



■ Inside:

- 2 - A long weekend
- 3 - Merit
- 4 - Obituaries
- 4 - Happy Hearts
- 6-9 - Sports
- 10 - St. Ann's Festival
- 11 - Classifieds
- 12 - New Director



LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY
No. 36 Vol. I \$2 Office at 103 South State Street Waseca Friday, September 9, 2022

■ Pages 6-9



Sports

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Clemons appointed to fill seat

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

John Clemons was unanimously approved to fill the open Ward 1 seat during a special meeting of the Waseca City Council Wednesday, September 7. Clemons will hold the position until after the November election, at which time he will yield it to the winner, who will finish out the two-year vacancy created by the resignation of former council member Ted Conrath.

Clemons' selection was nearly a formality, given that he was the only applicant who is not running for the seat this November. Council members stated that, to remain unbiased and allow a "seamless transition period," the best choice was to go with former mayor Clemons.

The council did, however, interview the two applicants who are on the November ballot, Stacy Schroeder and Robert Tackett. Both were asked the same nine questions before being given time to question council members.

Candidates for Ward 1 were asked if they could regularly attend meetings while also maintaining at least one seat on a local board or commission. Both responded in the affirmative. Tackett already serves as a member of the Waseca Economic Development Authority.

Candidates were asked their priorities if appointed.

Schroeder's answer was to maintain a working relationship and work toward solutions that benefit the community.

Tackett cited five or six priorities, the first being to keep property taxes low and affordable, stressing the impact on those living on a fixed income. The second was to bring larger businesses to town.

Tackett also spoke about the importance of affordable housing, stating that while conversing with new teachers during the Waseca High School open house, he learned that 10 of them live in Owatonna. "We need to work on affordable housing here in Waseca."

Tackett also mentioned the importance of small businesses and provided a list of many potential business opportunities. He also spoke about school security. "Those are my top priorities," he concluded.

Candidates were asked why they would be the best choice.

Schroeder cited her open mind as well as community involvement.

Tackett complimented both Schroeder and Clemons before citing a plethora of different boards and other community services he takes part in. Some of them include the American Legion, the VFW, his local church, the County Emergency Response Team, and several more. "[A city council seat] doesn't add much more to my plate than what I'm already doing."

Tackett said his ability to speak Spanish would help him represent the Hispanic com-

Special continued on 10

*A word from
The Word*
*Iron sharpens
iron, and one man
sharpens another.
Proverbs 27:17*



Arlen Tirevold will be receiving recognition for his years of service to the Waseca community during this year's Waseca Marching Classic. Kathy, his wife, is a Waseca native.

Tirevold named friend of Classic

By JONAH STAFFORD
Staff Writer

Lifelong Iowan and retired fireworks pyrotechnician Arlen Tirevold has been named as this year's Friend of the Classic. He will be recognized for his years of service to the Waseca community through an appearance in the Waseca Marching Classic parade on September 17.

Tirevold lives in Gruven, Iowa, but through his wife Katheryn (née Swenson), has become very connected to Waseca over the years.

As a pyrotechnician for the South Dakota company Lew's Fireworks, Tirevold has par-

ticipated in firework shows around Minnesota for the past several decades. This includes Waseca's annual Fourth of July show and, since the late 1990s, a firework show associated with the Waseca Marching Classic.

One highlight of his work as a pyrotechnician was participating in special plans for the Marching Classic's 25th anniversary in 2012. This year, the parade celebrates its 35th.

Though he is still a licensed pyrotechnician, Tirevold, who turns 65 during September, officially retired last year.

Friend continued on 3



BANNER DAY - Matt Petsinger presents Mary Williams, one of the Marching Classic's planners, with a custom banner promoting the event. Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

Marching Classic set for September 17

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

"It has become a true community event over the years."

Waseca Marching Board's Deputy Treasurer Mary Williams is excited to announce the 35th Annual Waseca Marching Classic happening Saturday, September 17. Sixteen bands from around the state will be performing during the Classic, with eight taking part in the parade and more competing in the field event. Around a hundred units are expected for the parade.

The featured guest for this year's Marching Classic is River City Rhythm, a drum and bugle corps from Anoka. "We wanted something to

make the 35th annual celebration more special," Williams explains.

Taking the Waseca football field will be the "Maverick Machine" from Minnesota State Mankato, who will perform and open the ceremony at 5:30 p.m. At that time, Edna Burns, the Waseca Marching Board's president, will be reading a proclamation to all in attendance dubbing this year's marching classic as "Fan Appreciation Day."

"We feel we have a very good event here," Williams says.

The Marching Classic's origins go back to 1988 when Richard Dufault proposed the idea of having a marching band festival to coincide with the all-school reunion put together by the

"The first few years, we only had marching bands. Then we made it a community event." — Mary Williams

Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce.

"For the first few years, we only had marching bands," Williams reminisces. "We then made it a community event by including a car cruise, inviting businesses to be in the parade, and really encouraging everyone to be in it!"

The Board sends out more than 200 invitations to organizations and local businesses to participate in the parade every year.

"We called ourselves the 'Waseca Band Festival' for the first few years," Williams remembers. "Then we evolved and decided we needed a new name."

The group came up with the "Waseca Marching Classic" because, according to Williams, "We thought we were pretty classic in what we

Classic continued on 3

Grand Marshals Dunn and Bohm

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

"This was a complete surprise to me. I got that letter in the mail, and I thought it was for a meeting or something. I was never expecting this," says Gary Bohm. He and Dave Dunn will be riding in the Grand Marshal seat of honor for this year's 35th Waseca Marching Classic parade, set to begin at noon on Saturday, Sept. 17.

Like Bohm, school board member and band volunteer Dunn was taken by surprise. "I like to work in the background. I'm not a front guy," he comments. "Still, it's an honor."

Those chosen as Grand Marshal(s) are selected by the parade committee in recognition of having generously shared their time and talent, helping ensure the successful organization and execution of the parade. Both Dunn and Bohm have given many years of service to the Classic and to the Waseca band program overall. But neither one does it for the accolades. "The band program is a good thing for the kids, for the school, for the families, for the community," says Dunn. "You don't need any other reason than that to volunteer with something. Just go do some good."

Both Dunn and Bohm have been "band parents": one of Gary's daughters, Jennifer, was in Color Guard, while the other, Kristen, played the clarinet. Dunn also had a daughter in color guard, while his son and step daughter both played the trumpet. Dunn says he became closely involved with the inner workings of the Marching Classic about eight years ago through his good friend Jeff Lane. "Jeff was in charge of the parade overall. If you think of everything

Marshals continued on 2

Thanking him for his service Veteran is gifted free vehicle

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

One military veteran's life changed for the better during Veterans Appreciation Day Tuesday, August 30 at the Minnesota State Fair.

Daniel Cahill, a Janesville native, received a brand-new Ford Escape from the Military Warriors Support Foundation in collaboration with Wells Fargo and Apple Autos of Apple Valley.

Military Warriors Support Foundation (MWSF) was founded in 2007 by Lt. General Leroy Sisco. Its mission is to provide programs that help combat-wounded veterans and Gold Star families transition from life in the military back into the civ-

ilian world. Programs include housing, transportation, recreation, and leadership development.

Cahill was the beneficiary of one of MWSF's programs called Transportation4Heroes, which awards payment-free vehicles to veterans who served in combat and to unmarried Gold Star spouses whose loved one was killed in action. He found out about the program after coming across a Facebook page.

After MWSF went through a rigorous process to choose him to be the recipient of a free vehicle, Cahill was notified a week before Veterans Appreciation Day. Along with winning a vehicle, He will also receive a year of family and financial mentoring.



GRATITUDE GALORE — Dan Cahill, center, with mother Barb to his right, received his payment-free Ford Escape during Veterans Appreciation Day Tuesday, August 30 at the Minnesota State Fair. It was all made possible by the Military Warriors Support Foundation, which collaborated with Wells Fargo and Apple Autos of Apple Valley to get Cahill the vehicle.

Cahill joined the U.S. Army in 2007 as part of the 309th Engineering Company in Brainerd. He was deployed to Afghanistan as a gunner from 2010 to 2011. While on duty,

on two occasions, his vehicle ran over an IED, causing him to fall out of his gunner hatch and inside of the vehicle. Both times, he suffered traumatic brain injuries. He received the

Purple Heart and was honorably discharged from the Army in May of 2019.

Cahill currently lives in Andover with his family.



Compostings

by Al Batt
copyright © 2022 by Al Batt

Before it's too late

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

Have you figured out how that mystery novel ends?

No, I started in the middle. Why would you do that?

Because I didn't want to know how it starts or ends.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It had been a fine day. My shower had been just right and I'd gotten one leg into my underwear without losing my balance. I was on my way to do the narration on a tour boat. As I pulled onto the street where boarding takes place, I heard an ambulance siren. I expected a participant in a nearby pickleball event had been injured, but I saw instead that a friend had fallen walking to the boat. He still wanted to board, but it was decided he needed to go off in the ambulance. He told me, "But I came just to listen to you." I know the best people extant.

A passenger on the boat told me he was from Podunk—which is a small, unimportant, insignificant, dull, dreary or isolated town. There's a city named Podunk in Connecticut, New York, Vermont and Massachusetts. Podunk is an Algonquian word.

There is an umbrella in my car. I didn't know I owned an umbrella. I don't doubt that my wife bought it for me as I barely know enough to come in out of the rain. I was involved in a walking and Metro tour of Washington, D.C., during a torrential downpour and nearly drowned while walking.

IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE

I yipped. I did so because I expected to stub my toe. No, I hadn't consulted a crystal ball, but I was moving through a dark and strange hotel room crammed corner to corner with things that could do a toe some harm. I'd have turned on a light had I remembered how to do that. Miraculously, my toe eluded all stubbing. If you could have another eye, where would you put it? I used to think I'd put it at the tip of my forefinger to help me with my pointing, but now think I'd want the extra eye on my big toe. That big guy could warn the other toes when the foot was on a collision course with something dangerous.

I'VE LEARNED

I need a GPS to tell me where I

am and why I am there.

We all got along better before we had so many TV channels.

If there is a photo of a milk carton on a milk carton, the grocery store is out of milk.

Neither of the Smith Brothers had coughings at their funerals.

No one complains about not having anything to complain about.

EVERY DAY IS A POP QUIZ.

Years ago, I played a penny slot machine and lost \$1. It was a painfully slow process and convinced me to give up gambling before I became addicted to disappointment.

BAD JOKE DEPARTMENT

Why did the fly dance on the jelly jar lid? Because it said, "Twist to open."

What ends if you call it by its name? Silence.

How do you know if there is an elephant in your freezer? The door won't close.

How do you get a farm girl's attention? A tractor.

NATURE NOTES

I heard a pileated woodpecker call in the yard. It's louder, lower-pitched and less regular than that of the northern flicker.

Common nighthawks flew over the yard. They were migrating to South America and fed by opening their mouths wide and eating whatever insects happened into their flight paths. What's the difference between a bill and a beak? Not a thing—the two words are synonymous.

I watched a hawk perched on a utility pole, peering at a tractor moving ground around in a farm field. Red-tailed hawks are common and they get to know the machinery that stirs up dinner for them. The field activities of tractors and combines chase rabbits, mice and voles from hiding. Gulls enjoy the company of farm equipment providing comestibles in the form of grubs, worms and rodents.

Perfectly respectable songbirds have become ragged looking because of molts. Feathers needing replacement are subbed for. I see bald blue jays in my yard. The jays are fine, nothing more than the victims of an irregular molt. A friend who had been a bird rehabber told me she had never found mites on the bald heads of any jays, so it's merely a simultaneous molt. It's the nature of nature.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"Kindness is helping the world, one person at a time."—RAKtivist.

Appreciating Labor Day's existence

Boy, was I thankful for the long weekend.

We can credit a man named Peter J. McGuire for that.

McGuire was a carpenter and labor union leader from New York. He was the man who came up with our most recent holiday, Labor Day. He felt that American workers should be honored with their own day to celebrate. When he presented this idea to the New York Central Labor Union in 1882, the group thought the holiday was a good idea as well.

The story goes that when planners were in the process of choosing a day for Labor Day, they wanted something to break up the longest stretch between existing holidays. That was the one between Independence Day and Thanksgiving, over four months without any recognized national holidays. (I know you fans of Halloween are probably saying, "But what about...," but the important difference is that workers don't get paid days off for October 31.)

So, the first Labor Day happened on Tuesday, September 5 of 1882 in New York City. The first-ever parade



Well, like I said...

by Michael Roy

copyright © 2022 by Michael Roy

for the holiday involved ten thousand workers marching from City Hall to Union Square. Congress officially recognized Labor Day in 1894.

This past Labor Day (also coincidentally on September 5) marked the 140th anniversary of the holiday, or 128th if you go by when the federal government recognized it as a national one.

In the past, I've never really understood the point of Labor Day. When I was in school, I just thought of it as the day before we went back to the classroom.

As a full-time working adult, I get its existence. And I can't be grateful enough.

Even though we almost never truly get a day off in the newspaper industry, it's nice to have a day when I'm not rushing to get things done. At the

Janesville Journal, it gives us an extra day to go to press. At the Pioneer, it gave us a little bit of time to breathe after the behemoth of a newspaper we put out September 1.

But as some demands slow down because of Labor Day, others will ramp up with the start of the school year. Fall sports have already kicked off ahead of the first day of classes, and it's been an interesting season.

The people of Janesville know I am a Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Bulldog fan. As a 2016 JWP graduate, I am required to cheer for my alma mater. I've gotten grief for moving my resident into NRHEG Panther territory in New Richland, but my loyalty still lives in the same place as always: I love the blue and silver. Once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog.

One of the most recent JWP volleyball games was against former Valley Conference rival St. Clair. It doesn't matter that we aren't in the same conference anymore; the rivalry between us remains. No matter what sport, whenever the two schools face off crowds are loud, rowdy, and into the game.

If people didn't know I was a JWP Bulldog before last week's volleyball game, they knew it then. Between taking pictures I did the usual fan things: cheered on the team, yelled at the ref for making a call I didn't like, joined chants, and yelled as loud as my lungs would allow for most of the night. It's been almost a week and I can still feel my voice struggling.

This Week in Music

On September 5, 1981, Stevie Nicks topped the US albums chart with her debut solo album Bella Donna. The album spawned three US Top 20 hits: "Stop Draggin' My Heart Around" featuring Tom Petty (#3), "Leather and Lace" featuring Don Henley (#6), and her signature song "Edge of Seventeen" (#11).

"Power hour" is way to handle stress

School means different things to different people: One major question for me is how much I want to stress about it. As I talk to my fellow honor students, I realize that people deal with stress in many different ways. Some distract themselves in an effort to avoid it, leaving their future selves to compensate. One of my friends likes to play videogames when he is trying to prevent feeling stressed about something; his roommate likes to go to the gym.

On the other hand, there are people who like to tackle any problem head on, being proactive and dealing with a situation before it becomes a giant issue. My roommate does that. She likes to sit down at her desk and get all of the work done before doing anything else.

On the other hand, my approach is a perfect combination of both. Sometimes I will do something right away, getting it done before it causes me worry. Other times I will shy away from an undesirable task. Like right now. I have been avoiding setting up



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

copyright © 2022 by Amelia Roessler

a time for my pep band audition because a) I don't feel like practicing and b) I feel nervous about auditioning for the prestigious band directors at the University of Minnesota.

I have also put off reading through the silibi for my classes, and thus avoided looking ahead to future assignments. That might be partly because I still haven't accepted the fact that school is back in session. I'm not going to lie: This majestic interlude between my summer work and the start of school has allowed me some relaxed, uninterrupted time with my friends. It's been very nice, so I may have been pretending it wasn't going

to end.

I once saw a TikTok of a woman explaining how she handled her stress. She would save everything she was avoiding for what she called a "power hour." During those 60 minutes she would sit down and force herself to do everything that she had been skirting away from that day or that week. I thought that was an interesting system.

But the more I think about it, the more ways I see people dealing with stress or feelings of being overwhelmed. My band teacher always said that if we needed a mental break from doing homework, we should

practice our instrument because doing so uses a different part of the brain.

I know there are more ways to either avoid or cope with stress; I'm sure everyone has their different ways. Whatever works for you, I say continue with that. And if you haven't found what works for you, keep trying because it will come.

