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Sports

JAMBOYZ at Janesville Veterans Memorial Park Thursday, Sept. 4
Musical group JAMBOYZ will perform at the Janesville Veterans Memorial Park from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4. This event is part of the free “Songs in the Park” series.

Mary Guentzel Quintet at Indian Island Winery Friday, Sept. 5
The Mary Guentzel Quintet will perform at the Indian Island Winery from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5. The group features Irish music and some all-time favorites.

Third annual Ride to Remember at Hartland University Bar Saturday, Sept. 6
The third annual Ride to Remember will depart from Hartland University Bar around noon on Saturday, Sept. 6. There will be a list of bars to collect cards from, which bars visited is up to riders, best hand announced 7 p.m. 50/50 raffle, silent auction and winning hand prizes. Proceeds donated to Flags for Vets.

Sheriff’s Posse Wagon Train in Waseca Sept. 5, 6, 7
The Waseca County Sheriff’s Posse is hosting the statewide Posse Wagon Train for Youth from Sept. 5 to 7.

Build your own Bouquet at Hartland University Sunday, Sept. 7
There will be a Build your own Bouquet from 2-4 p.m. at the Hartland University Bar on Sunday, Sep. 7. Join Andi and Haley for a delightful evening of flower arranging, unleash creativity and learn the art of bouquet-making from talented local floral experts, tickets are \$55.

Ben Cook-Feltz performing at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm Sunday, Sept. 7
Music group Ben Cook-Feltz will be at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7. Cross Paul Simon and Weird Al Yankovic to get a feel for their performance style.

Waseca Football Association Burger Fry at the Mill Thursday, Sept. 11
The Waseca Football Association will hold a burger fry at the Mill from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11. Help support Waseca Bluejay youth football; cost is \$12.

Grape Stomp and Beer Fest at Indian Island Winery Sept. 13
The Indian Island Winery will have its Grape Stomp and Beer Fest from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13.

*A word from
The Word*

Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.

Genesis 9:3

Always thinking

Local welder uses skills, creativity to make ideas reality

By **DEB BENTLY**
News Editor

Bruce Matson, who owns the metal fabrication company Matson Design Specialties and operates it alongside his son Zack, admits he seldom stops thinking.

“I have to keep a notebook in my pocket to write my ideas down,” he comments.

The two-man shop, located about three miles north of Waseca along Highway 13, got its start 12 years ago thanks to financial support from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), the organization founded and led by Tim Penney for decades prior to his recent retirement.

“If it weren’t for SMIF,” comments Matson, “my business wouldn’t exist.”

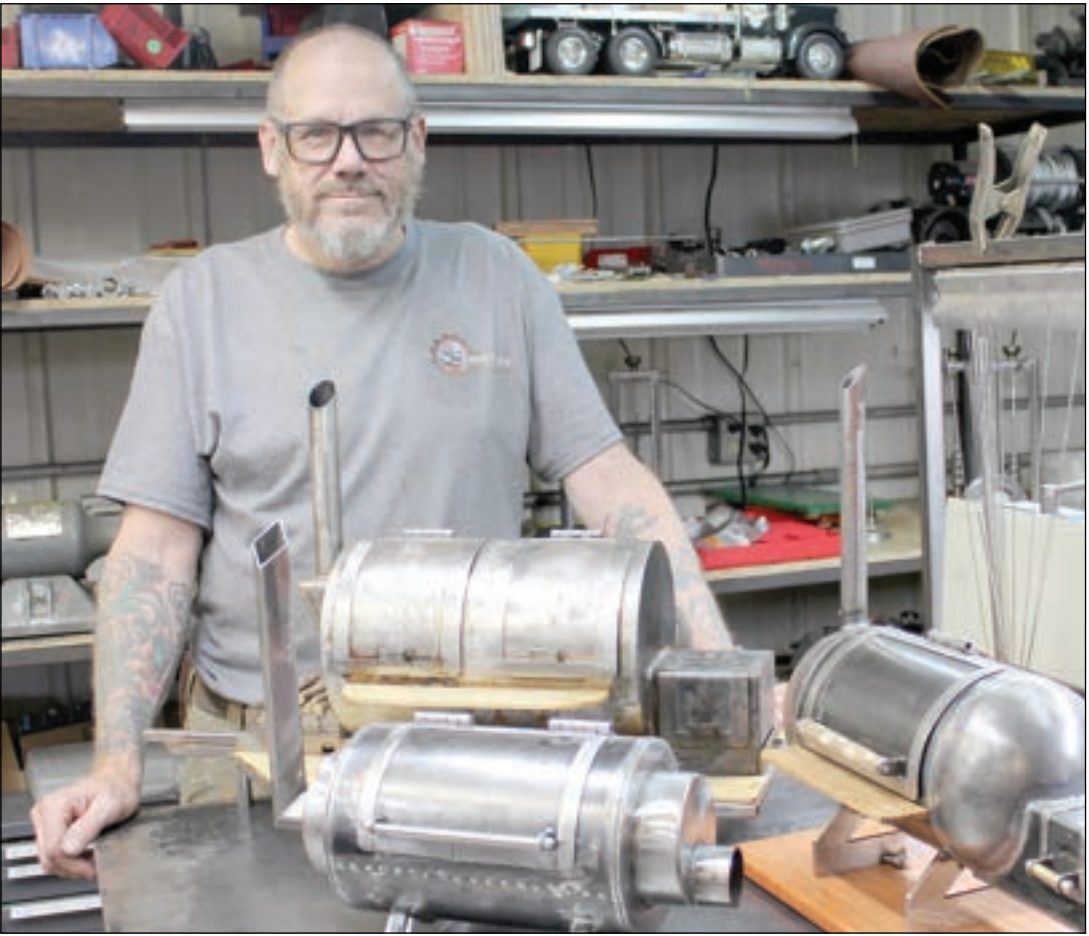
With the starter loan from SMIF, he says he was able to purchase “three critical pieces of equipment for cutting, shaping and welding” metal. Along with that, he arranged an appearance at a Minneapolis home and garden show. “We made some key connections that have stayed with our business since then,” he says.

Matson graduated high school in 1974 and then attended the Brooklyn Technical Center in Hennepin; he learned to be a welder and went on to work at various metal fabrication businesses in the metro area for the next 35 years or so.

“But I always dreamed of having my own shop,” he describes.

Thanks to his connections with metro area businesses, Matson and his son have taken on some demanding projects. One that immediately comes to mind for him is a curving metal staircase which the customer wanted to lead from a second-level deck down about 13 feet to a patio and pool. For aesthetic reasons, it was planned without any support posts: only its connection to the deck above and its position on the ground below.

Matson describes using a laser-based measuring tool capable of determining distances in two directions simultaneously, then building a framework and stair treads to very tight tolerances, with the curved shape of the struc-



WELD DESIGNS - Bruce Matson, owner of Matson Creative Designs of Waseca, with some of the miniature smoker grills he makes in his spare time. Matson has been a welder for almost 50 years; his company has completed projects in many historically significant locations.

Pioneer photos by Deb Bently

ture affecting every aspect of the work. He can’t help commenting, “Not every welder could have pulled that off.”

Once built, the stair was delivered in pieces to D & K Powder Coating, a Mankato company Matson says he uses often for putting weather-durable coatings on his projects. With everything ready, he recalls, assembling the stair in place required considerable precision, since despite looking very much alike, each piece of the structure was made to set into one, specific fitted location.

Matson is also pleased to have been selected to build items used at some historically significant settings. Six decorative metal pieces his company made hang almost like banners from pillars at the University of Minnesota’s Grace B. Dayton wildflower garden. Matson Designs built a security gate carefully crafted to look as if it is an original part of the 1881 James J. Hill mansion in St. Paul. He and Zack also once crafted some custom light fixtures to match those in a home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Perhaps the largest single project he has taken on was replacing the balcony railings at a downtown Minneapolis apartment building with more than 350 rental units. Matson was a subcontractor with a metro area renovation company rejuvenating the exterior brickwork and other features. Metal railings built decades ago were beginning to show their age and, once part of the project, had to be re-



placed with pieces which meet modern building code standards. Doing so required dozens of matching railings about 15 feet long and 5 feet high in various configurations—some were simply straight, some turned corners in one direction, some in the other.

Matson describes building them all to specifications, having them powder coated,

Welder continued on 12

Florence Rose Castor’s life on display at Waseca County Historical Museum

By **BEN REVERMANN**
AND **ELIZABETH ANSELMO**

The Waseca County Historical Society (WCHS) is presenting a new exhibit, Portrait of a Lady, from now until October 24. The exhibit highlights the life and times of Florence Rose Castor, 1884-1957. WCHS invites visitors to imagine Florence as a student, a traveler, a friend, a sister and a woman shaped by the world around her.

Born in Waseca to local jeweler Ed Castor, Florence graduated from Waseca High School in 1902, earned a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota, and later received a Master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin. She went on to work as a teacher and librarian, eventually serving as head librarian at the College of St. Teresa in Winona.

Florence grew up during an era

of great transition, when trains remained the dominant mode of travel, automobiles were just beginning to appear, and horse-drawn carriages were still a common sight on downtown streets. One of the first displays features “calling cards”—small, business-card-sized tokens once left at a neighbor’s home to signify a visit. Alongside the cards sits an old-fashioned quill and ink bottle, allowing museum guests to try their hand at writing with the type of equipment Florence used. These calling cards served as an early precursor to the modern-day business card.

