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WASECA
COUNTY
PIONEER

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

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Friday, November 4, 2022





DON'T FORGET
to FALL BACK!
Set your clocks back Saturday Night!
Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 6

Mattson takes job in Dodge Center

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

City Manager Lee Mattson submitted his resignation during the November 1, 2022 Waseca City Council meeting, notifying council members that November 30 will be his last day. Mattson's letter, read aloud during the meeting, stated that he does not have "sufficient accolades" to describe the dedication, professionalism and public spirit of his fellow city workers. It further claimed that his association with them has been "the highlight" of his career.

Mattson has been city administrator since the fall of 2018. After the reading of his letter, Mattson suggested that council members take "immediate" steps to "backfill the administrative hole" his departure will leave by finding an interim manager, but that the newly elected council due to take office in January will likely be the one to hire his replacement after a comprehensive search and hiring process.

After reading Mattson's letter, Mayor Roy Sr. termed the resignation a "sad turn of events," and stated that he knows city staff have come to regard Mattson with the affection given to "a family member."

According to information shared by Ann Fitch, executive director of the Waseca Chamber of Commerce, Mattson has accepted a position with the City of Dodge Center.

Council member Jeremy Conrath told Mattson his announcement "caught me by surprise. We will definitely miss you."

Fellow member Mark Christiansen also expressed gratitude for Mattson's service and regret that he was leaving, then nearly immediately suggested that "we reevaluate the city charter and see whether we would be better served by a city administrator rather than a city manager."

Council member John Clemons suggested that city utilities and public works manager Carl Sonnenberg, who was present at the meeting on other business, would make an excellent interim manager, even going so far as to make a motion—later withdrawn because of a lack of response—that Sr. and Mattson begin a conversation with Sonnenberg about taking the position.

Sonnenberg stated that he was open to a conversation about becoming interim manager only if he had "the confidence of the council." This led Sr. to carry out an informal survey asking and receiving responses from each council member in turn: after hearing all responses, Sr. assured Sonnenberg he had a "collective head nod" from the council.

It was agreed that further conversation with Sonnenberg would occur sometime next week, after he returns from a scheduled vacation.

*A word from
The Word*

*And many of those
who sleep in the
dust of the earth
shall awake, some
to everlasting life,
and some to shame
and everlasting
contempt.*

Daniel 12:2

Anything for Gary

Burger fry benefit serves more than 560

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

The Waseca Fire Department held a burger and fry fundraiser from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, October 27. The noble cause was to support retired firefighter Gary Mulcahy, who lost his wife in a fatal house fire which also severely damaged his home.

The Fire Department served the meal of a burger and fries for \$10. All meals were takeout with pickup on the northeast corner of the fire station.

According to Fire Chief Jason Forshee, the event didn't take long to

plan. "It only took these guys around two weeks to organize this," said firefighter Nathan Gallagher. "We asked Gary if we could do this and he said yes."

Mulcahy was a member of the Waseca Fire Department for 23 years before his retirement in 2013. Forshee said that giving back to their former comrade was a fitting gesture.

The Waseca Fire Department rallied the troops quickly to support Mulcahy, going as far as hiring retirees who knew Mulcahy to help out.

The burger fry also gave fire department cooks a perfect opportunity to test new equipment: "We're putting

our new fryers to the test," said firefighter Nathan Gallagher. "We got them a few weeks ago because the fryers we had are about 30 years old. They were starting to become unreliable."

Mulcahy's sister was at the event and was humbled by the community's support for her brother. "Thank you for doing this," she told Forshee.

"Absolutely," he replied. "We were a little leery at first, since we weren't sure how Gary would feel about it. But he decided to let us do it."



Nathan Gallagher (right) stacks orders during the Waseca Fire Department's Burger and Fry fundraiser Thursday, October 27.
Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

She chuckled. "That's just how he is. Sometimes, you have to swallow your pride and ask for help."

The burger fry benefit was such a

success that the fire department ran out of food before 7 p.m. after serving 560 meals.

State bound



The Waseca Girls Cross Country team won the Section 1AA title on Thursday, October, 27, earning a trip to the state tournament on Saturday November 5 at St. Olaf College. Front from left: Callie Dufault, Stella Omtvedt, Maren Schimming, Kelsey Draeger, Violet Rowher. Back: Taylor Markeson, Norah Schimming, Kya Hoof, Melanie Kruger, Ella Dufault.

Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

Treats on the streets

Businesses out of candy in record time

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

Waseca's "Treats on the Streets" was the gift that kept on giving for many trick-or-treaters Thursday, October 27. From 5-7 p.m., hundreds upon hundreds of costumed children lined the sidewalks of downtown Waseca to receive Halloween candy early from local businesses.

Within minutes, businesses received an overflow of trick-or-treaters with lines going out the door. Businesses like Keen Bank, Remax, American Family Insurance, and El Tequila handed out candy throughout the evening.

Many of the businesses, especially those downtown, had so many frequent visitors that they had to close up shop early. Remax had to close after barely an hour, even after having laid in about 600 pieces of candy. Not even half a dozen jumbo boxes of popcorn and animal crackers, along with bowls filled with candy were enough for American Family Insurance to stay open much more than an hour.

Both children and adults were creative with their costumes. Some dressed up like Minecraft characters while others dressed as Mario and Luigi. American Family Insurance agent Matt Petsinger dressed as a cowboy greeting people by the Remax door while Robert Tackett, as a ninja, escorted people out of the insurance building.

For those daring enough to venture away from downtown, there were many other businesses handing out bonus amounts of candy including Dairy Queen, Grace Lutheran Church, and the Good Game Gaming Center.

It was a great evening of fun for all involved with the kids getting an early stash of candy before Halloween rolled around a few days later.

Great together

By MELANIE PILTINGSRUD
Staff Writer

Witches descended on the Waseca Art Center on Saturday, Oct. 29, along with a number of Vikings, a walking avocado, Snow White, and any number of other characters, for the Great Fall Get-Together that took place from 6-9 p.m.

Liz O'Brien was responsible for the festively creepy decorations, while her daughter, Ann Johansen provided the mice running for cover upon the stairs as visitors traipsed upward.

The Starfire Event Center brought delicious meatballs, spring rolls and other edible delights, along with a

full bar to aid in the annual fundraiser for one of the county's most swinging cultural hubs. One specialty of the evening was a 'witch's brew,' a combination of vodka, lemonade and Gionelli blue Curacao, an orange flavored liquor. Lauren Kolodziej and Mindy Jimenez poured drinks steadily all evening, and, according to Jimenez, at one point had to go back to the Event Center to restock supplies for the event.

Holly Grundlach of Minnesconsinite Cheeseboards provided a smorgasbord of cheeses, crackers,

Together continued on 3



SPOOKTACULAR - Taking part in the Waseca Art Center's Great Fall Get Together were, from left: Carroll Galvin, Tara Bjerke, Liz O'Brien, Monica Priebe, Jess Stuckmayer, Sally Tala. Front Missy and Brad Donner. Photo by Melanie Piltingsrud

Treatment plant set for upgrade

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

A topic of lengthy discussion at the November 1, 2022 Waseca City Council meeting addressed the condition of the four blowers which act as the "lungs" of the wastewater treatment plant, spinning at 25,000 revolutions per minute to deliver air into the raw sludge sewage, allowing bacteria to break down its components as part of the purification process.

Carl Sonnenberg, the city's utilities

and public works director, noted there have been consistent failures, with one blower going out suddenly last January and two failing unexpectedly during October. At another unspecified time, Sonnenberg said, the plant had been down to only one operating blower, at which point "extreme" measures had been taken to assure its continued operation, including acquiring a generator from another city department and installing it temporarily to assure power to the blower would not fail.

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Strong concern is appropriate, Sonnenberg emphasized, because without the oxygen they introduce, the plant would be in danger of "discharging raw sewage into the river."

Along with that undesirable result, he continued, is the fact that the plant has a "very stringent permit" which

could lead to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) levying fines as high as \$50,000 a day. Sonnenberg told council members that the treatment plant has a service contract for the blowers. He explained that a single technician is persistently crossing the country visiting plants which have the same make of blowers, which were state of the art when they were acquired

Council continued on 5



Compostings

by Al Batt
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A ticking bird clock from the year 1997

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
Is your refrigerator running? Yes, it is. Why do you ask? I'm going to vote for it.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I enjoyed a church potluck complete with lefse. Lefse is the tablecloth, plate, silverware, napkin, bread and dessert. The weather can be temperamental. I should have been wearing a coat, but I didn't want to scare any warm weather away. Traffic wasn't a nightmare on Elm Street. I came out of a clinic after visiting my friendly neighborhood oncologist. The world was bright and beautiful. It was the Taj Mahal in the Grand Canyon. Health concerns concentrate the mind and I'd received sublime news. A fellow patient had jimmy legs. His legs bounced due to an ailment or the approaching election. You can tell it's election time. There is a shortage of sheep's clothing. All the wolves are wearing it. Honesty alone doesn't win major elections and we must vote between the lies. T.S. Eliot wrote, "Half of the harm that is done in this world is due to people who want to feel important. They don't mean to do harm but the harm does not interest them." This country needs a break between elections. George Washington said this before the advent of modern dentistry, "Be Americans. Let there be no sectionalism, no North, South, East or West. You are all dependent on one another and should be one in union. In one word, be a nation. Be Americans, and be true to yourselves."

I'M CUCKOO FOR THIS TIMEPIECE

My father-in-law, Gene Nelson, gave me a bird clock in 1997. It's a ticking field guide, featuring audio from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and images of the birds. A different songbird gives voice at the top of each hour. The bird singing at noon is a house finch, an American robin sings at 1, northern mockingbird at 2, blue jay at 3, house wren at 4, tufted titmouse at 5, Baltimore oriole at 6, mourning dove at 7, black-capped chickadee at 8, northern cardinal at 9, a white-throated sparrow whistles at 10 and a white-breasted nuthatch heralds 11 o'clock. Darkness deactivates the sounds, allowing sleep. I know when I hear the house finch, it's

either time to eat or to go to bed. When I hear the Baltimore oriole, it's time to eat or to think about getting out of bed. When I hear the chickadee, it's time to smile. I had a cuckoo clock in my youth. We weren't fancy people, but an aunt gave me a used discount cuckoo clock that took a few hours off each day to rest up so it could utter a sound as if it were choking on a peanut butter on Wonder Bread sandwich. I'd miss the sounds of those birds if the clock my father-in-law gave me wasn't hanging on a wall of my home. I miss my late father-in-law. It helps to listen to his birds.

NATURE NOTES

Juncos, with pink bills and white outer tail feathers, are apt to feed on the ground. The earliest arrivals tend to rank higher in the pecking order than those arriving on later flights. I saw a dog drinking out of a toilet. Was it a lavatory retriever?