I don't know if anybody got stressed while reading about stress (I know I sometimes do) so I'll try to end this on a lighter note.

As an ice breaker, one of my journalism professors asked me and my fellow students to name our favorite rap song. I was at a loss to answer because I don't listen to a whole lot of rap, so when he told us his original idea for an ice breaker was to have us "roast" him, I wished he had followed his first impulse.

My determination: "We are all beautiful even as we are all part of the problem, and that to be a part of the problem is to be human."—Anthony Doerr, Cloud Cuckoo Land

Memories inspire thoughts of future

It is college season so I think I'm going to write about my college experiences.

My first "real" college experience came a year after my graduation in 2016. I had taken a gap year, something my parents did not approve of. My dad believed I would never go to college if I didn't go right away and my mother, well, she just thought I was being lazy.

But I wanted a year to work, get in shape (I still had a dream of playing college baseball somewhere) and figure out what I wanted to do with my future.

Here's what I learned during my gap year.

Life is really boring if you don't have something to do.

If things aren't going your way, it can be easy to let things spiral out of control.

I definitely still didn't know what I wanted to do, and, looking back, that was a good thing.

Without a purpose, life is really boring. And that's how I felt during my gap year. I don't understand how people don't try to do or be everything they want to be in life. I spent a year not doing that and it sucked.

As for the other two lessons, I don't think they need explaining. By



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

copyright © 2022 by Eli Lutgens

the Fall of 2017 I was ready to return to school. My mom came with me for orientation/registration and I really don't think I would have even gone if she hadn't come. Despite really wanting to go back to school I had a lot of anxiety. My mom helped me through that first day. I'm really glad she did.

My first day of class was—you guessed it—even worse. I remember sitting in the back of my first college history class on campus and feeling sick. I thought I was gonna faint. I just wanted to get up and run away. I'm really glad I didn't.

Right away the teacher did one of those icebreaker games and it worked! He had every student introduce themselves, say where they wanted to be in five years, and oh, you were supposed to try and memorize the name of every kid who introduced themselves before you. So I was put at a disadvantage because

I had chosen a seat at the back.

But little did hippy Jay (our teacher was a literal hippy named Jay with a long ponytail) know—my parents, and my work at the newspaper, had groomed me to remember everything everyone said.

So I aced that, but more importantly, that icebreaker gave me something to focus my attention on besides my own anxieties. I don't remember what I gave for an answer to the question of where I see myself in five years, but I do remember repeating every single one of those 27 students' names.

Speaking of five years from now, professionally, I want to be doing more of what I'm doing. Personally, five years from now I want to have started, or at least be in the process of starting, a family. I don't know if it was growing up in a small town or having the Peterson clan across the creek from me growing up (they had

many nuances you wouldn't think of, but need to be taken care of."

Bohm agrees. "Setting it all up on paper, then going over the whole route with Jeff. We'd look at all the units and think 'this thing is too close to that thing' or 'this should maybe go that way.' Yeah, people never see that." Dunn adds "Bet they'd notice if that wasn't done, though." Bohm has been involved with the Classic for the past twenty years.

Both Dunn and Bohm agree that music and the band program are one of the community's great strengths.

"Every town has to be noted for something," says Bohm. "Our music program is our best ambassador." Dunn concurs "The Classic has represented the community for a long time." Both Dunn and Bohm are pleased to see many of the parade duties passing on to a younger crowd. "The younger folks are getting into the swing of things. They did a nice job last year. We can turn it over to good hands," says Bohm. Dunn added that, on parade day, planners and volunteers don't sit down from about eight in the morn-

ing until after everything is cleaned off the street. "It's a long time on your feet, especially if it's too hot or too cold. The young people handle it better," he laughed.

The only thing different this year for Bohm and Dunn is that they will be sitting in a car and leading the parade instead of standing or walking along the route. Otherwise, "everything is pretty much the same," says Bohm. "We always hope for good weather, good bands, and good attendance."



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

PHONE: 507-837-6767

email: news@wasecacountypioneer.com

Address: 103 S. State Street

Mail: PO Box 578, Waseca MN 56093

DEADLINE: Noon Tuesday

ELI LUTGENS	Publisher
MICHAEL ROY	Publisher
DEB BENTLY	News Editor
REED WALLER	Production Manager
TRISTAN JENSEN	Editorial/Sales
AMELIA ROESSLER	Staff Writer
JONAH STAFFORD	Staff Writer
MELANIE PILTINGSRUD	Staff Writer
RACHEL LOVERINK	Staff Writer
JESSICA LUTGENS	Staff Writer
AL BATT	Columnist
CHRIS SCHLAAK	Photographer
MELISSA DUNN	Staff Writer
JIM LUTGENS	Contributor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$55 County, \$65 MN • \$75 Outside MN

Published every Friday by EJI Publications, Inc., and Periodical Postage paid at the Post Office at New Richland, Minnesota 56072. Entire contents copyright © 2022 EJI Publications, Inc. and respective authors. Opinions expressed in editorials or letters to the editor are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Pioneer or EJI Publications, Inc. Letters may be edited for content or length. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P.O. Box 578, Waseca, MN 56093

■ Marshals

from Page 1

that has to be done to get the parade to physically happen, he was in charge of that," says Dunn. "All the components that make up the parade—the bands, the floats—Jeff had to design the plan. And there's a lot going on that people don't ever see. There are

Communication



EARNING MERIT— Two Boy Scouts attended a recent Waseca City Council meeting in order to earn their merit badges for communication. The boys were in luck for two reasons. The meeting was relatively short, only about 45 minutes, and they get their picture in the paper!

Daniel and Isaac Sipe, brothers, are 14 and 17 years old, respectively, and have been in both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts since the first grade. Daniel has earned 21 merit badges in that time; Isaac is not certain whether he has earned 23 or 24 badges, but suggests with a smile, “Let’s say 24.”



Marching Classic Board members Edna Burns, Devon Lawrence, Molly Byron, Jason Miller, Joe Fritz, Kim Rux, Mackenzie Hoy, Les Tiougan, Dan Kimball, and Mary Williams signed a proclamation declaring the the 35th Annual Waseca Marching Classic on September 17, 2022 as “Fan Appreciation Day.”

Proclaimed “Fan Appreciation Day”

The following is a proclamation for this year’s 35th Waseca Marching Classic as “Fan Appreciation Day” by the Waseca Marching Classic Board.

WHEREAS, the year 2022 marks the 35th Anniversary of the Waseca Marching Classic;

WHEREAS, the mission of the Waseca Marching Classic is to provide a fair competition that promotes a positive, encouraging, and good-spirited festival;

WHEREAS, the Waseca Marching Classic Board, for our 35th, anniversary, has chosen to acknowledge the many fans throughout the years;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Waseca Marching Classic Board designated the 35th annual Waseca Marching Classic on September 17, 2022, as **FAN APPRECIATION DAY!**

■ Friend

from Page 1

Tirevold said his favorite part of the job was “meeting the people that we deal with.” He added that he and his wife have made many friends through firework shows.

Two of Tirevold’s former firework co-technicians were Tim Boise and John Bently, who hail from the Waseca area.

Being chosen as this year’s Friend of the Classic was a complete surprise to Tirevold, but he is

PHEASANT

CAFE

SINCE 1942

Great Home Cooking • Catering

Full Breakfast Menu • Daily Lunch Specials

104 State Street, Waseca MN • 835-1259

BATTENFELD

LAWN CARE

ZACH

BATTENFELD

507-521-0226

zachbattenfeld@gmail.com

Meet your neighbor, Robert

Name: Robert Tackett

Town: Waseca

Age: 55

Born: San Diego, CA

Family: Wife Deanne, 5 kids, a dog, Shadow, and a turtle named Camera

Occupation: Insurance Sales Agent

Hobbies: Many hobbies, including riding motorcycles, hiking, camping, rock climbing, reading, writing, and teaching first aid and self defense

My dream vacation would be: A week in Bora Bora

The best thing about small town living is: It’s like a real-life Mayberry.

Last Good Book I Read: *Heart of a Ranger* by Bill Lunn

Favorite TV show: Dexter

Favorite Food: Street tacos

All Time Favorite Movie: We Were Soldiers

Favorite Sports Team: Waseca Bluejays

Favorite musical artists: Prince and Elvis Presley

My favorite activities when I was growing up: Swimming

My biggest pet peeve: People walking around in saggy pants.

The best advice I’ve ever received: Life isn’t fair, and it wasn’t meant to be.

If I could have lunch with any one person, living or dead: My mom

Something about me that would surprise people: Even after 23 years in the military, including five tours of duty, I don’t drink or smoke.



Robert Tackett enjoys many hobbies, among which are teaching first aid and self-defense.

Seamless transition back to college

Looking in the Mirror

Looking in the Mirror

by Jonah Stafford

copyright © 2022 by Jonah Stafford

Returning to my life as a college student after just about 4 months away has been surprisingly seamless. I’m off to a good start in all of my classes, I’m making new friends and strengthening old bonds, and so far, none of my on-campus jobs are killing me. But I’m also really only half-way started! The first week of tutoring appointments at the Saint Mary’s writing center starts this Tuesday, the first day of class after labor day. I’ve gone through several training sessions and attended my first weekly staff meeting, but now it’s on to the real thing! I think I’ll do well as a tutor—after all, I spent my summer interviewing people. In a way a tutoring session isn’t that much different from a newspaper interview. In both scenarios, you have to ask lots of questions, but the interviewee is at the center of the conversation. That’s why an ideal interviewee for a news story is a confident speaker who provides many

details and uses phrasing which translates well into a written format. In tutoring, an ideal learner knows what is wrong with their paper and can make efficient use of their 50-minute session. Realistically, in both scenarios, I have to do a bit of nudging to ensure that the session is successful. I can only do so much as a tutor and an interviewer, but I still feel well equipped to make sure I succeed in both respects.

Also on Tuesday, I’m reporting to work as a marketing intern for my college’s cafeteria for the first time. I have a little bit of training under my

belt and have met everyone I’m working with, but I’m not certain what to expect. I’d love to be as versatile as possible in terms of my skill set, but writing and interpersonal communication are greater strengths of mine than marketing. Still, it should be interesting! I’m full of ideas and I’m sure something will stick.

And this brings us to my return to my longest-running on-campus position, serving food in the cafeteria. I only do this three nights a week, but I’ve been at it about a year, so I know what I’m doing. I’d say that above all

else, serving in the cafeteria is a great opportunity to meet people: other student workers or just classmates coming by for a bite to eat. I’m not sure if I want to do this for the rest of my time at Saint Mary’s, but I’m happy to take my turn and bolster my bank account for now.

Rounding out my job obligations, I’ve begun taking up a bit more story work again, after taking about a week and a half off to pack for school and readjust to being back in Winona. I’m not sure what volume of stories I’ll be producing, but I’m really happy to do whatever I can. I love writing my columns, but if I can squeeze out one to three stories a week that would make me really happy. I can’t do everything: I’m pretty booked and busy, but whatever opportunity I have to write, I’ll take it.

■ Classic

from Page 1

were doing.”

In addition to competing, there are educational opportunities for marching bands, who can register to perform their parade or field show for informal input from experts.

“Judges send critiques to the band director,” Williams elaborates. “If they want to take the suggestions of

the judges, then it will help them in the next contest. The whole idea behind the clinics was ours; we were one of the first. Giving bands a clinic helps them sharpen for the next competition. To make a sports analogy, it’s like watching film.”

The educational clinics are made possible by a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

In the past, trophies were provided by Roundbank of Waseca. Now Minnwest is maintaining the tradition. “We are so thankful for them continuing what Roundbank did for us,”

Williams expresses.

Many Waseca businesses contribute to the event; grants are given by bigger businesses in Waseca including Walmart, McDonald’s, and Casey’s.

The Marching Classic Parade will begin at noon, proceeding from the safety building along South State Street to Trowbridge Park. Among the parade units will be high school marching bands, the classic car cruise, dignitaries, royalty, and more. Gates at Waseca High School’s stadium will open at 3:30 p.m. for the

Classic field show which begins at 5:30. From 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. will be the 16th annual classic car show at Club 57. At 8:30 p.m. will be the Field Show Awards, followed by a Classic fireworks display at Waseca Jr./Sr. High School. Wristbands are \$7.00 in advance or \$10 day of, and are available at many Waseca businesses. For more information, visit wasecamarchingclassic.com.

School prioritizes public outreach

Superintendent’s Corner

by Eric Hudspeth

Copyright © 2022 by Eric Hudspeth



Finally, at times our work allows us to empower the community in the decision-making process. Essentially, at this stage, the decision is in the hands of the community. The most direct example here would be bond, levy, or Board elections.

Each type of communication has a purpose in meeting the overall strategic goals of the district and community. At times the district will make a decision based on statute, or on research-based best practice, then inform the community. In other situations we may place the decision fully in the community’s hands. Most of the time, we land somewhere in between, toggling between consulting and involving, which is a healthy place to be. We will continue to be intentional with our community engagement, and look forward to continuing our collaborative relationship with our community in each of these engagements. We are off to a great 2022-23 school year and can’t wait to tell you about it.

so that all can understand their role in supporting our students and district.

The least interactive approach to community engagement is to inform. We use this strategy to distribute objective and straightforward information. Our website is an example of this type; it might be used to publish the bell schedule, activity contest schedules, and social media posts. Consulting is the next approach to engagement; we plan to use this method to ask for feedback or take note of any other ideas community members wish to share. We will then use any feedback to make decisions. School calendars and district procedures or policies that aren’t driven by

law are examples of decisions that are made using the consultation strategy.

Another type of engagement is involving or collaborating with the community. An example of this strategy is our facilities task force, the district advisory and accountability committee. These groups utilize the expertise of community members to guide and help determine alternatives to various situations. Depending on the topic of discussion, direct ideas from the community may be considered and used. The difference between this level and consulting is that the community is actively involved in developing the plan.

Got news? • 837-6767 • news@wasecacountypioneer.com

zachbattenfeld@gmail.com

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Victoria Moncada and her fiancé Preston Mansfield proudly announce the birth of their first child, Nicolas-Gray Mansfield, weighing 8 lbs and 1 ounce. Above Waseca City Councilman, John Mansfield, is shown holding his first grandchild.

OBITUARIES

Olive T. Anthony

Olive Theresa (Dyrdahl) Anthony, age 99, of Waseca died August 25, 2022 at the Lake Shore Inn Nursing home in Waseca, MN.

Born March 12, 1923, at the farm home of her parents Martin and Olianna Dyrdahl, in rural Kenyon, Minnesota. This is the home Olive grew up in and was home-steaded by her grandfather Nels Dyrdahl when he came to America, from Norway. All of Olives grandparents were immigrants from Norway.

Olive was baptized and confirmed in the Hauge Lutheran Church in rural Kenyon.

Olive attended country school for her first 8 grades, in School District 51 in Rice County. She graduated from Kenyon High School in 1941. After her High School graduation, she moved with her sister Norma to Waseca, to work at the E.F. Johnson Company. It was there she met her husband, James M. Anthony. They were married in 1943. They lived in Texas for a while when Jim was stationed there during World War II. After Jim finished his time in the Army Air Force, they returned to Waseca to live. They raised two sons, James G. Anthony and Michael L. Anthony.

At age 55, Olive went to Cosmetology school and earned her degree. She then became a co-owner of the Magic Mirror Beauty Salon in Waseca. Olive loved her business and her customers (her Ladies as she called them).

Olive was very proud of her Norwegian heritage and was able to travel to Norway once to visit. She made delicious Norwegian treats – lefse, krumkake, and Rosettes were her favorites. We all gained weight at Christmas time! She was also an excellent seamstress and made many of her own clothes.



Olive Theresa Anthony

She was a long-time member of Grace Lutheran Church, where she was active in many activities over the years.

Olive is survived by her two sons: James G. Anthony of Decora Iowa, and Michael Anthony (Bonnie) of New Richland; her grandchildren: James T. Anthony (Alicia) of Portland Oregon, Kalisha Anthony (Rusty) of New Richland, Orrie Anthony of New Richland, and Bryanna Schuette (Michael) of Excelsior; great grandchildren: Xavier James Anthony, Oakley, Axel, Jaxie and Summer Schuette. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews, sisters-in-law, brother-in-law, and dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Martin and Olianna Dyrdahl; husband, James M. Anthony; siblings: Mildred Lair, Norma Jacobson and Robert Dyrdahl.