The exhibit blends artifacts Florence owned with objects typical from her time. Visitors can see her 1910 transatlantic cruise memorabilia, including ship tickets and a preserved menu from

Castor continued on 5



PORTRAIT OF A LADY - An exhibit featuring Florence Rose Castor, 1884-1957, will be at the Waseca Historical Society until Oct. 23. Pictured from left: Executive Director of the museum Amy Danielson and Elizabeth Olivia Anselmo in front of a popular form of dress worn during the period of Florence’s life.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Record-setting rainfall drenches county

By **DEB BENTLY**
News Editor

An August 17 and 18 rainstorm dropped 9.48 inches of rain at the 111-year weather station at the University of Minnesota’s Southern Outreach and Research Center (SROC) located in Waseca. SROC staff and other recordkeepers provide unofficial rainfall amounts for the same event around the county as high as 11 inches.

Information compiled by SROC staff members Stephanie Schnoor and Kyle Holling reports the Aug. 17 and 18 event contributed to numerous records, including the wettest June to August summer in the station’s history, the third-wettest August and the eighth-wettest growing season since statistics began being collected in 1914. All this even though the summary was released on Aug. 20, with 11 days of the month remaining at the time.

The 9.48 inch rainfall is the second-largest 24-hour total the station has ever reported, falling in line behind 10.16 inches which dropped there on Sept. 21 and 22 of 2016.

Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District Manager Mark Schaeetzke commented, “We continue to see higher intensity rainfall events. Amounts have been variable where one farm gets a very normal one-inch rain and another area 20 miles away gets a four-inch gullywasher.” Schaeetzke pointed out the global information system (GIS) places southern Minnesota in a zone where longstanding classification claims a single event totalling as much as four to five inches of rain should happen only once in a ten-year period.

“It sure seems like we are getting more than that,” he observed. “And many times that four-inch rain is coming in only three to four hours rather than taking all day.”

Significant erosion and flooding now seem to happen in vulnerable areas every year, he said. “It takes only one high-intensity storm to cause this damage.”

Waseca County Highway Engineer Jim Kollar recalls at least two rainfall events this summer which led to water “overtopping” roadways in the county, and more where water filled roadside ditches to the level of the road. “When a flood happens,” he mentioned, “we abandon our normal operations and respond to the flood: Closing roads, monitoring conditions, performing repairs as needed.”

“We also inspect our bridge crossings and major culverts for tree debris.”

Disruption continues after the water recedes, he continued, as staff members look for erosion and ensure safe driving conditions by carrying out any needed repairs.

“Wet summers certainly affect construction,” Kollar finished. “Both major events this year flooded out box culvert [replacement] projects that were in progress.” Once flooding occurs, he said, workers have no

Weather continued on 12



Compostings

by Al Batt

Days of yesteryear

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFER'S CLUB MEETING
I can see into the future.
When did you learn you had that gift?
Next Thursday.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE
I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. The rain came down. Does it ever go up? Yes, when I worked in Colorado, it was raining up in the mountains.

I followed my wife as she pushed a shopping cart out of a store, when I was rear-ended by a young man pushing a cart at a speed too high for conditions. He dinged my ankle. He apologized profusely. I walked to the car. I had no limp, and I recognize a limp. I have a long history of limping. I once had a papercut so deep, I developed a limp. Excessive speed is a problem everywhere except in sports.

TALES FROM THE TOWNSHIP
In the early days of the Township, a church council meeting took place. There was a motion made and seconded to buy a chandelier. The President asked if there was any discussion. Cletus had something to say. He always had something to say. Every board has a guy like Cletus. Said he, "If we buy a chandelier, we'll have to order it from Sears and Roebuck. That's a big problem. There isn't a man here who can spell 'chandelier.'" Then, if we ordered the chandelier from Sears and Roebuck, and it was delivered to the church, nobody in our church knows how to play it. But what concerns me the most is that we don't need to spend money on a chandelier when what we really need are lights."

THOSE THRILLING DAYS OF YESTERYEAR
I saw a magazine ad from the 1940s featuring a picture of Johnny Roventini, the famous bellhop/spokesman for Philip Morris cigarettes, who recommended readers call for Philip Morris. The text read, "NO WORRY ABOUT THROAT IRRITATION—even when YOU INHALE!" The ad read, "This exclusive proved Philip Morris superiority is reported by eminent doctors—who compared the leading popular cigarettes: The smoke of the four other leading brands averaged more than three times as irritant as the amazingly different Philip Morris—an irritant effect which lasted more than five times as long! You can't help inhaling—BUT you can help your throat!"

I'VE LEARNED
A philofelist is a lover of cats. According to Lindy Energy, the 10 states with the most wind tur-

bines in 2021 were Texas (17,779), Iowa (6,173), California (6,088), Oklahoma (5,177), Kansas (3,959), Illinois (3,461), Colorado (2,905), Minnesota (2,688), North Dakota (2,194) and Oregon (2,121). These states have installed giant fans outdoors to combat hot temperatures.

Not knowing much about Greek mythology is my Achilles wheel.

Things that fall out of a refrigerator never land on their feet.

I WONDER
Do CPAs hear invoices?
How many rodeo clowns can ride one horse?
Why are false teeth called dentures and not substitooths?
Is there an acoustic eel?

ASK AL
"How do you console an English teacher?" They're, there, their.
"You've led cruise ship tours; do you have any advice for going on one?" Don't bring food.
"Do you read your horsoscope?" No, it told me not to.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT
A man told his doctor, "I think my DNA is backwards." The doctor replied, "And?"
I misplaced Dwayne Johnson's cutting tool during his origami workshop. I can't believe I lost the Rock's paper scissors.
My cousin hates being a waiter, but it puts food on the table.

NATURE NOTES
The largest spider in Minnesota is the fishing spider, which is 1 1/4 inches long; 3 1/2 inches long when its legs are included. It's brown with three chevron markings usually visible on the abdomen, and it has banded legs. Associated with ponds, swamps and slow-moving streams, it's a predator of insects and occasionally tadpoles and small fish. It doesn't harm people.

"Are they ladybugs or lady beetles?" The terms ladybug and lady beetle are interchangeable, although lady beetle is more scientifically accurate. All ladybugs are lady beetles because they aren't bugs at all. They are beetles.

"What is the best nectar for a hummingbird feeder?" Mix 1 part white table sugar with 4 parts water. I don't always boil the water, but it helps the sugar dissolve. Don't add red food coloring to entice hummingbirds. The red parts of the feeder attract the birds' attention. Don't use honey, fruit juice, soda, sugar substitutes, syrups or brown sugar.

MEETING ADJOURNED
"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?"—Matthew 7:3. Be kind.



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

Illuminating photos

This afternoon I was driving westward toward a sun that could only just be blocked by my vehicle's visor. I topped a hill and found myself doing a doubletake because the two-mile line of sight ahead of me appeared to be decorated with a lacy lit garland which scalloped up and down more neatly and consistently than I've ever been able to hang a string of lights. It was so long, and so neat and so bright, it was hard to take my eyes off it and look at the road.

Of course it took only seconds to realize the "garland" was the overhead electrical line drooping slightly as it hung between poles, but knowing what it was did not detract from the wonder of it. In fact, if anything, it expanded it. My description cannot do the scene justice: a trick of the light honestly made the power line look like a lacy, decorative garland.

Most of the time, if asked at the end of a drive whether there were power lines along the road or not, my answer would be a guess rather

than a statement.

The decorated drive set me thinking about the topic of "illumination."

I have dozens of photos of sunsets. The colors, the backlit silhouettes, the sharp relief or subtle blending of objects under the reds, oranges and pinks of the sinking sun are always so intriguing. As fleeting as each moment of sunset or sunrise might be, a person feels a temptation to try and preserve it. I have to say, if I dug through all my files and made a slide show of those photos, I don't think anyone would find it dull.

The sun, of course, does not have to be at the horizon to be illuminating. When taking pictures outdoors, the angle and direction of the sunlight nearly always need to be taken into account. For example, a bright, sunny day typically complicates photography because of stark shadows on people's faces—often from their own headwear, hairstyle, or facial features. But it can be used to real advan-



CAPTURED BEAUTY - A moment of illumination during a Waseca County sunset.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

tage sometimes, too. I have taken numerous photos of the sun beaming through the branches of a tree or reflecting off water. Bright sunshine emphasizes autumn colors so beautifully that it's barely worth taking pictures of them on a cloudy day.

The word "illumination" has another related meaning which I greatly enjoy. Much like the word "enlightenment," it refers to the process of coming to understand something. When I say the word, I want to say it with happy excitement while also moving my hands in an arch in front of me. A moment of illumination is one to be marked and celebrated.

It is when we let go of a preconception and allow the current situ-

ation to shine through—for example when we start truly listening to someone with an unusual speech habit and realize we understand what's being said. It's realizing the computer mouse isn't working because we haven't plugged in the dongle. It's recognizing that I may not be in the place I intended to go, but I have ended up where I belong.

It's happened to all of us, of course, and is usually identified by an extended exclamation of the word "Ooooooh" followed by something like "That's what you mean!" or "I get it now!"

It was the moment when I looked at the lacy garland along the highway and realized it was sunlight reflecting off the power lines.

The ketchup smoothie: tangy disappointment

For the purpose of providing entertainment and variety for this column, I have ventured out and sampled the unreasonable: a ketchup smoothie.

I first encountered the odd concept of a ketchup smoothie when talking with my grandma, who had heard about Smoothie King's new collaboration with Heinz while watching the news. At the time, we both speculated about the taste and assumed the worst. Who would put ketchup in a smoothie, let alone mix it with a bunch of berries?