Hummingbirds don't migrate on the backs of geese. It's a myth. Other persistent myths include: Parent birds will abandon a nestling touched by humans. Purple martins eat 2,000 mosquitoes a day. An owl can spin its head completely around. The fruit of an Osage orange tree repels spiders. I've visited Osage orange trees and have seen spiders on the fruits (called Osage orange, hedge apple, monkey ball, horse apple, hedge ball, mock orange or spider ball). I detected no panic in the arachnids and I suspect this misbelief began because spiders are in natural decline when the softball-sized hedge apples fall to the ground in September and October. Be careful around the fruit as its juice could irritate the skin. I have a pen made from hedge apple wood. It's a great pen, but it doesn't repel spiders. The Osage orange tree, also known as bow-wood, bodark, prairie hedge, yellow-wood, Naranjo chino, bo-duck and bois d'arc, is a durable hardwood used for many things including fence posts, archery bows, cutting boards and musical instruments. It was used for railroad ties, wagon wheels and natural fencing.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"Hello, sun in my face. Hello, you who made the morning and spread it over the fields. Watch, now, how I start the day in happiness, in kindness."—Mary Oliver.

This week has been difficult; my grandmother hasn't been doing well. Because of that, I visited her throughout most of the weekend. She is in hospice care, so that's where things are right now.

On Sunday morning prior to meeting up with some family members to visit her in Mankato, I took a little drive around town. I went through my old neighborhood in Mankato about half a mile south of Madison Avenue. Washington Elementary School was where I started, home of the Wildcats.

After that I drove by our St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, where I was baptized and my mom got married.

Then I drove over the Veterans Memorial Bridge, which connects downtown Mankato to downtown North Mankato. As I passed through an old neighborhood where my step niece Hannah and nephew Robert (who are so close to my age I'd rather consider them cousins) lived, I was reminded of some great nights gaming with them and staying up late with Robert.

I realized then how many memories I made in Mankato. I forget that even though I'm not always around that



Music to my Ears

by Michael Roy
copyright © 2022 by Michael Roy

town, it helped shape who I am today. And while I have many bad memories, there were a handful of great ones, too.

I've heard throughout my life that it's tough being an adult. I agree. While I still stand by a claim that high school handed me some of the most arduous challenges of my life, things were much simpler then. As adults we have to worry about bills, politics, making ends meet, and so many other things. My time as a teen was spent worrying about pulling off an all-nighter or seeing how long it would take to beat "Super Mario Galaxy."

With all the recent deaths and close calls around me, one saying rings in my ears: "Life is short. Live it to the fullest." But I keep pushing back against that.

A saying I've been throwing around

in place of that lately is, "Life is mid." People do always say life is short; others say life isn't a race. I think saying it's in the middle gives it the right definition. It feels slow while we're living it, but when we look back, time seems to have gone quickly.

As I sit here right now writing this on a Sunday night, I am thinking about the whole weekend. It felt slow in the moment because my family and I were gathered around my grandma, who was sleeping most of the day. But looking back, it also feels like the weekend didn't last a day. We are already preparing for the work week. I felt like I barely had a day off.

On a change of subject, with the fall sports season reaching its conclusion, I am looking forward to covering the winter stuff. I can't wait to cover

hockey in Waseca! And...I can't believe I'm saying this...I am excited to cover basketball.

This season will be interesting for JWP. We lost a very good player in Landon Dimler this year, but I think we'll still do fine. We have some height and size, yet, from last season. And I believe the girls can improve on their 8-20 record. Oh, and Keegan Kuball will be the heavyweight champion in our section once again this year and win the state championship. Book it!

Special note to Amelia: I'm an MSU Mavericks fan. Our hockey team frequently plays against the Minnesota Gophers, and we've clashed in the playoffs the past few years. So until the hockey season is over, we're rivals. May the best hockey team (obviously MSU) win!

This week in music

Led Zeppelin started a four-week run at the top of the US Billboard chart with their third album Led Zeppelin III in 1971.

There were many other interesting ones for this week, but almost none of them were PG. The music business can be pretty grotesque.

Midterms are no romantic comedy

Welcome to midterm season. That's right. Season. Multiple weeks of tests, quizzes, projects - you name it. Yay school!

While part of me wants to just nap all day and not worry about homework and other demands, the other part of me likes staying busy. I've seen TikToks about people not knowing what to do with themselves once school is out and they're right. I would be completely at a loss after a couple days with no demands on my time and skills. Which obviously makes it good that I've been spending all my time working and doing homework, right?

It has taken me multiple days to get through watching When Harry Met Sally and I still haven't finished it yet. I just want to sit down and watch a cute, old romantic comedy as the colorful leaves fall. Can you believe I have never seen When Harry Met Sally? It's



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler
copyright © 2022 by Amelia Roessler

a classic and yet some of my favorite rom-coms include How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days, Failure to Launch, and 27 Dresses (I will not admit that I like those solely because of Matthew McConaughey). Next on my rom-com list to watch is Bridget Jones's Diary and You've Got Mail. If anyone has any other romantic comedy suggestions, send them my way!

But it's important to note that I'm not really watching those movies, I'm working on homework. Ew. I will say,

though, that my journalism class keeps me on my feet. We learned about writing obituaries and I think that's something I might enjoy doing. We read an article by a woman who wrote obituaries for the New York Times for many years. She explained how obituaries aren't just talking about someone's death, they are a narrative of someone's life, a beautiful story that you get to tell as a writer. I really liked that; thought it was beautiful. You get to learn about someone's life and delve into history

and give it justice. I think that is so cool.

What's weird is we have to write an obituary for one of the journalism professors who is still alive. But we only have a day and a half to do two interviews. It's quite interesting.

Although I will be doing homework this weekend, the University Marching Band Indoor concert is this weekend: I am energized. The 300-member band is incredible and I love it. I will say, though, that the Marching Jays' Indoor is way cooler. The Gophers don't march in their indoor concert, they just sit and play music. Plus, the Gophers aren't the Marching Jays. I love you guys and I wish you all the luck for your Indoor (which all you readers should go see).

My Determination: "I feel like I just found out my favorite love song was written about a sandwich." -27 Dresses

Diffcult, but rewarding part of the job

Well I've lost my wisdom.

My wisdom teeth that is. Last Thursday I had all of them pulled.

It was kind of a quick process and I feel there is value to the experience beyond the physical health benefits.

I was worried about several factors prior to the surgery, but I asked a lot of questions and did everything in my power to ensure a good "post wisdom" experience.

Doctor Nancy McDermott in Owatonna did a fantastic job. Sometimes a patient needs a doctor who feels more like a parent figure. She filled that role while also answering all my questions.

So, beyond the procedure, what were my concerns?

I had never been put under anesthesia before and I wondered how I would feel afterwards.

How did it go? Anesthesia turned out to be nothing to worry about.

The pain afterwards, swelling, and recovery were my other biggest concerns. Not so much the pain, but also my reaction to pain medication. Previously, I have never taken any pain medications stronger than ibuprofen.

Turns out I was fine again. The pain was bad enough to make the prescription pain medication necessary, but only for one day.

So what did I do to quell my anxieties beforehand? Well like I said, I did everything I could to control any factors which were in my power: I



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens
copyright © 2022 by Eli Lutgens

made sure it was possible for me to take the days off on Thursday and Friday—although I still had to respond to half a dozen phone calls on Thursday.

I bought all of the food I needed in advance.

I asked a lot of questions.

Oh, and I prayed.

And thankfully, everything went smoothly.

So back to work.

Saturday, two days after surgery, I went to Waseca's home playoff game. Fans could not have asked for better weather: The game wasn't so bad either.

That zapped about all the energy I had Saturday and I basically collapsed in exhaustion when I got home.

I normally work weekends, but I did as little as possible on Sunday, opting for more recovery time. Then Monday was Halloween! I was in New Richland for trick or treating as Waseca had already done "Tricks on the Street" Thursday. I went to four different Halloween-themed com-

munity activities and had a positively fantastic time. (All for the newspaper)

Tuesday evening was the volleyball game. Unfortunately the Waseca season came to an end, and this, also unfortunately, is a regular thing in sports-endings. Talking with coaches and players after their final games of their final seasons is a truly one-of-a-kind experience. It's pure. It's raw. It's real.

If I weren't a journalist, I wouldn't get to be part of these vivid experiences with people, nor would I be able to share them with the world (our readers).

Each year, each team, each sport is different. So the closing conversations which I've had a couple dozen times now have all been unique. Each coach has a different way of comforting seniors who just played their final games. It's really hard on those coaches, too. They care. A lot.

It wasn't that long ago that I played my final baseball game at the high school level. I think, for me,

writing about these kids who play their final games still helps me cope with my last time on the field.

I'll never forget what my baseball coach told my team as we all sat around crying.

"If this is your saddest moment, think about how blessed your life must be."

Last year I covered NRHEG sports all year for the Star Eagle. There were several athletes whom I watched play their final game in all three major sports (offered at NRHEG). Writing these stories, sharing these games, is about more than just reporting what happens, it's recording some of the best, most emotional moments in these kids' lives. There's nothing quite like it.

I got a little sidetracked there. My intention was to share that, by talking with these athletes, I also get to develop a relationship and connection that feels more personal. I like that. It's what I love about life. Connecting with people. And the newspaper, athletics, my stories, are all ways of connecting with people.

"We cultivate love when we allow our most vulnerable and powerful selves to be deeply seen and known, and when we honor the spiritual connection that grows from that offering with trust, respect, kindness and affection." - Brené Brown, The Gifts of Imperfection

constitutional rights.

As your next Sheriff, communication and collaboration with other public safety officials and community partners will continue to be a focus. Together, we can ensure Waseca County remains a safe place to live, work, and raise a family. I am committed to all of Waseca County and have the integrity, passion, experience, and commitment to meet any challenges.

I thank you for your support and ask you for your vote on November 8th.

Jay Dulas



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Joanie Olson, her husband Lyncon, and their five daughters, Emily, Faith, Alison, Katelyn and Mallory. Joanie Olson is a candidate running for JWP School Board.

Olson is JWP school board candidate

Name: Joanie Olson
Age: 49
Family: My husband’s name is Lyncon and we have five daughters, Emily, Faith, Alison, Katelyn and Mallory
Occupation/Profession: Educator

Have you held a school board position in the past: This would be my first experience as a board member. I’m running for school board because I have a genuine interest in education and the role that it plays in developing our most valuable resources, our children.

What do you consider the most important part of this job: I think the most important part of the job is to advocate for students to ensure that they have a successful academic experience, while also representing the interests of community members and taxpayers.

What particular strengths or experience do you bring to the position that you believe will help you do a good job? I have 25 years of experience as an educator. I have served on many committees within the school districts in which I have taught. I am able to collaborate and work well with others. I’m willing to listen to others and am always eager to learn. I value strong quality public education and I’m focused on student achievement and implementing policies that will ensure all students succeed.

What do you feel are the school board’s most important concerns at this time? I think the most important mission for a school district is

ensuring that all students have an opportunity for a quality education that prepares them for their future. Post pandemic, school districts have been faced with many challenges. Students have fallen behind academically and there is a growing number of students with social and emotional issues which have led to behavioral issues. School districts are faced with the challenges of improving student achievement and behavior, teacher recruitment and retention and implementing programs and support for those with mental health needs all while maintaining a fiscally strong budget. I believe the JWP school district has a wonderful staff of educators, administrators, and support personnel who give their very best for the students of this district. They are working hard daily to create dynamic lessons and differentiate instruction, integrating technology, trying to close the achievement gap, tracking student progress, performing interventions, collaborating with each other, building relationships with students while preparing them to be career and college ready, helping students resolve conflicts and make good choices all while making sure they are safe, fed and cared for: Our children are so lucky! I believe the staff of JWP along with engaged, informed, and committed board members and supportive community members can face and overcome any of the challenges. Our future, our children, are counting on it!