Memorial service was 11 a.m. on Friday, September 9, 2022 at Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca. Interment was at the Alma City Cemetery. Visitation was 1 hour prior to the service at the church on Friday.

Memorials may be given to the donor's choice.

Cards may be mailed to Michael Anthony, 27197 170th Street, New Richland, MN 56072

Marvin Kollo

Marvin J. Kollo, age 94, of Janesville died on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at Whispering Creek in Janesville.

Born on December 1, 1927, in St. Clair on the family farm to Fred and Bertha (Glamm) Kollo. He received his education in St. Clair and graduated from St. Clair High School. On his 18th birthday, Marvin enlisted into the United States Navy where he was stationed in Okinawa, Japan during WWII before being honorably discharged on July 9, 1946. On October 25, 1950, he was drafted into the United States Army where he was stationed in Nancy, France during the Korean Conflict before being honorably discharged on October 22, 1952. In-between his time in the service, Marvin attended Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis where he studied Mechanics. On October 16, 1964, Marvin was united in marriage to Shirley Ann Mildred (Stankey) Born at Trinity Lutheran Church in Smiths Mill. They made their home in Smiths Mill where they raised three girls. Together, they shared 36 years of marriage before Shirley passed away on October 22, 2000.

Marvin began his working career farming alongside his brother. He later worked for EF Johnson Company in Waseca as a truck driver for over 25 years. After retiring from EF Johnson's, he enjoyed doing janitorial work at Smiths Mill Implement until 2012 when he moved to Janesville. Marvin enjoyed playing cards and going to the casino with his family and friends. Above all else, he



Marvin Kollo

cherished his grandchildren. Marvin was a member of the Janesville American Legion and Trinity Lutheran Church in Smiths Mill.

Marvin is survived by his daughters: Linda (Steven) Miller of Ft. Mohave, AZ, Lori (Richard Linde) Blasing of Janesville, and Lisa (Dennis) Kuhl of Erwin, SD; 8 grandchildren: Troy Miller, Jayme Miller, Eric Blasing, Chad Blasing, Kenda Schlueter, Billy Steinhauer, Desi Barkos, and Dalton Fischer; 4 step grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; one great great grandchild; sisters-in-law: Jean Kollo and Marilyn Dimmel; nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents; wife; brothers: Sidney (Joyce), George, and Harvey (Alice) Kollo.

Visitation was Thursday, September 8, 2022 at the Janesville Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes. The funeral service was Friday, September 9, 2022 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Smiths Mill. Interment with military honors followed in the church cemetery.

Light agenda, light hearts

Goodbyes and greetings shared

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

A genuinely light-hearted regular city council meeting occurred in Waseca Tuesday evening. The gathering included a proclamation from Mayor Srp, in addition to his announcement of his "long goodbye" as he is not seeking reelection. Also mentioned in the meeting were a birth announcement, a cancellation of Sinister forest and vigorous discussions surrounding the town sledding hill.

Oh and it's constitution week. Mayor Srp proclaimed and welcomed the Daughters of the American Revolution to share the meaning of Constitution week. Srp spoke highly of Susan Jirele who shared interesting quotes and handed out informational pamphlets, which Srp made mention of. "I still carry my original pamphlet with me to meetings, which you (Jirele) gave me."

After the proclamation, the council returned in swift action to the consent agenda.

A change order for the pavilion project was approved in the amount of \$583. The biggest point of concern was the anticipated completion date. Several times, Srp referenced the importance of the sledding hill, and the fun it provides for not only his grandkids, but children across Waseca.

Talk of the new airport manager dominated talks In the commissioners' report. It is hoped that by the next council meeting a new manager will be named. Also talked about were cost effective safe landing zones for skydivers, which will be



CONSTITUTION WEEK — Representing the Daughters of the American Revolution at the September 6 Waseca City Council meeting were, from left, Angie Sipe, Susan Jirele, and Marilyn Wilkus. Pictured with them is Mayor Roy Srp.

announced at a later date. The city plans to lease one of the city's airport hangars, netting the city about \$500 a month once its door is repaired.

As part of a report from the fire relief board, council person Jeremy Conrath said it was the first meeting in six years, which he's attended, which was cut short due to a fire call. The only thing of importance he shared was the plan for the city's onion ring stand at next year's fair, which will include a tweak to the schedule along with new LED lights.

Hearing from other council persons, Mark Christiansen complained about the weeds along Highway 13. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is responsible and a call about maintenance was requested.

Council member John Mansfield announced the birth of his first grandson, Nicolas-Gray Mansfield to Victoria Moncada and Preston Mansfield. He weighs 8 pounds and 1 ounce. "I am officially a grandfather," he said.

"It's the best gig in the world," Srp responded. "Now beat that councilperson Rose. That's a hard act to follow."

"That's hard enough to follow,"

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Rose responded. "However. I have 15."

"So you did beat him," Srp retorted.

Rose then spoke about the end of the season for Kiesler's campground, speaking highly, and slightly emotionally (he says he gets that from his mother) reporting that it's been great to listen to boarders coming in and off the docks. "That lake is fantastic. This lake is a genuine asset [to the community]."

Council person Conrath said he hoped the announcement of the cancellation of the annual Sinister Forest wouldn't be permanent.

"I think it closed permanently," Councilperson Daren Arndt answered. "They need 50 volunteers a night to run it."

"It's a shame," Srp concluded. "Everyone enjoyed that."

In closing, Srp explained that "This will be the beginning of a long goodbye for me."

After each council meeting, Srp plans to talk about an important en-

tity in the community, something important to him, the council, and Waseca as a whole. His first choice was Mayo Clinic.

"Especially when other communities are losing their facilities, we are fortunate to be keeping ours. They have invested a great deal of money for renovations and upgrading to this facility and I as the Mayor, and I believe I speak for the council when I say this, are very appreciative."

The hospital has 125 employees at the facility; Srp shared some of the company's plans for the future, which include completion of the emergency department renovations. He also highlighted the more than \$18,000 in grants awarded as well as 101 staff volunteer hours.

Srp added one more subject prior to closing. "It isn't often we hear more than three or four comments on a project. I am hearing lots and lots of people talking about how wonderful the new Clear Lake Park is. We can pat ourselves on the back for that one."

The council went into closed session to discuss Union Labor Negotiations at about 7:45 p.m.

Commissioners discuss ditches, bridges

A laundry list of regular items was approved during the first meeting of the Waseca County Board of Commissioners Tuesday morning, September 6.

County board minutes for five meetings from May 17, 2022 through June 21, 2022 were approved.

Petitioners Jones, Haugh and Smith Inc, received approval to dismiss improvement proceedings on County Ditch #30 and pay all accrued expenses related to the project. An original request for proposed improvements on the drainage system was approved in April of 2017. "We are now contacting the Waseca County Drainage Authority to request the petition mentioned be dismissed, due to the fact that at least 60% of the original petitioners have signed this letter below and wish to end pursuing the drainage improvement project," a letter from Johnes, Haugh and Smith read. "We understand our obligations to pay any costs that have accrued throughout the process of examining and pursuing the petition and also acknowledge that any new proposed drainage project for the system must begin with a new petition."

Estimates for individual ditch systems, specifically for tree and brush spray, along with hourly rates and current insurance certificates were presented from B and W Control

Specialists. Prices per ditch ranged from \$2,500 to as much as \$8,500, with a total of 16 figures presented.

Accountants/bills payable were approved.

An array of action items were approved. During the recent LeSueur-Waseca Community Health Board evaluation of Food, Pools and Lodging Services, it was determined that the Waseca County Pool Ordinance contained a reference to a recently repealed section of MN rule 4717. The current ordinance wording meant the agency's evaluation does not meet a critical section of the review. The LeSueur Waseca Community Health Board passed a resolution at their July 5 meeting to support the ordinance revisions. In compliance, a public hearing for the ordinance was scheduled for September 20 at 9:30 a.m.

The board approved a request for a speed study on 110th St, just north of Old Hwy 14 after hearing repeated concerns/reports of excessive speeds.

The board heard a request for an award of contract to Midwest Contracting in the amount of nearly \$500,000 for Janesville Township bridge #L4117.

The board awarded Midwest Contracting the project of reconstructing Janesville Township bridge #4117 after the company submitted the low bid of nearly \$500,000. Because of

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

supply chain issues, the finish date for the project was for September 2, 2023..

Janesville Township will pay up to \$10,000 of engineering costs and \$10,000 of construction costs. The remainder will be funded with Town Bridge funds allocated to Waseca County, which has an available Town Bridge fund balance of \$856,147.

Three bids were received for material transfer services at Solid Waste and Recycling Center. The board approved to award the contract to Thompson Sanitation, which had the lowest bid, for 2023-2024.

Final payment of \$41,737 was approved to ICON Constructors LLC for the June replacement of a bridge over the Le Sueur River. The full contract amount was \$815,186, approximately 4% more than originally submitted; the difference was caused by computational errors in the construction plans for reinforcing steel in the bridge deck and aggregate surfacing on the road.

Asphalt Surface Technology (As-tech) has completed the 2022 Bituminous Seal Coat project at various locations, including Janesville Township's 403rd Ave. Full cost of the

project was \$382,908; the board approved the final payment of \$19,145. Funding for this project included \$183,002 from the County Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), \$191,853.07 of Fund 13-330 budget monies, and \$8,053.50 from Janesville Township.

Bids received for completion of the wetland restoration order opened September 2 were forwarded to Waseca County staff members who are working on a recommendation for a "responsible bid."

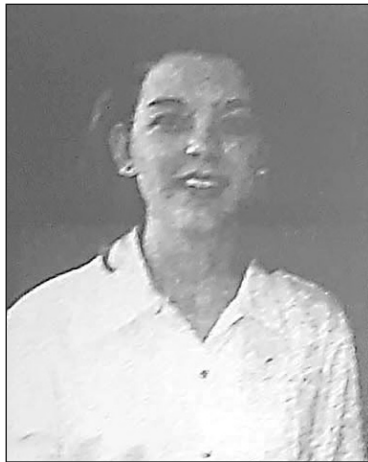
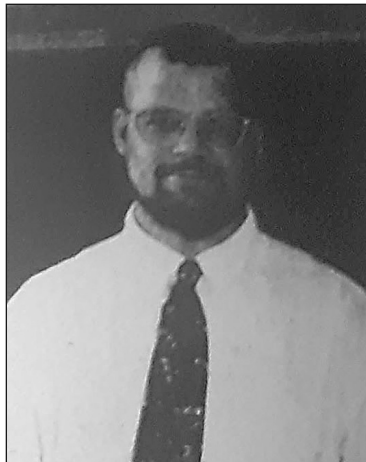
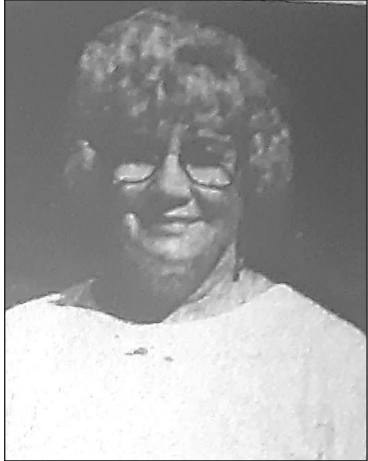
Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended over the past two weeks.

In closing, county administrator Michael Johnson provided an update on construction at the Waseca County Courthouse. He said that phase one is nearly complete and the final displaced staff members are moving back into their offices. Only "final touches" remain to be completed. The project included changes in office space between administration and human resource offices as well as other office updates, including the addition of a new "election room" which should allow for public viewing.

The next regular meeting of the Waseca County Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday September 20 at 9:30 a.m.

WARD HOUSE BREWERY
EST. 2017 WASECA, MN
Taproom, Growlers, Flights!
111 West Elm Avenue • Waseca

WASECA FLORAL
Morris family owned since 1972
FERNS 50% off
SALE
MOST GREENHOUSE PLANTS 40% off



IN 1997 — Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School District welcomed many new teachers, ranging from English to math. Clockwise, from top left: Sharyn Miller, Mary Muedeking, Brandy Klingel, and Robert Swanson.

Argus archives

100 Years Ago (1922)

-J. Monroe Gordon reports a very enjoyable trip recently to Barron, Wis. Every step of the way revealed the marvelous development of the country, notable in the recent harvest. Approaching the Mississippi the bluffs that abound render the scene thrilling in the extreme as well as the experience in winding down the inclines and then up into the far regions near to the clouds. He found things thriving everywhere. In Wisconsin the great demand for products with the splendid crops has been productive in bringing about a state of prosperity bordering on pre-war conditions.

-The descendants of Fred and August Ewert who came from Germany to America fifth years ago and settled in Minnesota in Alton township met in a family reunion on Sunday last at the home of Ernest Ewert a mile southwest of town on the place formerly known as the DeGraff farm. Sixty-three relatives were present.

-Dr. T. M. Joyce spent two weeks recently at his old home in Watertown, Wis. He put in that length of time in and about that city whose spectacular haunts are familiar to him and whose highways and byways are indelibly woven into song and story involving his wonderful experiences. He states that the same alluring nooks and corners abound but that they have been transformed from crude and rugged nature into places of beauty and culture.

75 Years Ago (1947)

-Miss Fern Christenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louie Christenson of Janesville, became the bride of Marvin Hartwick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hartwick, also of Janesville. It was a double ring ceremony performed by Rev. A. T. Koehler at Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday afternoon, Aug 31, at 2:30 o'clock. Lohengrin's Wedding March was played by Fredrick Nischke for the processional. During the ceremony, Miss Kathryn Jensen sang The Lord's Prayer. The altar was decorated with baskets of white gladioli.

-On Friday evening, August 29, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Erdman of Janesville had their infant son, Allen Lee, born on August 13, christened at their home by Rev. A. T. Koehler. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Erdman and Loren Abraham.

-Two Men With Ideals: A Red Wing man bumped a Missouri car, putting a dent in a fender. He handed the visiting driver \$5 to square it and was promptly handed \$2 change for "3 is all it costs where I come from." A St. Louis Cardinal scout watched the Elizabeth ball team in action against Tourist League opponents, and offered the Elizabeth pitcher a contract, which wasn't signed. The mighty moundsman is Father Kampsen, Elizabeth's Catholic priest.

50 Years Ago (1972)

-Lowell Dahl, a soft-spoken bachelor who lives with his 73-year-old mother north of Waseca, has been named Outstanding Conservation Farmer in Waseca County. The award is given annually by the Soil & Water Conservation District to the farmer who, in their opinion, has done an outstanding conservation job. Dahl farms his own place, plus his mother's farm, three and a half miles north of Waseca on Highway 13. There are 190 acres on the two adjoining farms.

-A local garbage hauler and the Janesville School District asked for, and got, exceptions to the Village Dump hours at the monthly meeting of the Village Council last night. Ralph Berndt asked for the exception in behalf of local businesses for whom he has been hauling six days a week. Berndt said that businesses like Finleys, Wiste's, Janesville Maid Bakery, the Village Diner and the Janesville Nursing Home could not let their garbage build up and wait for three-times-a-week service.

-Several county 4-H'ers received ribbons for their exhibits and demonstrations at the recently completed State Fair. Among the winners were Pat Morgan and Jane Mittelstaedt of Janesville. Both won red ribbons.

25 Years Ago (1997)

-How much work the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton cross country teams did in the offseason may decide how good 1997 is. The components are certainly in place. Coach Gene Wiebusch has been looking forward to the 1997 campaign since the end of the 1996 season. Wiebusch returns for his fourth year as the JWP head coach. The JWP girls return everyone from a squad that finished 24-24 against all competition. The Lady Bulldog runners finished second three times during the year, including eight points behind New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva in the Gopher Conference Meet.

-The Waseca swim team is hoping that the return of 11 letter winners plus a yow-section system for the first time can return the Jay fins to their winning ways. Waseca was 5-5 in coach Jodi Miller's fifth and final season during her tenure, and led the Jays to an overall 24-25-1 mark.