They are only available in a few cities nationwide, and Denver happens to be one of them. I joked that I would have a perfect opportunity to learn more, since I was moving there in a couple of days. I honestly never imagined myself actually trying one.

The motivation to set my prejudice for this deviant smoothie flavor aside came as I was browsing a Denver magazine; in it was a review on the ketchup smoothie that provided a rating of seven out of ten. I'll admit I was highly skeptical, but somewhat hopeful. The review claimed the most noticeable flavor was that of the fruit—straw-



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

berries and raspberries—but with an additional tang. Intrigued, I reminded myself I am a lover of weird food combinations and have no business denying my tastebuds this...unsettling...adventure.

The ketchup smoothie consists of a blend of Heinz Simply Ketchup with acai sorbet, strawberries, raspberries, and apple juice. According to the website, it is "designed to be a unique sweet-tart drink with a tangy ketchup finish." Based on my brave foray into the unknown, I agree.

When first receiving the smoothie, it looks normal. It has an unremarkable berry color with a Heinz smoothie sticker slapped on the plastic cup. At first sip, it's hard to explain the flavors. There is, as advertised, the berry taste so usual to smoothies, but it is toned

down. Added is the tangy flavor that confuses the mind. Normal, but not.

Overall, I would say it was mildly delicious. Fine at first; harder to drink as the smoothie neared the end. But I pushed through and finished it, leaving the tangy taste in my mouth. I don't know if it's because I prefer sweet smoothies or what, but it was not my favorite. I would rate it a solid four out of ten. I don't know what that magazine review was talking about.

In other updates of my life, I have been greatly enjoying Facebook Marketplace hunting. I recently obtained a standing desk modification and a matching dresser so that I can finally have enough storage for all my clothes.

I have been making some fun food as well. From chicken tikka

masala to chicken and vermicelli soup with lime to homemade sushi. It's been fun and, might I say, delicious.

I also got a gym membership so I can stay strong and healthy. It's also just a great place to people watch. Because I am conscious others might be "people watching" me as well, I frequently work on making funny faces just in case anyone is looking. I'm still kidding—my self esteem would never survive, I don't have the confidence for that.

But overall, life is good. I can't complain about how things are as I see people I pass on the street or see in some areas the leftovers from a homeless person's visit. It saddens my heart. So I will try to live my good life to its fullest and not waste a day.

My Determination: "At times the world may seem an unfriendly and sinister place, but believe that there is much more good in it than bad. All you have to do is look hard enough and what might seem to be a series of unfortunate events may in fact be the first steps of a journey."

—Lemony Snicket

Thank you Mayo, Grandma's Kitchen

Last Monday I was at an Albert Lea Kwik Trip store when a voice I had not heard in a long time said, "Hi Eli."

In disbelief I turned around, stunned.

The man saw my face and said, "Grandma's Kitchen."

It was Bob, former owner and cook at a restaurant my dad and I frequented often in my teen years and I continued to patronize as a young adult.

Grandma's Kitchen was a little diner located in the Albert Lea Mall in the 2010s, next to an arcade, across from the movie theatre. In the same decade, it moved to a downtown location which I frequented as a young adult, often staying for hours when I did, chatting with the family staff.

When I was between the ages of around 12 to 15, my dad and I would go play pool in that arcade nearly every night.

We befriended the mall managers who were in charge of keeping an eye on things. They would wander over and chat for hours as my dad and I played pool.

We never spent more than \$1 a night: My dad and I would catch the pool balls in the pockets and save them in order to play additional games.



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

Right next door was Grandma's Kitchen, including Bob and family.

Bob is famous for great burgers and fries.

All of these memories and more came rushing back to me in an instant.

Standing in Kwik Trip, I told Bob I had been worried about him because I hadn't seen him for years. I tried to visit the restaurant in 2024 and discovered it was closed.

Bob said 12 years had been long enough. "It takes a toll," he told me. "We're proud of the work we did."

Bob now works at the school in Albert Lea.

Thank you, Bob, and Grandma's Kitchen, and Bob's family who helped run the restaurant, for many great memories. If anyone in the Freeborn County area could ensure Bob, from the school, gets a copy of this paper, I would appreciate it. When I

learned of the closure last year, it made me wish I had written about the business and all it meant to me. Now I've gotten my chance.

On a completely different note, I had a successful endoscopy and colonoscopy performed at Albert Lea hospital on Friday morning.

Prep started the week before, which included a low fiber diet. The day and night before the procedure I was not allowed any food and had to drink three liters of a solution. None of it was bad. The solution, with my nose closed, tasted like nothing, maybe a little slimy. That process took about three hours.

Friday morning I again had no food and had to finish the final liter of solution. I woke up at 4:45 a.m. and Deb Bently picked me up at 7 a.m. to take me to the 7:45 a.m. procedure.

I could not have asked for better treatment by the staff at Albert Lea Hospital. A+, 5/5 stars.

The staff was kind, caring and

good at their jobs. They made good conversation and really made me feel comfortable.

Deb told me I seemed really calm.

I was not feeling that way on the inside.

They let Deb sit with me in the prep room until they wheeled me back to the operating room where they put me under anesthesia for approximately 30 minutes.

The results were great. Healthy stomach, colon, esophagus and all my insides. This thankfully rules out a lot of bad causes of the pain I've experienced every day for the past two and a half years.

What's next for me?

My doctor said she would order an MRI after going through this endeavor, to see what else may be causing my discomfort.

I'm really grateful for Deb, for driving me, but more importantly for the support on such a stressful day. Her presence made everything a lot easier.

And again, to the staff at Albert Lea's Mayo Clinic, "Thank you."

P.S. For folks worried about getting an endoscopy or colonoscopy: After going through both, I feel silly for having worried as much as I did. It was easy and painless.



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PHONE: 507-837-6767

email: news@wasecacountypioneer.com
Address: Office at 111 Elm Avenue West
Mail: PO Box 578, Waseca MN 56093

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GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

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JON LUCCA Ad Design
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AMELIA ROESSLER Editor

Contributing writers/photographers: Dave Zika, Al Batt

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The Pastor's Column

Food, tears, listening and offering support

By PASTOR JILENE GALLATIN

Jesus wept. This is the shortest verse of the Bible. It's found in the Gospel of John Chapter 11 verse 31. This verse is also one of the most revealing pieces of Jesus' humanity.

Jesus wept because his friend Lazarus died and he was sad. Jesus did not hide his emotion at this loss. Jesus did not shed his tears in private, in isolation, but in the presence of community. Jesus' sadness, pain, and grief was witnessed by friends and neighbors.

We do not live completely on our own, so no part of our human existence (including grief) should be expected to be experienced alone.

The sadness, pain, tears, grief we experience in our own times of loss is eased when we share it with others, like Jesus did in his loss. This may be easier to think about than to do.

We know life is better when it is shared with others but when we're moving forward in loss we're not always comfortable with our thoughts and feelings, so how can we know others will be okay with what we're navigating?

Maybe food can help.

Jesus knew the importance of inviting people to gather together to connect with him and with each other, and he knew that food had a wonderful way of bringing people together to talk, listen, and connect.

I think many of us know this too. Many funeral or memorial services have some sort of food that is part of the day. Oftentimes there is a worship service followed by a time to gather over coffee and

treats or even tater-tot hotdish.

At other times when we hear a family has experienced a loss or is going through a difficult time, meals are prepared and delivered or picked up by the family. When we're dropping food off or coordinating a pick up time we make ourselves available to listen if people want to talk about their loss. This sharing of food is a tangible way we can let people know "You are not alone. We are here for you."

Food, tears, listening and offering support, especially during a time of loss is all deeply connected.

But what happens when the meals stop being prepared? What happens when the last of the left overs have been eaten? The food may be gone, but grief is not.

This is a gentle reminder: you are not alone. You do not need to grieve alone. Consider connecting with family or friends, your church or worshiping community or look for resources in the community. People and resources are here to support you-especially in times of grief. (DSO Funeral and Cremation Service will begin a Grief Group Series September 9th).

Friends, one of the greatest things about our teacher and Savior Jesus is his love and his ability to connect with people no matter what they were going through, be it on the mountain tops or in the valleys. Jesus invites us to follow his example and do the same: love and connect with each other in times of joy and times of sorrow.

Jesus wept, and he was surrounded and cared for by community. Your community is here. You are not alone, especially for the times that you weep.

Pastor article correction

In last week's Pioneer, the pastor column titled "Humility provides freedom from self" was wrongly attributed to Pastor Ken

Andrs. Reverand Glenn Ferichs of the Clustered parishes of Sacred Heart and All Saints wrote the article.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Christopher and Ashley Bently of New Richland are delighted to announce the birth of their first child, Rowan Orpheus Bently, born at 3:11 p.m. on Saturday, April 26 at the Mayo Hospital in Mankato, Minnesota. Rowan weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 and three-quarters inches long. Rowan's paternal grandparents are John and Deb Bently of rural New Richland. His maternal grandparents are Melanie and Shawn Wing of LeSueur. Rowan is welcomed by a long list of excited aunts, uncles and cousins living throughout southern Minnesota, Wisconsin and the suburban Chicago area.

13 NORTH EXPRESS LUBE

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED!

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Owner/Operator
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Waseca, MN 56093

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Waseca Marching Jays



JAYS MARCH ON - The Waseca Marching Jays performed at the Minnesota State Fair parade on Aug. 24 and were surprised by a visit from the Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan, who took a picture with the band and wished them good luck before the parade. Band Director Devon Lawrence said the group had a fantastic day with perfect weather for the parade. He added this year's performance was made even more special by the seventieth anniversary of the sister city partnership between St. Paul and Nagasaki. "Our students carried that excitement into their performance, and it truly showed — judges and spectators alike shared positive feedback," Lawrence said. "We could not be more proud of our students for the pride, discipline, and unity they displayed representing our community at the State Fair."

