiences, as well as many Ag education offerings. The Children’s Museum offers daily opportunities for parents, grandparents, and caregivers to explore and play with their children in its indoor and outdoor spaces. More information at www.cmsouthernmn.org.

About Central Farm Service (CFS)

Central Farm Service (CFS) is a farmer-owned cooperative committed to sustainability and the co-operative way of doing business. We provide innovative solutions in agronomy, energy, grain, and feed, ensuring our members benefit from shared success. With a strong focus on education, community engagement, and supporting the next generation of agricultural leaders, CFS is proud to help bring Ag Education Day to life.

Learn more at www.cfscoop.com.

■ Chase

from Page 3

the county law enforcement center, Fleming was discovered to have a blood alcohol content of .11. A pre-

liminary hearing took place the morning of April 29; another hearing was set for May 13. Fleming faces up to \$6,000 bail, or a release on his own recognizance with numerous conditions including agreeing not to consume alcohol or enter establishments where alcohol is sold and to be subjected to random testing.

■ Daschner

from Page 1

the musical realm. Auditions for JCS was the middle of March. A fun thing about JCS is that I didn’t actually officially audition. I was reached out by the director of the show because of my previous shows at the play-

house. Practices began as soon as the cast list came out, practicing Monday-Thursday from 7-9. As well as this, putting in about an hour outside of practice a day was reasonable.

JCS is super special and it is something that I am so excited to be part of. This is my first time being in a musical with only songs, no lines or scenes. I personally believe that Simon’s number is a highlight for the Ensemble/Apostles, “I Don’t Know

How To Love Him” for Mary Magdalene, “Gethsemane” for Jesus, and “Damned for All Time” for Judas and the Priests. All of the people in the cast is so professional and talented that I love to perform with them every weekend. My favorite scene that my character is in is “Herod’s Song” in the second act because I get to have fun, dance, and perform some sweet lifts!

I am planning on attending MNSU Mankato for a BFA degree in Musical Theatre. I hope to participate in the college musicals, as well as surrounding community theaters like the Mankato Playhouse.

My favorite role that I have ever been was Robert Martin in the show The Drowsy Chaperone Jr. I had so much fun with the rest of the cast, found a new passion in tap dancing, and even got to go on stage in roller skates! I hope to one day be apart of a full version of this.

would say that the most demand-

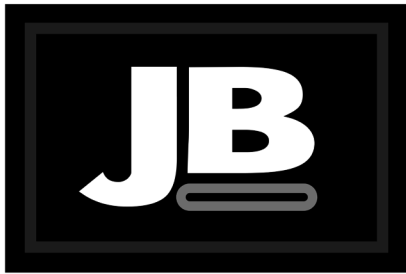
ing part about this production for everyone in the cast is maintaining vocal health. Since this show is only songs, there is little to no breaks for a good majority of the cast. It takes a lot of work to make sure that we are singing healthily, and do proper care to keep it that way.

There is for sure more pressure when you start out in a new place, which is very different for high school. High school is more about the actors having fun, and community theatre and professional theaters focus more on the audience having fun. Although the cast and audience in both have fun, it is more centered this way.

I have been asked this a lot, but no, I have never had any formal dance training. I found a passion for it about three years ago and everything I know is self taught or from some free workshops that I find.



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WHS Honor Roll

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “Straight A” Honor Roll, Grade 7**  
Regan Barr, Ayden Baxter, Aryana Garza, Olivia Hagen, Alexander Henry, Luke Jeske, Kayla Landrum, Joseph LeMieux, Kolby Lindquist, Lillian Muff, Cayden Page, Kaia Sartori, Olive Scheffert, Caiden Scheller, Mateo Vasquez-Neigebauer, Milo Wachal, Leah Wilson, Autumn Zimprich.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “Straight A” Honor Roll Grade 8**  
Liah Adams, Rylee Ahlschlager, Abigail Berge, Keenan Collins, Bryan De Jager, Maxwell Deml, Gavin Farley, Kooper Lindquist, Maurice Lopez, Hannah Sommers, Enrique Tovar, Aiden Walker, Jenna Yoder, Quinn Yoder.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “Straight A” Honor Roll Grade 9**  
Armaan Bhatti, Allyson Holmseth, Oriana Jewison, Charley Kietzman, Jacob Knutson, Allison Mader, Khloe Nelson, Violet Patterson, Enoch Possin, Maren Schimming, Ryan Yoder, Addison Zimmerman.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “Straight A” Honor Roll Grade 10**  
Madelynn Benzick, Jacob Harguth, Lauren Holmseth, Colby Hoof, Violet Rohwer, Aera Zimprich.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “Straight A” Honor Roll Grade 11**  
Layla Keith, Jolee Larson, Kaylee Lawson, Vivian Mader, Corrick Medina, Pearl Moore, Andres Vasquez-Neigebauer, Jasmyn Villafuerte, Avery Wetzell.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “Straight A” Honor Roll Grade 12**  
Nathanael Andrs, Kendall Bowers, Sophie Chawra, Jack Chen, Collin Dettmer, EdenEads, Benjamin Hagen, Elizabeth Manthe, Addison Pfeifer, Nevaeh Sampson, Jackson Tesch, Cody Weber, Maxwell Wirtz.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School 7th grade A Honor Roll:**  
Reagann Attenberger Wyatt Bartz, Trey Bohannon, Finley Byron, Sawyer Collins, Autumn Fritz, Ashley Garcia, Keegan Glynn, Brody Gray, Evelyn Griffin, Vaira Guse, Kiyanna Gwilt, Oliver Haekenkamp, Claire Harguth, Ryan Harguth, Jazmyne Johnson, Mya Kath, Ellie Kopischke, Corine Kratzer, Sydney Langager, Kelsey Lawson, Kesavaanandhan Mahalingam, Liam Malterer, Kinley McMurphy, Arlo Mullen, Cruz Nensenson, Taelyn Nowak, Miles Popp, Charles Randall, Jade Rice, Emely Rivera Perez, Tobin Rutt, Shannon Sanchez, Jozy Schlaak, Ellie Schleicher, Raya Sieberg, Owen Sommers, Aidan Spotts, Carter Walker, Mallory Wetzell, Keera Wolske.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “A” Honor Roll, Grade 8**  
Andrew Barnes, Avery Barto, Brayden Butler, Shylo Driessen, Nolan Dufault, Chloe Hagen, David Haley, Nicholas Harguth, Aysia Ingram Bratts, Kennedy Jansen, Abigail Jarrett, Jacob Jyrkas, Ella Linnes, Ava Miller, Kenna Miller, Libby Miller, Wyatt Partain, Macy Peterson, Gavin Riehm, Christopher Spotts, Cadence Stenzel, Tomas Vasquez-Neigebauer, Connor Vosejпка, Evan Worke, Ava Young and Carson TRUE.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “A” Honor Roll, Grade 9**  
Valente Avalos, Kavita Ewest, Mallee Gilmore, Brier Hayes, Toby Jeske, Aydan Kath, Wyatt Kelly, Kellen Klinger, Carly Kratzer, Ty Krautkremer, Mya Lynch, Landan Madsen, Dominik Marquez, Archer O'Brien, Lillian Petersen, Reese Rodriguez, Claire Roemhildt, Madalynn Root, Mandi Root, Hannah Rugger, Patsy Sandoval, Asha Sharif, Megan Thursdale, Ava VandenHemel, Cyrus Wilson.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “A” Honor Roll, Grade 10**  
Grace Chawra, Lucas Danner, Noelle Drake, Brody Dufault, Zoey Dunn, Chelsia Eneboe, Isabella Garza, Megan Hudak, Henry Huttemier, Jacey Jensen, Landon Lewer, Amilya Lynch, Cash Lynch, Nolan McQuery, Fushen Mei, Belle Miller, Coy Miller, Kaylie Morrissey, Tristan Nelson, Isaac Pfeifer, Otto Schoenrock, Megan Tegmeier, Savanna Vagts, Katelyn Weber and Owen Wieseler.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School 1“A” Honor Roll, Grade 11**  
Slade Barnett, Andrew Bartelt, Ryan Borneke, Ella Bulfer, Victoria Calderon, Paige Dufault, Moritz Eull, Hannah Heusinkveld, Ethan Hiller, Sophia Hillsman, Sullivan Kasl, Allen Kopetzki, Blake Langager, Madilyn Larrabee, Jacob Lawrence, Dakotah Marik, Mia Mitchell, Catherine Olson, Logan Reger, Sadie Schimming, Roman Siler and Hannah Teague.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “A” Honor Roll, Grade 12**  
Hunter Anderson, Reed Anderson, Owen Arnold, Andrick Baldas, Alexis Brinkman, Caden Danner, Emma Donnay, MaLanie Engel-Mueller, Liam Hagne, Mia Kanewischer, Izaac Kehler, Sierra Krause, Siri Kuhns, Jaya Kunkel, Bennett Ludwig, Kennedy Lynch, Camila Marquez, Kyle McGuire, Lucas McQuery, Gracie Morgan, Lily Owens, Erik Radke, Levi Root, Tauston Rupe, Damarius Russell, Leah Scheffert, Jordan Sell, Takara Slattery, Mason Wadd, Isabella Wikan, Aniyah Williams, Henri Wobschall, Kendra Young.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “B” Honor Roll, Grade 7**  
Benjamin Androli, Lilliana Arkadie, Owen Arndt, Ethan Babcock, Drake Bubak, Kiara Carlson, Lincoln Castro, Carter Dickson, Bently Drake, Ella Eaton, Brooklyn Frederick, Madison Frederick, Charles Galle, Kyn'Adi Glover, Kylie Grey, Colin Guggisberg, Daniel Guritz, Kylee Holicky, Keira Holmgren, Taylor Koch, Alex Lewandowski, Brooklyn McColley, Teagan Neidecker, Camden Nelson, Teagan Nolte, Marjorie Pilatasig, Hailey Proehl, Jany Ramos, Carson Roesler, Jordan Rosenthal, Jackson Sepulveda, Aubrey Sietsema, Mayson Smith, Norah Swindle, Kinley Thostenson and Lillian Whitesitt.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “B” Honor Roll, Grade 8**  
Saphira Barnes, Hector Beltran, Annabelle Benson, Oden Board, Makayla Clark, Levi Collier, Sheila Driessen, Joscelyn Ebnet, Manuela Guaman, Ethan Harwood, Dalisaya Howe Abigail Jackson, Jaiden Johnson, Cruz Lynch, Ahvah Maas, Dominik Mansfield, Lilly Miller-Williams, Kenzie Morrissey, Braxton Nelson, Nicholas Nelson, Michael Petracek, Shakiyah Powell, Jaxson Roemhildt, Peyton Ross, Gabriel Sanchez, Jace Selvik, Myles Stenzel, Samantha Sutton, Ava Trumbull, Sophiel Weber, Kyler Welander and Carter Wernimont.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “B” Honor Roll, Grade 9**  
Onna'ki Abrego, Sophia Abrego, Wyatt Arndt, Claire Bartelt, Amiyah Benson, Filiberto Caudillo, Ashlynn Eldeen, Ashley Fliflet, Kelly Hernandez-Verde, Ligaya Howe, Calvin Kahnke, Logan Konz, Aileen Lindsay-Brothers, Max Malouff, Kaylee Matz, Gavin Reger, Landon Rutt.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “B” Honor Roll, Grade 10**  
Cory Bartz, Makya Donovan, Ilamay Draheim, Addison Epper, Lacey Frank, Melody Galle, Amber Hagen, Corbin Hanna, Eryn Harrison, Elli Hoban, Kasey Ibarra, Trey Jenzen, Abigail Lapidese, Reese Ludwig, Taylor Markeson, Blake McElligott, Mia Nesenson, Gahvi Nowacki, Stella Omtvedt, Elsie Owens, Owen Rupe, Avery Selvik, Jostin Toapanta, Alexa Welander, Jonah Worke and Carina Xiong.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “B” Honor Roll, Grade 11**  
Eduardo Alarcon Ramirez, Hunter Barnes, Natalie Berndt, Maximus Bodenweiser, Teagan Collier, Kelsey Draeger, Lily Frye, Khloe Fuller, Arianna Garcia, Jude Gehring, Maddyn Gostomczik, Lauren Grant, Destiney Gustafson, Wyatt Hager, Aaliyah Hayes, Wesley Hiniker, Jenna Hudak, Stevie Hunt, Emmalee Jes, Jordan Johnston, Anders Jorgenson, Haley Kahnke, Nathan Kaiser, Brissa Lopez, Gabriella Maas, Jayden Mann, Madisyn McClune, Madilynn Meyer, Remy Murphy, Deven Parpart, Kaden Peirce, Christian Possin, Jude Robinson, Chloe Roemhildt, Madison Rossler, Jacob Root, Deron Russell, Lillianna Sanchez, Kyra Schreiner, Kaiya Stagman, Jada Thomez, Brady Tloughan, Diego Toapanta, Ellery Waldron and Caleb Wulf.