-The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School Board is back to making tough decisions again concerning its facilities. During a special board meeting/study session on Thursday, Aug. 28, the board met with Dave Asleson of KSA Architects to review architectural costs and plans. After last year's failed bond issue, the board agreed to look into a new combination of remodeling and new construction of its current facilities, the Janesville and Waldorf sites.

Waseca archives

Waseca Herald, 1922

-Herman W. Schuldt, who lives north of Meriden, suffered a heavy fire loss yesterday afternoon, when the L. C. Palas threshing rig took fire on his farm. They were threshing millet and the separator took fire from some unknown cause. The high wind carried the flames to the farm building nearby and as there was no adequate means to fight the fire, they burned to the ground.

-The Waseca league team closed its season last Sunday at the fairgrounds by losing to Albert Lea 5 to 4 in a ten-inning battle. Albert Lea came up to show that they could defeat Waseca without the assistance of the umpire, who won the game for them the previous Sunday at Albert Lea, but it took them ten innings to down the fighting Waseca team. Faribault's win over New Richland last Sunday leaves Waseca in the cellar alone for the second half of the season. Adams won the championship for this half by defeating Blooming Prairie while Austin was beating Owatonna. Austin and Adams will now play a five-game series for the first Southern Minnesota League pennant.

-A little flying squirrel, weighting scarcely a pound, caused all kinds of trouble in homes and manufacturing plants in this city last Monday forenoon. At least that is the cause assigned by the water and light management for the shutting off of electric current in this city last Monday forenoon.

Waseca Herald, 1947

-Waseca stores with the exception of grocery stores will close at 5 p.m. The grocery stores will remain open until 5:30 p.m. The announcement of the hours was made by Leon J. B. Sexton, who is secretary of the Waseca Chamber of Commerce. The decision for continuing to close at 5 p.m. for stores was made after the retail committee held a meeting Friday afternoon and a poll was conducted on Tuesday with members voting three to one to close at five.

-Not many people reach the age of 81 years old and can start out on a 5,000 mile automobile trip which lasts for over three months, but Waseca had a couple who reached that age stop here Tuesday noon. They were Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Hiel-scher of Seattle, Washington, who were driving in a 1921 Model T Ford touring car and were almost on the

last leg of their journey back to their home. The elderly couple stopped in Waseca for lunch on their way to Mankato to visit relatives.

-“Cheyenne,” Warner Bros.’ Action-packed romantic drama of the Northwest, will be the new screen attraction at the State theatre beginning Sunday. A quartet of Warners’ top artists head the impressive cast of the new film, with Dennis Morgan, Jane Wyman, Janis Paige and Bruce Bennett sharing headline honors.

Waseca Daily Journal, 1972

-The Le Sueur-Waseca Regional Library will request a 34 percent increase in local funding when it begins an annual search for operating funds Tuesday. Acting Director Dave Hennessy and library board members will meet with Waseca County Commissioners at 2:45 p.m. and with the Waseca City Council at 8 p.m. to discuss the proposed increase.

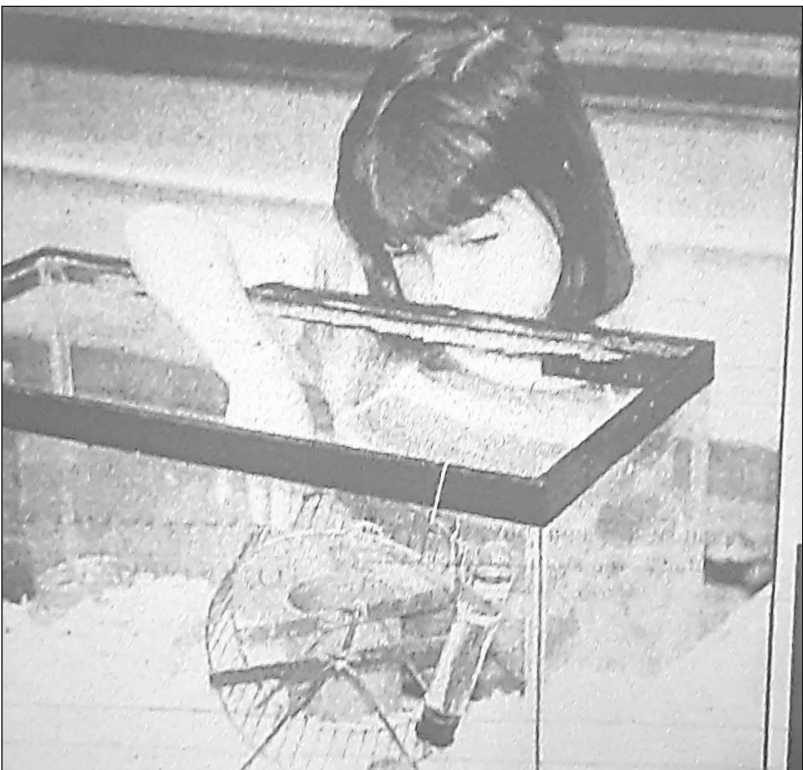
-Warren Wollard, 19, Waldorf, was charged in district court Thursday with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and reckless or careless driving. He was released on his own recognizance until his next court appearance Sept. 12. Wollard allegedly used a 1976 Pontiac belonging to Larry Schubbe Wollard's roommate without Schubbe's permission on Aug. 6 between 2 and 6:20 a.m. Wollard also reportedly drove on the private property of Ben Habeck, also of Waldorf, damaging cement steps and putting ruts in and damaging the lawn.

-Lillian Joyce Maas, born July 29 to Mr. and Mrs. Walt Maas, 153 Vista Villa, Waseca was baptized at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Aug. 7 by Rev. David Arnold. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Don Clamp and David Maas, all of Waseca.

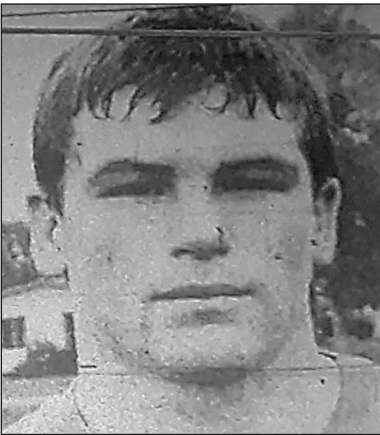
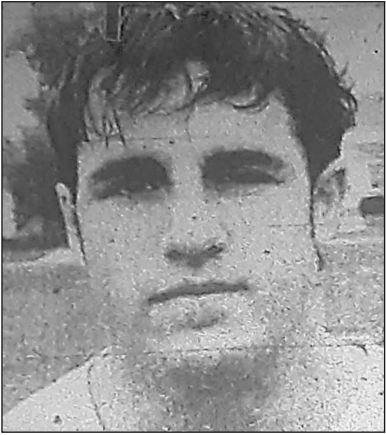
Waseca County News, 1997

-“Do you have any Beanies?” The queries are constant. “Every day I get a cal,” said Ginny Hanson, who runs the Country Cottage gift store out of her rural home. The Beanie Baby craze that ignited in April continued to blaze throughout Waseca as kids, women, and even men seek out the small, squishy critters. Shop owners all have long lists of customers anxiously awaiting new shipments. With just a few calls, the word spreads quickly.

-The resurfacing project on U.S. Highway 14 from the west edge of Waseca through Janesville that



IN 1997 — Mackenzie Byron enticed the Extended Day gerbil to play on his wheel. Mackenzie was one of 90 children who participated in the program.



JWP football players Jeff Adams and Ben Wheelock

began in mid-August will begin to impact the community of Janesville late this week, according to officials at the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). Traffic is currently being maintained through the work with lane closures. Motorists will need to slow down and drive with caution where crews are working. When the crews begin work in Janesville, parking will be limited in areas.

-The Waseca Community Education Extended Day program has gone through several changes this summer to better serve its pint-sized customers and their parents. It is also August's Community Education Program of the Month. The program is in its 12th year. It was started under the direction of Shirley Burdick who retired and was replaced this year by Kristin Butterfield.

Waseca is one of 170 school districts throughout the state that serve approximately 27,000 children through summer and after-school programs.

-Even though he had just watched his Waseca football team drop its season opener to New Prague Friday evening, first-year Bluejay coach Keith Kottke was far from discouraged. “It's always disappointing to lose, but we found out we have some athletes and are going to get better,” said Kottke. “I want to get right out on the practice field now and start working on things.” New Prague started the Waseca season with a loss for the second consecutive year, handing the Jays a 20-6 setback at Waseca. The Trojans rallied for a 19-12 victory a year ago.

Star archives, New Richland

100 Years Ago

-The committee in charge of the livestock exhibits for Dairy Day at New Richland, September 21, has been very fortunate in securing L. V. Wilson head of the Live Stock Extension work at the University of Minnesota to do the Judging of the dairy cattle at the Dairy Day celebration at New Richland on Thursday, September 21. They have also secured E. T. Winship of Owatonna president of the State Holstein Breeders Association, and A. J. McGuire, head of the State Creamery Association to deliver addresses

-Errors by second baseman, Roehrick and third basemen, Stronsky, gave New Richland a four to two victory of Faribault last Sunday on the Faribault diamond. The game was a contest of pitching skill between Ernster and Lindberg and the honors were equally divided with each team gathering seven hits. Ernster was given air-tight support and the contest was won on the remarkable fielding of the New Richland players.

-When Joe Stadulski let the league-leading Owatonna team down with three hits Monday at the Waseca county fair he deserved to win the contest by a shut-out. The score was 7 to 1 in favor of the New Richland Champs.

-Resignation of Neil H. Swanson, director of the news service and investigation department of the Minnesota Farm Bureau federation, was announced today. Mr. Swanson resigned to become city editor of the Minneapolis Journal. “The country newspaper has been the best friend the Minnesota farmer and his organization have had,” Mr. Swanson said. “It would be impossible to give the home paper too much credit for the part it has played in making cooperative marketing a success in Minnesota. It deserves the gratitude and the

support of every farmer and every farm organization.”

75 Years Ago

-Leverne “Bob” Nock jumped into national prominence in the sporting world at Vandalia, Ohio, when he placed first in class D in the Grand American trap shoot, the only Minnesota winner. As a trophy of his ability, Bob is sporting a beautiful Elgin watch, handsomely engraved and valued at least \$100.

-The Harley Norbys who live in Freeborn county near the county line were losers to the extent of about one hundred chickens by the chicken thief route either Friday or Saturday night. They noticed their flock seemed smaller than usual and took inventory.

-Edward Lange was here the latter part of last week on a visit to his father, William Lange and his sister, Mrs. Percy Jensen. Ed has been operator of the creamery at Aitkin for the last year. Previous to that he was a field man in the northern district for the Land O’ Lakes Creameries, Inc. Aitkin is a town of about 2,500 population. In a recent month the creamery made more than 109,000 pounds of butter. This is more than many creameries make in a whole year.

-Grading of Highway No. 13 between here and Albert Lea is approaching completion. The road will soon be passable in dry weather but doubtful after a rain. Graveling operations have begun at the south end and the crew is gradually working north, having reached a point south of Hartland.

-Drivers license forfeitures set a new high record in July when 2,095 persons lost the privilege of operating motor vehicles, the Minnesota Highway Department reports. Largest totals in any previous month was 1,545 in October, 1946. Waseca county has four licenses revoked and one suspended in July, the Depart-

ment informs the Star. A list of the names is on file with Sheriff R. G. Lowe and is open to public inspection.

50 Years Ago

-Girl Scout leaders are needed if New Richland is to have a scouting program for 1973. As to date, there are ive leaders and seven more are needed. There are approximately ninety girls in New Richland who would like to belong to a troop.

-The Hartland Fire Department sponsored a two hour fire school, Sunday afternoon. Five fire departments, Alden, Freeborn, Clarks Grove, Twin Lakes, and Albert Lea were in attendance. The firemen learned how to extinguish a fire in a burning car and rescued the occupant, which was in the instance of this practice, a dummy. They also learned to repair a ruptured hose, replace a hose, carry and roll a hose and other basic fire fighting procedures. The firemen's wives enjoyed a demonstration on cutting and arranging flowers given by Norma Bell at the Community Center. A steak fry was enjoyed in the late afternoon by the firemen and their families.

-The Albert Lea Civic Music Drive for the 1972-72 season for Freeborn county was underway as the chairwomen from surrounding towns outside Albert Lea attended a coffee at the home of Mrs. John R. Peterson, Civic Music president.

-Minnesota's Horse Breeders association released today that 23 competitors will be involved in Horse Plowing competition at Farmfest-USA, September 17. Horse plowing competition begins at 11 a.m. Four classes of competition will take place- (1) walking plow class, (2) sulky plow class, (3) gang plow class, (4) triple gang plow class. Two judges chosen by the Minnesota Horse Breeders Association will judge the actual plowing and one

judge will inspect and judge the equipment and horses.

25 Years Ago

-Chaluay Chonavig of Nakhon Pathon, Thailand, arrived at O'Hare Airport in Chicago on Wednesday, August 6. Chaluay was one of two chaperones with 110 AFS students from Thailand spending the 1997-98 school year in the United States. At a motel in Chicago, Ervin and Bernice Himmerich of New Richland met Chaluay. From Chicago he accompanied the Himmerichs to Arkansas where they visited their daughter and her family a few days. Chaluay spent the 1970-71 school term attending New Richland-Hartland High School, as an AFS student. Ever since his experience as an AFS student, Chaluay has been active in the AFS Exchange Student Program in Thailand. In the spring of 1971, he was a member of the graduating class at New Richland-Hartland High School with Gary Himmerich.

-Benito Vela Jr., 28, of New Richland, pleaded guilty to first-degree assault Monday to charges that he assaulted three year old Michael Sykes, March 29. His trial was to begin Tuesday in Waseca. According to his attorney, J. C. Pegg, Vela did not want to put the child through the trauma of a trial. Vela stomped on the child's stomach, according to court documents. He told authorities relationship problems with the boy's mother drove him to hurt him. After the assault the child was taken to Waseca Area Medical Center, transferred to Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospital. Massive internal injuries were discovered and Michael was airlifted to the pediatric intensive care unit at the University of Minnesota Hospital. He was released some time ago. Vela, who has been jailed on \$50,000 bail since the incident, will be sentenced October 14.

Bluejays roll at St. Peter

O'Brien scores five touchdowns

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

"I do think this was a good football team we played."
— Brad Wendland

In an emotional return to the sideline, after a 45-13 blowout victory at St. Peter, Waseca High School head football coach Brad Wendland said he would be lying if he said he hadn't thought about his return to the field after suffering a heart attack during last year's season opener. "I'm very blessed and very lucky to be here," he said. "I'm thankful for a lot of people. I'm not ever gonna forget it."

The Jays rolled in this season opener, scoring often, beginning in the first two minutes on an Oliver O'Brien quarterback run from 17-yards out, followed by a point-after kick by senior kicker Max Neaves. It was the first of five rushing touchdowns for the senior, who ran for 228 yards on 20 carries. O'Brien, notably, also converted three two-point tries.

The Saints tried to keep it close, but couldn't. "I do think this was a good football team we played to-night," coach Wendland told his players after the game. "They're solid."

The Saints' first drive ended on the Jays' four-yard line after a 4th-and goal-pass was dropped in the end zone.

Things did not get better from then on for the Saints.

Starting deep inside their own territory after the turnover on downs, the Jays' next drive was methodical. A 14-play march of 94 yards, spanning nearly six minutes, used only one pass play, a third down pass to Junior Laird Keeton for 14 yards. It capped off by a 15-yard run by O'Brien on the first play of the second quarter.

The Saints answered with one of their only two scores of the night, driving 51 yards on 10 plays, scoring on a 3-yard run by junior running back Cole Filand. A bobbled and missed PAT made the score the closest it got at 15-6.

Of course the Jays answered the bell, literally and figuratively, as Saints fans ring a large bell whenever their team scores.

Sophomore Demarius Russell returned the kickoff to the Jays' 38 yard line, where the offense went to work. After a first play fumble was recovered for a 6-yard loss, the Jays converted a key third down and long on another big run from O'Brien, setting them up on the Saints 47-yard line. Seven plays later, O'Brien faked a handoff right, kept the ball for himself, and ran straight through the heart of the defense for a 10-yard touchdown run. The daring Jays called the same play again for the two-point try, this time faking left before O'Brien went right.

At halftime the score was Jays 23, Saints 6.