Child's History of Waseca County

Chapter II, 1854-5: First White Settlement – Mr. A. G. Sutlief and Family – Journey from Dodge County, Wis. – Judge Green's Narrative – Judge Lost and Prepared for Death – Sutlief's Return – Big Boot Creek – Crossing the Mississippi on Ice

So far as practicable, the historical events in this volume are recorded in the order in which they came to pass, instead of being grouped under certain headings or classifications. This may require a little more space, but the author thinks it will afford an easier comprehension of the various facts presented.

Mr. and Mrs. ASA G. Sutlief and Mrs. Sutlief's three oldest children, Delancy, Rhoda and Delaney, were the first white settlers in this county. Taking with them quite a drove of cattle and sheep, they started from the town of Herman, Dodge county,

Wisconsin, in the month of June, 1854, with ox teams and covered wagons, to seek a new home in the land of "Laughing Waters." They passed over the Mississippi at La Crosse, traveled across the country in a westerly direction, struck the Minnesota river at Traverse, now St. Peter, and settled on a claim some five or six miles west of that place.

To give an idea of the vicissitudes of such a journey at that time, the following from the pen of Hon. G. W. Green, well known to all the early settlers of this region, will be valuable and interesting. He wrote:

"In the summer of 1854 I left Beaver Dam, Wis., in company with Messrs. Hollingsworth, Bradley and Bommer for the purpose of seeing some portion of Southern Minnesota with an idea of settling there. Arriving at La Crosse, we purchased material for camping and ferried across the Mississippi river. One log house,

nearly finished, greeted us on the west side of the river opposite La Crosse. That was all there was then of La Crescent. The next house, twenty-four miles distant, was occupied by a Thompsonian physician, by name Bently, who had concluded to mix claim-taking and rudimentary farming with his profession. Some miles further on, where now is St. Charles, was one more log house kept as a tavern by one Springer. There was newly made wagon track extending about ten miles further on, where a young man and his wife, by name of Potter, had taken a claim and were building a small house. One story of it was finished and the chamber floor laid of loose boards, but without any roof. They invited us to stay with them over night. We did so. During the night it rained hard, and we got thoroughly soaked. After breakfast the next morning we started on without any track and no

guide but our pocket compass.

"About noon of this day we came up with Mr. A. G. Sutlief, who was moving with his family from Dodge county, Wisconsin, to a point near Traverse des Sioux (a missionary post near where St. Peter now is), so named because it was at this place that the Sioux Indians forded the river. Mr. Sutlief was a noted pioneer of Wisconsin, but he knew little more than we did as to the most feasible route to his destination. Mr. Hollingsworth was Sutlief's father-in-law, and we very willingly accepted their kind invitation to keep them company to their new home. Mr. Sutlief had with him a large herd of cattle and sheep. We crossed the Ashland prairie near the head of the Straight and Zumbro rivers, and near the Oak Glen lakes. Within one mile of Straight river, we camped for dinner."

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



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Waldorf packs street with cool cars, hot grub, and a touch of Military Honor

By JANESVILLE JOURNAL

For such a small town, the City of Waldorf knows how to throw two completely different events yet yield some massive crowds ready to indulge.

August 22 seemed like any other Friday here, but this particular week showcased some hot rods and some hot dogs as the fourth annual Car Show filled one side of Main Street while a line out the door of the Community Hall filled the other for the eighth annual Corn Feed hosted by the Waldorf Fire Department.

The Journal has covered both of these events in the past, but this iteration of these two events seemed to reach all-time highs of participation as 50+ entries participated in the Car Show and well over 400+ mouths would be fed at the Corn Feed. Both parties responsible for the events, Chief McDonough and Mayor Wilkening were utterly surprised at the frenzy their respective events attracted, and both looked scatterbrained as they were constantly on the move throughout.

Before the Car Show could rev up the competition, a brief presentation by the Quilts of Valor Foundation honored two local Waldorf veterans, Samuel Rollins and Danny Ellingson. Ellingson served in the United States Air Force (1971-1975) where he would work as a crew chief for the 37th Airforce Rescue and would retire as an E-4 Sargent. Rollins served in the United States Army (1970/1976) where he would prove to be an excellent marksman, earning the Army German Marksmanship Badge for his rifle and pistol proficiency. Both have been longstanding members of the Legion Post 587 in Waldorf, and together, they received honorary handmade quilts commemorating their service. A wave of ovations showered over the two veterans; Ellison especially would be overcome with emotion as he offered his gratitude to all who granted him this honor. It was a touching ceremony and the proper respect was given to two men who fought valiantly for this great nation. Thank you for your service.

Returning back to the Car Show, there would be a variety of classic cars with modern twists, vintage rides meant to be driven down the highway, and a few unique vehicles that would have passerbys glance in bewilderment. There would also be a Kid-die Car Show attached to the main event, and a handful of eager kid-dos would ride along the big boy cars throughout the show. One creation showcased some ingenuity as a youngster, James Brunson, turned a 1951 classic Chevy Van into a small and compact ride fit for a from one so young. The project took about a year of “trial and error” according to Brunson with resizing the van’s chassis to fit his proportions to be the “big-gest headache.” Kid has a bright future in mechanics.

For the grownups, there were plenty of entries that caught many a wandering eye, but only the top three vehicles would win a prize.

The grand champion would take home a custom-made trophy, a piston from an engine, that was welded together by Savannah Oachs of Waldorf Welding. This would be the first official trophy of the Car Show and creations like Oachs’ hope to be a new addition to this tradition. After all was said and done and the Car Show reached its conclusion, Corey Sack would take home the grand prize and the slick trophy. Unfortunately, it’s unknown what he was driving that earned him the top spot, but it had to have been quite memorable to take first place.

Some personal favorites of this reporter would be a 1968 Dodge D300 with a cedar wooden bed that was built by its owner, Darrel Fleming, a sleek red 1960 Chevy Impala that looked straight out of Grease, a candy-apple red 73 Roadster that actually used to a school-bus yellowed husk before its owner rebuilt it from the ground up, and an orange 1923 Model T Bucket owned by Larry Schubbe. Although its origins are Ford, all the main parts are Chevy-based and the modern build had plenty of folk stop over to learn the story behind this slice of history. Schubbe had purchased the Model T back in food inside. Chief McDonough was especially busy as he would constantly run food from outside to the kitchen, help dress hamburger buns, chop onions, and anything in between. I personally enjoyed the group that buttered each individual cob of corn. It may have taken some time to get to the front of the line, but each patron would look at their massive plate with wide eyes and hungry bellies. Reminiscent of a picnic, chowing down on this simple fare made for an enjoyable 2020, but it took a few months before he could haul it back to his place...slowly but surely, he created a modern masterpiece that can reach speeds up to 100mph and Schubbe called it his “pride and joy.”

As the Car Show wrapped up, the arguably best part of the event occurred as these prized possessions took turns roaring down the street as they headed home. Watching all that history and, in some cases, mechanical prowess in one big go sends a prideful shiver down the spine.

Across the street, the Corn and Burger feed delivered a belly-busting meal of a cheeseburger with all the fixings, a hot dog, baked beans, corn on the cob, and even dessert. It would get a little claustrophobic as the line would coil around the entryway, but that didn’t seem to deter anyone from becoming too impatient to support the local Fire Department. The proceeds from the meal would go toward the Fire Relief Association and all hands were on deck as each of the Department’s 20 members took part in one way or another...a handful of fire-fighters would use their mortal enemy, fire, to grill burgers, dogs, and corn outside while others would serve the experience as this small town community gathered to support its local volunteers.



BACK TO SCHOOL - During the NRHEG secondary school open house, Andy and son Charlie Flatness, left, looked through an activity calendar which shows events for the new school year. Right, School board members Terri Engel, Loren Schoenrock and Pat Theuer helped prepare and serve the light meal offered as part of the NRHEG Secondary site open house on Aug. 27.

Pioneer photos by Deb Bently

NRHEG open house a success

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

An estimated 400 or more people attended a six-hour “open house” at the NRHEG Secondary school from 2 to 8 p.m. Aug. 27. Principal Grant Berg commented he felt the event served its purpose, which was to increase the number of children and families attending the start-of-year orientation and teacher conferences.

“We wanted them to come in and meet their teachers, find their lockers, locate the classrooms

they will be in and relieve some anxiety before school starts,” said Berg. Class meetings invited the sixth-, ninth- and twelfth-graders to acquire information tailored to their respective pivotal years.

Parents and students moved freely throughout the building. Many took advantage of a light meal consisting of hot dogs, chips and water. Hot dogs were donated by Geneva Meats, Neighbor’s Meats, and Steve’s Meat Market. Sassy Sota and Kona Ice trucks were located in a west parking lot

selling beverages. Court Sports sold Panther-themed clothing. An activity calendar and poster produced by the NRHEG Star Eagle were made available at no cost.

Representatives of the school lunch, transportation, technology program and more were available at a line of tables in the main commons to answer questions, help with registration and paying fees, and provide guidance. Students were invited to take part in a schoolwide scavenger hunt and enter completed forms in draw-

ings for an activity pass or other prizes.

“This is a good way to get everything taken care of at once,” commented one parent in the process of completing paperwork. “The treats and the free food are a nice touch, too.”

Berg commented he was pleased with the strengthened attendance saying, “It seemed very successful, and now we hope to build on it for next year.”