Looking in the Mirror

by Jonah Stafford

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Getting ahead

Things are going well in my world and I’m busier than ever—by choice! After closing the chapter of co-designing Writing Center table signs, I took it upon myself to make an LCD screen ad as well. The conversation that led me to that decision went as follows: “Hey do you know if the Writing Center has a TV ad right now?” “No.” “Give me five minutes……” And voila, I had one done within that time frame. Granted, I ended up editing and improving it before submitting it for review on Monday (as of Tuesday it’s been put on screens around campus), but I’ve come to find that I have such a drive to get things done that I’m making my own work!

With that out of the way, my current “main project” is drafting t-shirt designs to potentially license out to a local business I have formed a connection to. Graphic design isn’t the sharpest tool in my arsenal, but I still feel qualified to be doing this. Hopefully, my work is accepted and shirts designed by me will be sold in this community. Fingers crossed!

Recently, I had a meeting with my faculty advisor to plan my classes for next semester. After that was out of the way, though, it kind of turned into a career-planning strategy meeting. A lot of what I discussed was how I’m at a stage where I’m ready to offload things that won’t get me further in life and replace them with things that will. I feel like this process began

when I dropped out of concert band after just over a month. Going forward, I definitely have other obligations I am considering dropping, though I do intend to do so respectfully and with grace. I still see value in many of these activities, including band: I just don’t see a need to do them myself. If I can’t land an internship in the traditional sense for the upcoming semester, I’m still considering dropping one of my jobs to have time to use for a variety of purposes. I wouldn’t say I want to be my own boss just yet, but if I had 10 or more hours of free time a week, I could spend that time getting ahead of the game. Some activities I could do include completing journalism and personal writing projects, continuing to pursue my newfound passion for merchandising, and spending more time networking. I’ve accrued a little bit of marketing and graphic design experience, so putting myself out there as someone who can help campus clubs and organizations with ads, posts, posters, and other publicity also interests me. More than likely, I’d be doing this for free, but it would be worthwhile for the experience and to help groups communicate their messages effectively. In a way, I’m already positioning myself to be one of the most well-connected students on campus. I just need to keep the momentum going; great things are in sight!

Great Fall Get Together



Dani Hoy and Amy Monson enjoyed the masquerade ball in glittery masks



Mark and Ski Ann Christiansen pose as a baseball player and manager from A League of Their Own



Jewelry - Rebecca Schimming won the \$800 necklace donated by Williams Diamonds



Jenny Fridley won a T-shirt, free drink, and pizza playing the punch cup game



Abby Malterer, Holly Grundlach, and Nicole Jenö served a Smorgasbord of treats as Minnesonsinite Cheeseboards



Missy Donner and Liz Obrien help with the games.



Chester Stuckmayer, Grace Ouyang, and Jared Wachter were each surprised to see fellow Vikings at the party

■ Together

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fruits, crudites, Minnesota raised honey, chocolate truffles and cookies. The array was dazzling, and the line was long, although no one seemed to mind, as it was just another opportunity to mingle and enjoy the party.

Providing entertainment for the evening was the New Ulm native Crista Bohlmann, whose eclectic collection of rock, folk, bluegrass, and country tunes attested to the diversity of her talent. Bohlmann says she's really a violin player, having studied it since she was three, but she also took up guitar in junior high, and, somewhere along the line, also ukulele. Bohlmann sang won-

derfully to her guitar playing, and it was fun to watch and listen to her switch it up, including some phenomenal fiddle-style playing. When she's not performing, Bohlmann teaches Suzuki violin.

In between mingling, snacks, and drinks, revelers could pay \$10 to see what they would win with a punch cup. Jenny Fridley, for example, won a T-shirt, and a free pizza and drink from Kwik Trip, which, according to Obrien, was very generous this year in their donations to the event. Mark and Ski Ann Christiansen, dressed up, respectively, as a manager and baseball player, carried around a bucket of corks, which could be purchased for \$20 each, and bought the purchaser a surprise bottle of wine, most of which were donated by members of the Waseca Art Center board. There was also a raffle for a \$300 Yeti cooler.

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OBITUARIES

Gary Bauman

Gary “Ernie” E. Bauman, age 74 of Waseca, passed away on Monday, October 31, 2022, at his home in Waseca.

Born in Waseca on September 6, 1948, to George E. C. and Lois C. (Yess) Bauman. He graduated from Waseca High School. Following his education, Gary worked various construction jobs. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church. He enjoyed the outdoors and gathering with his friends and family.

Gary is survived by his children, Trisha (Jay) Meinke of Nebraska, Katie (Mike) Ziemke Roeller of Lakeville, Christopher (Amanda) Bauman of Colorado; siblings, Orlin Bauman of Waseca, LaVoy Bauman of Waseca, Harlan Bauman of Waseca, Georgette Hanson of New Richland; and other family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, George and Lois Bauman; son, Jody Just; brothers, Eugene



Gary Bauman

Bauman, Marlyn Bauman; sisters, Arlene Carlson, Diane Bartelt; niece, Pam Vaughan; and nephew, Mike Root.

Graveside service was held at 10:00 AM on Friday, November 4, 2022 at Otisco Cemetery, with Pastor John Omans officiating. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service handled the arrangements.

Nesset benefit Nov. 6

By TRISTAN JENSEN
Editorial Assistant

A benefit for Logan Nesset and his family will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, November 6 in the gym of Janesville’s Trinity Lutheran School. Nesset, 26, recently sustained a spinal cord injury which has left him disabled. Lunch will be served for a free-will donation; a silent auction will be available with bidding closing at 1:30 p.m. Those attending will also be encouraged to help fill a miniature grain bin; pledges can be placed to be collected later by the benefit committee. Money raised will be used to cover the costs of specialized medical equipment.

On July 17, 2022, Nesset dove from a dock into about four feet of water, hitting his head on the bottom. He lost consciousness, and paramedics were called who took him to a local hospital, after which he was airlifted to Aspirus Hospital in Wausau, WI for more intensive care. Tests in Wisconsin showed total fracture of his C5 and C6 vertebra, located at the base of the neck, and a total loss of function and sensation below that point. He immediately went into surgery to stabilize his spinal cord and remained sedated and on a ventilator for nearly a week.

Spinal cord injuries are complicated, but Nesset’s recovery started strong – by the end of July he was able to eat soft foods, breathe through a tracheostomy, and had re-

gained some finger movement and even more arm movement. On August 3, the Doctor of Physical Therapy at the Wisconsin hospital reevaluated him and downgraded his injury classification from a “Complete” spinal cord injury to a “Grade B Incomplete” injury due to the progress he’d made, giving his family renewed hope for his recovery.

This didn’t mean all was well, however. The next day, Nesset struggled to stay alert. His vitals were unstable, and he was unable to eat or drink anything. “This is still a battle,” wrote Rachel Collins, Nesset’s sister, on the CaringBridge journal created to share updates on Nesset. “Logan is not by any means ‘doing good.’ Every day we face a new struggle.”

It was a battle Nesset continued to face with his family by his side. His fiancée, Jadyn, was with him throughout his hospitalization, staying nights at the hospital when she was allowed. On August 9, he was moved to the ICU Stepdown unit, and was able to see his sons Wyatt and Landyn for the first time since his accident. After leaving Intensive Care in Wisconsin with no major issues, Nesset was transferred to the Spinal Cord Rehab unit of Rochester’s Mayo Clinic on August 12. “We are so thankful that he is closer to home and is going to be getting good care,” said Collins at the time of the transfer. Rochester’s rehabilitation unit



Logan Nesset is engaged to Jadyn Nelson-Spies, a NRHEG graduate. A benefit to help raise funds will be Nov. 6 to help Nesset’s quality of life following an accident in July.

also offered more independence for Nesset; his room came equipped with an “Alexa” device from Amazon which allowed him to use his voice to control the TV and his phone, adjust the temperature or lights in the room, and call the nurses.

September 30, almost eleven weeks after his accident, Nesset was able to go home—although not the same one he left in July. Nesset left the hospital with good arm movement but no function in the legs, using a powered wheelchair for mobility. The family’s house in Janes-

ville could not be made accessible for him so his family relocated to one which could, in Waseca. “Logan still has surgeries, outpatient rehabilitation, and healing to go but we are so proud of the accomplishments he has made, his positive attitude, and his drive to get as much back as he can,” Jadyn wrote in the most recent update to CaringBridge. “He will always strive for more. It will take some time to get into a routine and get things settled but we are so ready for this next chapter in his recovery and to have our family back together again.”



Please vote

Dave Dunn

Waseca School Board



Story Idea?
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What an honor to have so many Waseca County Sheriff's Office Retirees and long time Law Enforcement show up to support me in my campaign for Sheriff. These are some of the greatest people, mentors, and friends I've had the privilege to know. I've learned a great deal from all of them and even the ones I've had the privilege to supervise.

Over 315 years of service and law enforcement experience with all of these folks! I'm truly appreciative and humbled by their support and proud to call them all friends.

TREVOR KANEWISCHER
10th SHERIFF
WASECA COUNTY

Pictured L to R:

- Lynnette Krogstad (30 years - WCSO retired lead dispatcher);
- Tim Dann (27 years- WCSO retired Sheriff 1999-2010);
- Lance Lehman (43 years- WCSO & Faribault Co retired Chief Deputy, Investigator and MN BCA);
- Colleen Howard (34 years- WCSO Retired Sheriff Admin Assistant);
- Trevor Kanewischer (26 years- WCSO Current Chief Deputy & Candidate for Sheriff);
- Andy Buckmeier (20 years- WCSO Patrol & Civil Process Deputy and past Jail Administrator);
- Jim Wabschall (42 years- WCSO Retired Patrol & Civil Process Deputy, and part-time dispatcher);
- Tim Kinniry (31 years- WCSO Jail Administrator recently retired)

Bottom L to R:

- Larry Sloan (24 years- WCSO retired Patrol Deputy);
- Ron Koble (21 years- Waseca Police Patrol Officer and School Resource Officer);
- Joe Linde (15 years- WCSO Patrol Officer and Investigator)

Prepared and paid for by the Kanewischer for Sheriff Committee, PO Box 614, Waseca
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Julie Rosen
Senator Julie Rosen

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Excess funds were used to cover a large portion of the cost of the WANSC Backpack Program. The Backpack Program provides food for students on weekends if they receive free or reduced lunches at school during the week. If donations exceed the total cost of this year's Holiday Food Baskets, the WANSC Backpack Program will also benefit.

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New street signs nearly all installed

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff Writer

The New Richland City Council held its second meeting of the month on Monday, Oct. 24, with Councilperson Jason Casey absent. The agenda and consent agenda, which included two fix-up grant applications, were approved before a recently completed classification and compensation study report was presented.