The second half was much the same. Except this time, O'Brien decided to let other Jays score. Senior running back Christian Rodriguez scored the first of Jays' three second-half touchdowns on a 14-yard

run. The score capped off a 10-play drive which burned more than five minutes of clock and included a fourth-down conversion by Rodriguez.

O'Brien scored twice more for the Jays, an 8-yard run with 7 minutes left in the 4th quarter and his longest run of the game, a 73-yard scramble up the right sideline with 4:44 to go.

The Saints, who looked like they had quarterback woes as they tried two different quarterbacks during the game, scored once more, early in the fourth quarter on a Ashton Volk 30-yard reception.

The only other interesting second-half action came from the fans. On the Saints' side, it sounded as if there were chants for possibly, a different quarterback to play. On the Waseca side, the students section was very loud, colorful (literally in their dress), and a little playful. Fans brought a marker board and wrote different smack talk throughout the game. "Their field, our game," was the final text on the board.

A little smack talk also took place as Saints fans and Jays fans began shouting sayings back and fourth in the waning minutes of the game. The Waseca students were a little more creative, however, as Saints fans just copied the, "We believe we just won" chant, before the Jays fans reminded the copycats where the showers were.

Looking ahead, Coach Wendland reminded players, "It's fricken Marshall week!"

The Jays host Marshall in their home opener tonight at 7 p.m.

Waseca 45, St. Peter 13	
Waseca	7 16 8 14 — 45
St. Peter	0 6 8 7 — 13
First Quarter	
WAS — O'Brien 17 rush (Neaves kick)	
Second Quarter	
WAS — O'Brien 15 run (O'Brien run)	
SP — Filand 3 run (kick failed)	
WAS — O'Brien 10 run (O'Brien run)	
Third Quarter	
WAS — Rodriguez 14 run (O'Brien run)	
Fourth Quarter	
SP — Volk 3 pass from Olson (Bosacker kick)	
WAS — O'Brien 8 rush (Neaves kick)	
WAS — O'Brien 73 rush (Neaves kick)	
	WAS SP
First downs	19 7
Rushing	51-416 21-54
Passing	4-8-0 11-20-0
Passing Yds.	74 119
Penalties	5-30 1-5
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Rushing - WAS: O'Brien 20-228; Rodriguez 19-171; Johnson 4-1; Rupe 1-4; Balderas 2-2; No. 26 1-13; SP: Odland 6-16; Mercado 4-17; Filand 8-16; Walter 1-0; Olson 2-5	
Passing - WAS: O'Brien 4-8-0—74; SP: Odland 7-11-0—46; No. 5 1-1-0—9; Olson 3-8-0—66	
Receiving - WAS: Keeton 2-38; Thompson 1-8; Rodriguez 2-38; SP: Bosacker 6-76; Moelter 1-9; Mercado 2-9; Filand 1 —3; Volk 1-30	



ESCORT SERVICE — Waseca's Christian Rodriguez (38) follows a convoy of determined blockers during the Bluejays' season-opening 45-13 triumph at St. Peter Friday, Sept. 2. Also pictured for Waseca are Tauston Rupe (32), Shane Engel-Mueller (75) and Jacob Thompson (30).

Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens



NO STOPPING THIS — Oliver O'Brien (7) eludes tacklers on his way to earning 228 yards rushing and five touchdowns.



BALL! — Max Naeves (4) dislodges the ball from St. Peter's Nakiye Mercado near the goal line. Also pictured: Brandon Brown (71) and Damarius Russell (3).



BIG PLAY — Christian Rodriguez (38) tallies some of his 171 rushing yards. Also pictured: Brandyn Jascha (58).



STEP ASIDE — Oliver O'Brien, left, stiff-arms St. Peter's Ashton Volk.



EXTRA YARDS — With the help of Kaeden Johnson (25), the Bluejays' Laird Keaton (9) drags St. Peter's Cole Filand.



A LITTLE HELP — Waseca's Deron Russell (21) and Carlson Ohnstad (18) combine to bring down a St. Peter ball carrier.



VOCAL SUPPORT — Waseca fans were loud and proud during the Bluejays' season opener at St. Peter.

WHS soccer girls win four straight

After dropping season opener, Bluejays put together winning streak

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

The Waseca girls' soccer team started the season a tad rusty with a 5-3 loss to Mound-Westonka Thursday, Aug. 25. However, the past four games since then were nothing but wins.

"It was a tale of two very different halves," head coach Kyle Tomlinson stated. "The visitors took an early lead through a tap-in at the back post, but we quickly responded with an equalizer scored by midfielder Addison Wieseler."

The Bluejays generated many goal-scoring opportunities throughout the half, with senior forward Thyme Lang cashing in on two of them to make it 3-1.

However, Mound-Westonka came out of gates in the second half and challenged Waseca's defense. Although Waseca did well holding them off throughout most of it, the visitors tired them out enough to score four quick goals.

"While the game did not go to plan for us in terms of the scoreline, there were certainly a lot of positives to be taken from the game," Tomlinson claimed. "Waseca girls demonstrated that they were able to compete both in ability and in work rate with larger programs."

Waseca 4, Marshall 1

Waseca tightened up the defense even more on Big South Conference opponent Marshall's field Saturday, Aug. 27. Gaby Lopez got the opening point with Thyme Lang adding her third goal of the season. Tomlinson stated that Waseca's counter-attack proved effective in the 37th minute as senior forward Samantha Azure slotted a third past the Marshall goalkeeper.

Marshall dominated time of possession in the second half. But the Bluejays extended their lead with Gaby Lopez scoring her second goal of the game. Lopez was denied a hat trick as she was called offside.

"We were able to avoid a repeat of Thursday's defeat against Mound-Westonka," Tomlinson stated.

Lopez was named player of the game for her two goals and her work on the field as a constant scoring threat.

Waseca 3, Fairmont 2

When Waseca returned home Tuesday, Aug. 30, their opponent Fairmont gave them some trouble. But the tight contest ended with a 3-2 victory and the Bluejays defeating their conference rival for the first time since 2017.

The team dominated time of possession and created many opportunities to put the game away, but Fairmont's stubborn defense made it a close contest.

"Fairmont played a flat defensive line which proved adept at catching

"We demonstrated we were able to compete both in ability and work ethic with larger programs."
— Kyle Tomlinson

Waseca's counter-attack offside and frustrated our forwards," Tomlinson clarified.

After a silent start, the game opened up with four goals scored within minutes of each other. Fairmont took the lead, but Waseca responded almost instantly thanks to captain Sam Azure's hard-earned goal to tie it up. Thyme Lang then gave Waseca the lead, but Fairmont took advantage of the Jays' defense suffering a communication breakdown.

"It seemed like it was anyone's game," Tomlinson said. "The atmosphere felt as though a single goal would clinch the win."

Who scored the game-winning goal? Captain Sam Azure.

After goalkeeper Ella Bulfer made an excellent last minute save and prevented a desperate Cardinals team from tying the game, Waseca held on to win 3-2. Azure was named the player of the game. "We chose her for her creativity, strong leadership, and excellent attacking positioning," Tomlinson explained.

Waseca 8, New Ulm 2

Waseca continued going through the Big South Conference gauntlet, hosting New Ulm on Thursday, Sept. 1 and defeating them 8-2 for their third consecutive victory.

Though the score suggests it wasn't even close, the Eagles threatened to spoil a 3-1 lead for Waseca. Sam Azure and Thyme Lang supplied the three goals, but New Ulm kept the Jays in check until the second half.

"Waseca came out guns blazing in the second period," Tomlinson said. "Thyme Lang completed a brace while Sam Azure hit a hat trick."

Addison Wieseler contributed a goal while Gaby Lopez added two to seal the victory. Wieseler was named one of two players of the game, the other being Ella Krautkremer.

Waseca 9, Worthington 0

The girls' soccer team kept one-upping themselves with a great game last Friday, Sept. 2 at Worthington. As Coach Tomlinson put it, "The team was on cloud nine as they recorded an emphatic victory."

Worthington looked to get their first goal of the season against the Bluejays, and they almost did it. It seemed like a long journey, playing



MY BALL — Midfielder Addison Wieseler (14) battles an opponent during an early-season game for the Waseca High School girls' soccer team. Submitted photos



WINNING STREAK — Waseca goalie Ella Bulfer, left. At right, Bluejays midfielder Anna Blatti (11) vying for a ball.



the day before, and having a smaller squad would make the game challenging for Waseca.

However, as the score suggests, it was anything but that.

Sophomore Gaby Lopez recorded her first hat trick of the season while

senior Sam Azure achieved getting her second. Anna Blatti, Addison Wieseler, and Ava Bruhn contributed a goal each to round up the 9-0 day. Goalkeeper Ella Bulfer denied any scoring opportunities.

Coach Tomlinson picked Ava

Bruhn for her first start as a varsity player, while Coach Bulfer chose Evelyn Nydegger for her versatility.

After traveling to Fairmont on Tuesday, Sept. 6, Waseca went to Mankato Loyola the following Thursday.

Waseca tennis girls stay unbeaten Bluejays win four in a row

The Waseca High School girls' tennis team remained undefeated after beating Jordan 4-3 and Farmington 5-2 on Friday and Faribault 7-0 and Stewartville 4-3 on Saturday.

The deciding match against Jordan came with both teams knotted at 3 when Takaya Schoenrock won a third-set super tiebreaker, winning the game and the match for the Bluejays.

Individually for the girls against Jordan:

Singles:
No. 1 - Sarah Robbins, defeated Dyllan Wellhausen, 7-6 (4), 6-0

No. 2 - Cece Huttemier, defeated Makayla Haugen, 6-3, 6-1

No. 3 - Riley Steinhaus of Jordan, defeated Sarah Haley, 6-2, 6-2

No. 4 - Takaya Schoenrock defeated Naomi Salzwedel, 7-6 (4), 1-6, 10-5

Doubles:
No. 1 - Maddie Olinger and Cora Wulfdef. Addie Pfeifer and Mia Kanewischer, 6-0, 6-3

No. 2 - Evy Menden and Jenna Elsenpeterdef. def. Miranda Breck and Maddy Benson, 6-4, 6-4, -;

No. 3 - Paige Dufault and Lauren Drexler def. Jenna Elsenpeter and Cailin Friary, 4-6, 6-1, 10-4

Individually vs. Farmington

Singles:
No. 1 - Sarah Robbins def. Kailyn Heath, 6-3, 6-2

No. 2 - Cece Huttemier def. Taylor Rondo 6-0, 6-1

No. 3 - Sarah Haley def. Ellie Partington 6-3, 6-1

No. 4 - Shayla Draper def. Takya Schoenrock, 6-1, 2-6, 10-4

Doubles:
No. 1 - Mia Kanewischer and Addie Pfeifer def. Addisyn Patricia and Amaza Burggaaff, 6-2, 5-7, 10-7

No. 2 - Julia Cashman and Hannah Rodgers def. Miranda Breck and Maddy Benson, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 10-7

No. 3 - Paige Dufault, and Lauren Drexler def. Kate Kragness and Lauren Flemin, 7-6 (4), 6-4



Huttemier



Robbins

WHS spikers level season record at 3-3

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

The Waseca High School volleyball team has been in some very close games so far this season. In their home opener Tuesday, August 30, the Bluejays swept the Fairmont Cardinals in three exciting sets.

Fairmont came into the matchup with an 0-1 record, losing to Big South conference rival Windom in three sets. Their frustrations made for a great match between them and the Bluejays. But Waseca bested them with the scores of 25-22, 25-19 and 25-23.

Leading the Bluejays in the home opener was senior Riley Ruedy, who had seven kills and 15 digs. Other contributors were: Siri Kuhns with 28 assists; Aliyah Taylor with seven kills; Avery Madsen with six kills; Kloe Wadd with six blocks; Haylee Sommers with 17 digs, and Erika Bowers with two aces.

The game at home against New Ulm Thursday, was just as intense. The largest margin of victory in the four sets played was five points. However, Waseca ended up on the losing side of the match with the scores 21-25, 28-26, 20-25, and 22-25.

Waseca continued its busy week with a tournament in Rochester. Instead of the usual three set points to win, the games were reduced to whoever scored two set points first.

The Lady Jays' first opponent was Minneapolis Edison, which the team beat handily 2-0. After a somewhat close first set 25-18, Waseca took a decisive 25-14 victory in the second set. Waseca then breezed through Glenville-Emmons 2-0 (25-16, 25-13).

The volleyball team hit a brick wall when facing hometown Rochester Century. Waseca lost in two sets

14-25 and 11-25. Their day in Rochester ended with the team playing their most competitive match of the day against Austin. Try as they might to get past the Packers, the opposing team was one step ahead of them. The Bluejays lost 2-0 (23-25, 26-24).

Waseca's record is currently 3-3. They hosted St. James Area Tuesday, Sept. 6, will face Blue Earth Area the following Thursday, and will return to Rochester to face Lourdes on Monday, Sept. 12.



DENNIS STEFFEL OMTVEDT
FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICE
109 3RD STREET NE, WASECA, MN 56093
WASECA • JANESVILLE • WATERVILLE

PH & B

Patton, Hoversten & Berg, P.A.
A Professional Association / Attorneys at Law

Waseca 507-835-5240 888-835-5245	Janesville 507-234-5106 888-835-5245
Owatonna 507-451-9000 866-451-9010	Faribault 507-332-7425

www.phblawoffice.com

**GUARDIAN ENERGY**

Collaboration. Scale. Excellence.

Guardian Energy
4745 380th Avenue
Janesville, MN 56048
www.guardianNRG.com

Marianna Mayo
Associate Merchandiser

O: 507-234-5002
C: 507-720-1443
F: 507-234-5011
Marianna.Mayo@guardiannrg.com

R-Strings & Cables
ARCHERY SHOP

**Authorized Dealer**
Waseca, MN 56093
507-521-1133
Rick Rugroden
rugroden@gmail.com

**117 2nd St NW**
rstringsandcables.com
WASECA



Bulldogs' senior quarterback Karson Lindsay attempts a pass before Fillmore Central's defensive back William Parker hits him.



Senior running back Ryder Thissen slips away from the Falcons' Gunner Benson for extra yardage.



Junior wide receiver Ryan Kronbach catches a pass in the open field for one of the night's three receptions.

Lightning cuts Bulldogs' Sept. 2 game short

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

After a rough 2021, the JWP Bulldogs were ready to travel to Fillmore Central, a team that overwhelmed them 53-13 at the start of last season.

However, the season opener ended prematurely due to inclement weather with the Bulldogs taking the loss 14-0.

JWP's defense was tested early by a tal-

ented Falcons offense. After taking the first possession of the game, Fillmore Central wasted no time and scored a touchdown off a pass completion of 30 yards.

The Bulldogs' offense were unable to do much with their first possession. Junior Logan Thell had a punt blocked with Fillmore Central recovering on JWP's 44-yard line. The Falcons took to the air again and scored on a 35-yard passing touchdown.

After a rough first quarter, the Bulldogs' defense buckled down and kept the home team silent. In the Falcons' three possessions in the second quarter, they had two three-and-outs.

The Bulldogs were ready to attempt a comeback in the second half. But it was announced with 6:43 left in the third quarter that the game would have to end early due to nearby thunderstorms. Unfair as it was to the

Bulldogs, they had no choice but to mark the game into the loss column.

The JWP offense had some bright spots. Senior quarterback Karson Lindsay went 11-for-23 for 106 yards. Junior Ryan Kronbach led the receivers with seven receptions for 50 yards. Fellow junior Nolan Morsching was the deep threat with 13 yards per reception.

Morsching led the defense in tackles with three solo and two assists. Senior Jack Cahill

led in assists with four on the night while contributing a tackle. Karson Lindsay and Austin Quast chipped in two tackles and two assists.

With an 0-1 record, the Bulldogs will take on another non-district opponent, St. Clair-Loyola Friday, September 9. The Spartans handed JWP a 42-0 loss in their 6-2 campaign in the 2021 regular season.

One-sided win

JWP volleyball team dominates Mankato Loyola in home opener

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

Although it took four sets, the JWP volleyball team dominated its season opener at home against the Loyola Crusaders Thursday, Aug. 25. The work ethic of the Bulldogs showed on the scoreboard with the team winning three of four sets by double digits.