NRHEG Secondary traffic adjusting to incomplete construction

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

NRHEG Transportation director Dan Schmidt explained to people attending the secondary site’s recent open house that the building’s large east parking lot will serve a major role in adjusting traffic flow as the school year begins.

South Ash Avenue, the city street directly in front of the building, has been under construction all summer; contractors are currently about two weeks behind schedule, at least partly because of repeated, heavy rainfall. As of the open house, the street in front of the school was drivable, but not paved.

Also under construction, and not yet drivable, is South Broadway Avenue. Typical school day traffic flow has been for buses to park along the front sidewalk of the school when delivering or picking



ROUTE CHANGE - As the school year begins, unfinished construction is causing some complications for transportation. Until the usual route is suitable for traffic, buses will be turning around and driving back north on South Ash Avenue. Parents dropping off students are asked to drive through the parking lot to return to Highway 30.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

up passengers, then proceed south on Ash Avenue, go one block west on Southeast Fourth Street, and then back north to Highway 30 along Broadway.

Until construction is sufficiently complete, Schmidt said, buses will turn around at Fourth Street and proceed back up Ash Avenue to Hwy 30.

As for parents wishing to pick up or drop off students, they will also be able to pull up along the sidewalk at the front of the school. Rather than turning around, however, typical-sized vehicles will be expected to turn into the large east parking lot and drive through it to return to Hwy. 30. The south-east corner of the parking lot will

be reserved for parents of very young students who wish to park their cars and walk inside to accompany their children to their destinations.

Anyone with questions is invited to refer to a map on the school website or contact school staff with questions.



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■ Castor
from Page 1

the R.M.S. Mauretania. The menu included delicacies such as consommé julienne, roast beef in Yorkshire pudding, rhubarb tart, and plum pudding with brandy



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In 1918, while in her mid-thirties, Florence began the discernment process, taking her first step toward becoming a Catholic nun. She received her black veil with the Sisters of St. Francis in Rochester in 1920.

The museum staff members were recently able to pay their re-

spects to Florence, leaving flowers at her gravesite in Calvary Cemetery in Rochester. Many of her sisters from the convent are also buried in this beautiful cemetery. There is a QR code in the exhibit which will allow visitors to leave “virtual” flowers for Florence through FindAGrave.com.

Though her life ended quietly,

Florence Rose Castor’s legacy endures through her service as an educator, a librarian, and a woman of faith. The Portrait of a Lady exhibit offers a poignant glimpse into her world and the times in which she lived—an invitation to reflect not only on one woman’s journey, but also on a bygone era of American history.

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Janesville

1925

- Marriages are occurring every day, but not every day is it being made worth while for a couple to be married at a certain time and place. Some man and some woman are going to be married the last night of the county fair and everybody in Waseca County and some from surrounding territory are going to be on hand to wish them well and start them on the road to married bliss with bands playing and banners flying.

- Minnesota's alfalfa acreage this year is the greatest in the history of the state. For the 268,000 acres in alfalfa last fall, the year before only boasted 123,000 acres. Five years ago the total alfalfa acreage in the state was but 45,000 acres. The continuous, constant gain being made by alfalfa with each passing year is indicative of the growing place which this extraordinary forage crop has made for itself in the past quarter of a century, according to the Institute. The manifold uses of this plant are being discovered by an increasing number of farmers and dairymen, hog growers, beef cattle feeders, sheep breeders, horsemen and poultry men alike are singing its economical and nutritional praises.

- Joe Montgomery, manager of the Central Cooperative Livestock Commission Co. of South St. Paul, spoke to a small number of the local members at the Town Hall Friday evening. Mr. Montgomery took occasion to point out to the local men that the central organization has been eminently successful in their handling of shipments since the organization, that they now handle approximately 30 percent of the total business in the yards, and are able to command better than average prices. He stated that on over 60 percent of the business days they are able to secure better than average prices for the stock.

1950

- In line with the policy of developing crews of local people for sweet corn picking, local canning factories have placed orders with the Minnesota State Employment Service for several hundred local corn pickers, according to Benjamin A. Iverson, manager of the employment office. Because of the nature of the work, canning companies would like to secure crews accustomed to long hours in the outdoors. While the work is hard, there is nothing about it that prevents any able-bodied person doing it successfully.

- Forty-eight deaths made July the worst motor vehicle traffic accident month in 1950, the Minnesota Highway Department reports. Previous high month this year was May with 43 deaths. Fourteen of the victims were pedestrians, largest number in any month this year. Eighteen were killed in collisions; 12 in vehicles than ran off the road, overturned or struck fixed objects; three were killed in one grade crossing accident, and one victim was a boy on a bicycle.

- The Janesville Red Sox officially closed their 1950 baseball season Sunday when they lost out in the Region 76 baseball tournament to the defending champion Chanhassen Red Birds at Chaska Sunday evening by a 12-4 score. Five costly errors coupled with four passed balls put an end to the South Le Sueur County League champs' hopes after 13 straight wins. Barney Reisgraf threw three-hit balls for the Birds while his mates outed Bill Quast, Cal Hoehn, and Len Guse for 11 hits. Hoehn, an addition to the Sox roster from Madison Lake, was charged with the defeat.

1975

- The Janesville Jaycees will give area residents one last Summer Fling before school starts when they host Lakeview Park Days here Saturday and Sunday. The two-day event will kick off Saturday with a 32-team softball tourney and a horseshoe tournament. The horseshoe event is open to anyone and will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the north end of the park. Trophies will be presented.

- A proposed \$45,000 community hall addition was approved by Legion Post 281 at a special meeting held last Wednesday in the clubrooms. Building Chairman Wally Abraham told the Argus that construction will begin in the spring. In order to expand their present facility, the Legion has purchased the adjacent building from Ray Blasing. They plan to tear the building down and use some of the material for the new addition. The 5,000 square foot addition will measure 44'x125' and will include a hall, complete with kitchen and bathroom facilities. Abraham told the Argus that the 192-member club will finance the project by selling \$100 first mortgage bonds.

- Mrs. Alma Plagemann, 507 West Second Street, is hoping lighting really doesn't strike twice in the same spot. It came too close for comfort when it is ripped the bark from a big evergreen - just 15 feet from Mrs. Plagemann's house early Tuesday morning. Like most Janesville residents, Mrs. Plagemann was rudely awakened by lightning's sharp crack and simultaneous thunder at 6:25 a.m. Tuesday.

2000

- Over 800 people participated in the Waldorf Old Fashioned Fun Day on School Reunion on Saturday, August 5 and Sunday, August 6. According to Judy Joecks, Grand Marshall of the Parade and one of the organizers of the event, this year's celebration was a huge success. The Waldorf Day and Reunion Committee would like to thank every person who planned, worked, donated, and/or participated in order to make the event successful.

- A former graduate of Janesville High School is the new principal of JanesvilleWaldorf-Pemberton High School. Jack Eustice graduated from Janesville High School in 1973. For the past 22 years, he has been teaching and coaching at Blue Earth Area High School. He received his master's degree in 1986, and has just recently completed the coursework for his Administration Certification. Eustice is filled with enthusiasm and ideas for his new job. He has high expectations of the students of JWP High School, and lots of ideas for how to relate to them.

- At approximately 6:41 p.m. on Wednesday, the Waseca County Sheriff's received a report from the Waseca Medical Center-Mayo Health Systems of an injured bounty hunter. The bounty hunter stated that he and his partner were transporting a prisoner from Minnesota to Chicago. The prisoner had attacked him west of Waseca and escaped into a cornfield, he said. He did not know where his partner had gone after the attack. The prisoner was allegedly wanted for murder in Chicago. Through further investigation by the Waseca County Sheriff's Office and Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) agents, it was confirmed to be a madeup story by the complainant, 39-year-old Ralph Clay Barney of Faribault.

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Waseca

25 years ago

- The 114 members of the Waseca Marching Jays will make their 2000 debut on Sunday at the Minnesota State Fair Parade. This year's field and parade show will have a few surprises as well. The group has been preparing for the first season of the new millennium for the past two weeks during its annual spat camp which ends Sept. 1.

- Barb Penny, Waseca volunteer and employee of Waseca Secretarial Service, is one of eight candidates nominated for The Initiative Funds Vanguard Award. This new award is designed to recognize a southern Minnesota leader who, through his/her efforts, encourages the principles of community and helps to improve the quality of life for our residents.

- Fans and players are going to be in for a drastic change when the Waseca High School baseball team takes the field in the spring of 2001. It will be the first time since 1967 that someone other than Tink Larson will be calling the shots on the diamond, and standing in the third-base coaches box.



- More than 80 Waseca area youth ages six to 18 participated in the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre production of Beauty and The Beast this past weekend at the Waseca Central Intermediate School auditorium. The Prairie Fire Children's Theatre is sponsored by Waseca Community Education and is made possible by the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, Waseca with funds appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature.

50 years ago

- Waldorf-Beer, bratwurst and German polka lover, Helmuth Eisen was ecstatic this morning as he talked about the success of the first, "Waldorf Day" or "Beer and Bratwurst Festival." "It went superior," Helmuth said over the telephone. "We must build from here and set our goals and thank all the peoples for coming here Saturday night."

- The Minnesota State Fair contributes around \$10 million annually to the state's income, according to a study conducted to help fair management with long-range development. The Washington, D.C. management consultant firm of Booz, Allen & Hamilton, Inc., said fair revenue last year exceeded \$3.7 million and produced a net operating surplus of more than \$220,000.