**Waseca Junior Senior High School “B” Honor Roll, Grade 12**  
Allison Chicos, Elias Crosby, Helin Cruz-Hernandez, Katy Eldeen, Isaac Feldkamp, Tristan Godwin, Aiden Groskreutz, Keaton Gustafson, Karley Hamilton, David Hodgkins, Ellie Hoehn, Brayden Hoof, Maxwell Howard, Brandyn Jascha, Tyler Jellum, Ashton Jenzen, Chloe Johnson, Peyton Kalbow, Haley Madson, Mason Matz, Katlyn McMurphy, Oz Meyman, Joseph Mixteco-Perez, Jacob Mlenek, Carson Ohnstad, Aayu Patel, Carter Pfeifer, Cejay Pickett, Randi Piha, Kenzie Sandborg, Takya Schoenrock, John Schulz, Aiden Shoemaker, Ezra Skains, Kylie Snow, Arianna Theobald, Molly Volovsek, Owen Wilder, Karissa Yerhot.

Lakeshore



Members of the Waseca High School Youth, Service, Leadership course are Easton Danks, Tristan Godwin, Jonathan Gransee, Lauren Grant, Aiden Harrison, Mia Kanewischer, Joseph Mixteco-Perez, Gracie Morgan, Remy Murphy, Carson Ohnstad, Deron Russell, Paolo Sandoval-Pieigo, Takya Schoenrock, Kylie Snow, Hannah Teague and Molly Volovsek. Youth, Service, Leadership class members Gracie Morgan and Joseph Mixteco-Perez enjoy a chat and a stroll with, respectively, Dorie Skalisky and Ruth Eustice, residents at the Lakeshore Rehabilitation Center. Pioneer photos by Deb Bently

Prom event brings cheerfulness to facility residents

**By DEB BENTLY**  
News Editor

“If we had shown up in a dress like that,” observed Darreth Swenson regarding the form-fitting, somewhat low-cut dresses young ladies were wearing at the “prom” celebration at Lakeshore Inn on April 30, “the teachers would probably have sent us home.”

It’s not that Swenson, who went to prom at New Prague in 1961, was scandalized. She simply couldn’t help observing how time, and fashions, have changed. She remembers that New Prague would have separate proms for members of the junior and senior classes; her senior year Swenson wore an orchid-colored dress made by her mother. Of the visiting students she comments, “I like to see their outfits; their sparkly dresses and their suits are very showy.”

“And it’s nice to see how cheerful they are.”

Jeanette Bluhm went to prom in Waldorf in 1950. She remembers

having felt a little out of place because she wasn’t part of the popular crowd. “I had to help my dad on the farm,” she explains. She felt elegant in the dress her mother made for her, and was pleased to be on the arm of Nolan Bluhm, a member of both the basketball and baseball teams who it turned out—she would marry later that year. She and Nolan are still married, and raised a family of four children together.

Esther Wolf, a lifelong Waseca area resident, remembers wearing a blue dress to prom at Waseca Central High School in 1950.

The memories just kept on coming as the 20 or so members of the “Youth, Service, Leadership” course at Waseca High School spent an hour visiting and interacting with about 30 residents at Lakeshore Rehabilitation Center in Waseca.

High school teacher Sandra Schumacher supervises the course, which sends class members throughout the school system and community to help at various sites. She says some

students are nervous about interacting with the elderly individuals. “They just aren’t sure what they have to talk about,” she describes. In preparation, the group learned some performance dances including the chicken dance and the hokey pokey.

“We also came up with some questions to get conversations started,” says Schumacher. Among them were “When did you go to prom?” and “What did you wear?”

Merrilee Byron, therapeutic recreation director at Lakeshore, said high school students have been coming to the facility since the 1980s to hold a “prom” event.

“It takes the kids a while to get comfortable,” she describes, “but by the end they’re having some nice conversations.”

Byron went on to say the event is unusually popular among Lakeshore residents; once they know it’s on their schedule, they ask about it and look forward to it with enthusiasm.

Recreation aid Anne Clayton described one resident who went back

and forth regarding two dressy outfits in her wardrobe and which one she should wear.

“It’s something everyone looks forward to,” says Clayton.

The two recreation leaders say events including young people are always popular, and mention another event during which students from Sacred Heart Elementary came and read books to residents.

“It lets them know they’re not forgotten,” observes Byron.

Students Remy Murphy, Lauren Grant, Trystan Godwin and Jonathon Granse tell of having known about the event since the beginning of the semester about two months before. Grant, who comes to Lakeshore regularly as part of her course assignments, said she knew the event would be a treat for facility residents. “I think they like seeing the dresses, and they like seeing us enjoying ourselves,” said Grant.

“It’s fun to see their reactions,” observes Murphy.



■ Exhibit

from Page 1

story behind it. “The Pacifier” portrays the daughter of a friend, who sent her the photo. “I saw that picture, and I got up that morning, and I thought, ‘She’s so badass.’ I just started painting, and I painted her straight through. I was so inspired,” said Solberg. “I’m all about women and [...] women grabbing their power and having their moment, especially young girls. It just sort of said a lot of things that I feel inside.”

Many of Solberg’s paintings start with a thin layer of plaster to create texture on the canvas. Solberg said she’s sure others in the art world must be doing the same thing, but she came upon the technique through happenstance.

“Part of my goal is to make it feel ancient and modern at the same time,” Solberg said. “I’m really inspired by the Renaissance. So I want to have that sort of vibe that this is old and yet new.”

She wanted to use oil paints, but found she was allergic to some of the colors. When she discovered Senne-lieu oil pastels, she fell in love. “They’re so fabulous, and I’ve got millions of them,” said the artist. Oil pastels are another tool Solberg uses to create the aged effect she’s looking for. “They skip over the crevices just that little bit, so the [background] comes through, whereas, if I used thick oil paint, that would be sat-

urated in.”

Solberg’s paintings aren’t exclusively created with oil pastels though. “I break the rules,” said Solberg. Many of her paintings are a combination of traditional oil paints, acrylics, and oil pastels. But it’s the fixative she uses between the layers that allows her to combine different mediums without compromising the integrity or longevity of the work. Because she has to let the layers dry, Solberg normally has two or three paintings in progress at once. She finishes the paintings with a lot of varnish, so that, even if they sit out in the rain, the works won’t be harmed. Solberg said, “We had one outside on our pole barn for years.”

Solberg’s studio in northeast Minneapolis is open by appointment, every second Saturday, and for events. A number of galleries are also representing Solberg. Information concerning Solberg’s work, the galleries that showcase her work, and upcoming events can be found on her website: [www.marycatherinesolberg.com](http://www.marycatherinesolberg.com).

Although Hoppe declined to speak publicly at the reception, she was happy to answer questions as people viewed her work in the Beckmann Gallery.

Hoppe, of Miltna, Minn., often creates her own canvases from items located on the farm where her husband, Frank, grew up, and which the couple are now purchasing. Gourds, cow bones, wood, and wasp nests, which she soaks and flattens, are all canvases to Hoppe.

Of the gourds, she said, “When I was a kid I went to the Riverboat

Festival in Aitkin. There was a gal there that was doing gourd art and she gave me a couple of little gourds.” The young Hoppe thought, “Well, these are fun!” She cut the gourds open to get the seeds and started planting them. “Now I have gourds everywhere,” Hoppe laughed.

Hoppe grows many types of gourds in her garden, which she replants each spring. She said, “And they all cross pollinate.”

On the former wasp nests, Hoppe has depicted objects from the farm of human construction, such as barns and antique vehicles. “[The farm] has been in the same family for decades. Well, you know farmers; they don’t throw anything away,” she laughed. The barn wood frames around the wasp nest drawings were made by a friend of hers, of whom Hoppe said she hates working with barn wood, “but I will for you.”

Hoppe started using wasp nests when a friend asked her, “I have some wasp nests. Could you use them?” Hoppe didn’t know, but she was willing to experiment. She discovered that the material of the nests was tough, “But without priming it, you can’t really draw on it without tearing it.” Hoppe takes the nests apart and reassembles them to create canvases, after which she prepares them with layers of acrylic primer.

Now that she’s discovered how to work with them, Hoppe collects wasp nests herself.