There was much discussion regarding the report, which was conducted to ensure city jobs are classified appropriately and meet FLSA guidelines, ensure pay is competitive and equitably structured, and develop a compensation study that is easy to understand and administer.

“We need to be in a place where we can either retain the people we have or find new people,” said City Administrator Tony Martens about why the study was conducted.

The study showed that ranges for New Richland city employees between the top and bottom salaries are short, and the positions that are currently ranked lower than the average minimum include two police officers, police chief, and maintenance worker. Details were discussed at length, and the council agreed to review the plan and discuss it at following meetings before the 2023 budget is approved in December.

Bob Johannsen, new administrator for the care center, presented the care center report, stating that at the time of the meeting the center had a census of 38 of 45 beds available. Johannsen discussed ways to improve the census, an application that was submitted for a quality improvement initiative program that would potentially bring in a total of \$50,000 for the center throughout a year, and the annual survey that was recently done. It was noted

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

that the center recently went mask-free, and plans for the upcoming holiday season were briefly discussed.

Included in the report were reasons for declined referrals to the center, along with possible future measures to allow more residents to be accepted at the center including obtaining new equipment, tools, and staff training. The report was approved.

Shell Johnson presented the PeopleService report, stating that she recently passed her Wastewater C tests and that she is working on posters for flushable and non-flushable items for the sanitary sewer system due to recent issues regarding the matter. The report was approved.

Eric Hendrickson presented the water and streets report, stating that the new street signs are nearly done being placed. There were 20 blue cards issued in September resulting in three water shutoffs due to nonpayment of blue cards. Early this month, a filter leak in the water plant was repaired by Waldorf Welding who were thanked for their fast and quality service on the issue. A salt/sand mix at a cost of \$1,365 was approved along with the report.

The council approved one of the five submitted city logos from a contest held this summer, and financials were discussed, including remaining concerns regarding ambulance revenue. It was agreed to table the discussion until the next meeting. Also tabled was a discussion on ambulance director pay amid confusion regarding whether pay is based on a flat rate or hourly.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

■ Council

from Page 1

in 2007. Although the technician would be contacted immediately, he might not be able to respond right away: At \$50,000 a day, a 30-day breakdown could lead to fines much higher than \$1 million.

Sonnenberg asked council members for permission to “fast track” replacement of the blowers, which have not only had a record of breakdowns for the Waseca plant, but have already been replaced at two “nearby” cities and at another in Colorado. “Which is hurtful,” stated Sonnenberg. “The usable life of equipment like this should be 30 years,” rather than the 12 the city has gotten.

But even under the accelerated timeline Sonnenberg described, it would likely be 2024 before new blowers could be installed—at a price tag of about \$1.4 million. In the meantime there would be an on-going threat of breakdowns and resulting fines.

“What risk does the city want to take that we’re going to lose all 4 blowers and violate the permit?” Sonnenberg asked. He offered three levels of potential action toward mitigating the risk: 1. Do nothing. 2. Rent a portable (backup) blower at a price of about \$11,000 a month and keep it at the plant to be used intermittently in support of the existing blowers. 3. Rent another type of blower at a cost of \$3,000 a month—if that type proves compatible with the system. Sonnenberg also mentioned that he had raised the possibility of a “rent-to-own” arrangement with a company representative who had been in the treatment plant that day, and that the representative was “looking into” the idea.

After hearing Sonnenberg’s report, council member Jeremy Conrath affirmed “We need to expedite getting new blowers, but we also need to have a backup plan.” He expressed support for the idea of leasing an auxiliary unit to own.

John Mansfield seemed to disagree, commenting that Sonnenberg was “scaring” council members by presenting a worst-case scenario that included a month’s worth of fines, when repairs in previous breakdowns had required only a few days. A certain level of risk

was worth taking, Mansfield said, because “We’re already way overtaxed, and it seems as if we are leaning harder and harder on local citizens.”

Sonnenberg contradicted the idea that he was being alarmist, saying “I am working to present you with enough options so that you can make an informed decision. You may weigh each option as you wish.” He observed that the technician responds on a first-come, first-served basis, and that if a natural disaster should lead to a large-scale emergency, a 30-day delay was not impossible.

Council member John Clemons suggested that, in the case of such a dilemma, a “bonus carrot” might convince the service company to prioritize Waseca’s repairs, intimating that the risk of possibly paying out such a bonus was a better financial gamble than paying tens of thousands of dollars to keep a backup blower on site.

After lengthy discussion, the council authorized Sonnenberg to begin a feasibility study regarding the replacement of the four blowers, and the possibility of renting a backup unit “to own.”

Also addressed during the meeting is a change in the way the City is billed for electricity. The current arrangement has the city paying a flat fee of 3.7 cents per kilowatt hour. Under the agreement which will take effect soon, the provider will adjust the rate up or down by as much as 2 cents per kw/hour based on production costs and use. “Both increases and decreases happen,” stated city manager Lee Mattson, “but increases happen more often.”

Mattson offered two possible systems: either passing the rises and falls directly to city residents, leading to cost fluctuations of up to \$20 on monthly statements, or raising the price slightly in advance to “develop a fund for stabilization” and thus “isolate the consumer from rapid change.” No direct action was taken.

Mattson also reported that, of the three “shift commanders” at the Waseca fire department, two will be leaving their positions in the near future. Christiansen commented that if any changes are to be made in fire department staffing, this would be an opportune time to investigate them,

balancing the savings which might come from manning only two shifts in the fire department against the possible increase area residents might pay for their home insurance.

After an informal survey of council members, Srp stated that 4 of the 6 who were present were in favor of keeping three shift managers, to which Christiansen replied “High taxes. We all hear it every day. I’ll get phone calls tomorrow.”

Also raised during the meeting were the possibility of installing a frisbee-disc golf course at Gaiter Lake park, and of adding a mountain bike trail to Trowbridge Park.

A fairly lengthy discussion also took place regarding the fences at Tink Larson Field, and changes which could be implemented to make the line of sight clearer at the intersection of Fourth Street and Seventh Avenue NE. In the end, council members seemed to be in favor of adding flashing lights to the stop signs at the corner with the intent of calling drivers’ attention to the fact that traffic coming uphill on seventh avenue is no longer required to stop.

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Less familiar community education programs

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

Community Education Director Paul DeMorret presented an informational report to school board members at their October 27 meeting. DeMorret’s slide show illustrated the number of programs currently taking place in Waseca under the umbrella of community education—some of which may be less familiar to the public, including the Family Education Center, Adult Basic Education (ABE), Opening Opportunities, and the enrichment/recreation programs for persons with disabilities. The Family Education Center, located in the west wing on the first floor of the Central building, houses seven preschool sections and four parent/child classes. The remaining first-floor rooms are used for the School Age Care (SAC) program. DeMorret explained that enrichment and recreation classes such as cooking and dance are found on the second floor (along with the school district administration’s offices).

Other entities not associated with Community Education such

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

as Head Start, the high school Alternative Learning Center (ALC), and the Southwest Metro level four program (a special education program) are also housed in the Central building. When asked by school board member Dave Dunn how much of the building is currently being used, DeMorret replied “During a school day, there are probably four empty rooms. That’s during the day. But those four rooms are used after school.” Board member Charlie Priebe commented “That’s one of the questions we get with the whole Hartley issue. ‘Why can’t you use Central? What’s wrong with Central?’ Well, it IS being utilized.” DeMorret agreed: “There’s a lot more in here than I think most people know.”

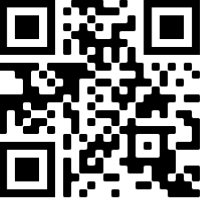
Additional items covered at the meeting included approval of the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school calendars, and of staff sharing contracts with Team Academy and NRHEG.

Trevor Kanewischer would like your vote for Waseca County Sheriff on November 8th!



TREVOR KANEWISCHER

FOR SHERIFF WASECA COUNTY



Prepared and Paid for by
The Kanewischer for Sheriff Committee PO Box 614 • Waseca. Larry Johnson Treasurer

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It's on to the section finals

Bluejays overcome TCU, 33-7

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Most of the season, the offense provided the majority of the highlights for the Waseca High School football team, punctuated by a record 81-36 triumph at New Ulm a few weeks ago.

Since then, however, the defense sure has stepped up.

The Bluejays almost posted their third straight shutout after the New Ulm game, defeating fourth-seeded Tri-City United 33-7 in the Section 3AA semifinals at Waseca Saturday, Oct. 29.

The victory produced a rematch with No. 2 seed Fairmont for the top-seeded Jays, who improved to 8-1 with the TCU win. Waseca, advancing to the section finals for the fifth year in a row, face Fairmont at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4 at New Ulm High School. The last time the teams met, the Bluejays won 37-21 at Waseca.

But coach Brad Wendland and the Bluejays know they won't face the same Fairmont team they met earlier, as was the case with TCU, which the Bluejays trounced in their first meeting. A concern Friday will be with New Ulm's artificial turf, on which the Bluejays tend to play better on offense than defense. And Fairmont is a pass-oriented crew.

"It's high school football," said Wendland. "Anything can happen."

Wendland declined comment on his team's defensive improvement, other than to say it was X's and O's and that his squad is healthy.

It's an old cliché, but Saturday's TCU game was genuinely closer than the score would indicate.

The Jays asserted themselves early, forcing a three-and-out and scoring on 70-yard touchdown run by Kyle Ahlschlager on their first play. Max Neaves kicked the PAT and it looked like the Bluejays were off running.

But, Waseca fumbled on its own 5-yard line and needed a goal-line stand to keep the Titans off the scoreboard. The first quarter ended 7-0 Waseca.

The Jays didn't need much time on their opening drive of the second period, covering 39 yards in five

plays, the final two by quarterback Oliver O'Brien. Again, it looked like the Bluejays could turn it into a blowout.

But TCU then went on the longest drive of the night, consuming more than 8 minutes off the clock by going 65 yards in 15 plays, scoring just before halftime to cut the Jays' lead to 14-7.

The Bluejays couldn't capitalize on a fumble recovery deep in TCU territory as O'Brien's fourth-down pass bounced off a receiver's fingertips.

The teams traded punts before the days scored on a 22-yard touchdown pass from O'Brien to Carson Ohnstad. A missed PAT kick left it 20-7.

The defense came up big in the fourth quarter, when Neaves recovered a fumble in the end zone for a touchdown. A two-point conversion try failed and it was 26-7 with 5:22 remaining.

An interception gave the Jays the ball on the TCU 9-yard line, and two plays later Christian Rodriguez scored on a 4-yard run. Laird Keeton kicked the PAT to make it 33-7, and that's the way it ended.

The Bluejay defense held TCU to five first downs, 21 yards passing and 46 yards rushing on 37 carries.

Ahlschlager led Waseca in rushing with 87 yards on eight tries. O'Brien rushed for 39 yards, Rodriguez 34. O'Brien completed nine of 14 passes for 91 yards. The Jays totaled 248 yards to TCU's 67.

"The opening-play touchdown was great for momentum, setting the tone early," said Coach Wendland.

So what did Wendland tell his players?