- Robert Ross Lurtsema, perhaps better known as "Benchwarmer Bob," has been named honorary chairman of Minnesota D-Day-the day the state's 850,000 smokers will be asked to kick the habit for 24 hours. D-Day, the second to be sponsored by the Minnesota Division of the American Cancer Society and 15 other state health and educational organizations, will take place October 21. This year's campaign theme is, "Take a day off from smoking. Maybe you'll even like it."



- The Sapp sisters, Ruth, 23, Robin, 13, and Rita, 18, walked off with the first prize at the State Fair Talent Contest Thursday night. The girls won \$100 and were Waseca County's first place entrants at the Amateur Talent Show. The girls will now compete for \$1000 the final night of the fair. They will perform at 6:30 p.m. in the bandshell at the State Fairgrounds. Admission is free to the event.

75 years ago

- Waseca will join Western States Utilities in its fight against an increase in pipeline gas rates. At the council session Tuesday George I. James, manager of Western States Utilities Co. stated that his company would pay the expenses of City Attorney Franklin M Stone to Washington for the hearing, provided the city would pay for his services.

- School officials announce that school will open Tuesday morning September 5 at 8:45 a.m with school being in session only until noon. All senior high school students at Central will report to the auditorium on Tuesday morning at 9:45 for detailed instructions regarding schedule and class procedures. Junior high school students will report directly to their home-rooms.

- The old question, "Is there oil in the Kiester Hills?" is again being asked and in a definite manner. For years there have been various projects started looking for oil in the hills near Kiester and each time they have been abandoned for some reason or other.

100 years ago

- When Atty and Mrs. A. B. Childress of Faribault returned this week from a two-months' motor trip they found their home had been robbed of practically all its linen. The loss included 14 luncheon clothes, 86 napkins, 24 towels, 24 doilies, 8 dresser scarfs, a card table cover, 5 table cloths and all the bed linen. Many of the articles were hand embroidered and had won prizes at both state and county fairs. Three silk dresses and other wearing apparel belonging to Mrs. Childress were also taken. Mr. Childress is well known in this community, having served as district judge for 12 years.

- The Owatonna golf players came over Tuesday Afternoon and administered a 27 to 8 defeat to the local players in the return match on the Lake-side course. This was Waseca's last tournament match of the season with the neighboring clubs. 26 players were present from Owatonna and a beautiful afternoon gave them a splendid opportunity to do their work.

- Minnesota disburses nearly \$25,000 annually in recognition of services rendered and disabilities suffered during the Sioux Indian Uprising of 1862. It is not generally known that there are still approximately 170 persons who are recipients of this state bounty. Just as federal pensions were awarded for service in the Civil War, so Minnesota recognizes the handful who laid aside the pursuits of peace and fought to save the pioneers of this state, in their isolated villages and hamlets, from the menace of the hostile Indians.

New Richland

25 years ago



- Kalakian's second assignment on her trip to Africa with the Global Citizens Network was to teach English and health in the Traacha Village School. She acted as headmaster (principal and taught forms III and IV (grades 11 and 12). Here she is discussing a lesson in the primitive classroom with the instructors stationed there.



- Gary Budach of Budach Implement, New Richland and Albert Lea met with key officials from Kinze along with other advisory panel members to discuss company policies and procedures, plus provide input on new product development and enhancements. Panel members represent Kinze dealers from seven North American districts. Each serves a 2-year term. Budach is second from the left in the photo.

50 years ago



- These New Richland High School graduates of 1925 celebrated their golden anniversary, here, Thursday, with an instructor, H.M. Will of Albert Lea. They are from the left, front: Art Casper, Mrs. Oliver (Violet Gilbertson) Anderson, Pearl Larson, Mrs. William (Dolres Liane) Kolstad, Percy Jensen; middle: Adeline Munson, Mrs. Ray (Dorothy Adams) Sullivan, Mrs. Harlan (Ivy Laudert) Johnson, Mae Martin; back: Mrs. Jacob (Frances Echternach) Hoelz, Mr. Woll, Mrs. Rudolph (Dorothy Olson) Piltingsurd, Mrs. Kenneth (Irieava) Olson and Mrs. Oscar (Clarissa Keen) Warke.

- Ruth Marie Webster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Webster, of Minnesota Lake, born July 29, was baptized August 17, at Zoars United church of Christ in Waldorf. Pastor Ross Wyman was in charge of the services. Ruth's sponsors were her aunt and uncle Mrs. William Apold of Austin and Mark Neste of Waseca.



- Returning Lettermen on the New Richland-Hartland Cross Country team are Greg Swenson, Verl Williams and Joey Baynes. The season is expected to be a year of rebuilding with only one senior, Greg Swenson, on the squad.

75 years ago

- The newly elected officers of the Pilgrim Fellowship young peoples organization of the congregational church were installed at an installation service at the church Sunday evening. New officers include Evelyn Eschle, president; Lois Smith, vice president; Lynn Jeddelloh, secretary; and Larry Wakefield, treasurer.

- Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Boie, New Richland, announce the engagement of their daughter, Donna Lou to Royce W. Lewis, son of Rev. and Mrs. Marcus S. Lewis of Beloit, Wisconsin. Both are students at St. Olaf college, Northfield.

- Audrey Delilah is the name of the new daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Schlaak at the Waseca Memorial hospital, Wednesday September 20. The baby weighed in at 10 pounds, 12 ounces. Their other daughter is Geraldine.

Coach expecting exciting season for WHS girls' soccer

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

A competitive and memorable season.

That's what head coach Philip Bulfer expects from the 2025 Waseca High School girls' soccer team.

The program continues with similar numbers to recent years, featuring 34 players this fall, with a solid mix of returning veterans and talented underclassmen.

"Our underclassmen program is looking extremely strong," said Bulfer. "And we are hoping that our numbers increase to pre-COVID roster sizes as we continue to have a great influx of young players coming into the program. With this balance of experience and emerging talent, we are excited for a competitive and promising season."

Key returnees for the Bluejays: senior Ella Bulfer, goaltender and captain, who had a standout junior season with 120 saves, earning recognition as one of the top goalkeepers in the conference; senior captain Chloe Fuller, a composed

"With a balance of experience and emerging talent, we are excited for a competitive and promising season.."

— Coach Philip Bulfer

leader who sets the standard for effort and teamwork in the midfield; senior attacker Ava Brun, returning from an injury that sidelined her most of last season; Riley Schaefer senior, midfield/attacker) had an impressive preseason and is primed to be a major contributor. Her speed, vision, and finishing ability make her an exciting threat in the attack.; and sophomore defender Reese Rodriguez, a key part of the back line, she brought stability and speed to the defense last season after the graduation of core seniors. This



GIRLS' SOCCER — The 2025 Waseca High School girls' soccer team. Frnt from left: Khloe Fuller, Angelica Lopez, Hope Nelson, Sheila Driessen, Kelly Hernandez; row two: Delilah Veroeven. Reese Rodriguez, Reese Ludwig, Ava Bruhn, Rachel Mielke, Rylee Schaffer.; back: head coach Phil Bulfer, coach Jay Bulfer, Liz Aboki, Ella Bulfer, Jacey Jensen, coach Anastasia Garza, coach Neil Johanssen.

year, she'll be relied upon to anchor the defense and set the tone in the backfield.

Rising talent, according to Coach Bulfer, are Rachel Mielke, an 8th-grader who has already shown tremendous promise and skill; and freshman Delilan Varont, an exciting, strong defender who will start alongside Rodriguez. Their defen-

sive dynamic is expected to dramatically slow down opponents' attacks and bring strength and stability to the back line.

The Bluejays have five seniors in Fuller, Brun, Schaefer, Ella Bulfer and Hope Nelson.

"This year's senior class is the foundation of our program's leadership, bringing experience, grit, and

commitment both on and off the field," said Coach Bulfer. "Their leadership will set the tone for a competitive and memorable season."

Bulfer, in his seventh year with the program, is assisted by Jay Bulfer, Anastasia Garza and Neil Johannsen.

WHS tennis girls aim to contend

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

ast season was a breakthrough one for the Waseca High School girls' tennis team, with the Bluejays advancing to the state tournament for the first time in 12 years.

Can they do it again? We'll see.

"We hope to compete for a Big South Conference Division title and Section 1A championship again," said head coach Kyle Collins.

The Bluejays, strength, according to Collins, are six of the 10 varsity players are returning letterwinners.

"We have a good core group of players returning from last year's state tournament team," said Collins. "They will need to step up their game to fill in the holes left by our top players, who graduated last spring"

Collins' biggest concern at this point is doubles, where the Bluejays will be young and inexperienced.

The top eturnees include senior Vivian Mader, Takaya Schoenrock, Mia Kanewischer, Addie Pfeiffer.

The key to success?

"We will need to play with a lot of consistency and grit, and learn how to handle tough pressure situations when the match is on the line," said Collins.

This marks the first year girls' tennis has a three-class system, A, AA and AAA. The Bluejays remained in Class A, where Collins expects a battle from Cannon Falls, which returns most of its section runner-up team. The section also includes Winona Cotter, Lake City, Rochester Lourdes, Red Wing and United South Central.

It's not the only change.

"This season is the first for in-match coaching," said Collins. "Coaches can talk to their players with the 25 seconds after a point is finished. This adds a new dimension to tennis."

Collins, in his 28th year at Waseca and 22nd has girls' head coach, has a career mark of 246-152 including 15-6 last year. He's assisted by Abbe Hoehn.

WHS soccer boys defeat Fairmont 4-2

Toapanta scores twice; McQuery, Granniz also connect

The Waseca High School boys' soccer team was victorious last Thursday, defeating Fairmont 4-2.