Is it dangerous to harvest wasp nests? “They make a new nest every year,” said Hoppe. “But just in case, go out when it’s like 20 degrees. If there is [a wasp] in there, it’s very

slow.”

Besides using acrylics and colored pencils, one of Hoppe’s mediums is found on the farm, too. Hoppe makes her own ink out of black walnuts; she allows the walnuts to dry with the hulls on, and then boils the hulls in water to create ink. “You’ve got to wear gloves; otherwise you end up with brown hands,” said Hoppe. The ink lasts a long time, and it can be used to create a pale wash for the background in a watercolor style, and then in a more concentrated form to create dark lines and silhouettes.

Hoppe often depicts items that either grow or are found on her farm, like mushrooms, flowers, butterflies, and cattle. One display of poisonous mushrooms on a group of gourds had tiny skulls hanging from it.

Of an American goldfinch she painted, Hoppe said, “They just love to visit!” Hoppe attributes the number of visiting goldfinches to the number of thistles on her farm; thistle seeds are a favorite with goldfinches.

Hoppe doesn’t have an art gallery. “I just work from home,” she said. “I go out and mess with the garden and take care of the critters,” by which she means cows, pigs, chickens, and geese. When she’s not busy gardening, tending animals, or canning the produce she grows, she creates art.

Visitors of the WAC greatly enjoyed the work of both artists on Thursday evening.

Solberg’s and Hoppe’s artwork will be on display throughout May at the WAC, which is open Tues. - Sat., 12 p.m.- 5 p.m.

Briefs

**Waseca High School graduation 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 1**  
Doors open at 12:15 for a 1:30 graduation ceremony for the Waseca High School class of 2025. The ceremony takes place in the Waseca Junior Senior High School gymnasium.

**Taste of the Farm at Waseca Fairgrounds on Tuesday, June 3**  
Join the Waseca County Farm Bureau for their Taste of the Farm event at the Waseca Fairgrounds from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3. This is a family-friendly event. A free meal

will be served until gone, enjoy farm animals, farm equipment and other fun activities.

**MNVAC Waseca Head Start Preschool 0-5 accepting applications for 2025-2026**  
The MNVAC Waseca Head Start

Preschool is accepting applications for children 0-5 years old for the 2025-2026 school year. Please either call Rachel Grunklee at 507-835-1282 or go to [www.mnvac.org](http://www.mnvac.org) to apply. Free Home base and Center Classes, eligibility will be determined upon application.





# The Pastor's Column

## Pay attention

By Mike Coglan  
Pastor, Real Life Church

Steve and Marty were on their first backwoods canoe trip with our church. On our third day of camping, they paired off for an afternoon of fishing. A couple of hours later, I noticed that a storm was setting up and I paddled toward camp along with the other guys. But Steve and Marty were up against the trees and couldn't see the black clouds approaching.

Suddenly the storm arrived. Steve and Marty tried to cross the lake. We watched them get swallowed by wind, then white cap waves and finally a blinding rain storm. The canoe flipped upside down and we saw no signs of passengers. The rest of us were pinned down in camp. All we could do was watch and wait for the storm to deliver the empty canoe to the shore. It was a relief to hear the two guys laughing on the opposite side of the canoe. We pulled them ashore, grateful that all they lost was their equipment.

That storm reminded us to pay attention to our senses. Even if we don't see storm clouds, we can smell rain before it arrives. We should notice a drop in temperature. We can hear the silence that falls on a lake just before a sudden storm. We should take note if other canoes are dashing for cover.

The more time we spend in the woods, the more we perceive about the woods. Many of our perceptions are not even recognized consciously. We call it our "gut feeling." It's a sense that I've been here before and I know what is coming next. We can't exactly explain why we "just know" something. This comes from a store of memories. The cues we are processing might be too numerous or subtle to identify. We "read" the woods with all of our senses.

We also have spiritual senses. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says that God "set eternity in the human heart." We know there is more to the world than we can see. All of our senses are gifts from God to help us navigate in this world, and to find our way to the next world. Faith is more than just an intellectual activity. Faith is a conversation. Among the messages that the Holy Spirit wants you to hear, is this: You are loved. "The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." (Romans 8:16)

As God's children, we are in-

tended us to be a part of a holy family. I hope you feel the security of God's love. Until you sense that love, you will wander. In the Gospel of John chapter 14, Jesus begins a long prayer for his followers. He describes humanity as "orphans." Apart from God, we don't have a home or an identity.

We all search for something that will make our life complete. We learn early in life that our parents are not the source of our identity. Even if we have great parents, we want to go out and find our own destiny. We learn that our identity is not found in our peer groups. Even if you have good friends, you still feel restless. Then we are disappointed in romance. Romance is great, but it doesn't satisfy. We are disappointed in marriage. I love my kids, but again, being a parent was not all I was born for. We are disappointed in our careers, even if we are successful. We are disappointed in what we accomplish and what we own. These things all bring some comfort and pleasure, but they are not enough to fill our hearts.

This longing us designed to bring us home. Jesus said that he will not leave us as orphans. We don't have to drift aimlessly or go through storms alone. I'm sure you have felt the sense that this world is not right. We're not really home. Somewhere there must be a home where we belong and we are deeply loved. But this isn't it. We are born restless and searching. We are always traveling but we never quite get to that destination that our hearts cry out for. This leads us either to God, or to something that cannot really satisfy.

When you turn to God, you receive a new power of perception. The Holy Spirit of God begins speaking into our lives. We have to become well acquainted with this new inner voice and recognize it among all of the other signals that are coming into our mind.

Pay attention. Senses tell us to find shelter, food, and community. Our senses need to hear voices of encouragement. Through his church, God offers to reach into all of your senses. "Taste and see that the LORD is good." (Psalm 34:8) Then, you will begin to find a satisfaction that only comes from God.

### ■ Talk

from Page 3

attention to differences for the sheriff's jobs during winter as opposed to summer. "Some winters we're spending all day just getting to people or helping people who've gone into the ditch. During the summer, there are all sorts of different things the sheriff's department is doing." He went on to explain that during the fishing opener for example, they will have deputies out on the water of certain lakes because of all the water traffic. They'll use the deputies with the most experience with boating.

Also addressed was passing school buses when the "stop" arm is extended. Recently, many buses have been updated to include cameras, so when people violate that non-passing rule, their license plates can be lifted from the video and the authorities alerted. The penalty is a written citation and/or a fine; repeated violations can lead to jail time. Dulas also wanted to remind residents that school will be ending soon and that means more children will be out on the roads walking, on their bikes, electric scooters or hoverboards. "The kids won't be paying attention like they should so it's more on the grown-ups. The rules are, sidewalks are for walking and that's it. You're not supposed to be in the roadway unless you have headlights and turn signals and brake lights. In a perfect world these kids would only use these things on private property. But we find them everywhere and the kids aren't crim-

inals but if a cop spots them and tries to turn around and give a warning those kids have disappeared. We all just need to remember kids are out and about and we just want them safe, we're all doing our best." He also said dirt bikes and 4-wheelers are not allowed in ditches or on the road. In the ditches they tear up the grass, create divots and mud and that upsets wildlife; this is state law from April 1 till August 1 they legally can only be on private property or dirt bike tracks.

The Waseca Sheriff's Department also wants to remind people concerned with the collapsed back end of the building at 115 South State Street, that it is private property. Said Dulas, "The building is accessible from the back but that doesn't mean you need to go poking around in there. Stay out. That includes drone access as well. There is an investigation that is still ongoing, and we'll see what the property owner decides when that's completed." Some of the displaced residents are still looking for long-term housing while things are sorted, with assistance, if needed through the county or Red Cross.

Since 1969 the Sheriff's Posse has been assisting the Waseca County Sheriff's office. Membership has grown in the past few years; there are 20 members with 4 of them junior members and 3 senior. They assist with parade traffic, search and rescue missions, Waseca County Fair security, private security and more. It helps to own a horse or a 4-wheeler. They are an integral piece in helping the sheriff's office with security. Anyone interested in joining the Posse, please contact Sheriff Dulas at (507) 835-0510.



Exchange Club President Mikhail Rostislavovich and Time Out Teddy with Sacred Heart first-graders.

## Time Out Teddy visits Waseca area first-graders to promote child safety and kindness

WASECA, MN – For the first time in more than a decade, the Waseca Tourism Board is proud to announce it is fully appointed and highly engaged, with 15 dedicated members and four dynamic committees working to elevate Waseca as a sought after tourism destination.

This revitalized board is already making a strong impact through its Media Committee, Grants Committee, Holiday Lights Committee, and Fireworks Committee. These dynamic working groups are not only functional—they are energetic, co-

operative, and planning for future growth as community needs evolve. Committee chairs currently include Mayor Randy Zimmerman (Holiday Lights Committee) and Brad Milbrath (Fireworks Committee). Eli Lutgens (Media) and Co-chairs Kari Wadd and Tiffany Lynch (Grants).

"This level of engagement is moving," said a Board President Mikhail Rostislavovich. "It's been over ten years since the Waseca Tourism Board has operated at this degree of activity, and the results are already visible across our community."

Since its restructuring in February, the Board has wasted no time in supporting Waseca's vibrancy: Backing the Spring Shop Hop, which highlighted local retailers and brought shoppers to State Street, honoring Ken Borgmann for his longstanding contributions to the Sleigh & Cutter Festival, and awarding numerous grants to support local events that draw tourists and enrich community life.

The Discover Waseca Tourism Grant Program remains open and is available to both nonprofit and for-

profit organizations planning events that encourage tourism and overnight stays in Waseca. This thorough funding opportunity helps fuel the local economy while supporting a broad range of community events.

Looking ahead, the Tourism Board plans to expand its committee structure to address additional community needs and opportunities.

For more information on the grant program or to get involved, visit [www.discoverwaseca.com](http://www.discoverwaseca.com) or contact the Tourism Board directly at 507-201-3082.

## Grace Lutheran holds blood drive

By BEN REVERMANN  
Staff writer

Grace Lutheran Church held a blood drive for the Red Cross on Thursday, May 1. Rebecca Schimming, who helped organize the drive for the day said, "We had 43 appointments, 6 walk-ins and four no shows. From that we got 38 units of whole blood."

Near the front door, helping those who needed to check-in were Jonna Moen and Mary Jenatscheck, they like to help out when they can, they have given blood before and agree, "There is always a continuing need for blood, especially today with more and more regular givers being deferred from giving blood." She is referring to those people who can no longer give blood, and that list is growing by the year. It's not just people with HIV or blood cancer, but certain medications. A list was provided with columns of medications that if taken, will not allow them to

give blood. There were also time limits, such as if the potential donor has taken said medication within the past week, month or sometimes up to six months ago they are not allowed to give. Things like antiplatelet agents, anticoagulants or blood thinners, acne treatment, hair loss remedy, HIV treatments and more.