Sophomore Lilly Strauss gave the Bulldogs the opening point to begin the match. Leading them in a scoring frenzy was Jessa Westphal, who supplied two spikes at the front of the net to make it 10-2. After making their lead steadily bigger, sophomore Paige Walz put the lid on the first set by finessing a light tap of the ball over the net.

Loyola showed they weren't going to be pushovers in the second set. Westphal scored the opening point, but Loyola tested JWP's defense. The Bulldogs' miscues cost them a clean-sweep opportunity with the Crusaders taking it 26-24.

The Bulldogs cleaned up their mistakes in the third set. With the efforts of sophomores Brielle Bure and Aubrey Weedman keeping the ball in play, the girls were able to coast to victory. A pair of aces by Strauss and Raquel Fischer's kill ended the third set 25-14.

JWP called it a night when the score was 6-4, going on a 10-point run led by Westphal. She had six of her eight aces on the night within that stretch, helping the team win the fourth set 25-11.

Individually: Westphal with eight aces, 14 kills, four digs, a block, and an assist; Bure with 19 digs, three aces, and a kill; Lexie Dahlberg with eight digs and an ace; Isabelle Rider

with four aces, two digs, and an assist; Strauss with three aces, six kills, and five digs; Claire Walz with six kills and an assist; Aubrey Weedman with five kills, a block, 17 assists, four aces, and four digs; Fischer with seven kills, two digs, and an assist; Paige Walz with three kills, three blocks, and an assist; Nevaeh Weimert with 19 assists and four digs; Ali Olson with four digs.

Cleveland 3, JWP 0

The Cleveland Clippers, who have historically given the JWP volleyball team trouble, got the best of them again. Although the Bulldogs kept it relatively close in the beginning, Cleveland wore them out in three sets, 27-25, 25-18 and 25-14.

"We're a young team, and that showed tonight," said head coach Jessica Keenan. "We made some errors not getting to where we need to be, and we were timid on the court."

Part of the issue was Cleveland gave JWP more than they could handle throughout the night.

"We fought hard in the beginning of each set," said Keenan. "But we lost our energy midway through them. We will need to work on maintaining our energy throughout the whole set."

"It was a game that showed some of our weaknesses," she added. "We will work on them and come back strong on Thursday against St. Clair."

Individually: Lexie Dahlberg with three aces and six digs; Claire Walz with three kills and a dig; Westphal with eight kills, two blocks, and three digs; Strauss with a kill, a block, assist, and five digs; Weedman with a kill, block, five assists and eight digs; Fischer with five kills, an assist, and



Bulldogs' sophomore Lilly Strauss volleys the ball over the net.

a dig; Paige Walz with a kill and dig; Weimert with 10 assists and six digs; Isabelle Difer with an assist and dig; Bure with 10 digs; and Olson with 6 digs.

JWP 3, St. Clair 1

The Bulldogs bounced back against bordering rival St. Clair the following Thursday. JWP definitely made a few adjustments. While the Cyclones scored the first point, JWP built a lead fast with timely blocks by

Westphal, Claire Walz, Paige Walz and Weedman.

After winning the first set 25-21, the Bulldogs made a few mistakes early with St. Clair taking an early 5-0 lead. However, they made a comeback to win the second set 25-21. The Cyclones took advantage of miscues by the Bulldogs again and forced a fourth set, 25-17.

The rivalry came to a head in the fourth set. JWP dug its way out of a four-point deficit to tie it 17-17. After

few back and forth exchanges of the lead, the girls won the game with a nail-biting finish of 25-23.

Individually: Bure with an ace and 12 digs; Westphal with three aces, 14 kills, a block, assist, and seven digs; Strauss with an ace, 10 kills, and five digs; Rider with four aces and two digs; Claire Walz with nine kills, five blocks, and an assist; Weedman with five kills, a block, 27 assists, and 15 digs; Fischer with 10 kills and four

digs; Presley James with a kill and two digs; Sophomore Paige Walz with two kills, three blocks, an assist, and a dig; Weimert with 19 assists and five digs; Dahlberg with three digs; and Olson with two digs.

After three home games, the JWP volleyball team's record is 2-1. They play their first in-conference game against Bethlehem Academy Thursday, September, 8.



Sophomore Claire Walz spikes the ball into St. Clair territory.

Pioneer photos by Michael Roy

Top-10 finishes bolster hopes for WEM-JWP CC

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

The WEM-JWP cross country teams were feeling the losses to last year's team these past two weeks.

However, some top-10 finishers helped fill some of the void.

The Grizzlies hit the ground running Friday, Aug. 26 in Fairmont. The girls' junior varsity had the best results from all WEM-JWP teams, with MaKenzie and MaKaela Westphal finishing in the top 10. Seventh-grader MaKenzie (8:28.9) was less than two seconds away from first place, but was beaten to the

finish line by St. Peter's Lucia Penner. Sixth-grade runner MaKaela Westphal took seventh, clocking 8:55.2.

WEM-JWP's varsity teams, however, had a rougher time in their first meet.

"We did not have any top finishers," said co-head coach Jonathan McDonough.

Freshman Caleb Quast (24th, 15:45) led the boys' varsity runners, while sophomore Madeline Hoehn (24th, 20:04.3) and freshman Kwynn Krause (25th, 20:05.7) paced the girls.

Despite the runners placing lower on the leaderboard, McDonough noticed some positive results.

"We still had some promising finishes," he said. "For example, our returning runners showed huge improvements from this same race the previous year. Carson James improved by 4 minutes, David Lamp improved by over a minute, and Alex Kleve did by just over 30 seconds."

The newer runners also displayed potential.

"They showed a good level of competitive running in their first-

ever meet, including Madeline Hoehn, Ivan Pratt, and Gavin Marinenko."

It was a warm and humid day for WEM-JWP's next meet at Mankato Loyola Thursday, Sept. 1. On top of the hill on Loyola's campus, the sun intensified the heat, bringing temperatures to the mid-upper 80s.

While the junior high girls had two finishers in the top five (MaKaela Westphal in 4th and Ashlynn Wolff in 5th), the varsity girls' showing was "a little rough" according to McDonough. Two girls were unable to finish the race.

However, MaKenzie Westphal competed in her first race as a varsity runner. "She had a strong first showing," McDonough stated. Westphal led the team and took ninth place with a time of 23:42.

Sophomore Luke Cahill took the lead for the boys and finished in seventh with a time of 19:50.7.

WEM-JWP's next meet took place at The Oaks Golf Course near Hayfield Tuesday, Sept. 6.



Luke Cahill

Panthers' football upended at Kenyon

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

It was a rough debut for the NRHEG Panthers Thursday, opening night of the 2022 football season, as they were trounced by Kenyon-Wanamingo 26-6.

"A tough start for us," Panther's head coach Marc Kruger said after the game. "The knights had a solid game plan and we did not handle the run well. They were able to do a lot to us, and we just were not able to do enough on offense."

The Panthers had only three real drives during the entire game. Playing well defensively, the Panthers kept it close, trailing only 6-0 at half-time, but their inability or more accurately, inexperience, cost them offense.

In their first drive of the game, the Panthers went three-and-out in a possession that lasted barely over a minute. Meanwhile, the Knights marched down the field in eight plays. They used a 33-yard pass and catch, which flipped the field, followed by a facemask penalty on the defense two plays later, which set up 1st-and-goal from the five-yard line. Dillion Bartell ran in on the next play for the Knights.

On the ensuing kickoff, senior Andrew Phillips bobbled the kick before fielding it around the Panthers' 30-yard line. He went left and cut back to the middle, running it all the way back for a touchdown. A block-in-the-back penalty erased the score, and really took the wind out of the sails of the Panthers.

The Panthers had one more decent drive in the first half which ended on a 4th-and-5 incompletion just outside the Knights' red zone. On the ensuing possession, the Knights marched down the field before a Sam Olson interception put the ball back in Panther hands on their own 5-yard line. The rest of the half saw little excitement. A scary moment occurred as senior Nash Howe suffered a leg injury and was carried off the field. Howe was still having trouble walking after the game, and the speculations were either a hip or a fibula injury.

Opening the second half, the Knights had a decent 20-yard return, but a Misgen sack set them for second and long before their drive ended three-and-out.

On their own 20-yard line following the punt, the Panthers tried to get tricky, and an option-pitch play saw the ball get tossed to no-one, which the Knights conveniently fell on and subsequently scored.

A good kickoff return by Sawyer Prigge set up the Panthers on their own 41-yard line. A fourth-down conversion on a big pass play from sophomore quarterback Alden Dobberstein, who played well in his first varsity start, to Prigge, set up the Panthers again in the red zone. But more tricky cost them as another pitch play gave the ball back to the Knights.

Dobberstein connected with Jaylin Raab for the Panthers' only score



BREAD AND BUTTER — Andrew Phillips (29) takes a handoff from Alden Dobberstein (6) during the Panthers' season opener at Kenyon-Wanamingo. Pioneer photos by Chris Schlaak and Eli Lutgens



DOUBLE COVERAGE — Sam Olson (9) and Sawyer Prigge (8).



HANG TIME — Jaylin Raab (5) outleaps a Knights' defender.



DEFENSE — Aidan Schlaak (1) makes the play while Aidan Deyle (47) backs him up.



GOT IT — Sawyer Prigge (8) comes down with the football.

with 3 minutes left.

"We just didn't put enough great things together in a row tonight," said Kruger. "One bad thing ruined lots of great chances."

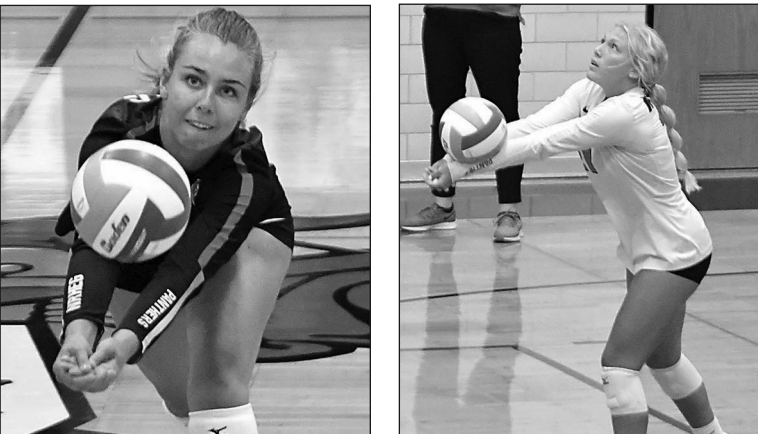
This Friday, the Panthers host defending state champion Mayer-Lutheran, who defeated NRHEG handily last year. "We need to face adversity and turn around and go 1-0 next week," said Kruger. "I don't care who we play. If we put our game together, we have the talent to compete with anyone."

Kenyon-Wanamingo 26, NRHEG 6					
NRHEG	0	0	0	6	—
K-W	6	0	8	12	— 26

First Quarter		
KW — No. 4 5-yard run (PAT failed)		
Second Quarter		
No scoring		
Third Quarter		
KW — No 8 2-yard run (No. 15 pass from No. 8)		
Fourth Quarter		
KW — No. 5 22 pass from No. 8 (PAT kick failed)		
NRHEG — Raab 9 pass from Dobberstein (PAT kick failed)		
KW — No. 2 27-yard run (PAT run failed)		
	NRHEG	KW
First downs	13	16
Total plays	53	55
Rushing	28-57	40-203
Passing	15-25-1	5-15-1
Passing Yds.	178	86
Total offense	235	289
Fumbles-lost	2-2	1-1
Penalties	8-75	3-15

Third down	3-11	3-9
Fourth down	1-4	3-3
Turnovers	3	2
Time of poss.	24:48	23:31
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
Rushing - NRHEG: Phillips 21-48; Thompson 3-5; Dobberstein 3-4; Howe 1-0; KW: No. 4 27-129; No. 2 8-71; No. 15 1-5; No. 3 1-2; No. 8 3 — 4		
Passing - NRHEG: Dobberstein 15-25-1 — 178; KW: No. 8 5-15-1 — 86		
Receiving - NRHEG: Prigge 5-99; Thompson 1-27; Olson 1-20; Raab 2-17; Howe 1-17; Knudson 1-7; Phillips 4 — 9; KW: No. 15 3-67; No. 5 1-22; No. 2 1 — 3		
Defense: Thompson 8.5 tackles; Olson 4.5 tackles, 1 interception; Misgen 4.5 tackles, 1 sack; Raab 4 tackles; Deyle 4 tackles; Phillips 3.5 tackles; Routh 3 tackles; Hanna 2.0 tackles; Schlaak 2 tackles, Prigge 2 tackles; Ihrke 1 tackle; Flatness 1 tackle; Knudson 1 tackle		

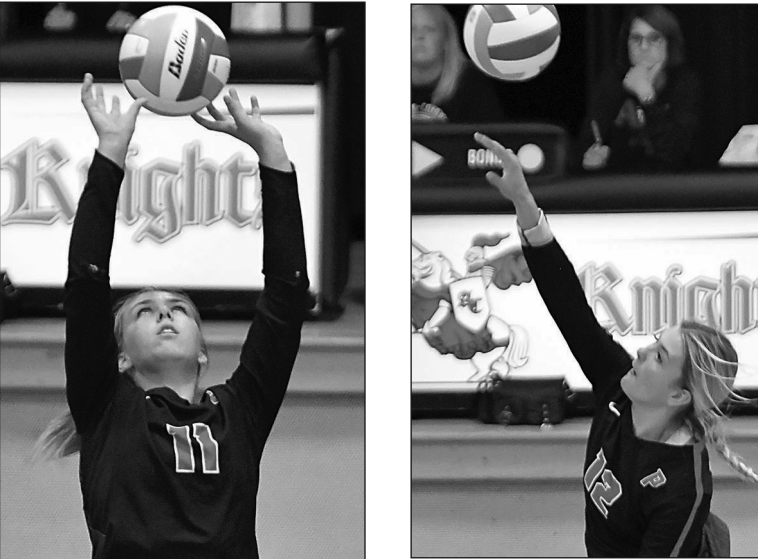
Season-opening victory



The NRHEG volleyball team opened the season with a 3-2 victory at Alden-Conger Thursday, Sept. 1. Above, the Panthers' Hallie Schultz and Sidney Schultz (right). Pioneer photos by Chris Schlaak



IHRKES - Going up high are Panthers Bailey Ihrke and Bree Ihrke



Hallie Schultz sets, Sarah George, right, fires



Bailey Ihrke makes the return during an exciting opening-night Panther win over Alden-Conger.

Scouting Fun



Members of Waseca Cub Scout Pack 86 participated in a BSA camp on Saturday, August 20, 2022 at Camp Norseland in St. Peter. The camp was hosted by the Twin Valley Council and featured multiple activities. Cub Scouts took part in friendly competition and learned about their upcoming Trails End Popcorn Fundraiser. Scouts said their favorite activities were "Raingutter Regatta" and "Backyard Fishing." Left to right: Abby and Daniel Switzer, Alex Lewandowski, Maverick Hill, Michael Petsinger, Liam Cory

CELEBRATING THE HOME OF THE FREE

During this season of celebration and remembrance, my agency is proud to help protect your American Dream.



Matthew Petsinger, Agent
Matthew R. Petsinger Agency, LLC
101 State St S
Waseca, MN 56093
MRPAgencyLLC.com
(507) 835-2770



American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & Its Operating Companies,
American Family Insurance Company,
6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783 008897 — Rev. 1/19 ©2016 — 16554736





The Pastor's Column

Trusting God

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS
I went to school for a long time. 13 years in public school, 3 years in college, and 5 years in seminary. My wall is filled with degrees and accolades. I worked hard to complete the tasks set before me and was held accountable by my professors to study and learn. I gained knowledge.

As August ends, we cannot help but see the patterns of fall develop. The mornings are cooler, the sounds of the marching band and football players are heard on our evening walks, and Walmart's seasonal section has been rampaged for school supplies for 6 weeks already. There are things happening in our lives that help us know fall is coming.

Our children are trying to enjoy the last few days of summer and play as much as they can before they are constrained by shoes and classroom walls. The children of our community will once again apply themselves to the task of gaining knowledge. They will be challenged and encouraged by their teachers to learn and grow in hopes that they may apply their knowledge to life and living outside of school.