The Bluejays scored first, at the 6:45 mark, when Nolan McQuery knocked in a rebound goal.

Captain Diego Toapanta made it 2-0 at 13:02 on a quick throw-in from McQuery.

The Cardinals cut the lead in half, scoring just before halftime

Toapanta wasted no time putting Waseca back up by two, scoring on an assist from Tomas Vazquez at the 4:52 mark.

Fairmont scored at 19:35 of the second half to again pull within a goal.

Captain Tovin Granniz put it away at the 38:30 mark, connecting on 65-yard free kick.



BOYS' SOCCER — The 2025 WHS boys' soccer team. Front from left: Carlo Driessen, Jacob Harguth, Jayden Lenz, Landon Rutt, Nolan McQuery, Matthew Nelson; row two: Sunny Mei, Tomas Vasquez, Sawyer Mairs, Carson Harter, Christian Rodriguez, Shylo Driessen, Brady Tiougan; back: coach J.D. Delgado, coach David Vasquez, Tovin Grannis, Amin Sharif, coach Ryan Mairs, coach Brian Rutt.

Waseca soccer girls top Marshall

JV plays to 2-2 tie

The Waseca High School girls' soccer team hosted Marshall on Tuesday, Aug. 26 and came away with a 3-2 win.

Waseca's offense was led by Rachel Malky, who netted two goals, one of which came off a perfectly placed assist from Riley Schaefer. Schaefer added a goal of her own, capping off a strong all-around performance.

Defensively, Waseca showed grit and determination, holding off Marshall's late pushes. Goalkeeper Ella Bulfer had a standout game with 12 saves!

In the JV game, Waseca battled Marshall to a 2-2 tie.

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RATE INCREASE NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR XCEL ENERGY MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS

Xcel Energy has asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) to approve an increase to electric rates over a two-year period beginning Jan. 1, 2025. The requested increase for 2025 is approximately 9.6 percent or \$353.3 million. Xcel Energy requested an additional 3.6 percent or \$137.5 million for 2026. On average, the proposed final rate change would increase the bill for a typical residential electric customer by \$13.79 per month.

The MPUC may either approve, deny, or modify the requested changes, including approving a lesser or greater increase than was requested for any customer class or classes of service.

The MPUC will likely make its decision on our rate request in the third quarter of 2026. If final rates are lower than interim (temporary) rates, we will refund customers the difference with interest. If final rates are higher than interim rates, we will not charge customers the difference.

If you move before a refund is issued and we cannot find you, your refund may be treated as abandoned property and sent to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Unclaimed Property Unit. You can check for unclaimed property at www.missingmoney.com. To make sure we can send you any refund owed, please provide a forwarding address when you stop service.

Public Hearings

Administrative Law Judge Joseph C. Meyer will hold seven in-person public hearings and two virtual public hearings so that customers have an opportunity to comment on our request. Any Xcel Energy customer or other person may attend or provide comments at the hearings. You are invited to comment on the adequacy and quality of Xcel Energy’s service, the level of rates, or other related matters. You do not need to be represented by an attorney. The hearings will begin at their scheduled time and adjourn after everyone present has had an opportunity to comment or ask questions.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE		
Date	Time	Location
Monday, September 15, 2025	6:30 p.m.	Washington County Heritage Center Education Center 1862 Greeley Street S Stillwater, MN 55082
Tuesday, September 16, 2025	11:30 a.m.	St. Cloud Public Library Mississippi Room 106 1300 W. St. Germain Street St. Cloud, MN 56301
Tuesday, September 16, 2025	6:30 p.m.	Virtual WebEx (see access details)
Wednesday, September 17, 2025	1:30 p.m.	Battle Creek Recreational Center Large Meeting Room 75 Winthrop Street S St. Paul, MN 55119
Monday, September 22, 2025	6:30 p.m.	Buckham West Senior Center Anderson Room 19 Division Street W Faribault, MN 55021
Tuesday, September 23, 2025	1:30 p.m.	Virtual WebEx (see access details)
Tuesday, September 23, 2025	6:30 p.m.	Edina Library 5280 Grandview Square Edina, MN 55436
Wednesday, September 24, 2025	1:30 p.m.	V-3 Center Wet Classroom 701 Plymouth Avenue N Minneapolis, MN 55411
Thursday, September 25, 2025	1:30 p.m.	Prairie Island Community Center Old Tribal Chambers 1158 Island Lake Boulevard Welch, MN 55089

**Bad weather? Find out if a hearing is canceled—
call (toll free) 855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.**

Proposed Rate Increases

The table below shows the effect of both the interim and proposed rate changes on monthly bills for residential and commercial and industrial customers with average electric use.

PROPOSED RATES								
Customer type	Average 2026 monthly kWh usage	2025 Current monthly cost	2026 Current monthly cost	2025 Interim monthly increase	Proposed 2025 monthly cost	Proposed 2026 monthly cost	Proposed 2025 monthly increase	Proposed 2026 monthly increase (Cumulative 2025+2026)
Residential - Overhead line service	505	\$85.89	\$84.91	\$4.79	\$95.06	\$97.45	\$9.18	\$12.54
Residential - Underground line service	742	\$123.40	\$121.95	\$6.84	\$134.53	\$138.02	\$11.14	\$16.07
Energy-Controlled (Dual Fuel)	905	\$93.86	\$93.02	\$4.30	\$108.86	\$109.75	\$15.00	\$16.73
Small General Service	730	\$112.39	\$111.11	\$6.06	\$122.58	\$124.85	\$10.19	\$13.74
Small General Time-of-Day Service	1,015	\$138.48	\$136.93	\$7.16	\$150.18	\$152.83	\$11.70	\$15.90
General Service	14,395	\$1,879.21	\$1,851.58	\$96.53	\$2,060.66	\$2,093.23	\$181.45	\$241.64
General Time-of-Day Service	138,269	\$12,963.49	\$14,484.29	\$614.82	\$14,041.08	\$16,027.15	\$1,077.60	\$1,542.86
Peak-Controlled Service	60,290	\$9,101.98	\$8,985.08	\$492.22	\$10,156.45	\$10,423.80	\$1,054.47	\$1,438.71
Peak-Controlled Time-of-Day Service	527,241	\$66,232.50	\$65,460.20	\$3,364.76	\$73,074.48	\$74,485.04	\$6,841.98	\$9,024.84
Small Municipal Pumping	536	\$82.47	\$82.87	\$4.47	\$91.50	\$94.40	\$9.02	\$11.53
Municipal Pumping	9,115	\$1,270.25	\$1,274.27	\$67.26	\$1,399.89	\$1,451.00	\$129.65	\$176.73

WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

Comment Period

Comments will be accepted through **December 30, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.**

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

How to Submit a Written Comment

Written comments can be submitted via: (1) the Commission’s website; (2) electronic mail; (3) U.S. Mail; or (4) facsimile. To learn how to submit a comment in any of these ways, please visit mn.gov/puc, select “Get Involved” from the dropdown menu on the top of the page, then select “Public Comments and How to Participate.” This will take you to the Public Comment page where you will find a list of ways to comment. Be sure to reference MPUC Docket No. 24-320 in the subject line of your comment.

If you do not have access to the internet, you may send or deliver your comment to:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Ste. 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

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

EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Formal evidentiary hearings on Xcel Energy’s proposal will be held on **December 17 to 19, 2025, starting at 9:30 a.m.** each day. The evidentiary hearings will be held at the Public Utilities Commission, 350 Metro Square Building, 121 Seventh Place East, St. Paul, Minnesota. Individuals who cannot attend in person may attend via Microsoft Teams (Teams), a video conferencing platform. Members of the public who wish to attend the hearing through Teams may request an electronic invitation by contacting MPUC staff Robert Manning at 651-201-2197 or robert.manning@state.mn.us.

Virtual Public Hearings

Public hearings have been scheduled as follows to be held via video conference.

September 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. and September 23, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

Attend by Internet Connection (Audio and Video)

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

Directions for Appearing via WebEx.

- Log on 5 to 15 minutes before the hearing begins. You will be asked to join the hearing through a WebEx application or through a plug-in for your web browser.
- Enter the Event Number shown in the box above.
- Next, you will be asked to enter your name, your email address, and an event password (if required). After entering this information, click “Join Now” and you will be granted access to the virtual hearing.
- When you enter the hearing, your microphone will be muted. If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the meeting, use the chat function to send a message to the meeting moderator, who will place you in the queue to comment. When it is your turn to comment, your name will be called and your line will be unmuted. You will then be able to ask questions or make a comment.

To Attend by Telephone (Audio Only)

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

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

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

Public Hearing and Process Information

Administrative Law Judge Joseph C. Meyer will preside over the public hearings and will provide the Commission with findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations after the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing.

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

Please note that the public hearings will end when all attendees present have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded. You are encouraged to join the meeting at the scheduled start time to be placed in the queue to comment. Commenters will be called in the order they enter the queue. Therefore, it is advantageous to arrive at the beginning of the hearing.

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

Please contact Robert Manning at 651-201-2197 or if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the public hearing using telephone or internet.

The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is to allow Xcel Energy, the Minnesota Department of Commerce – Division of Energy Resources, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General – Residential Utilities Division, and parties who have formally joined the contested case, to present testimony and to cross-examine each other’s witnesses on the proposed rate increase.