"Feel proud about yourself today, but know you have to play better next week," said Wendland. "Ask yourself how I can help get us to a state tournament. We got a shot, baby. You'll never forget it, so never waste an opportunity to prepare for it."

TCU	0	7	0	0	7
WAS	7	7	6	13	33

First Quarter
WAS - Ahlschlager 70 run (Neaves Kick)

Second Quarter



IS THE FIFTH TIME A CHARM? — Above left, Waseca's Max Neaves celebrates after recovering a fumble in the end zone during the Bluejays' 33-7 victory over Tri-City United Saturday afternoon. Above right: Carson Ohnstad (18) hauls in a pass. Below left, Nate Engel-Mueller (33), Brendan Brown (71) and Keaton Roeker (12) converge on a TCU ball carrier. Below middle: Ethan Stenzel (70) and Mason Droog (64) team on a tackle. Middle right: Christian Rodriguez (38) dives for the end zone. Bottom right: Droog, Carter Ellis (40) and Noah Thompson (44) smother a ball carrier, causing a fumble. The Bluejays advanced to the section finals for the fifth year in a row and face Fairmont Friday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at New Ulm High School.

Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens



WAS - O'Brien 2 run (Neaves kick)			
TCU - Schendel 2 run (Balcazar kick)			
Third Quarter			
WAS - Ohnstad 22 pass from O'Brien (kick failed)			
Fourth Quarter			
WAS - Neaves fumble recovery in end zone (run failed)			
WAS - Rodriguez 4 run (Keeton kick)			
	TCU	WAS	
First downs	5	8	
Rushing	37-46	30-157	
Passing	4-7-21	9-14-91	
Total yards	67	248	
Penalties	3-16	2-10	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS			
Rushing - WAS: Ahlschlager 7-87; O'Brien 12-39; Rodriguez 9-34; Neaves 3-2; TCU: Franek 15-38; O'Malley 3-6; Schendel 8-1;			
Flintrop 5-1			
Passing - WAS: O'Brien 9-14-91; TCU: Schendel 4-6, 14; Johnson 1-1, 7			
Receiving - Da.Russell 2-42; Ohnstad 2-30; Ahlschlager 2-30; Rodriguez 1-10; No. 81 2-9; TCU: Hollum 1-7; Schendel 1-7; O'Malley 1-6; Holicky 1-1			
Defense - WAS: Da.Russell 2 solo tackles, 1 assist; Neaves 5 tackles, 4 assists, 2 fumble recoveries, 2 sacks; Ahlschlager 4 tackles, 2 assists, 1 sack; O'Brien 1 tackle, 1 assist; Balcazar 1 assist; Ohnstad 1 tackle, 1 assist; De.Russell 2 tackles, 1 assist; Wirtz 1 tackle; N.Engel-Mueller 1 assist; Johnston 4 tackles, 6 assists, 1 interception; Thompson 3 tackles, 3 assists, 1 interception; Hager 1 tackle, 1 assist; Ellis 1 tackle; Robran 2 assists; Droog 3 tackle, 1 assist; Stenzel 5 tackles, 2 assists; Brown 2 tackles, 4 assists; S.Engel-Mueller 2 tackles; Karsten 1 tackle; No. 87 2 tackles			



Sub-section loss ends season for JWP volleyball

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

After a tough regular season, the JWP High School volleyball team matched its best finish in the past five years when they made it to the quarterfinal round of South Subsection 2A. However, No. 2 seed Cedar Mountain ended the Bulldogs' season with a 3-0 victory.

Bulldogs 3, Loyola 0

The Bulldogs received the No. 7 seed and hosted Mankato Loyola in the first round of sub-sections Monday, Oct. 24. The Crusaders came into the matchup without a single win in the season. After facing many tough opponents throughout the year, facing Loyola was a break that the Bulldogs needed.

Coach Jessica Keenan wanted the players to work on playing their style of game.

"Them not being chameleons to the skill set of our competitors has been a huge obstacle for the girls to overcome," she said.

JWP stormed out of the gate, stunning the Crusaders as they took a 25-9 lead. It was a goal that Keenan set for the team.

"They came out strong and played to their level in set one and didn't play down to the competition, which was a huge goal we had set," she said.

"Set two was very close," Keenan said. "At one point, the score was 5-17 and we were down. We switched sides for the first time in three years, and the girls went into the set a little too comfortable, whereas Loyola came out hungry to redeem themselves."

JWP held on to win 26-24 after a mental reset.

The last set saw a little competition in the beginning, but the Bulldogs put the Crusaders away 25-14.

Individually: Brielle Bure, 5 aces, a kill, and 11 digs; Claire Walz, 3 kills and a block; Nevaeh Weimert, 7 assists, 3 digs; Jessa Westphal with 17 kills, 5 digs, an ace, and a block; Lilly Strauss with 8 digs, 5 aces, 3 kills, and a block; Aubrey Weedman, 16 assists, 3 digs, 2 aces, a kill, and a block; Raquel Fischer with 2 kills and 2 digs; Isabelle Rider with an ace; Paige Walz, 3 kills and a dig; Lexie Dahlberg with 8 digs and 3 aces; and Ali Olson with a dig.

"We had a very tough schedule with our conference, played many AA teams, and competed with some teams within the top 10 of Class A," Keenan explained. "So, the girls were excited to show Section 2A what they were made of and prove our record does not reflect our skill set."

Cedar Mountain 3, Bulldogs 0

Keenan stated that she wanted the girls to limit their errors in the matchup against Cedar Mountain. "We need to be disciplined at all times the ball is in play, whether we are up by 10 or down by 12," she said.

The girls put up a strong fight against Cedar Mountain Thursday, Oct. 27. Keenan said the Bulldogs forced many long volleys, hinting at the stat sheet's abundance of digs. The team also limited their errors in the matchup, hence the long volleys.

But at the end of the day, Cedar Mountain showed JWP why they

were the No. 2 seed in the sub-section. After a tough 25-19 battle, the Cougars chiseled away at the Bulldogs' defense with an easier 25-15 victory until ending the game 25-14.

"We did just about everything right," Keenan explained. "We just had a hard time putting a ball away against Cedar Mountain."

Individually: Bure with 23 digs and an ace; C. Walz with 2 kills and 2 digs; Weimert with 3 assists and 7 digs; Westphal with an 4 kills, 4 digs, a block, and an ace; Strauss with 3 kills and 7 digs; Weedman with 12 assists, 7 digs, 2 kills, and a block; Fischer with 5 digs and 5 kills; Rider with an ace; P. Walz with 3 kills, 2 digs; Dahlberg with 9 digs; and A. Olson with 4 digs.

The loss put set JWP's final record to 8-18.

"It's been really fun to watch Jessa learn and grow, and for me to learn and grow alongside her!" said Keenan. "After transferring from NRHEG, Raquel only had one season with the Bulldog varsity. I could tell she was trying her best to give it all she had on the court. Raquel was an amazing addition to the squad."

"My advice for our three seniors would be to continue to build on the relationships and skills they have learned through the volleyball program, and to continue to find a way to have volleyball be a part of their lives, even if they do not continue on to a formal program," said Keenan. "And to always remember they can come back to the JWP gym and have a place and be at home!"

Westphal advances to state

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

Although the WEM-JWP girls' cross country team lost the Gopher Conference Title after four straight years of dominance, one individual received good news following the Section 2A championship at Norwood-Young America Thursday, October 27.

"I am very happy to relay to you that MaKenzie Westphal placed fourth overall at the meet, earning her a chance to compete at the state meet on Saturday, Nov. 5 at St. Olaf," coach Jonathan McDonough said.

Westphal's time at the Section meet was 20:06.

The girls' team faced 14 squads and 93 runners. The Grizzlies placed eighth with 173 points. Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop won the girls' title with 98 points.

Oher finishers: Madalyn Miller (33rd, 23:09.7), Ashlin Keyes (37th, 23:20.2), Kwynn Krause (42nd, 23:29.6), Faith Olson (57th, 24:34.4), and Maddie Heuss (78th, 26:51.1).

The boys' faced 16 teams and 111 runners. It was a tough day for the team as it finished 13th.

Finishers for the boys: Wyatt Jans (43rd, 19:05), Luke Cahill (52nd, 19:36), Derek Gustafson (68th, 19:57.9), Alexander Kleve (72nd, 20:15.1), Carter Hoehn (73rd, 20:17.1), Gavin Marinenko (87th, 21:06), and David Lamp (103rd, 22:19.7).

Senior runners graduating after this season are Lamp, Keyes and Olson.

BLUEJAY FOOTBALL

Player of the Week



Carter Ellis

Ellis led the defense with 10 tackles and added an interception during the 33-7 win over TCU on Oct 29. Great game Bluejays!!

Player of the week sponsored by:



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RARE AIR — The Waseca High School girls’ cross country team won the Section 2AA championship at Bancroft Bay Park in Albert Lea Thursday, Oct. 27, advancing to state as a team for the first time since 2014. From left: Kelsey Draeger, Callie Dufault, Stella Omtvedt, Ella Dufault, Kya Hoof, Melanie Krueger, Taylor Markeson, Maren Schimming, Violet Rowher, and Head Coach Grant Popp. The Bluejays run Saturday, Nov. 5 at St. Olaf College in Northfield.

Photo by Laura Mae Murtaugh

Girls’ CC team reaches state

Bluejays take Section 1AA title by 18 points; Isaac Fjelkamp also advances

By ELI LUTGENS and JIM LUTGENS
Pioneer Staff

Last year, the Waseca High School girls’ cross country team came within a couple breaths of a state meet berth but fell short, settling for two individuals advancing to state.

This year, the entire Waseca girls’ cross country team qualified for state, winning the Section 1AA championship at Bancroft Bay Park in Albert Lea Thursday, Oct. 27.

The team will be joined by Isaac Fjelkamp, who finished sixth overall and advanced to state as an individual.

The state meet is Saturday, Nov. 5 at St. Olaf College in Northfield.

The girls took the section title with 81 points, beating second-place Faribault by 18. Senior Ella Dufault led the team, taking third with a time of 19:37.28. Sophomore Callie Dufault finished seventh with a time of

20:23.52, and 8th-grader Stella Omtvedt was 10th in 20:40.07.

Other contributors to the team’s success were Maren Schimming (14th, 20:53.85), Taylor Markeson (22:48.49), Kelsey Draeger (48th, 22:49.19), and Kya Hoof (51st, 23:03.79).

The last time Waseca sent an entire cross country team to the state meet was in 2014, when head coach Grant Poppe was an assistant.

“It wasn’t until about the halfway point of this season that we started talking about the possibility of winning the section title,” Poppe said. “This group is driven. I honestly didn’t expect this. Last year we came within two points of moving on to state... The girls did what they were capable of doing. They ran a great team race.

“You never want your season to end with something going wrong, where you’re left saying how close

“It’s not every day something like this happens.”
— Ella Dufault

we came,” Poppe continued. “Actually crossing that finish line and doing what we wanted to do was really great.”

This year’s squad was full of the unexpected, and Poppe gave praise to the entire group.

“Kya is running a lot faster,” Poppe praised. “Taylor came back from ACL surgery and was cleared just before the year. Maren was kind of a surprise as a seventh grader. The whole squad had been really focused in practice. We really only had one bad race as a team all year.”