Regular donor Duane Rathmann was present and almost done filling his pint. "I do it routinely, I always support blood drives. I usually come to the church when they have it but I have to wait 56 days before I can give again." He took out his phone and gave a convincing argument in favor of downloading the Red Cross app from the Google Play Store, it's free to download. Rathman even pulled it up on his phone, "See I can set up appointments and fill out all the paperwork before hand so I don't have to wait and do it here, I just walk in, give blood and get back to work, it'll also show me my vitals."



Jaycee Geisness was helping Duane Rathmann at the Grace Lutheran Churches blood drive on Thursday, May 1, 2025.

He said this at the Canteen as he sipped some juice and grabbed some crackers. Rachel Bethke, who was setting out water, juice and snacks said, "People are supposed to wait for fifteen minutes but sometimes they are in a big hurry, and I get worried." She added, "All the refreshments, the chips and the cookies and

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann stuff are provided by the Red Cross when they set up here."

Anyone else wanting to give blood, appointments can be made at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) by entering 56093 in the Zip code search. Some walk-ins are available, but appointments are preferred. Or look for the free app on the Google Play Store.

## Attend the Church of your Choice!

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



Janesville

1925

The noise and rhythm of the great press beat with tremendous force upon ones’ ears as it turned out the two o’clock edition of a great metropolitan paper. Human like, it deftly coiled the paper into fantastic forms as it whirled and wheeled through a maze of revolving cylinders. One stood in amazement as a forty-eight paged paper dropped from five different places, all identically the same, the pace being seventy-two thousand per hour. The press is one hundred thirty- seven and a half feet long. Fifty pressmen, altogether, are working about it.

- We should judge from what W. J. Petrie says with reference to Texas that things are booming in that state, especially in the immediate neighborhood of McAllen. Mr. Petrie arrived here last week on business. He will remain some time. On Saturday, he called at this office and talked most interestingly with reference to that state. His fruit ranch is located only about two and a half miles from the city. It is composed of forty acres, all cleared and three acres into growing fruit, oranges, and grape-fruit.

- Russia faces another terrible famine. Failing to derive sufficient revenues from its assassinated farms and industries, the Soviet government last fall made the great bluff of selling the national grain supply abroad; to get money to pay its own dangerous army and politicians. Now, the people are starving, there is neither money nor credit to buy back grain from other nations, and another payday approaches. What Russia has suffered in the past may be mere inconvenience compared to the terrors yet in store when this terrible political army, facing an empty treasury, starts in to collect its pay from a helpless people.

1950

- Walter F. Hagen, Janesville, was honored Tuesday evening of last week by fellow members of the local Masonic lodge when he was presented with a 50-year button, in remembrance of his long and useful service in the local fraternal order. Mr. Hagen was associated with his brother, Percy, in the hardware business here for many years and only recently sold his interests to his brother, retiring to a life of ease and comfort, after devoting a major portion of his life to his business and to the welfare and growth of Janesville.

- Attention is called to all former employees of the Fairmont Canning co., Waseca, and anyone wishing employment at the Birds-Eye Snyder Division of General Foods at Waseca, that registration cards for all those who wish work for the Birds- Eye Snyder Division of General Foods, are at the office of the Joe C. Dugan Insurance company and should be filled out soon – not later than May 1.

- Mr. and Mrs. Elizor Archambault of Albert Lea purchased the Corner Café last week from Joyce Tullis, who had operated the café for about six weeks. Possession was given Monday morning. The Archambaults state that they plan to give the people of the Janesville community prompt and efficient service as well as to dispense their foods at very reasonable prices. Mr. Tullis has not decided on his future plans.

1975

- “I’ll be 89 on April 27. It doesn’t seem possible, but it’s true. It’s funny though...I don’t feel my age.” Nellie Margie Oliver really doesn’t look, or act, her age either. She has her share of wrinkles, but her eyes twinkle while she talks and she doesn’t miss a thing you say. Pat Thissen and this writer talked with Nellie for about an hour at her home south of Janesville. She lives in a two-story farm house with her daughter, Betty, and her son-in- law, Stan Nyquist. She told us a little about her life.

- Rochester – Dr. D. A. Pope of Janesville, Minnesota, has been presented with a certificate by the Mayo Medical School in recognition of his devoted service to students by serving as a preceptor in the medical school’s Department of Family Medicine Program. The certificate was presented by Dr. Raymond D. Pruitt, dean of the Mayo Medical School, and Dr. Charles G. Roland, chairman of the Medical School Administrative Committee for the Department of Family Medicine.

- Mrs. Jaycees and the directors of the Janesville Area Chamber of Commerce decided to postpone the Hay Daze Junior Miss Pageant, after only four junior girls indicated an interest in the competition.

- Representatives from the Jaycees and Mrs. Jaycees met with Chamber directors at the Heritage last Thursday morning. Jill Johnson, Arlene Pooley, and Joy Johnson represented the Mrs. Jaycees.

2000

- The Janesville-Waldorf- Pemberton boys’ golf team got some consistent play from its top four golfers to capture a quadrangular at Mankato last Tuesday. The Bulldogs fired a 168 total to oust Blue Earth, St. Clair, and Maple River. Blue Earth, normally a South Central Conference contender, totaled 173, St. Clair finished with a 178 and Maple River came in at 223.

- The results raised JWP’s record to 3-1 for the season. Blue Earth’s John Helgason earned medalist honors with a four-over-par 40, but the Bulldogs were more consistent. The top four JWP scores were within two strokes of each other. Sean Mulcahey led the Dawgs with a 41, Brian Finley and Evan Holmes both carded 42s, and Levi Mulcahey fired a 43.

- Bolivian Humbert Canqui was seated at a luncheon table at Farmamerica with his Bolivian colleagues from a Group Study Exchange (GSE) the other day. He was talking with his American hosts including Kathleen Backer, executive director of Farmamerica. Making reference to traditional meals in his country, he pointed to the bowl of soup, which he had just eaten, and a said a bowl of soup in a typical Bolivian lunch would be much larger. At that, Backer popped up, unplugged the crock-pot nearby, which was still half full of cream of broccoli soup, and immediately offered it to Humberto. Bolivians and Americans alike burst into laughter. Goodwill and high humor were much in evidence when the Bolivians in the GSE Team visited with Wasecans for three days last week. Waseca Rotarians, who sponsored the visit to the community rolled out the red carpet to welcome their distinguished visitors from Bolivia.

- Due to Main Street road work which is schedule to begin on Monday, May 1, and for the safet of the children, changes will be made for both the buses which will begin loading and unloading on Third Street. Parents are asked to pick up and drop off their children on the north side (between the public school and Trinity Lutheran School) of the building before and after school. The north side will be posted as a no parking area.

Briefs

**WHS Vocal Concert 7 p.m. May 19**  
Students in grades 9 to 12 will present a high school vocal concert at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 19 in the Waseca high school performing arts center.

**JWP Choir Concert for grades 7 to 12, 7 p.m. Monday, May 19**  
Students in grades 7 to 12 will be featured in a vocal concert to be presented in the JWP school auditorium beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 19.

**JWP Academic Awards,**

**scholarship celebration 7 p.m. May 21**  
Those JWP students who have earned academic awards or been selected to receive scholarships will be honored during a ceremony in the JWP auditorium which begins at 7 p.m. on Wed., May 21.

**JWP Graduation 6 p.m. Friday, May 23**  
The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton school district ceremony for the graduating class of 2025 will be at the school beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, May 23. The last academic day for younger students will be Thursday, May 29.

Waseca

25 Years Ago



**-Music man Warren Hettinga is known in these parts as the energetic director of the Waseca Chorale. Beyond his musical expertise, Hettinga has also had a special ability to galvanize the singing group, causing it to reach some of its finest musical moments. Now, though, Hettinga’s career path is taking a different turn. In fact, he is already commuting to his new job in Las Vegas. He’s saying goodbye to his 31-year career as an associate professor at Minnesota State University.**

-Every Day is Earth Day – Waseca Central Immediate School sixth grade students, Waseca High School Youth Service Leadership students, along with AmeriCorps members participated in Earth Day/Waseca County Cleanup Day on Friday. The students pictured are from Lisa Zika’s class as they picked up trash at Memorial Park.

50 Years Ago



**-Unexpected arrivals – WENDY STEVENS, student at UMW, recently adopted these two lambs. The lambs named Him and Her for the present, arrived unexpectedly at the UMW Monday afternoon. When it was discovered the mother could not nurse the twin lambs due to a udder infection, Wendy offered to take the lambs home with her. She is presently bottle feeding them. The mother and babes were born in the back of a pick-up truck, among with several dozen ewes and lambs.**

-Baby chicks – KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS at a Southside School had the chance to get a closer look at the five baby chicks making their home in the classroom Wednesday. The chicks hatched with the assistance of incubators were born early this week, following a 21 day wait for the children. Pictured to the left Sallee Schumacher, Jeff Anderson and Jill Schlicht beam happily as they hold the newborn chicks. The students plan to give chicks names within the next week.

75 Years Ago

-“THAT’S GOOD STUFF” Ed Roberts, manager, right tells Wayne Halle as he points to a bag of the famous “Pillsbury’s Best” feed. At left is Gordon Edwards, Pillsbury salesman.

-FRANK AMBERG, expert feed grinder, left, gives Otto Frederick the lowdown on grinding with the Pillsbury attrition mill. Otto is laughing here, but the heavy set fellow isn’t joking when he says he likes his feed grinding work done at the Pillsbury mill.

-“THIS BEATS SHOVELING” Marlin Gehring, State Experiment farm employee, tells Dave Smith as the hydraulic hoist empties a load of feed for the grinder. Gehring got his load of grain from a chute on the outside of the building via the “Continuous Flow” methods. “There is enough shoveling to do around a farm the way it is. I like the free flow,” Gehring said.

100 Years Ago:

-Nothing less than a miracle can account for the fact that Harry Henkensiefken, Christopher Genloff and Lloyd and Alvin Spies are alive today. While trying to recover a kite that was tangled in the power line, the boys came in contact with a live wire which knocked two of them unconscious and burned all of them very badly.

-A half thousand crows and crow eggs were destroyed by the two teams of hunters competing Sunday in the Isaac Walton League’s first annual crow hunt in Waseca. One hundred and thirty-two crows were account for in the shooting and 93 eggs were brought in for points. Hunters state that in shooting the crows many eggs in the nest were destroyed and it is estimated that at least 250 were destroyed in this manner.