As adults we get to choose what we spend our time learning, the skills we were taught as children apply to our lives today as we delve into the topics that interest us. I have the same question that I did as a child though, how I can use this in my life? How does this help me?

Peter sought to answer this question about faith and studying scripture and how it applies to our life in 2 Peter 1.

"3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."

As God teaches us about His plans and purposes, we learn to trust Him and develop a faith that changes our perspective on life and godliness. We learn to trust His promises through scripture for salvation, hope and eternal life. As we grow in this knowledge of Him our life changes all the more.

We are transformed in our wants and desires from our own selfish motivations and sin to worshipping God and loving our neighbors. It is in the transformation of the heart that the promise of escaping sinful desires come true. The knowledge we gain of God gives us hope for today and promises for tomorrow.

I may have spent 21 years of my life in school, but the knowledge I gained of Jesus and His work in my life has made all the difference. He has used my education to help me understand His work in my life. Let us not despise learning, but instead focus on who God is and all that He has done for us.

By SANTIAGO RAMIREZ

In the movie Spider-man: far from home (2019), there is a scene at the beginning of Peter Parker's (protagonist) excursion where he is riding the bus on the roads of the Austrian east with his classmates and finds a pair of glasses inside a case. The glasses are a gift from Tony Stark (Iron man, who by now is dead) and have a message on the back of the card from Stark Industries that reads:

To the next Tony Stark,
I trust you
P.S: Say Edith - TS
Naturally, Peter Parker puts on the glasses, and-as at least I would too, says Edith, and immediately the voice of an assistant named Edith activates and starts talking to Peter Parker and shows him through the lenses of his new glasses what she can do for him. Edith shows Peter Parker's reality the way she has been configured to show it; Peter Parker sees truth the way the glasses allow him to see it.

Without being a film critic and being clear that the film's intention was not to show the example I am using, the way I am using it, that scene allows me to illustrate what I mean: we all see the world in particular ways. In fact, in the movie, one of the characters, Misterio, manipulates

reality to make the people around him see exactly what he wants to show, not what is happening. He uses that strategy to get Peter Parker's glasses. Peter Parker struggles against projections, which are [disguised] reality.

But, since this is not a movie opinion column, we'll leave the movie aside, and I'll trust that the example has put us in the reality that I want to project (a little joke for the sake of enlivening the reading).

In times when airplanes did not exist (because the world has not always been as we know it today), the seas and oceans (not the air) linked our planet. It was in October of those times - in 1984, that the International Meridian Conference took place in Washington DC, with the presence of 25 countries, of which 22 countries voted in favor of establishing that the world had a 0 meridian (an imaginary line located in Greenwich, which crosses eight countries and among other things divides the globe into east-west).

From this latitude 0, the time zone was established in each place in the world; the reasons for this conference were based on time. For navigation, it was necessary to set time zones that would solve problems that, for centuries, the maritime world had

faced, issues that mainly affected the economy. The effects of this decision had social, political, religious, cultural, economic, geographic, and other repercussions that still echo today.

I want to talk about the cultural/religious repercussions that echo to this day, and it is here where our example of Spider-man will serve us.

So, I find it necessary to mention that worldview is how we see the world. We all wear glasses (like Peter Parker's), whether or not we are conscious of having them on. Our glasses have individual and collective filters. Some of the personal filters are and are not limited to: our age, family, gender, country, language, and social and economic status, among others, and one of our collective filters, and the one I want to talk about today, is the cultural/religious one.

According to the Greenwich Meridian, we (Americans, and by Americans, I mean all of us who were born in America, be it South, Central or North) is the West, and we share this part of the world with almost all of Europe. Our culture is a culture of guilt and innocence, our way of acting is linked to events or actions, events or acts framed in a how, when, where, and/or why; basically, we are

what we do. If we do something terrible, we are wrong; if we do something good, we are good.

On the other hand, the other side of the meridian-validate the redundancy, which we know as the East, where Jewish culture, among others, comes from, is part of a culture of honor and shame. Shame is understood as the fear of being considered unworthy of being accepted in social relations, the feeling of not living up to what is expected, and honor as the certainty of being accepted in social relations, the sense of living up to what is expected.

What a tongue twister! Are you getting it? Neither am I.

How about adding one more nuance to this column?

Which collective worldview (culture/religion) is right about perceiving sin, East or West?

We would then have to define sin, so I ask in these frames of reference: is sin the fault that is committed, or is it rather revealing myself against what God says I am, or is it both, or is it neither?

That leaves an open conversation for our next column, which is nothing more than my point of view about conversations I have with myself.

Festival features fundraiser, fun

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

St. Ann's Catholic Church of Janesville will be ringing in the autumn season with its annual Fall Festival this Friday through Sunday, Sept. 9 to 11.

The church community is expecting a large turnout with 500 raffle tickets for purchase at the parish office. Tickets are available at \$25 each with cash prizes of \$50, \$100, and \$500.

According to parish members, St. Ann's started the Fall Festival to not only raise funds for the church but to also give back to the Janesville community. Patty Heitkamp, who is

heavily involved in church activities, shared that the event's purpose is to allow everyone a chance to get together and celebrate the history of the church.

"I like it all," she stated. "The weekend, having all the parishioners around, all the good company we have throughout the festival — it all helps create great fellowship."

A silent auction is scheduled, with items which typically range from DeWalt power tools to homemade baked goods. In the past, some parishioners have even offered a couple hours of labor as a silent auction "item."

Kicking off the festivities for the weekend will be a golf tournament at

Prairie Ridge Golf Course at 4 pm on Friday, September 9. Anyone interested in signing up should call Jim Schultz at (507)-340-7613 or Adam Roesler at (507)-380-6029.

Saturday afternoon will be the day to listen to music by local bands. Generation Gap will perform from 4-6 p.m. while In a Bind will close out the evening from 8-10 p.m.

During the music, food trucks Illegal Amigos and the Pelican will provide concessions. There will also be beer and wine available. Bingo will take place in the Parish Center at 6:30 p.m. along with a meat raffle courtesy of Wiste's Meat Market.

Following Sunday Mass will be the return of beer and wine. Food

trucks Q Crew, Fred's Dogs, and Cookie Dough Bliss will be around from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Kids will have plenty of entertainment throughout the afternoon, with bounce houses, kids' games, and Making Faces of Mankato providing face painting at 11 a.m.

At noon, there will be silent and live auctions; the cash raffle drawing will take place at 2 p.m. Silent auction bidding will close at 1:30 p.m.

All proceeds from the Fall Festival will directly support St. Ann Catholic Church.

Special from Page 1

munity, whose members, he claimed, are "absolutely underrepresented.

"Maybe we can change some of that," he concluded.

Candidates were asked why they were seeking the position.

Schroeder joked, "Somebody has to be," before explaining she would provide a fresh viewpoint.

Tackett, who used nearly every one of the 20 minutes allowed each candidate, gave another lengthy response.

"Waseca is going in a great direction and I want to be a part of it," Tackett claimed.

"How will you handle concerns from constituents?" Mayor Srp asked.

Research and do what we can to help remedy their concerns, Schroeder answered.

Tackett said he would take good notes, pay attention, and bring concerns to the council.

Candidates were asked to name Waseca's two biggest assets.

Lakes and parks and "I firmly believe, our school district," Schroeder said.

Tackett shared his story of moving to Waseca from California and said the "welcoming attitude, I call it very Mayberry-esque." The other greatest asset, Tackett said, were the farmers and their "interdependence," along with their "farmer mentality."

What amenities is Waseca missing?

Schroeder mentioned a grocery store; she also cited a need for more resources to support the elderly community.

Tackett claimed Waseca is missing a lot. "No bowling alley, movie theater, no 24-hour coffee shop..." We can offer so much more."

Mayor Srp said the council and

the city have been making a stronger effort to enforce public nuisance laws to "clean up the city."

Schroeder said past councils have done a fair job of remedying both sides of the problem and mentioned that maybe the general public doesn't always understand the city's process.

Tackett said the city unfairly punishes those who cannot afford to clean up their yards, and said if the city looked for more resources, it could provide help instead of billing or ticketing people whose yards the city has cleaned.

The final question regarded the growth of Waseca.

"I think it's important," Schroeder said. "Finding sustainable ways to do it in steps and phases."

Tackett mirrored the sentiment saying if Waseca isn't growing, it's withering away. He stressed the importance of expanding at a reasonable pace to avoid growing pains. However, he did say that Waseca needs to accelerate its efforts.

Candidates were asked if they had any questions for the council; Schroeder had several.

Tackett mentioned only one concern, stating that he doesn't quite understand the inner workings of city politics.

Schroeder asked what advice council members would provide for a new member, which nearly every council member had a response for.

"Remember exactly how you feel right now about city government and where you would like to see it go," Mayor Srp answered. "Do your best to remember what it is to be a taxpayer who isn't up here [as an elected council person]."

After the interviews, Mayor Srp stressed the importance of choosing a temporary council member who would not unfairly influence the election.

The next meeting of the Waseca City Council will be September 20.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

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 Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m. * * *	New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting * * *	OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS Brad Donner, Branch President Waseca, Minnesota www.lds.org Sunday — 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School Wednesday — 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18 * * *
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 LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 412 N. Main Street, Janesville Pastor Brian Johnston Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship; 9:15 Worship w/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. * * *	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 * * *	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 9:30 a.m., Wed. 6:30 p.m. (for the summer) * * *	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. * * *	ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass * * *	BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship * * *
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 * * *	FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor Sunday — 8 a.m. Worship; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class * * *	ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St, Janesville Father Brian Mulligan 10 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 * * *	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship * * *	FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 Owen St., Janesville Interim Pastor * * *
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 * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Vacancy Sunday = 1 p.m. *Worship *
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.m. * * *	FIRST CONGREGATIONAL New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Pamela Jensen Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota Vacancy Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship * * *
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 4th St NW, Waseca 507-835-1222 Worship Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sundays 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., weekdays 8:30 a.m. Tues., Wed. and Fri., 7:00 a.m. Thurs. * * *	LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN Wilton Township Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.
REAL LIFE CHURCH * * *		THE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST * * *	



Waseca Floral & Gift

810 N. State Street • 507-835-3790 or 800-469-3790

www.wasecafloral.com

Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 11-3

We Deliver in Waseca, Janesville, & Waterville

INSURE CAREFULLY, DREAM FEARLESSLY.

CALL (507) 835-2770 FOR A NO-OBLIGATION FREE QUOTE.



Matthew R. Petsinger Agency, LLC
Matthew Petsinger, Agent
101 S State St, Waseca
MRPAgencyLLC.com

6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783
006441 — Rev. 11/15 ©2015 — 10793941

PERSONALIZED PRINTING & APPAREL



Barb & Mark Buker

100 South State Street • Waseca

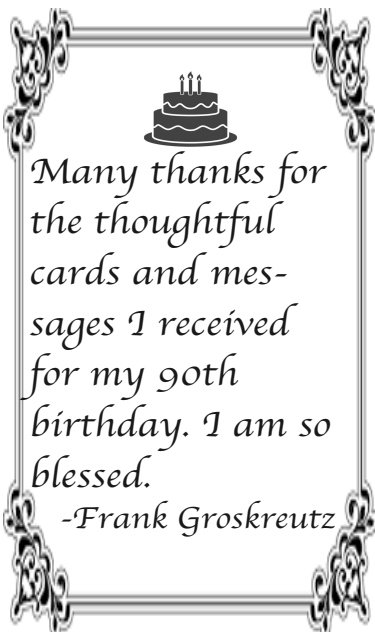
507.835.7565 • pprint@mchsi.com

For Sale

1999 Ford F-150 Pickup
-Mileage 171,XXX, runs good
-4WD, Lariat model
-New windshield, has rust
(text for pictures)
-Winter's coming
\$3,000
507-304-0903

LARGE FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Fri, 9/16
9:00-6:00
Sat, 9/17
9:00-4:00
3876 280th Ave.
Janesville, MN 56048
EVERYTHING MUST GO!



Rick's Appliance
Sales & Service!
Rick Maas
Owner
108 2nd Ave. NW
Waseca, MN 56093
507-461-9615
ricksappliance108@gmail.com

Waseca Music COMPANY
10-5:30 M-F, 10-2 Sat, Closed Sunday
- Since 1952 -
• Rent/Buy/Lease/Instrument new/used
• Best Seller • Repairs • Accessories
• Sheet Music & Books
• Guitars & String Instruments
• Piano & Digital Keyboards
• Drums & Percussion
• CD's, DVD's & Vinyl
507-835-2980
wasecamusic@gmail.com
www.wasecamusic.com
111 South State Street • Waseca, MN

SWEET-SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 CALENDAR EVENTS						
September 2022						
Aug 2022	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
					1 7pm Bingo	2 VJ Day Meat Raffle 5:30pm
						3
4		5 LABOR DAY	6	7 6pm Bar Bingo	8 7pm Bingo	9 Meat Raffle 5:30pm
11 All you can EAT Breakfast 8:00am to Noon Your Host VFW Honor Guard	12 7pm Post & AUX Meeting	13 BURGER NITE 5-7pm	14 6pm Bar Bingo	15 7pm Bingo	16 National POW/MIA Recognition Day Meat Raffle 5:30	17 Private Event
18 AIR FORCE (USAF) Birthday 1947	19	20 BURGER NITE 5-7pm	21 6pm Bar Bingo	22 7pm Bingo	23 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	24 Private Event
25 All you can EAT Breakfast 8:00am to Noon Your Host Caregivers of Waseca	26	27 BURGER NITE 5-7pm PAC ACT INFO. By Christopher Hinton VSO Waseca County 5:30 pm	28 6pm Bar Bingo	29 7pm Bingo	30 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	

HOURS of Operation.
Sun. - Mon. Closed
Tue. - Wed. - 3pm to close
Thur. - 1pm to close
Fri. - Sat. - 11am to close
POST & AUX Meeting 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn gambling license number 00385

Happy belated birthday to



Mike Bartz, a crying cowboy!

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS**SUMMIT ON SECOND APARTMENTS**

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL
507-201-3474
Under new ownership

We are accepting applications for 1 bedroom apartments in Waseca, a community you can get attached to. Rent based on income. Now professionally managed by

BRUTGER
EQUITIES, INC.
Income guidelines apply.