As for Thursday’s competition, Poppe said it was around the mile mark in the race and they felt they were in a really good spot.

“I knew we were top at that point, but we just had to be certain,” he said. “I didn’t want a repeat of last year where we thought we might be in and then end up staying home.”

Ella Dufault, Callie Dufault, Omtvedt, Schimming, Hoof, Markeson and Draeger will run for the Jays in the state meet. Ella Dufault and Hoof are the lone seniors.

“It was supposed to be close,” said Ella Dufault. “When we finished and saw our other teammates finishing is when it all became real.”

And what does it mean to advance to state?

“It’s a really cool opportunity,” said Dufault. It’s not every day something like this happens.”

“We have a really strong family-type bond,” said Hoof. “We’re really close and we encourage each other to be better.”

Although the Waseca boys placed seventh (with hosts Albert Lea winning it), they still had some success. Sophomore Isaac Feldkamp’s sixth-place finish (17:18.4) earned him a trip to state.

“It’s a good feeling,” said Fjeldkamp, who’s logged more than 600 miles the last six months. “I’m hoping for a personal record and praying for good weather.

Other Waseca finishers were Joe Feldkamp (11th, 17:37.92), Addison Sampson (41st, 19:10.95), Tristan Godwin (44th, 19:21.69), Tyler Jellum (49th, 19:39.66), Cade Kalbow (59th, 20:12.71), and Colby Hoof (64th, 20:26.12).

The boys will graduate seniors Joe Fjeldkap, Sampson, Kalkbow and Jellum.

Bluejays named all-conference in several sports

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

Waseca High School received the first batch of Big South Conference honors for girls’ tennis, boys’ and girls’ soccer, and boys’ and girls’ cross country Monday, Oct. 31. The Pioneer is delighted to share that many of Waseca’s athletes from all these sports earned all-conference honors and honorable mention.

Girls’ Tennis

According to Waseca girls’ tennis head coach Kyle Collins, the tennis all-conference teams are determined by how players from all its member schools performed in conference. Waseca placed second in the West Division with an overall record of 4-1. St. Peter, who defeated the Bluejays during the season, took the top spot in the division and were undefeated.

Seniors Sarah Robbins and Cece Huttemier made the West Division’s all-conference team.

Maren Schimming received honorable mention.

The boys’ team placed fourth, losing to conference foes Marshall, Worthington, and Fairmont. They defeated last-place St. Peter by 25 points. Brothers Isaac and Joe Feldkamp were at the top of the all-conference honorable mention list.

Soccer

Waseca’s girls’ soccer team placed second in the Big South Conference with a 10-2 record, only being bested by St. Peter, who defeated the Bluejays twice and finished the regular season undefeated.

Despite losing the conference title to the Saints, the Lady Jays had two members of its team receive all-conference honors with three additional players making the honorable mention list. Sophomore forward Gabriela Lopez was at the top of the all-conference list with senior midfielder Samantha Azure also receiving the honors. Senior forward Thyme Lang, junior midfielder Addison Wieseler, and junior defender Evelyn Nydegger were honorable mention.

The boys’ season was tough. They finished in sixth place with a 4-8 record, tying with Fairmont’s record and beating Mankato Loyola in the conference. While none of the boys made the all-conference team, junior midfielder Lucas Vasquez and senior midfielder Israel Nelson received honorable mention.

As the season wraps up, football and volleyball all-conference awards will be available soon.



EMOTIONAL NIGHT — The Bluejays’ Riley Ruedy, left, and Haylee Sommers walk off the court after the WHS volleyball team’s season-ending loss to NRHEG in the sub-section tournament.

Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

WHS volleyball season ends

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

A “rollercoaster” season came to an end for the Waseca High School volleyball team Tuesday night in Mankato as the Bluejays lost 3-0 to NRHEG in the second round of the sub-section tournament.

The Bluejays led in all three games, by as many as six in game two, and were tied at 23-23 in the final set. Game scores were 25-21, 25-20, and 25-23.

“We had a lot of hitting errors tonight, a lot of self-inflicted errors,” sixth-year head coach Jolene Hauger said after the game. “We played too safe. This season was full of a lot of ups and downs. We faced a lot of challenges finding the right rotation, balancing skill aspect and the mental aspect of the game. You need both in volleyball. One is not more important.”

This year’s Bluejays graduate seven seniors, and three, three-year starters: Haylee Sommers, Avery Madsen, Kloe Wadd, Riley Ruedy, Erika Bowers, Megan Kane-

wischer, and Shanece Brown.

“I encouraged the girls to hold their heads high and think about the battle they fought tonight,” Hauger continued. “I reminded them of all the time, commitment, and energy they gave to this program. These past seasons spent with this group have been phenomenal. This group was a great example for our youngsters coming through our program to look up to.”

Individually for the Bluejays: Ruedy 2 kills, 1 dig; Sommers 13 digs; Kanewischer 5 kills, 1 dig; Bowers 7 digs, 1 service ace; Madsen 7 kills, 1 assist, 2 digs, 1 block, 1 ace; Siri Kuhns 34 assists, 11 digs, 1 block, 2 ace; Aliyah Taylor 17 kills, 11 digs, 1 block, 1 ace; Takara Slattery 6 digs; Wadd 1 kill, 2 blocks; Ellie Hoehn 2 kills.

The Bluejays end their season 11-11. They are coached by Hauger, assisted by Nicole Sommers, Jalea Spies, and student managed by Kalea Sartori.

Bulldogs’ season ends at Winthrop

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

“They were the number three seed for a reason.”

That’s what coach Jeff Wagner had to say after the conclusion of JWP’s 42-12 loss in the Section 2A playoffs against Gibbon-Faifax-Winthrop Tuesday, Oct. 25.

GFW was an opponent that JWP was familiar with, playing against them last season at Winthrop in the first round of Sections and losing 42-12. The Thunderbirds’ offense was run heavy then, and things didn’t change last week.

The GFW rushing attack produced 389 net yards of offense. The Thunderbirds only attempted the pass three times, with additional attempts for two point conversions.

“It was how they were winning games all season,” Wagner explained. “They have a powerful run game that involves reverses, fakes, and motions that confuse defenses. We just couldn’t handle them.”

The home team played aggressively, scoring 28 points in the first half. They also hit the Bulldog players with force. Senior running back Ryder Thissen had to sit part of the second quarter due to an injury, senior quarterback Karson Lindsay stepped off the field for one play after getting the wind knocked out of him, and sophomore wide receiver Landon Johnson was shaken up after taking a shot following a punt return.

The Bulldogs talked back. Junior defensive lineman Cole Schluteer told a player off after the play, and when playing defense, Lindsay nearly got into a fight with a Thunderbird player after getting shoved around and tugged by a wide receiver.

Nothing the Bulldogs attempted on offense got them back into the game. The team’s 12 points were in the fourth quarter when Lindsay scored two passing touchdowns. Senior tight end Kelton Erler caught the first touchdown and junior wide receiver Ryan Kronbach retrieved the second.

As Kronbach caught the touchdown, Lindsay was one of the first to celebrate with him. “What do you say, dude? One last time,” he told him.

Lindsay ended his career on a high note, having one of his better games of the season. He went 13-for-24 for 142 yards.

“We had a great group of seniors this year,” Wagner told his players. “Thank you for everything.”

Assistant coach Kerry Lindsay, father of quarterback Karson Lindsay, echoed the sentiments. Assistant coach Rich Davis commended the team for all their hard work this season despite the outcome. “You never gave up, even in this game tonight,” he said. “You could have stopped trying after halftime, but you didn’t. You should be proud of yourselves for that.”

After that, the seniors shared a few words with their team for the last time. Some speeches were emotional, while others were lighthearted.

“I will miss playing football every single day, but I won’t miss your ugly faces,” lineman Sam Carlson joked.

Thissen thanked the team for all the fun years of playing football. He, along with the coaches, also thanked the O-Line for blocking for him, which helped him reach 1,000 yards of rushing in his career.

“We’re a year older,” said Coach Wagner “We’re still relatively young as a team, but many of these guys have had a year of learning the game under their belts. It showed on the field all season. I’m just concerned that they’re as good of people now in five years. If they are, they will be very successful.

No. 1 seed

NRHEG spikers open sub-section with a sweep

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Yes, the NRHEG High School volleyball team has been seeded No. 1 in its sub-section before.

It's just that nobody can remember when.

The Panthers, seeded first in the south half of Section 2AA for the first time in who knows when, opened postseason play with a 3-0 shutout of Minnesota Valley Lutheran Thursday, Oct. 27 in New Richland.

The win improved NRHEG to 20-9 and set up a sub-section semifinal match against fourth-seeded Waseca Tuesday, Nov. 1 at Mankato East High School. The winner plays for the sub-section championship Thursday, Nov. 3 at 7:45 p.m.at New Prague High School. The Section 2AA finals, with a state tournament berth on the line, is Saturday, Nov. 5 at 7:45 p.m. at St. Peter High School. Southwest Minnesota Christian is the top seed in the north portion of the sub-section.

The Panthers had no trouble dispatching eighth-seeded MVL, winning 25-20, 25-19, 25-7.

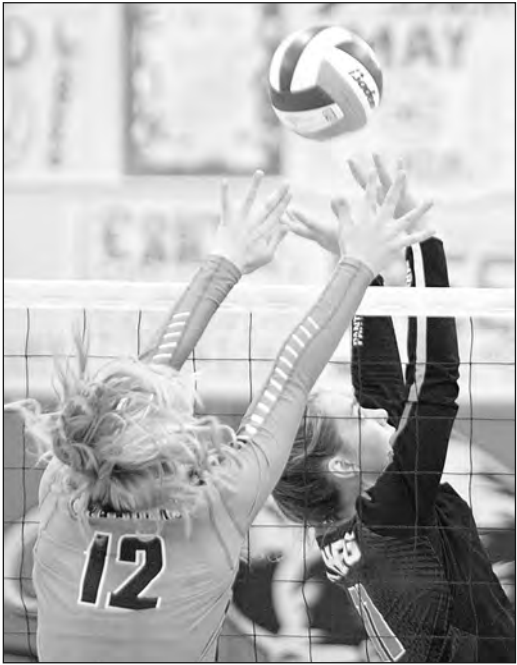
"Our girls were really excited going into this game," said Panthers coach Ashley Tolzman. "This really showed in the start of the first set. Overall, we played well and went on some nice runs with serving. We also got stuck in a few runs by MVL that kept the scores of the first two sets close. By the third game we were really playing well together and pushed hard to end the match."



HOW IT'S DONE — NRHEG High School volleyball coach Ashley Tolzman, front, leads her squad in pregame warmups prior to the Panthers' 3-0 shutout of Minnesota Valley Lutheran in the opening round of tournament play. Among those pictured above are Andy Briggs (3), Sidney Schultz(21) and Madison Murray (14). Below from left: the Panthers' Tayler Schmidt blocks; Hallie Schultz tops; Bree Ihrke spikes.