-Members of the Calvary Episcopal church will go ahead with their building program this year, having made this decision at their regular parish meeting held Thursday evening. At the meeting it was definitely decided to take immediate steps toward the erection of a new church on the site of the present structure.

New Richland

25 years back



**- Stacy Bartness of Hartland, a member of the American Quarter Horse Youth Association, has earned 37 Grand Championships and 16 Reserve Championships with her 1996 chestnut mare, “Im oso sweet”. Last August the mare earned the highest award a halter horse can receive. “Im Oso Sweet” was one of the top ten mares in the entire nation claiming the National High Point plaque for the year 1999. Here Stacy displays some of the trophies and plaques she has earned with her horses.**



**- The Color Guard posed before the performance to Ricky Martin’s Cup of Life in competition at the World of Music Festival at St. Louis, Missouri April 14-16. They are from the left: kneeling; Allison Groth; standing, Missy Farr, Amanda Peterson, Michelle Maurer, Blaine Boverhuis, Mariah Routh, Breanna Johannsen, Kelli Schlaak, Megan Routh, Amy Kubista, Lacey Peterson and Megan Stephoni.**

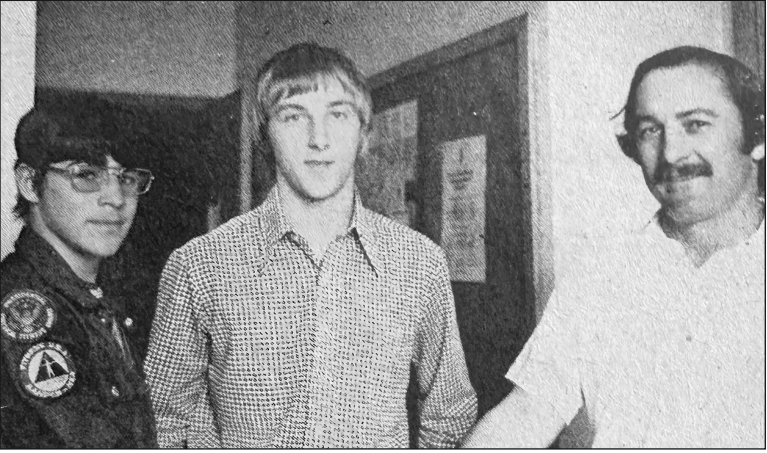
- The Panther girls Golf team defeated Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 220 to 241 in a golf triangular at Prairie Ridge Golf Course, Tuesday, May 18. Sheri Miller of the Panthers and Lindsay Hines of the Bulldogs tied for medalist honors, when they each shot a 46. Amy Sack and Sally Johnson each carded 57’s, followed by Kristin Jessen with a 60. Other Panthers were Missy Shaunce with a 65 and Mariah Routh with 69.

50 Years Back

- A new record album has just been released by Pastor Raymond H. Peterson of New Richland, “One Day At A Time” is the title of the album which features the song by the title. There was also twelve other hymns and spiritual songs. Released on the “Sound 80” label, it was recorded at Hope Lutheran and the Sound 80 studios, both in Minneapolis. Doris Chase, a brilliant accompanist - is featured on the Reuter Pipe Organ and the Steinway piano. Pastor Peterson now has recorded five different albums. Those released previously were: Hymns and SPiritual Songs, Singing To The Lord, Singing With Thanksgiving and Singing The Good News.

- Lac Lindeland, Route 1, Minnesota Lake, is pictured with the two Manieanjou embryo transplant calves born by cesarean section on the Lindeland farm, four and one-half miles west of Waldorf, the past week. These are, according to Dr. J.P. Hinton, Waldorf veterinarian, the first two embryo transplant calves born in the state of Minnesota.

- Aaron Lee Bartelt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Bartelt, rural Waldorf, was baptized at First Lutheran Church, Waldorf, Sunday April 27, with the Rev. Gerald Pundt officiating. Sponsors were Julie Haakinson and Candi Bartelt, both of rural Waldorf.



**- Wrestling coach Jerry Gallagher, at the right, of the Waldorf-Pemberton schools congratulates Steve Sonnek, left and Mark Meyer, middle, for their fine performance in wrestling this year. The two were honored at the athletic banquet at the school recently. Steve was an all area wrestler and had the most takedowns for the season. Mark was elected most valuable wrestler. Ron Rausch, not pictured, had the most falls.**

75 Years Back

- St. Olaf college, Northfield will graduate the largest class of its history Monday, June 5 when 400 will receive diplomas, 382 will receive bachelor of arts degrees and 18 will be conferred bachelor of music degrees. Among the graduates will be Miss Dorothy Walledom, daughter of Rev. J.C. Walledom, of New Richland. Dr. L. Ralph Tabor, pastor of the Luther Place Memorial church, Washington, D.C., will be the speaker.

- Miss Inez Jacobson, daughter of Mr and Mrs Otto Jacobsonbecame the bride of Orrin Ribbe, son of Mr and Mrs Louis Ribbe of Ellendale Saturday, May 27. The double ring ceremony was performed at the Pontoppidan Lutheran parsonage, Lemond, at 3:30 pm, rev. P.G. Sonnack, officiating. The bride wore a beige suit with pink accessories and a sweet-heart rose corsage.

- Mr and Mrs Orvin Hatle became the parents of their third son, born at the Naeve hospital, Albert Lea Thursday, May 29. Their two older sons are Gary and Jeffery. Mrs Hatle is the former Alice Boettger, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Boettger. Mrs G.O. Hatle is the paternal grandmother.

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SINKING LAKE CITY — Hitting shots for the WHS boys’ tennis team in its 6-1 victory over Lake City Monday were, from left, Brayden Hoof, Tanner Hanson and Armaan Bhatti.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

# WHS boys’ tennis team runs record to 9-1

Bluejays, atop Big South Conference Black Division, drop first match of the season at No. 10 Cotter

The Waseca High School boys’ tennis team dropped one match in four outings this past week.

On Monday, the Bluejays defeated visiting Lake City 6-1.

Henry Huttmier won 6-2, 6-4 at No. 2 singles, Tomasso Scognamiglio 6-2, 6-2 at No. 2, and Otto Schoenrock 6-3, 6-3 at No. 4. Tyler Jellum was edged 5-7, 6-2, 10-5 at No. 1 singles.

At doubles, Armaan Bhatti and Keenan Collins combined to sweep 6-2, 6-1. Lucas McQuery and Tanner Hanson won 6-0, 6-3 at No. 2, and Brayden Hoof and Allen Kopetzki prevailed 6-1, 6-3 at No. 3.

On Saturday, the Bluejays traveled to Worthington and won 7-0.

Jellum, Huttmier, Scotnamiglio and Kopetzki all captured straight-set singles victories. Playing dou-

bles were Bhatti and Collins, McQuery and Hanson, and Hoof and Bryghton Rugger. All won on straight sets.

Carson True, Oliver Rugroden, Jesse Wobschall and Joe Calhoun recorded doubles wins as the Waseca junior varsity won 2-1.

The Bluejays took their first loss of the season Friday at Winona, where they lost 7-2 to No. 10 rated

Cotter.

Playing singles were Jellum, Huttmier, Scognamiglio and Kopetzki, with doubles teams of Collins and Bhatti, McQuery and Hanson, and Hoof and Rugger.

The Bluejays won two sets, by Scognamiglio and Collins and Bhatti.

The Bluejays took the long road trip to Fairmont last Tuesday and

won 7-0.

Jellum, Huttmier, Schoenrock and Kopetzki won at singles.

Doubles winners were Bhatti and Collins, Hanson and Scognamiglio, and Hoof and McQuery.

Rugger, True, Aiden Groskreutz and Nolan McQuery picked up JV wins in a 3-2 Waseca victory.

Waseca, 9-1 overall and 3-0 in the Big South Conference Black

Division, hosts Rochester Lourdes today at 4:30 on the WHS courts. Section play starts May 15.

## Big South Black Division

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Waseca      | 3-0 |
| St.Peter    | 3-1 |
| Fairmont    | 2-2 |
| New Ulm     | 0-2 |
| Worthington | 0-3 |

# Baseball Bulldogs rally past NRHEG

After allowing two runs in the top of the first inning, the JWP High School baseball team rallied to defeat NRHEG 9-6 at Janesville last Wednesday.

Carter Martens put the Panthers on top with a two-run single in the first.

The Bulldogs, who cut the gap to 2-1 in the second, took a 5-2 lead in the third as Blayne Wandrie walked, Seth Dahlberg singled to left, and Gavin Bauer lined a base hit down the left field line. Ayden Peterson scored on a wild pitch.

The Bulldogs went on to add four insurance runs in the fifth.

Right-hander Zander Terbeest earned the win for Bulldogs. The starter gave up seven hits and six runs (three earned) over six innings, striking out three and walking two. Bauer got the save.

Martens took the loss for NRHEG. He went four innings, allowing nine runs (seven earned) on eight hits, striking out three and walking five.

The Bulldogs accumulated nine hits. Parker Geariety led them with two runs batted in from the No. 9 spot in the lineup. Dahlberg and Chase Gerdts each collected two hits. The Bulldogs stole nine bases.

Martens drove the middle of the lineup, leading NRHEG with two runs batted in. Seth Staloch led NRHEG with two hits in three at-bats. Aidan Schlaak stole two bases. NRHEG ran wild on the base paths, totaling five stolen bases.



COMING FROM BEHIND – Above, the Bulldogs’ Zander Terbeest fires a pitch during JWP’s 9-6 victory over NRHEG at Janesville last Wednesday. Below, Lucas Morsching makes a sliding stop from his infield position.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

The Bulldogs couldn't keep up with Randolph and fell 9-1 on Thursday in Janesville.

Jaxon Wolff led the Bulldogs with one run batted in. The third baseman went 1-for-3 on the day. Lucas Morsching led Bulldogs with two hits in three at-bats.

Dahlberg took the pitching loss.

The Bulldogs play today at 4:30 at Maple River. They host LCWM Friday at 4:30 and face Medford Monday at home at 4:30.

## Gopher Conference standings

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Randolph                      | 7-0 |
| Bloomington Prairie           | 5-1 |
| Hayfield                      | 4-1 |
| United South Central          | 3-2 |
| Triton                        | 4-3 |
| Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton  | 3-3 |
| Kenyon-Wanamingo              | 1-2 |
| Medford                       | 1-4 |
| NRHEG                         | 0-6 |
| Waterville-Elysian-Morristown | 0-6 |



# NRHEG golfers complete first round of conference play

The NRHEG High School golf teams traveled to Wedgewood Cove Golf Course in Albert Lea last Tuesday for the first round of Gopher Conference play.