Come join us at

The Nations Glory Barn

Join us for
Prayer, Teaching,
and Healing with
Manuel Johnson

More info
at TheNationsGloryBarn.org



MANUEL JOHNSON
SEPTEMBER 11 AT 2PM
September 12 at 6pm

HOLLAND AUCTION

J.D. 4200 TRACTOR 2012 FIAT SPORT GRAVELY MOWERS - GUN ANTIQUES - COLLECTIBLES TOOLS - OUTDOOR ITEMS

SUNDAY, SEPT. 18, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

Location: From Hollandale, MN, Half mile west on State Hwy. 251 then one mile south on 825th Ave

Auctioneers Note: The Forsters have sold their building site and will be relocating. A very good Sunday Auction to attend. **Tracy Holland**

J.D. 4200 TRACTOR • 2012 FIAT SPORT • 2 GRAVELY MOWERS • ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • TOOLS • GUN • OUTDOOR ITEMS • HOUSEHOLD

2012 Fiat 500 Sport Car, 1.4 liter engine, manual trans., 56,478 miles (one owner) • John Deere 4200 Tractor, Diesel, 1100 Hrs, 3 pt., PTO, MFWD, w/J.D. 420 Hyd. Loader, S.N. 4200H421919 (one owner) • Gravely ZT, 1482 mower zero turn, approx. 1150 hrs., w/ 48" deck • Gravely 8163-T mower, 3189 total hrs., 491 hrs. on replacement engine w/ 50" deck (one owner) • Gravely 30" Tiller • Gravely 44" snow blower • 42" grader blade • yard cart trailer • H+H single axle trailer, 10', w/ ramp • J.D. 506 rotary cutter, 3 pt. 60" • Buhler Farm King 60" tiller • Yazoo Master Mower, walk behind, 22" 5 HP engine, DR Brush-cutter, 24" walk behind, self-propelled • Cyclone rake vacuum system commercial Pro w/ 6 1/2 HP motor • Pull-behind Sprayer, Briggs engine, 64" Bar • Stihl hand tiller MM55 • Stihl F555 Weed Eater • Werner aluminum ext. ladder 28' • Sears air compressor • Ithaca 12 ga. shotgun, Model 37 • Stihl 028 Chainsaw • Greenworks pole saw • Backpack sprayer • 2 - Lawn spreaders • Shop Vac, 16 gal • Earthway seeder • Misc. hand carpenter and mechanic tools • Kobalt cabinet tool box • set of 4 snow tires • Honda 5 HP pressure washer • Craftsman 10" table saw • Delta drill press • Craftsman 1/2" drill • 2 - charcoal grills • Kiwanis International Sign • Large Minneapolis The Curtis Hotel sign • Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul Railroad lantern • Railroad time table schedules • Redwing crocks 10-3-2 gal • Redwing crock bowls • Enamel coffee pot • old trunk • Treadle sewing cabinet • Old Ford Model A Diecast Car • Misc. prints • frames • Cigar boxes • Wicker baskets • Collectible glassware • Misc. furniture • Doll cradle • Many items not listed

Terms: Cash or Good Check, & Picture ID Required. 10% buyer's fee applies on all items. No property removed until fully settled for. Sales Staff and Owners Not Responsible for accidents. Any verbal announcement made day of sale takes precedence over print. Lunch and restroom services available on site. Clerk: Holland Auction

LARRY + BOBBI FORSTER - OWNERS
507-391-3100
26722 825th Ave. Hollandale, MN 56045

HOLLAND AUCTION - (507) 684-2955

FOR FULL COLOR PICTURES & LISTING VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.hollandauction.com

NAA
Auctioneer
Tracy Holland & Associates #7405002
Ellendale, MN
(507) 684-2955 or (507) 456-5128 (cell)

• A Professional Full Service Auction
• Member of State & National Auctioneer's Association

JENSEN AUCTIONS

Bid Live or Online at proxibid.
www.proxibid/jensenauctions

Preview Day: Saturday, September 3rd from 10am-3pm

Sunday, September 11, 2022 • 9:30AM CST

Location: 4824 18th Street SW, Owatonna, MN 55060
Auction Order: Racks & Household First, 12-Noon Online Portion Begins

Directions From Owatonna: Take Hwy 14 West 2.5 miles to Exit 39th Ave & City Rd 7, then go north .5 miles to SW 18th St, then west 1 mile to auction site. Watch for Jensen Auction Signs

Tractors	Trucks
Farmall H gas tractor, 2wd, NF lights, 540 PTO, 12.4-38 rear tires, 1 Hyd. outlet, SN: 373328 (tractor is straight) Farmall H gas tractor, 2wd, WF, 540 PTO, 2 Hyd. outlets, lights, 13.6-38 rear SN: 218091 Farmall Super "M" gas tractor, 2wd, NF, 540 PTO, 2 Hyd. outlets, lights, 13.6-38 rear SN: 508385 International 1066 Black Stripe Diesel Tractor, 2wd, WF, 4 Hyd. outlets, Cab, radio, A/C pump removed, Tach shows 6727 Hrs., 540/1000 PTO, GV 18.4-38 rear, 10.00-16 new fronts, (runs well) IHC weight bar w/ 10 suitcase weights, 9 bolt 18.4-38 duels SN: 2610178-60292 (1 Owner) International 706 Gas Tractor, 2wd, WF, 3pt. flat top fenders, 540/1000 PTO, 1 Hyd. outlet, 2 side loader outlets, tach shows 4172 Hrs., Firestone 16.9-34 rear tires (70%), 6.50-16 front tires (very clean original paint) SN: 27205 IHC weight bracket w/ 10 suitcase weights Minneapolis - Moline Super U302 gas tractor, WF, 3pt. flat top fenders, lights, 540 PTO, 15.5-38 rear tires, 600-16 fronts (good paint) SN: 27601855	1970 Chevrolet C/60 grain truck, gas, V8-366, 5x2 spd, 9.00-20 rubber, w/ Omaha 18" standard box & hoist, (Cab has hole in drivers floor) 1974 (red) GMC Grain Truck, single axle w/ Hyd. lift tag, 20" box & hoist, gas, V8-366, 5x2 spd, 71,000 Miles, 10.00-20 tires (nice)

Farm Equipment

International 45 Vibra-Shank Field Cultivator, pull type, 21" w/ Hyd. fold outs (nice) SN: 45C1411
International 153 3pt Row Crop Cultivator, 6R30", w/ Dakon Roller Shields (very clean)
International 470 16 Disk Tandem axle manual fold wings, 20" blades SN: 41111
International 3pt Row Crop Cultivator, 4 row, Dakon rolling shields, (missing parts) - Lilliston Row Crop Cultivator, 3pt, 4 row, (nice) SN: 20-68878 - John Deere Model 1610 Chisel Plow, pull type, 17 shanks, walking tandems - Kent Model 5000, 24' Field Cultivator, pull type, rear 3 bar harrow, walking tandems, v-fold (nice) - DMI CL 32, 13 pull type chisel plow, 12 shanks (nice) - John Deere 400, 21', 3pt, rotary hoe, (paint excellent) SN: 9144 - International 720 Semi Mounted Plow, 5x18", w/ auto reset, (needs a little work) SN: U002281 - International 710 Semi Mounted Plow, 5x18", w/ auto reset (very good) - John Deere 6R30" pull type planter, dry fertilizer, markers, JD monitor (needs a little TLC, has rust) - New Holland Hayliner 310 Small Square Baler, 540 PTO, straight Shutle, SN: 521918 (very clean) - Schultz Spreadmaster Model 2120 dry manure spreader, 540 PTO, (great shape) SN: 8808 - Ag Chem PT 502 pull type sprayer, 500 gal, 42" manual booms, 540 PTO Hyd. pump, single axle, 540 PTO, electric controls, foamer (nice) SN: 90109 - Flare box & hoist w/ John Deere gear (nice) - Oliver #82 Sickle bar mower, 540 PTO, 7 ft bar SN: 6308 - John Deere #5 Sickle bar mower, 540 PTO, 7 ft bar (nice paint) - (2) Fox BHA slage blowers, 540 PTO, 30" short hoppers, approx. 48" of 9" blower pipe - Custom made 23' 3pt anhydrous side dresser - Gelli Crop-Ni, FH-64 pull type single row chopper, (needs some repair) - Westfield W-80-41 8'x41' Auger on transport, 540 PTO SN: 47673 - NEW IDEA 8'x59' Auger on transport, 540 PTO (nice) - Feteri 8'x61' Auger on transport, 540 PTO - Paulson Hyd. loader off 706 w/ 80" snow bucket - Surge 4100, 15KW, 540 PTO, generator on cart (nice)

Shop & Misc. Equipment

(2) 8'x14' flat racks wide track gears - Win Power 665 running gear only - 4 rolls wood snow fence - 500 gal fuel skid tank & gas boy pump - 300 gal fuel tank & stand - Northwest 1300 gal poly tank - 5 hp pump w/ hose & nozzle - (2) Quick hitches - (2) Hyd. cylinders w/ hoses - (3) sets of tractor chains - Antique Potato Plow - Antique horse digger - Band duels goodyear 18.4-34 tires - Band Duels goodyear 14.34 tires - John Deere LX 280 lawn tractor w/ 50" deck (needs engine work) - Sunset 400 gal SS bulk tank - (5) Surge milker buckets - Surge Alamo Vacuum pump - (2) SS Strainers - Fork & Shovels - (3) Pride of the farm round hog feeders - (1) Caswell farrowing crate - (1) Poly round hog feeder - (2) 11" pipe cattle gates - Wayne model 420 gas pump - 17' foot bin sweep (no motor), Rockwall 10' Contractor Saw & Table, Delta 16 1/2" Drill Press - Onan Superpower 5000-watt Generator

Household

Cabela's Tree Stand, Cabela's 360 Ground Blind - Maytag Wringer Washer - Underwood Manual Typewriter- Holiday Items - Pots & Pans - Collectible Kids Toys - Decca Model DPS-7 Phonograph - 45 Records & 78s - Sesame Street Record Player - (2) Double Beds & Box Springs & Mattresses - Gun Cabinet - Couch & Love seat - Recliner (nice) - Fans - Quilts - 60 years of items!

Household

International #80, 3pt, 7" snowblower, w/ Hyd. chute, 540 PTO, dual auger (very nice) SN: 3090000001551
(2) Wood Gov. Grain Sheds, 14x30x12 (to be removed by buyer)
(2) Nu-Built 200-bushel gravity wagons, w/ Kewanee #4 gears (like new)
Handlair Model 1400 grain vacuum, 1000 PTO, 4 inch pipe, includes approx. 90 ft of pipe and suction hose w/ flex head and sweep (looks new) SN: 14-333TX3816

Dennis and Delores Perkins Estate

Auctioneer Comment: The Perkins family has decided to sell all of Dennis and Delores's very nice items at public auction. All items used on 160-acre farm. Very clean estate. Come enjoy the day with us! Thank you, Dennis!

AUCTIONEER:
Dennis Jensen,
Lic. #74-21-004
jensenauctions@gmail.com
Larry Born
Lic. #81-05400

TERMS: Cash or good check w/ proper I.D. required. 5% buyers fee applies. All major credit cards with 4% convenience fee. All sales final and selling as is, where is. Everything must be paid for on auction day. Not responsible for accidents, verbal announcements take precedence over all printed materials. Lunch and Restroom on-site.

JENSEN AUCTIONS 507-456-1210

Warm welcome for Watkins

New director at Bonnerup Funeral Service

By MELANIE PILTINGSRUD
Staff Writer

Some people spend a lifetime figuring out what their vocation is. Kasie Watkins, the new, licensed funeral director and locations manager of Bonnerup Funeral & Cremation Services, knew what hers would be by the age of 15.

“When I was a freshman in high school, my best friend died,” said Watkins. Born in Mesa, Arizona, Watkins moved with her family to Valley City, ND where she spent her teenage years. When Watkins’ best friend, Jenna, passed away, both Jenna’s family and the funeral home invited Watkins to participate in her friend’s services. Through that experience Watkins knew that she wanted to give others the opportunity to celebrate their loved one in a way that was unique and personalized, reflecting that individual. “If you can properly reflect and celebrate a life, your grief journey goes differently,” said Watkins. “I’m not going to say ‘easier,’ because nothing about grief is easy.”

Watkins received her undergraduate degree in business and marketing from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. As the youngest child, and one who wanted to get out into the world, Watkins looked up the top three mortuary schools, and chose to attend the one that was farthest away from home: the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science.

Subsequent to her education, Watkins worked at a large firm in York County, Pennsylvania, where part of her job as funeral director included work at a pet crematory. Watkins was in Pennsylvania for nearly ten years before she decided she needed to live closer to family. She took a position at a funeral home in Litchfield and Watkins, Minn. There, Watkins was told she should consider leading a team at a funeral home. After three months working at Litchfield and Watkins, a leadership opportunity presented itself at Bonnerup. Watkins

decided to take it.

Do people utilize the unique aspect of funeral services that Watkins wanted to offer when she decided to become a funeral director? “Yes and no,” said Watkins, who explained that, just as we all want to feel special, people want their loved one to be recognized for their uniqueness. At the same time, making funeral arrangements when a loved one has just passed away is, per Watkins, “a big, big ask.” The loved ones of the deceased are bombarded with questions from funeral directors and celebrants. “Sometimes I think that task of thinking of little things to make sure it’s meaningful and personalized can be overlooked because it’s just so much,” said Watkins, who feels that it is, therefore, the funeral director’s task to listen to the conversations and pick up on the things that made that person special, and then offer options that families may not have considered.

Most people want a job that is meaningful and fulfilling. Watkins said, “I’m fortunate that I go to work every day, and when I come home, I know what I did today mattered and it was important.

“It’s not a job or a career that you choose passively,” Watkins said of the demands of being a funeral director. “It’s very rare that someone is having a good day when they come to see us. As nice of a lady as I am, I understand that you probably don’t want to meet me, especially not at work.” Yet Watkins and the other staff at Bonnerup are often the recipients of the gratitude of families for the care that went into their loved one’s funeral arrangements.

Striving to provide meaningful, caring service is why Watkins often asks families permission to send a short survey. “As the locations manager, I want to know how our team is doing,” said Watkins, who manages a team of about 20 people spanning the Bonnerup Funeral Homes in Albert Lea, Ellendale, and New Rich-

land. The survey asks questions such as, “What do you feel we could improve on?” and “What do you feel that we did really, really well on?” Watkins wants to know how others feel Bonnerup can continue to provide meaningful services for loved ones who have lost someone.

“It was such a defining moment in my life,” said Watkins returning to the subject of Jenna, the friend she lost in high school. “You’re 15. You’re just figuring out life, and then this big life event happens. That grief journey really set me on the path for my career. I get to bring my best friend and her memory to work every day.” Watkins keeps a photo of Jenna in her office, and thinks of her every day, which she says helps her to stay focused: “This is why I’m here: because of the opportunity that I had when my friend died [...]. I now get to give other families that opportunity to honor their loved one, too.”

Bonnerup Funeral Service, under Watkins’ direction, is updating the funeral homes in New Richland and Ellendale with things like new paint, carpeting, and furniture.

In recent years, Bonnerup funeral directors have not been meeting with New Richland families at their New Richland chapel, but Watkins wants to change that. She hopes the beautiful building there can become a greater resource. “Why not make it a building for the community, instead of just a big, white house in the community?” said Watkins. Even Watkins’ office space in New Richland is in a transitional stage; she wants to pay homage to the community by framing old Bonnerup and Friedrich’s Funeral Home articles to hang on the walls of her office space. “I would like to make this space, and the spaces in our funeral home really reflective of where we come from,” said Watkins. “It might be new faces at the funeral home, and our spaces might look a little bit different, but our mission and our commitment to care hasn’t changed.”



SERVING - Kasie Watkins is the new funeral director at Bonnerup Funeral Service & Cremation Services, which serves in New Richland, Ellendale, and Albert Lea. Photo by Melanie Piltingsrud

NOW HIRING!

in Waseca

Front Counter - Customer Sales & Service Rep

Assist customers who visit the office with billing, account changes, and much more.

SHIFT:
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

SCAN TO APPLY NOW!

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Mediacom CAREERS
The power to succeed.

Join our team

mediacomcable.careers

Text: **MEDIACOM** to **97211**

Mediacom is an EOE m/f/d/v

35th ANNUAL WASECA MARCHING CLASSIC

Celebrating 35 years!

Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022
12 Noon – 75-100 Unit Parade
H.S. Marching Bands, Classic Car Cruise, Dignitaries, Royalty & MORE!
Downtown Waseca

9:00 am – 1:30 pm
16th Annual Classic Car Show
Rain or Shine at Club 57

5:30 pm Classic Field Show
Gates open at 3:30 pm
H.S. Marching Bands
Waseca Jr./Sr. High School

8:30 pm Field Show Awards
Classic Fireworks Display Following
Awards at Waseca Jr./Sr. High School

Livestreaming! Visit us at:
www.wasecamarchingclassic.com
to watch the action live!

2022 SACRED HEART FALL FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 16-17-18

1972-2022 50 YEARS

EAT

CONCESSION STAND:
Under the tent all 3 days

FISH FRY:
Friday 5-7 p.m.

BURGER FRY:
Saturday 4:30-7 p.m.

SUNDAY:
Cinnamon Rolls after 8:00 a.m. Mass
Pancake Breakfast 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

CELEBRATE

EARLY BIRD BINGO | Saturday Noon
SUPER BINGO | Saturday 2 p.m.
STREET DANCE | Saturday 6:30-10 p.m.
MOVIE | Saturday Approx. 7 p.m.
SUNDAY BINGO | Sunday 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
RAFFLE DRAWINGS | Sunday 1 p.m.
CHILDREN'S GAMES & ACTIVITIES
Fri. 5 p.m.-8 p.m. | Sat. 3 p.m.-7 p.m. | Sun. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

SHOP

LIVE AUCTION | Friday 6:30 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION, BOOK FAIR, COUNTRY STORE & WHITE ELEPHANT
Friday 5 p.m.-8 p.m.
Saturday Noon-7 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

WORSHIP

POLKA MASS | Saturday 5:15 p.m.
MASS | Sunday 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

FEATURING

Free Street Dance
LOS TEQUILEROS
Saturday, September 17, 6:30-10 p.m.
Food & Beverages Available