TO LEARN MORE

Xcel Energy’s current and proposed rate schedules are available at:

Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis MN 55401
Phone 612-330-5500
Web: https://www.xcelenergy.com/company/rates_and_regulations/filings/minnesota_electric_rate_case

Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: 651-539-1534
Web: <https://efiling.web.commerce.state.mn.us> Under “eDockets” select “Search Documents” insert “24-320” in the Docket #s field, select Search, and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

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

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

Anyone with hearing or speech disabilities may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay. Please contact the MPUC staff Robert Manning at 651-201-2197 or robert.manning@state.mn.us as soon as possible if you need an interpreter or accommodation to attend a public hearing.



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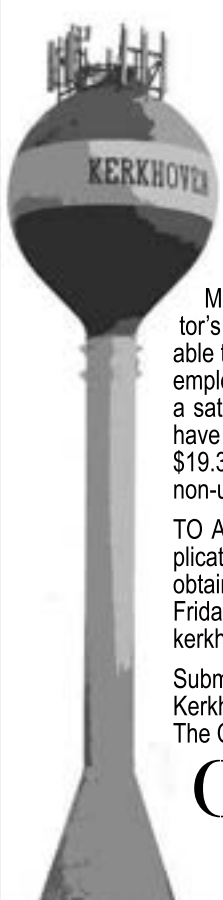
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Minimum requirements: Possess or be able to obtain a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License within two years of employment. Possess or be able to obtain a MN Class B Driver's License within 6 month of employment. Have a valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. Starting wages \$19.34-\$21.28 per hour/DOQ, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

TO APPLY: All applicants must complete and submit an application for employment packet. Application forms can be obtained at City Hall Monday-Thursday from 8am-5pm and Fridays 8am-noon or by calling 320-264-2581 or by email: kerkhovenclerk@gmail.com.

Submit completed applications in drop box or by mail to: City of Kerkhoven, 208 N 10th St, PO Box 116, Kerkhoven, MN 56252. The City of Kerkhoven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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SEPTEMBER 2025

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

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.
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IN BRIEF

All You Can Eat Dad’s Belgian Waffles Church of All Saints Sunday, Sept. 28

There will be an all you can eat Dad’s Belgian Waffles in New Richland at the Church of All Saints from 9 a.m. till 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28. \$10 per person, 5 and under free, includes beverage, waffles with all the toppings and sausage with takeout available.

Free Salmon Dinner at Real Life Covenant Church Oct. 8

A free-will dinner featuring Alaskan salmon will begin at about 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Waseca’s Real Life Covenant Church, 620 W. Elm Avenue. A presentation will describe life in Nome, Alaska, and share information about Christian radio station KICY. Everyone is invited.

Purse and Gun Bingo at Starfire Event Center Nov. 1

Bingo games at Starfire Event Center on Nov. 1 will have designer purses and guns as the prizes. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$50; more information is available by calling 507-461-1387.

CredibleMind offers free mental health resources

All area residents are eligible to use free online access to mental health resources available at MNPrarie’s “CredibleMind” website. The site offers interactive, evidence-based ways to explore local and national mental well-being resources. Free and anonymous at www.mnprairie.crediblemind.com

Shepherd’s Robe Free store Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.

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

Waldorf Veterans Memorial Fund Drive

Donations are requested to support the construction of the Waldorf Veterans Memorial. Checks written to WVMP Fund Drive can be mailed to WVMP Fund Drive, Judy Joecks, treasurer, P.O. Box 55, Waldorf, MN 56091.

Waseca Farmers Market Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon

Every Saturday until the fall season the Waseca County Fair Grounds will be hosting a farmers market from 8 a.m. until noon.

■ Welder

from Page 1

then delivering them to Minneapolis to have union construction workers install them.

“When you work on large-scale projects like that, you have to remember you’re part of a bigger picture,” Matson mentions. “If you agree to deliver product by a certain date, you better do it. Otherwise you can throw off the timing of the whole operation.”

Matson says he thrives on the pressures of a demanding project, enjoying the fact that, after working for others for 35 years, his energy, creativity, and skill now allow him to work under his own name, building his own company’s reputation and strengthening its standing with customers and cooperating businesses.

Matson was found at a recent session of the Waseca area farmers’ market offering small-scale examples of his production skills: miniature smoker grills.

He admits they are an offshoot of many of the personality traits he brings to his

business. “I saw some miniature grills on YouTube last Christmas,” he recalls. “It seemed like a fun idea.

“But I was completely disappointed with the quality of the workmanship.

“I said to myself, ‘I can do a lot better than that.’”

Since Christmas, Matson says he has used some of his spare time to build about 20 of the miniature smokers that “work just like the full-sized ones, but don’t cook as much food.” He says he has used one of the larger ones—which is mounted on a model of a fifth-wheel trailer—to prepare six chicken wings at a time.

Matson claims there is nothing odd about a form of “relaxation” which has him spending time at his workplace. “I’ve got one corner that’s just for me,” he says. “I sit down, start tinkering, and just get in the zone.”

Apparently true to his claim that he “never stops thinking,” he says he is often designing the next project in his head while still assembling the current one. “It’s what I do,” he can’t help observing. “I like the challenge of making creative things.”



COMMITTED TO GROWTH - The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors presented the Progress Award to The Miller Bed & Breakfast. Featured here is back row, from left to right, Larry Thompson, Theresa Sunde, Tiffany Lynch, Tom Sankovitz, Bernie Gaytko, Diane Beckmann and Jodie Thompson. Front row, from left to right, is Katie Gonzales, Mikhail Rostilavovich, Tom Linde , Mindy Jimenez and Amy Potter.

Miller B&B wins Progress Award
The Waseca Chamber Ambassadors presented the award to the Miller Bed & Breakfast

The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors proudly presented The Miller Bed & Breakfast with a Progress Award in recognition of the recent updates and improvements made to the property. The award highlights local businesses and organizations that demonstrate commitment to growth, investment, and strengthening the

Waseca community. “The Miller Bed & Breakfast is a wonderful example of how local businesses can continue to grow and adapt while preserving the character and charm that makes Waseca special,” said Katie Gonzales, Ambassador Chair. “These updates not only enhance the guest experience but also add to the vitality of our

community.” Chamber Board of Directors President, Mikhail Rostislavovich, added, “When businesses like The Miller Bed & Breakfast invest in improvements, it strengthens our local economy and showcases Waseca as a welcoming destination. We are proud to recognize their efforts and continued commitment

to excellence.” The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism congratulates The Miller Bed & Breakfast on this achievement and looks forward to their continued success in serving both visitors and residents.

■ Weather

from Page 1

choice but to wait until construction locations become suitable for any repairs before continuing construction.

SROC scientist Jeffrey Vetsch observes the timing of a large rainfall event has significant influence regarding how much damage it causes to farm yields. One source of yield loss can be a delayed planting season, when early rains keep farmers out of their fields.

Vetsch says heavy rains early in the growth cycle can be the most harmful. Once seeds are in the ground, germination and early growth are impeded in numerous ways. The presence of standing water, of course, creates bare patches in the field. Less visible damage is occurring in all sections of the planting, however, because oxygen is pushed out of water-saturated soil, ground temperatures are kept cooler, and nutrient inputs may be leached away.

Later in the season, well-developed plants “transpire” significant amounts of water as they grow,

Vetsch says. Because of this natural cycle in which plants draw up groundwater, circulate it internally and then allow it to evaporate off their surfaces, heavy rainfall is less detrimental.

Noting that the 9.5 inch rainfall in mid-August was record-setting, Vetsch commented, “This amount is so rare that its effects on crops are difficult to measure or predict.”

When water stands in an area of a field for more than three days, plants are likely to die due to lack of oxygen, he mentioned. “Even if plants don’t die, they are still negatively impacted in other ways, like greater disease incidence and nutrient loss.”

Vetsch also pointed out that drainage is vital in southern Minnesota soils, and the region generally has a well-developed system of tiles and open waterways in place. It is however, “inadequate for these really large events like Aug. 17 to 18.

“It wouldn’t be practical logistically or financially to design them for these events.”

He notes that 2024 grain yields were decreased by 10 to 30 percent below expected in parts of South Dakota, southern Minnesota and Iowa, largely because of heavy rainfall.

For 2025: “Areas that received ex-



FLOODING - Heavy rains have caused the overflowing of roadways in Waseca County at least twice this summer. Here, rising waters from the nearby LeSueur River caused water to cross a Wilton Township road on July 23.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

cessive rainfall in late May and June will be affected more than late July and August of 2025. Flooded and drowned-out areas will yield zero or very low, but the rest of the fields look very good.”

The SROC Aug. 20 report men-

tioned “growing degree units” (GDUs) were 30 percent above normal for the week of Aug. 14 to 20, and the growing season overall is nine percent above.

SROC weather data can be viewed at <https://sroc.cfans.umn.edu>.

■ Author

from Page 3

will write the book they need at the time. No one has more work to do on these things than me, so what I try to do instead of standing on an ivory tower, it’s an opportunity for us to honestly take away

the armor and talk about how we’re really doing, how we feel inside.”

Information in her biography shares that Eurich “is an organizational psychologist, researcher, and New York Times bestselling author on a mission to help people and organizations thrive in an ever-changing world. Recognized

as the world’s leading self-awareness coach (Marshall Goldsmith Coaching Awards) and communication expert (Global Gurus), she’s spent over two decades teaching people practical strategies to supercharge their self-awareness, sanity, and success. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, rescuing dogs, and is a proud

and unapologetic musical theater nerd.”

“Shatterproof: How to Thrive in a World of Constant Chaos (And Why Resilience Alone Isn’t Enough)” is available on Amazon. Eurich will soon be releasing a “shatterproof workbook” that will be available on www.shatterproof-book.com.

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