Scores for nine holes for the NRHEG boys: Reid Sandry 91, Braydon Rollag 95, Shan Hanson 103, Matt Williams 119, Chase Hanson 123, Braxton Arnold 134.

For the NRHEG girls: Alexis Olson 121, Gabrielle Nelton 131.

The Panthers are in action today at North Links Golf Course in Mankato at 10 a.m.

They play another conference round Tuesday, May 13 at Austin Country Club at 1 p.m.

# Softball Panthers fall short at Kenyon

The long trip to Kenyon-Wanamingo seemed a lot longer on the way home for the NRHEG High School softball team last Thursday.

The Panthers had a difficult time mustering hits and keeping the home team off the scoreboard.

“This was a tough night for us both offensively and defensively,” said NRHEG coach Wendy Schultz, whose team totaled nine fielding errors.

Olivia Berg and Camryn VanMaldeghem had the lone NRHEG hits. Berg drove in two runs and stole two bases. Aspyn Stenzel scored a run.

Berg pitched for the Panthers and took the loss, giving up five earned runs on six hits, with five

strikeouts and four walks.

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

Things didn’t get much better Monday at New Richland’s Legion Field as the Panthers fell 14-0 to Randolph in five innings.

The Panthers did not manage a hit or a walk while striking out 14 times.

“There’s a reason Randolph is ranked No. 1 in class 2AA,” said Schultz. “Carter Raymond is a phenomenal pitcher and they are very good hitters. Hats off to them. Even though we lost 14-0, our girls made some good plays on defense.

The Panthers host Maple River today at 4:30. They play Monday at 4:30 at Medford.

# Waseca Braves release 2025 home schedule

## Home opener set for May 21

The Waseca Braves amateur baseball team has switched sites for its games with Blue Earth.

That means there is no Braves game in Waseca on May 11.

The home game with Blue

Earth will now be on Wednesday, June 18 at Tink Larson Field.

The Braves’ first home game is Wednesday, May 21 at 7:30 p.m. against St. Clair.

## WASECA BRAVES HOME SCHEDULE – 2025

| DAY       | DATE    | OPPONENT       | SITE | TIME |
|-----------|---------|----------------|------|------|
| Wednesday | May 21  | St. Clair      | Home | 7:30 |
| Wednesday | May 28  | Lake Crystal   | Home | 7:30 |
| Wednesday | June 4  | Morristown     | Home | 7:30 |
| Sunday    | June 8  | Waterville     | Home | 2:00 |
| Wednesday | June 11 | Rochester      | Home | 7:30 |
| Friday    | June 13 | Austin         | Home | 7:30 |
| Wednesday | June 18 | Blue Earth     | Home | 7:30 |
| Friday    | June 20 | Eagle Lake     | Home | 7:30 |
| Sunday    | June 22 | Minnesota Lake | Home | 2:00 |
| Wednesday | June 25 | Cleveland      | Home | 7:30 |
| Friday    | June 27 | Montgomery     | Home | 7:30 |
| Wednesday | July 2  | North Mankato  | Home | 7:30 |
| Saturday  | July 12 | Stewartville   | Home | 7:00 |
| Saturday  | July 19 | Wells          | Home | 2:00 |



# Baseball Panthers put it all together against KW

According to head coach Shawn Larson, the NRHEG High School baseball team finally showed what it is capable of doing. The Panthers never trailed against visiting Kenyon-Wanamingo last Thursday and claimed a 12-2 victory at Reese Field in New Richland.

“Today we showed some of what we are capable of doing,” said Larson.

It started with starting pitcher Owen Wayne, who pitched five innings while allowing one earned run on four hits, with six strikeouts and five walks.

“Owen had a great start,” said Larson. “Owen had good command of his fastball

“Today we showed some of what we are capable of doing.”

— NRHEG coach Shawn Larson

tonight and was able to get through a tough situation early in the game.”

Calvin Nissen came in relief of Wayne and threw two scoreless innings to close out the game.

Offensively, the Panthers pounded out 13 hits, drawing six walks and striking out nine times.

Aidan Schlaak was 3-for-4 with an RBI, Jace Ihrke 3-for-4 with five RBIs, Wayne 2-for-3 with an RBI, A.J. Deen 2-for-2 with two RBIs and one run scored.

Adding one hit each were Alden Dobberstein, Carter Martens and Aaden Hanna.

“Offensively, we had a big day from

Aidan Schlaak, Owen Wayne, A.J. Deen, and Jace Ihrke, all of whom had multiple-hit nights and made sure the Panthers were not going to slow down on their way to victory,” said Larson.

The Panthers played a rescheduled game Wednesday at JWP and lost 9-6.

The Panthers totaled eight hits, two by Staloch and one apiece by Aidan Schlaak, Dobberstein, Martens, Ihrke and Ryan Schlaak. Martens drove in two runs.

Wyatt Larson started on the mound and took the loss, allowing one earned run on one hit through two innings. Martens and Calvin Nissen pitched in relief.

Two JWP pitchers combined for three strikeouts and two walks.

“We had a good showing at the plate again today,” said Coach Larson. “Any time our team can go out and generate six runs, I consider that a success. On the other side of the ball, we were not up to our standard today. We had a few too many walks and a few errors, and therefore we were not good enough to win today.”

The Panthers play today at 4:30 at Maple River. They host LCWM Friday at 4:30 and face Medford Monday at 4:30 at Reese Field.



**BRING OUT THE BROOMS** — The WHS softball team swept visiting Marshall in a doubleheader Saturday, winning 2-0 and 9-8. Above left, the Bluejays’ Siri Kuhns connects. Above right, Lily Owens celebrates a Waseca run as head coach Alyssa Sommers stands by. Below right, Avery Barto dives safely into third.



Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

## WHS softball team wins two of four

The Waseca High School softball team split in four games this past week.

After falling 10-0 to Big South leader New Ulm last Thursday, the Bluejays swept Marshall 9-8 and 2-0 in a Saturday doubleheader on the WHS field. The Bluejays lost 18-3 to Belle Plaine on Monday.

The Bluejays, 4-8 overall and 2-4 in the big school division of the Big South Conference, play today at 5:30 at St. Peter, travel to Blue

Earth Area Saturday for a 12 noon game, host Jordan Monday at 5:30 and entertain Medford Tuesday at 4:30.

**Big South Big Standings**

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| New Ulm     | 5-1 |
| Worthington | 5-3 |
| St. Peter   | 4-1 |
| Fairmont    | 1-1 |
| Waseca      | 2-4 |
| Marshall    | 0-7 |



## WHS tracksters perform well at Winged Foot Invitational

The Waseca High School track and field teams traveled to Elgin for the Plainview-Elgin-Millville Winged Foot Invitational in recent action.

According to WHS head coach David Abel, it was a cool night with some great results.

The highlights were Tauston Rupe breaking the 50-foot mark in the shot put, Stella Omtvedt in the 800 and Callie Dufault in the 1600.

“We ran some nice times on the cool windy night, so that is always good,” said Abel. “It was nice to see

some people try some new events and have success.”

Firsts for the girls: Brooklyn Flatau, 110 hurdles, 15.2; Kalea Sartori, shot put, 38-1.

Other places: 4x100 relay, 4th (Angelica Lopez, Bella Wikan, Katelyn Weber, Allyson Holmseth); 4x100 throwers relay, 2nd (Sartori, Sierra Krause, Lauren Holmseth, Nevaeh Sampson); 4x400, 4th (Dufault, Ellie Kopischke, Reese Rodriguez, Omtvedt); 4x800, 6th (Dufault, Kopischke, Maren Schimming, Rodriguez); 4x1600

relay, 6th (Ava VanDenHemel, Schimming, Kelsey Draeger, Violet Rohwer); Sartori, 4th, discus; Savanna Vagts, 3rd, high jump; Flatau, 5th, long jump.

Firsts for the boys: Jacob Hadley, high jump, 5-10; Tristan Godwin, pole vault, 12-6; 4x100 throwers relay, 48.01 (Tauston Rupe, Owen Rupe, Toby Jeske, Wyatt Hager).

Other places: 4x100, 6th (Jonah Worke, Brady Tloughan, Bennett Ludwig, Jordan Johnston); 4x200, 5th (Brady McKenna, Sunny Mei,

Hadley, Malechi Noble); 4x400, 4th (Tovin Grannis, Tloughan, Hager, Noble); 4x800, 5th (Isaac Feldkamp, Hager, Godwin, Grannis); 4x1600, 5th (Feldkamp, Godwin, Landon Rutt, Mei); spring medley relay, 4th (Worke, Ludwig, Johnston, Noble); Tauston Rupe, 2nd, shot put.

The next action for the Bluejays is the Big South meet at St. Peter May 20 at 4 p.m.

## Bluejay golf teams maintain busy schedule

The Waseca High School golf teams have been enjoying the weather while completing a very busy schedule.

Most recently, the boys traveled to the Fairmont Invitational at Rose Lake Golf Course Friday, finishing fourth 14 schools with an 18-hole total of 327 strokes. Holy Family won with 291.

Zac Beddor of Holy Family was the medalist with a 71 while teammate Ryder Carlson carded a 72.

The Waseca girls competed at Fairmont’s Interlaken Golf Course Friday, placing sixth out of nine school with 450 strokes for 18 holes.

Marshall won with 375.

The girls’ medalist was Katelyn Storbeck of Blue Earth Area with an 81.

The girls hosted a home meet Monday at Waseca’s Lakeside Golf Course, taking third among seven schools with 427. Marshall was first at 404.

Dayton Webskowsky of Marshall was medalist with 81. Madison Rasche of Waseca was second overall at 84.

The WHS boys played at New Ulm Country Club, where they took fourth out of seven squads with 351 for 18 holes. St. Peter won with 307.

Ethan Moreau of St. Peter shot 71 for medalist honors.

In other recent action, the WHS junior varsity boys played nine holes at Interlaken, taking fifth with 211. New Ulm won with 188.

Waseca’s Dylan Hanson finished seventh overall with a 48. Noah Bettin of Fairmont was medalist at 42.

The varsity girls ventured to Marshall for a Big South event, where they took third with 210. The host team won with 184.

Madison Rasche led Waseca, finishing third overall with a 47. Mia Kanewischer was fifth at 48.

Webskowsky was first with a 40.

The varsity boys took third out of 10 schools in the 18-hole St. Peter Invitational at Shoreland Country Club. Blue Earth was first with 321.

Braiden Nelson led the Bluejays with a 78, good for third overall. Hunter Anderson was sixth with an 80. Zachary Wilson of Redwood Valley was the medalist with a 74.

Next up for the Bluejays is the Big South Championship, which will be played at Dacotah Ridge GC in Morton next Monday (girls) and Tuesday (boys).