"Our girls were really excited going into this game."
— Coach Tolzman

Individually for the Panthers: Hallie Schultz 28 set assists, 2 blocks, 17 digs; Tayler Schmidt 6 kills, 1 block, 5 digs; Erin Jacobson 7 kills, 7 digs; Bree Ihrke 12 kills, 5 blocks, 1 dig; Faith Nielsen 1 kill, 1 dig; Sarah George 6 kills, 3 blocks, 4 digs; Bailey Ihrke 4 kills, 2 blocks, 3 digs; Sidney Schultz 3 assists, 17 digs.



ALL OVER NOW — The NRHEG High School football team saw its season end with a 55-8 loss to Maple River in the section quarterfinals Tuesday, Oct. 25 at Mapleton. Left: the Panthers' Sawyer Prigge (8) leaps for a reception; Nash Howe (10) and another Panther combine on a tackle; Lukas Loverink (21) gains yards after a catch.



Plenty of positives for Panther shooters

Finishing seventh is not always a good thing in sports, particularly when there are only eight teams in the conference. But, for the NRHEG clay target team, there were many positives to take from the fall season.

First was from top shooter, Adam Eustice. He recorded his second 50-straight of the season in the final week, which allowed him to finish with the third-highest average in the conference and landed him in the league Top 100 Averages in 31st place. It is an accomplishment that will get him a medal from the league.

Next was the fact that six of the team's athletes will receive recognition for having Top 25 averages in the conference. Eustice was third, joined by Sean Beauvais in ninth and Alden Dobberstein in 14th.

On the ladies side, Eva Wayne finished fourth, Keira Lenort seventh, and Neela Wencil 20th. Each athlete will be recognized for these accomplishments at the team's awards ceremony.

Last is the fact that over 25 percent of the team will letter for the fall season. However, despite the individual accolades the coaches also recognized the overall improvement many of the team's athletes showed over the season. Of the team's 46 shooters, 12 were first-time members of the team.

"Most of them had never shot trap before," said coach Dan Sorum. "The marked improvement of this group was notable and bodes well for the future."

The team will hold an awards night to close out the season and then be off until next spring where they will once again take to the range to knock down some clays.

Panthers humbled by Maple River, 55-8

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

It may have been a fun night for the Maple River Eagles, but it was a long night for the NRHEG Panthers.

The Panthers, besieged by injuries all year, saw their season end with a 55-8 loss at Maple River in the first round of the section football playoffs Tuesday, Oct. 25. NRHEG finished 1-8.

"It was a tough end of the season," said NRHEG coach Marc Kruger, whose team drew the No. 7 seed after trouncing WEM in the regular-season finale. "The boys battled all year. Injuries were extremely tough on us."

The punting game, at times, has also been problematic for the Panthers, and it was early on against Maple River. The Panthers punted after three plays, the Eagles blocked it and ran it in for a touchdown.

The Panthers again went three-

and-out and the Eagles scored three plays later.

Maple River scored another touchdown in the first quarter and added three more in the second, taking a 42-0 lead at halftime.

The Panthers found the end zone for the only time in the third quarter as Sam Olson caught a 33-yard touchdown pass from Alden Dobberstein. Jaylin Raab ran for the two-point conversion.

After being held scoreless in the third period, Maple River tacked on two more touchdowns in the fourth.

Maple River dominated the stats, running for 210 yards while the Panthers netted -14.

Dobberstein was 10-for-20 passing for 118 yards and one interception. The leading NRHEG ball carrier was Raab with 16 yards on two attempts.

The most impressive statistic for the Panthers came in the return game as Raab ran back six kickoffs for 113

"The boys battled all year. Injuries were extremely tough on us."
— NRHEG coach Marc Kruger

Maple River 55, NRHEG 8	
NRHEG	0 0 8 0 - 8
MR	21 21 0 13 - 55
First Quarter	
MR - Birr recovered blocked punt (L.Fox kick)	
MR - Buckholtz 15 run (L.Fox kick)	
Second Quarter	
MR - Schirmer 15 pass from L.Fox (L.Fox kick)	
MR - Schirmer 7 pass from L.Fox (L.Fox kick)	
MR - Sellers 20 pass from L.Fox (Birr kick)	
MR - Sellers 6 pass from L.Fox (Birr kick)	
Third Quarter	
NRHEG - Olson 33 pass from Dobberstein (Raab run)	
Fourth Quarter	
MR - Hollerich 15 run (Birr kick)	
MR - Proehl 52 run (kick blocked)	
First Downs	NRHEG 6 MR 15
Total offense	104 333
Plays	45 44
Rushing	24 -14 29-207
Passing	10-21-1 8-15-0

Passing yards	118	126
Fumbles-lost	2-2	1-1
Turnovers	3	1
Third down	3-12	5-10
Fourth down	0-3	0-1
Time of poss.	26:51	20:51
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
Rushing - NRHEG: Raab 2-16; Phillips 12-15; Thompson 1 -1; Parpart 1 -1; Loverink 1 -3; Lewison 3 -9; Dobberstein 4 -31; MR: Buckholtz 9-110; Proehl 3-57; Schirmer 3-22; Hollerich 3-20; Schull 3-7; Hansen 1-4; Simon 1-1; L.Fox 5 -7; H.Fox 1 -7		
Passing - NRHEG: Dobberstein 10-20-1, 118; Lewison 0-1-0, 0; MR: L.Fox 7-18-0, 84; Hollerich 1-2-0, 42		
Receiving - NRHEG: Olson 3-60; Prigge 1-24; Raab 1-15; Loverink 4-14; Phillips 1-5; MR: Sellers 4-46; Hansen 1-42; Schirmer 2-32; Schull 1-6		
Defense - NRHEG: Howe 4 solo tackles; Loverink 2 solo, 2 assists; Phillips 2 solo, 2 assists, 1/2 sack; Olson 3 tackles; Thompson 2 tackles, 1 assist; Prigge 2 tackles, 1 assist; Raab 1 tackle, 1 assist; Schlaak 1 tackle; Hanna 1 tackle, 1 sack; Degen 1 tackle; Schaefer 1 tackle; Routh 1 tackle; Misgen 1 assist, 1/2 sack		

Argus archives

100 Years Ago

- On Wednesday, Oct. 18, at the home of her daughter Mrs. A. W. Jennison celebrated her eighty-second birthday. She was the recipient of many gifts, glowers and letters, and messages of congratulation from relatives and friends far and near; but nothing pleased her so much as a box of apples sent from Vermont by her nephew, Walter Sutton. Mr. Sutton lives on the old homestead in East Shelburne. The land was a part of the Hamshire Grants and was purchased by Benjamin Sutton in 1782. Here in 1840 Mrs. Jennison was born and here she lived until her marriage in 1861. She was surprised and delighted with the apples which reached her in perfect condition.

- The hall was filled to a capacity audience when on Wednesday evening Mrs. Anna Dickey Olesen, candidate for United States Senator, appeared at the Town Hall. The audience was in thorough sympathy with the speaker, we should judge, if a fair estimate might be made as to the effect of the talk. There is no gainsaying the fact that Mrs. Olesen is a brilliant woman and a gifted speaker.

- As James Cahill drove out from his farm home the other day, a car came in view. Evidently the driver lost his head for he immediately shot ahead and crossed over on the wrong side of the road. The two cars came together with more or less disastrous results. Mr. Cahill's car suffered a broken wheel and the dislocation of the radiator. The other car was about as badly used up. But luckily neither one of the drivers was injured.

75 Years Ago

- Geza Schutz, who prizes his independence and individualism above all else, found both in the good earth of southern Minnesota. And yet, the Janesville farmer also finds himself becoming less and less distinguishable from that vague mass, "the public." For Schutz, one-time League of Nations staff member, promotes industrial peace throughout the state and in some of the nation's great cities in addition to farming acres of rolling fields along the Le Sueur river. Many a knotty labor-management dispute has ben settled by Schutz in the quiet farmhouse from which he can look out across his corn-fields to the little winding stream and the wooded hills beyond.

- After losing their first game of the season with Blooming Prairie last week the Golden Bears bounced right back yesterday afternoon and took the New Richland Cardinals into camp on the latter's grounds, 13-6. According to reports from the local fans who were on the sidelines, the officiating was the rankest seen this season, as far as dealing the Golden Bears several raw deals.

- A postal mailed August 12, 1930, at Elm Creek, Neb. Reached Harry L. Olson at Fairmont early kn October this year. Jena P. Nielsen at Austin received the first word in 21 years from relatives in Denmark and learned that his 87-year-old mother is still alive. For the first time in 30 years Albert Rueckert, Sauk Centre, heard from relatives in Germany, reporting skimpy meals and attire.

50 Years Ago

- A former educator, who is known for telling humorous stories in dialect, will be the guest speaker at the annual banquet of the Janesville Area Chamber of Commerce, October 25. Ed Phalen, now of Menomonie, Wisc., said he hopes to "send the crowd home happy" when he wrote recently to Chamber Secretary Irv Kopischke. Mr. Phalen has been an educator for the past 40 years and a speaker and master of ceremonies for over 30 years. In his biographical material, Phalen says that he has been involved in community affairs as county chairman of the Red Cross and United Fund.

- If I told you it takes 40 feet to stop your car when it is being driven 20 miles per hour, you'd probably say, "so what." But if you could have been at the Janesville or Waldorf-Pemberton high schools last Monday you would have been amazed to see for yourself how long that 40-feet actually is. That was the opportunity area teenagers had last week when a representative from Farm Bureau Insurance Services, Des Moines, Ia., came into the area with what Principal John Graff describes as "one of the finest driver education programs available."

- Newell Searle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Searle of rural Waseca was honored recently by two organizations for an article published in a 1971 issue of "Minnesota History", the magazine of the Minnesota Historical Society. The Forest History Society, a national historical organization devoted to forest history presented him with their Blegen Award for best article on forest history. The presentation was made at the annual meeting of the Society in Hot Springs, Ark., last week. Searle was the first recipient of this award. Recognition was also given by the Minnesota Historical Society for the same article, entitled: "Minnesota National Forest: The Politics of Compromise, 1898-1908," which concerns the efforts of conservationists to create a national forest in Minnesota, now known as Chippewa National Forest. At its annual meeting in St. Paul on October 7 the Blegen Award of the Minnesota Historical Society was presented to Searle.

25 Years Ago

- When Mary Gutknecht and her Shetland sheep dog "Cricket" walk around Janesville people may notice a very well-trained dog. What they do not know is that Cricket recently earned the National United States, Canada and Japan Champion title. The national competition, sponsored by the North American Dog Agility Council, was held Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 4-5, in Phoenix, Ariz. The national championship is held once a year with the top 260 dogs competing. Cricket earned the championship title by placing high in the jumpers class, agility trial champion and the gamblers class (overall distance commands).

- A special election on Tuesday, Nov. 4, will determine the direction of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School District. After months of planning and researching, the JWP School Board is asking district residents to pass an \$11 million bond referendum which will allow the district to update its current facilities. The board's proposal is in response to the last bond issue in December 1996 which showed that many residents wanted to stay on the existing sites. This in mind, the school board worked to formulate a plan that would provide a compromise. The \$11 million bond referendum allows for a combination of demolition, renovation and new construction at both the Waldorf and Janesville sites. The state will pay about 17.19 percent making it a \$9.2 million issue for the voters. Over the past 30 years, no major renovations or upgrades have been done to either of the buildings.