## JWP’s Simonson leads after one Gopher Conference round

The JWP High School golf teams played twice in recent action, at the Blooming Prairie Invitational April 16 and the first round of Gopher Conference play at Wedgewood Cover in Albert Lea April 29.

At Blooming Prairie, the varsity had only three golfers and did not qualify for a team score. Jeffrey Simonson was ninth overall with an 87 for 18 holes. Garrett Reinhardt shot a 98, Evan Mulcahey 125.

It was the same scenario at Wedgewood Cove, where Simonson took medalist honors with a 75. Mulcahey shot 111, John Publitz 116. Simonson is leading by three strokes after the first conference

meet.

The Bulldogs have the second round of conference play today at 10 a.m. at North Links in Mankato.

## Bulldog track teams win JWP Invitational

The JWP High School track and field teams had a field day with the JWP Invitational last Tuesday, both squads finishing first among seven schools.

Finishing first for the girls was Ashlynn Wolff, who won the 400 meters 1:02.72

Other JWP places: Aubrey Weedman, 4th, shot put and third, discus; Autumn Thissen, 5th, shot put; Ariana Aguilar, 6th, discus; Ashlynn Wolff, 2nd, high jump; Sarah Bulman, 3rd, pole vault; Paige Walz, 4th, pole vault and 5th, long jump; Lilly Strauss, 2nd, long jump; Presley James, 2nd, triple jump; Nevaeh Weimert, 4th, triple jump; Ava Appel, 4th, 300 hurdles and 4th, 100 hurdles; 4x100 relay, 4th (Brielle Bure, James, Walz, Kayleigh Donner); 4x200, 4th (Bure, Aubrey Anderson, Ryder Britton Donner); 4x400, 3rd (Walz, Madeline Hoehn, Wolff, Kwynn Krause); 4x800, 4th (Noran Welvaert, Ava Krause, Claire Groh, Kwynn Krause); Hoehn, 4th, 1600; Ava Krause, 6th, 1600; Kwynn Krause, 3rd, 800; Weimert, 2nd, 400 and 2nd, 100; Strauss, 3rd, 400 and 3rd,

100; Onikia Herme, 5th, 400;

Firsts for the boys: Isaac Gahlon, pole vault, 11-6; Gavin Weedman, high jump, 5-6; Ethan Born, 300 hurdles, 48.52; Luke Cahill, 3200, 11:26.96; 4x400 relay, 3:46.99 (Derek Gustafson, Weedman, Alexander Kleve, Kronbach).

Other JWP places: Weedman, 2nd, triple jump; Tyson Kronbach, 6th, triple jump; Daulton Bauer, 2nd, long jump, 5th, 100 and 4th, 400; Isaiah Berndt, 3rd, long jump; Gahlon, 5th, long jump; Cahill, 6th, pole vault; Teagan Multer, 4th, high jump; Eric Daschner, 6th, shot put; and 4th, 110 hurdles; 4x800, 2nd (Tyson Johnson, Cahill, Brennan Welvaert, Mulder); 4x200, 5th (Dylan Hood, Gavinn Kaiser, Karson Mittelstaedt, Patrick James Morgan); 4x100, 2nd (Gahlon, Born, Morgan, Berndt); Leighlan Harris, 5th, 300 hurdles and 6th, 110 hurdles; Mulder, 2nd, 3200; Welvaert, 4th, 3200; Gustafson, 6th, 400; Berndt, 3rd, 200 and 4th, 100.

The Bulldogs host the Gopher Conference meet Saturday at 10 a.m.

## Softball Bulldogs top Medford on Senior Night

The JWP High School softball team defeated visiting Medford 9-7 in a rescheduled Gopher Conference game at Janesville Monday.

Collecting two hits each for the Bulldogs were Kayle Langford, Ryleigh Donner, Ella Oliver, Autumn Thissen, Brielle Desner and Addison Miller. Olover doubled and scored three runs. Victoria Blomstrom and Lillian Ewert added one hit apiece.

Donner started on the mound and allowed seven runs on five hits, with three strikeouts and eight walks. Ray Blasing got the win in relief, giving up two hits and a walk.

“We did hit,” said JWP head coach Brienne Eldred. “They weren’t strong hits, but we put the ball in play. We have a lot of games this week and we need to be strategic on what we are doing with pitchers. They will have to split more games than they are used to.”

It was Senior Night for the Bulldogs.

“It is wonderful to honor the young ladies for all of their hard work,” said Coach Eldred.

The Bulldogs weren’t as fortunate last Thursday against Randolph, falling 17-2.

Oliver, Thissen, Dessner and Braille James had one hit each. James drove in two runs.

Claire Loffeler took the pitching loss. Blasing also saw action in the circle.

“Randolph is a great team,” said Eldred. “They have amazing hitters, a solid defense, and a great pitcher. We did have a good game for the most part. We did have five fielding errors, which hurt us. Getting four hits off of a pitcher of that caliber is fantastic. My pitchers did an amazing job as well. I think our bench kept us in the game. They cheered the whole time, and helped keep the morale

“It is wonderful to honor the young ladies for all of their hard work.”

— JWP coach Brienne Eldred

up.”

The Bulldogs lost a 26-14 slugfest to Kenyon-Wanamingo last Tuesday.

Dessner was 3-for-4 with a home run, seven RBIs and two runs scored. Langford was 2-for-3 with two stolen bases, Blasing 2-for-2 with a walk and a sacrifice. Thissen singled and drew two walks. Blomstrom had a hit and a walk, scoring three times.

Donner started and took the pitching loss, walking four in 1 1/3 innings. Loeffler went 2 2/3 innings, walking eight. Blasing allowed one hit and no walks.

“This was a tough game to watch,” said Eldred. “We did not support our pitcher like we should have. It gets lonely on the mound when no one is cheering you on. We had some nice bunts tonight that we beat out running. There is growth even in a loss.”

The Bulldogs play today at 4:30 at Triton and host USC Tuesday at 4:30.

| Gopher Conference standings |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Randolph                    | 8-0 |
| United South Central        | 6-0 |
| Kenyon-Wanamingo            | 5-1 |
| Hayfield                    | 4-1 |
| Bethlehem Academy           | 4-3 |
| JWP                         | 2-3 |
| Triton                      | 2-4 |
| NRHEG                       | 1-5 |
| WEM                         | 1-6 |
| Blooming Prairie            | 0-4 |
| Medford                     | 0-6 |





Lakeshore facility staff members with Chamber members Gyles and Carol Randall.

### Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce hosts successful "Business After Hours" at Lakeshore Assisted Living

WASECA, MN – The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce recently held a well-attended Business After Hours networking event hosted by Lakeshore Assisted Living on Tuesday, April 29th offering an evening of connection, conversation, and community engagement for local business leaders.

Lakeshore Assisted Living provided a warm and inviting atmosphere for Chamber members and guests, showcasing exceptional hospitality that made for a memorable experience. Attendees enjoyed refreshments, tours of the facility, and valuable opportunities to build business relationships in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

“We are grateful to Lakeshore Assisted Living for being such gracious and thoughtful hosts,” said Mikhail Rostislavovich, President of the Waseca Area Chamber Board of Directors. “Their attention to detail and genuine hospitality truly reflect the spirit of partnership we value in our business community.”

The Chamber’s Business After Hours events are designed to foster networking and collaboration among local businesses, creating spaces where members can promote their services, share ideas, and strengthen their connections.

“This was a fantastic evening of networking and relationship-building,” said Robin Dulas, Executive Director of the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce. “Lakeshore Assisted Living created a welcoming environment that made it easy for members to connect. We deeply appreciate their support and involvement.”

The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce thanks Lakeshore Assisted Living and all attendees for making the evening a success.

For more information about future Chamber events, visit [waseca-chamber.com](http://waseca-chamber.com)



From left: Brad Milbrath, Red, White & Boom Committee Chair; Stacey Schroeder, Red, White & Boom committee member; Robin Dulas, Discover Waseca Tourism Past President; Mikhail Rostislavovich, Discover Waseca Tourism President.

### "Red, White and Boom" celebration requesting community support

Waseca, MN – Summer is almost here, and with it comes one of Waseca’s most beloved traditions: the 4th of July fireworks celebration. This annual display over Clear Lake brings the community together for a spectacular night of light, sound, and shared pride.

The fireworks show—launched from two massive floating platforms—is organized by Discover Waseca Tourism as part of its Red, White and Boom campaign. It has become a signature part of the summer in Waseca and a powerful symbol of unity and celebration.

To keep this tradition alive and growing, Discover Waseca Tourism is leading the fundraising effort to make this year’s fireworks display the most memorable yet. All community donations will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$5,000, thanks to Discover Waseca Tourism.

“The 4th of July fireworks are more than a show—they’re a celebration of Waseca’s spirit,” said Mikhail Rostislavovich, President of Discover Waseca Tourism. “It’s an honor for us to support and grow this tradition, and we invite every resident and business to help us light up the sky together.”

Brad Milbrath, Chair of the Red, White and Boom Committee, added: “Seeing the fireworks burst over Clear Lake, surrounded by friends, neighbors, and visitors—it’s a moment that defines our community. With everyone’s help, we can make this year’s celebration the most spectacular one yet.”

While the fireworks are organized and funded by Discover Waseca Tourism, the broader Lakefest celebration, which includes various daytime activities and entertainment, is organized independently by a separate volunteer committee. Both events contribute to the vibrant holiday weekend in Waseca, each with its own planning and purpose.

To support the fireworks display, please make your donation by June 15, payable to:

Discover Waseca Tourism, P.O. Box 46 Waseca, MN 56093

Join us in lighting up the skies—and celebrating all that makes Waseca a great place to live, visit, and come together.

## Get your news in the Pioneer

- [news@wasecacountypioneer.com](mailto:news@wasecacountypioneer.com)
- Call (507) 837-6767
- Office at 111 W. Elm Avenue

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## REAL ESTATE TAXES DUE

To avoid payment of penalty, 1<sup>st</sup> Half Real Estate Taxes must be paid on or before

### MAY 15, 2025

Make Checks Payable To:  
**WASECA COUNTY**

Open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Use drop box (located north side of courthouse)  
Pay on-line at [www.wasecacounty.gov](http://www.wasecacounty.gov) or postmark by due date  
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### SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642

#### MAY 2025

| Sun                                                                 | Mon                         | Tue                           | Wed              | Thu                     | Fri                                                                       | Sat                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                                                                     |                             |                               |                  | 1 7pm HALL BINGO        | 2 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm                                    | 5                   |
| 4                                                                   | 5                           | 6 Burger nite 5-7pm           | 7 6pm BAR Bingo  | 8 7pm HALL BINGO VE DAY | 9 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm                                    | 10                  |
| 11 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am-Noon Your HOST VFW Baseball | 12 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting | 13 Burger nite 5-7pm          | 14 6pm BAR Bingo | 15 7pm HALL BINGO       | 16 WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm YOUR HOST HONOR GUARD & AUXILIARY | 17 ARMED FORCES DAY |
| 18                                                                  | 19                          | 20 Burger nite 5-7pm Last one | 21 6pm BAR Bingo | 22 7pm HALL BINGO       | 23 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm                                   | 24                  |
| 25                                                                  | 26 MEMORIAL DAY             | 27                            | 28               | 29                      | 30                                                                        | 31                  |

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



LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF WASECA  
DISTRICT COURT  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Probate Division  
Court File No.: 81-PR-25-284  
In Re: Estate of  
BRIAN CHESTER SOMMERS,  
Decedent  
NOTICE OF INFORMAL AP-  
POINTMENT OF PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE AND  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (IN-  
TESTATE)

Notice is given that an Application for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative was filed with the Registrar. No Will has been presented for probate. The Registrar accepted the application and ap-  
pointed Kirsten J. Sommers, whose address is 805 11th Avenue SE, Waseca, Minnesota 56093, to serve as the personal representative of the Decedent's estate.  
Any heir or other interested person

may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may ob-  
ject to the appointment of the per-  
sonal representative. Any objection to the appointment of the personal representative must be filed with the Court, and any properly filed objection will be heard by the Court after notice is provided to interested persons of the date of hearing on the objection.  
Unless objections are filed, and un-  
less the Court orders otherwise, the personal representative has the full power to administer the estate, in-  
cluding, after thirty (30) days from the issuance of letters of general ad-  
ministration, the power to sell, en-  
cumber, lease, or distribute any interest in real estate owned by the Decedent.  
Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all cred-  
itors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within

four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.Dated: 04/29/2025  
2025.04.29  
/s/ Abby Williams 13:53:49-05'00'  
Registrar  
Shannon M. Asselin  
Court Administrator  
  
SMITH, TOLLEFSON, RAHRICK & CASS  
Mark J. Rahrick  
MN# 252402  
108 W. Park Sq., Suite A, P.O. Box 271  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
Telephone: (507) 451-6540  
Facsimile: (507) 451-1846  
e-mail: mark@owatonna-law.com

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT  
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Thursday May 8 and 15, 2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF WASECA  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Civil Division  
Case Type: Quiet Title  
Court File No. 81-CV-25-310

Wallace B. Wadd, Jennifer K. Klein, and Joseph Klein,  
  
Plaintiffs,  
  
vs.

SUMMONS

Gary D. Paulson and Barbara A. Paulson; Frank Borgeson; the Unknown Heirs of Seymour J. Johnson; the Unknown Heirs of Dorothy M. Gleason; the Unknown Heirs of Steven L. Gleason; the Unknown Heirs of Helen W. Borgeson a/k/a Helen W. Cooper; and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, interest, or lien in the real estate described in the Complaint herein,  
  
Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

1. **YOU ARE BEING SUED.** The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is on file in the Office of the Court Administrator of the above-named Court. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this Summons.
2. **YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 20 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.** You must give or mail to the person who signed this Summons a **written response** called an Answer within 20 days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this Summons located at 215 East Elm Avenue, PO Box 249, Waseca, MN 56093-0249.
3. **YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM.** The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer, you must state whether you

- agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.
4. **YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS.** If you do not Answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the Complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.
5. **LEGAL ASSISTANCE.** You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, The Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. **Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.**
6. **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an Alternative Dispute Resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even is you expect to use alternative means of resolving the dispute.
7. **THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OPR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY** located in Waseca County, Minnesota, legally described as follows: *See Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.*

The object of this action is to obtain a judgment that Plaintiff is the owner, in fee simple, of the above-described real property, and that none of said Defendants have any estate or interest therein or lien thereon.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A.

By: Keith L. Deike (#148635)  
215 E. Elm Ave., PO Box 249

Waseca, MN 56093-0249  
(507) 835-5240  
keith.deike@phblawoffice.com  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

**EXHIBIT A**  
Legal Description  
Wadd & Klein v. Paulson et al.

All that part of the S ½ of the NE 1/4 and the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 13, Township 108 North, Range 23 West, Waseca County, Minnesota, described as follows:  
Beginning at the southeast corner of said NE 1/4;  
Thence North 8929'42" West a distance of 2636.74 feet, on an assumed bearing on the south line of said NE 1/4 to the south-west corner of said NE 1/4;  
Thence North 8929'42" West a distance of 389.56 feet on the south line of said NW 1/4 to the intersection of said south line and the centerline of the abandoned railroad formerly known as the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad;  
Thence North 2243'40" East a distance of 1203.00 feet on the centerline of said abandoned railroad;  
Thence Northeasterly on said centerline a distance of 263.57 feet on a tangential curve concave to the northwest, having a central angle of 0754'25", radius of 1909.86 feet, chord bearing North 1846'28" East, and a chord distance of 263.36 feet, to the north line of said S ½;  
Thence South 8947'48" East a distance of 2483.26 feet on the north line to the north-east corner of said S ½;  
Thence South 0016'30" West a distance of 584.81 feet on the east line of said NE 1/4;  
Thence North 8929'42" West a distance of 132.0 feet parallel with the south line of said NE 1/4;  
Thence South 0016'30" West a distance of 330.00 feet parallel with the east line of said NE 1/4;  
Thence South 8929'42" East a distance of 132.0 feet, parallel with the south line of said NE 1/4, to the east line of said NE 1/4;  
Thence South 0016'30" West a distance of 462.0 feet to the point of beginning.  
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 8, 15 and 22, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON  
PROPOSED COUNTY ROAD NO. 61 REVOCATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Waseca County will conduct a public hearing pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 163.11 for the purpose of receiving oral and/or written comments on the proposed revocation of County Road No. 61 (78<sup>th</sup> St/ 325<sup>th</sup> Ave/ 80<sup>th</sup> St) in St. Mary Township. The public hearing will convene at 7:00 pm, Monday May 19, 2025, at the St. Mary Township Hall, located at the intersection of 90<sup>th</sup> Street and 350<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Persons wishing to make written comment may do so by mailing them to Waseca County Public Works, 1495 5<sup>th</sup> St SE, PO Box 487, Waseca MN 56093, or by email to [jim.kollar@wasecacounty.gov](mailto:jim.kollar@wasecacounty.gov).

Jim Kollar, PE, Waseca County Public Works Director/County Engineer

Publish in the Waseca County Pioneer: April 24, May 1, May 8, May 15

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Notice is hereby given that the Waseca County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing to consider amendments to Sections 6.07, 6.08 and Article 8 of the Unified Development Code (UDC). The requested amendment will include

i. Organized Farm Colony as a Conditional Use under Section 6.08(C);

ii. Specific standards and requirements for Organized Farm Colonies under Section 6.07; and

iii. The definition of Organized Farm Colonies under Section 8.03 of the UDC.

The County Board of Commissioner’s meeting is scheduled for 9:30am on Tuesday May 20, 2025, at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

The staff report and Board Memorandum 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](http://www.wasecacounty.gov) at the agenda tab. Oral comments will be accepted at the meeting. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all Waseca County services, programs and activities.

Maame Quarcoo, AICP, Sr. Land Use Planner.

HELP WANTED

Community Health Advisory Committee member applications are open.

Contact Sarah Berry, 507-835-0656, if you are interested in serving your community by reviewing programs and advising on community needs to improve the health of Le Sueur and Waseca Counties.

Members will be appointed at the June 3, 2025, meeting at the Waterville Area Senior Center.

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CITY OF WASECA  
CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Waseca City Council will hold public hearings at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS of CITY HALL located at 508 South State Street in Waseca, Minnesota.

The purpose of the public hearings is to gather information regarding the following:

REQUEST FOR TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) FOR THE MARKETPLACE APARTMENT PROJECT:

Proposed modification of Municipal Development District No. 1

Proposed adoption of a Modification to the Development Program for Municipal Development District No. 1

Proposed establishment of a TIF District No. 1-29 (Housing) within Development District No. 1

Proposed adoption of a TIF Plan relating thereto.

The Waseca Real Estate Fund (WREF) has submitted a TIF application for financial assistance for a proposed 36-unit residential housing development (Phase 1) on portions of Lots 1 and 2 of the Market Place Subdivision.

REZONING REQUEST:

The City of Waseca is requesting the rezoning of Lots 1, 2, and 3 of the Market Place Subdivision (Parcel ID No. 1744000010, No. 1744000020, and No. 1744000030) from B-2 (Community Retail & Service Business District) to R-4 (Multi-Family District, High Density).

The purpose of this rezoning request is to facilitate the development of residential apartment buildings. The total area of this rezoning request is approximately 4.89 acres.

REZONING REQUEST:

The City of Waseca is requesting the rezoning of Parcel ID No. 170170850, No. 170200850, and No. 170170875 from R-3 (Multi-Family District, Low & Medium Density) to R-2 (Urban Residential District).

The purpose of the request to rezone Parcel No. 170170850 and No. 170200850 is to facilitate the development of the Clearwater Preserve residential subdivision. The purpose of rezoning Parcel No. 170170875 is to avoid spot zoning. The total area of this rezoning request is approximately 62.37 acres.

Complete copies of the proposed TIF District and rezoning documents are available in the office of the City Clerk located at 508 South State Street in Waseca, Minnesota.

Those interested in commenting may appear in person or by counsel or may submit written comments to the City of Waseca at 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Upon request, accommodations will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Waseca services, programs, and activities.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

Jon M. Froke  
City Planner



Party like Gatsby



NRHEG - A total of 60 couples walked the magic carpet during NRHEG Prom Saturday, May 3, 2025 in the high school gymnasium. The night's theme was "Party like Gatsby." Shown top left are NRHEG Seniors attending their 'final' prom Top right are juniors.

Photos by Eli Lutgens



From left: Quen Meyering, Ezekiel Morrison, Damazon Porter and Veronica Brown.

From left: Samantha Possin, Claire Robran, Cloe Muilenburg, Winter Pederson and Ariel Anhalt.

From left: Georgia Zimprich, Grace Starman, Molly Johnson and Carter Schlaak.

A Night in Greece



JWP - A total of 57 couples and individuals walked the magic carpet during JWP Prom Saturday, May 3, 2025 in the high school gymnasium. The night's theme was "A Night in Greece."

Photos by Ben Revermann

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