- Renovation projects are underway in the city of Waldorf. Mayor Harold Tesch said the Waldorf City Council has been working on cleanup for a long time. "It has been costly, but rewarding," he said. Over the summer, five buildings were demolished on Main Street, and the construction of a community center is scheduled to begin this November. Tesch said the community center will give the city a place for public meetings, weddings, etc. "We didn't have the facilities before," Tesch said. "This should give us ample room.

Waseca archives

100 Years Ago – Waseca Herald
- Dr. Edmund Mackey, popular farmer and veterinarian residing near Waldorf, was elected president of the Waseca County Poultry Association at the annual meeting held at the creamery hall in this city Thursday evening. Prof. F. L. Crowe, of New Richland, who has headed the organization for the past four years and to whose efforts much of its present success is due, declined reelection and Dr. Mackey was unanimously elected to succeed him. C. J. Ballard of Iosco was elected vice president and Mrs. E. R. Reineke, of Blooming Grove, secretary-treasurer.

- Mr. and Mrs. Emil Long were awakened by their daughter last Thursday morning just in time to save them from being asphyxiated by coal gas. Mrs. Long arose and went to her daughter's room but was overcome and fell to the floor. Mr. Long came to their assistance and was able to phone MRs. Currie who lives next door, and arrived directly. Upon entering she smelled the gas and opened the windows and doors.

- The city council, at its meeting Tuesday evening voted to sell \$79,000 worth of sewer and drain bonds on Nov. 2nd at 7 pm. The cost of the Oak street curb and gutter was assessed at 75 cents a lineal foot. The West Elm street drain assessment was not acted on.

75 Years Ago – Waseca Herald
- A Waseca fire which broke out Sunday afternoon around 5:15 destroyed the old Priest building on the corner of North State Street and Second avenue N. W. Losses for the three business establishments and two others near to the frame building are expected to pass the \$50,000 mark. The building, which housed the Corner Lunch, Tobin & Webber barbershop and the Buckley Appliance Co., was left a shell when the fire department managed to get the blaze under control 40 minutes later.

- The members of Waseca County 4-H clubs were entertained last night at their annual Achievement Banquet which was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Waseca county banks in cooperation with the extension service. There were tables arranged for 474 and the places at the tables were filled by 4-H club members and their leaders and guests. The group was served by members of the Chamber of Commerce who were arranged in waiter teams. The banks of the county provided the top quality beef by buying the champion steer at the 4-H club livestock sale at fair time. Toastmaster of the evening was Cletus F. Murphy, county agent, while Harold Hebl acted as song leader with Mr. Joseph Kozan as accompanist.

- Three Waseca men and one man from Waldorf took a three day course in farm income tax reports in St. Paul last week. They were H. A. Panzram, Judge Leon J. B. Sexton, and L. R. Peterson of Waseca and Frank Toller of Waldorf. The course covered income tax deductions, livestock sales, sale of personal dwellings and auction sales besides regular income tax problems.

50 Years Ago – Waseca Journal
- Sunday was a long ordeal in Waseca for the Al Kunst and Dave Kunst families. "We hold no hate in our hearts, we believed in what our sons were doing, working for world peace and understanding through UNICEF," said Mr. and Mrs. Al Kunst as they talked about the tragedy that abruptly ended the world walk begun in 1970 by their sons John and Dave. Mrs. Dave (Jan) Kunst was awakened at 8:10 a.m. Sunday by the U.S. State Department which informed her that the brothers had been shot in Afghanistan. John, 25, was killed and David, 33, was wounded under the armpit. The brothers, walking in Afghanistan, were shot Saturday night by bandits while in a small camp near Sarobi, Afghanistan, about 30 miles east of the capital Kabul.

- Marvin R. Kalis, has been named Pride Seed Dealer in the Waldorf area according to Jay L. Jensen, Pride sales representative for this section of Minnesota. In making the announcement Mr. Jensen pointed out that Marvin's assigned sales area will include joining quarters of Vivian, Freedom, Wilton and Byron townships. Since its organization in 1934, Pride has expanded to become one of the nation's leading seed corn companies.

- Down 12-0 at the half, the Waseca Bluejay Football team put on one of the biggest rallies in many years and beat Hutchinson 20-12 Friday night in a rainy and windy game at Hutchinson. Completely outplayed in the first half the Bluejays couldn't stop the Tigers' powerful ground attack of their own. The Bluejays recovered two Tiger fumbles in that flat first half or they could have found themselves behind by a greater score. Chris Brown opened the second half by returning the kick-



In 1997 - Waseca swimmer Jayme Bartelt is ready for a quick start under the watchful eye of her mother Jane in a recent Blue-jay swim meet. Bartelt was one of three four-event winners for the Bluejays in a 109-74 rout against Owatonna. Bartelt won the 200-meter and 500-meter freestyle events, plus swam on two winning relay teams. Trisha Seys and Jami Jager also won four events for Waseca.

off 18 yards to the Waseca 33. Chuck Scumacher rallied his blueays together and marched 67 yards for the score.

- The Waseca Rescue Squad was called out to the Adolph Hoffman Sr. Farm at 8:56 Sunday night. According to Fire Chief Slim Cunningham, Adolph Hoffman, Jr. from Hopewell, Virginia was visiting his mother when he became ill and was semi-conscious the boy's mother became concerned. She called the fire department for help, who sent the Rescue truck and notified Seewald Ambulance. Hoffman was semi-conscious when help arrived. Hoffman was taken to the Waseca Memorial Hospital where he is listed in satisfactory condition.

25 Years Ago – Waseca County News
-A tour of Parkview Estates, Johnson Avenue, Waseca, shocked some people who went to the open house Saturday. The previous University of Minnesota dormitories have been transformed into new apartments. Leasing agent for Lloyd Management, Inc. Julie Kuipers was available to answer questions during the open house. "A lot of students who used to live here have walked through and are surprised at what's been done to the buildings." Two buildings hold 15 apartments each and the third holds eight, three bedroom bi-levels. The smallest of the apartments is 870 square feet and the largest is 2,104 square feet. Some final touches need to be completed in the buildings as well as some landscaping, but a few apartments are already being called home by some.

- Two more people involved in the early August crime spree, that resulted in 50 complaints to police, pleaded guilty last week. Erick Wayne Johnson, 19, pleaded guilty Tuesday and Ryan Andrew Hollerich, 18, pleaded guilty Wednesday. Waseca Police said that the pair plus Douglas Jay Ross, 23, and Tracy Jo Hockers, 17, committed the crimes. Ross pleaded guilty and was fined \$3,000 Oct. 9. He also has to help make restitution which totals more than \$9,000. Many cars were damaged by having their tires slashed or by scratching a key on the paint surface. Numerous items were also taken from the vehicles.

- In a day that family and friends had gathered to mourn the loss of Curtis Nusbaum, they almost lost another. Shortly after midnight on Oct. 26, Waseca Police responded to a 911 call at the location where the Nusbaum family had gathered after the unexpected death of Curtis, 34. Upon arrival, the police arrested Fernando Rangel on charges of assault. Police charged that upon arriving at the Nusbaum residence, Rangel approached a woman, grabbed her around the neck and pushed her into a gas grill. The woman, who is eight months pregnant, flailed her arms in an attempt to escape. Rangel then allegedly twice swiped a 10-inch kitchen knife at the woman.

Star archives, New Richland

75 Years Ago

-Harlan Berg, son of William Berg, lies at Memorial hospital Waseca, with a badly shattered left leg, the injury being caused by a gun-shot. While duck hunting with his cousin, Noel Berg in the vicinity of the Mrs. John Greenwood farm in Byron township at about 3:30 Sunday afternoon, the men stopped their car and as Harlan reached for his gun, he pulled it toward him. It was discharged, the shots striking his leg just above the knee a glancing blow downward. He was rushed to the hospital soon after the accident. Harlan is 26 years of age, married and has three children, Wayne, Gary, and Kay. He will be laid up for three to six months, we are informed, and will likely have a stiff leg.

- Tuesday morning of this week Supt. G. T. Norswing ordered the entire student body and teaching personnel to the school gym for the formal installation of 27 School Patrol boys. Supt. Norswing introduced Ray Kreuzer, chairman of the Americanism committee of Andrew Borgen Post No. 75 of the American Legion who told the students that the Legion deemed it their duty as well as pleasure to sponsor the school patrol. He then introduced Sgt. Schroeder of the Minnesota State Highway Police who gave an inspiring talk on safety and proper attitude towards the school patrol boys. The 27 boys were then lined up and officially sworn in by Sgt. Schroeder. These boys will act at the two school crossings on State Highway No. 30 in front of the school and on each of the five busses operated by the school.

- Local members of the League of

Women's Voters naturally are up in arms over the testimony of a member of Hollywood movie colony, composed of a good many unsavory individuals who in his testimony at Washington, D. C., first connected the league with un-American communistic activities and then hastened to have his testimony corrected. It would have to be someone who is entirely unfamiliar with the league's activities and someone lacking in good sense who would put any dependence in testimony of that kind. The league is nonpartisan in its conduct and certainly has no connection with communism.

50 Years Ago
-Rick Demmer of Ellendale, a young Holstein breeder was awarded the FFA organization's highest achievement award, The American Farmer Degree, at the 45th annual convention of the Future Farmers of America, October 12 in Kansas City, Mo. This coveted honor is presented to only one out of every 1,000 FFA'ers throughout the U.S. and its territories. It is based on the candidate's scholarship, leadership, achievements, and their supervised agricultural experience. Rick, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Demmer, began his supervised agricultural experience program with one registered Holstein calf, six acres of rented land and twelve sheep. In his first year of FFA work, Rick had a strong desire to see the family herd of grade cows replaced with registered cattle. Within seven years time, the new herd has been built. It began with Rick's registered calf and three newly purchased registered cows. Today, the herd consists of 100 percent registered Holsteins and is 75

percent home bred. It includes nine National Honor List production winners, and one State and National Production Leader, all 1973 winners.

- Kim Miller, 20, of Wells, was critically injured in a one car accident about 11:30 p.m., Thursday night, five miles south-west of Waseca on County Road 4, near the Wilton bridge. He was alone in his car at the time and driving east. The car apparently turned over, landing on its topside after he apparently lost control and left the roadway going into the ditch on the north side striking a driveway into the field, according to the Waseca County Sheriff's office. He was taken by ambulance to Waseca Memorial Hospital, where he was treated and transferred to St. Mary's Hospital. He remains in the Rochester hospital with critical head injuries. The car was totalled.

- The New Richland Senior Citizens held their meeting, Wednesday afternoon, October 18 at the New Richland village hall. A very talented student teacher, Al Ingram of Lea college, entertained the group with several songs. He was accompanied by Mrs. Herb Hokanson at the piano. The seniors enjoyed him immensely and hope he will attend another one of their meetings..

25 Years Ago
- Ron and Joan Mansmith and their staff are holding a Grand Opening this weekend at New Richland Drug. Coffee, cookies, and cider will be served and everyone is urged to register for prizes. The first 200 ladies to visit the store will receive a free sachet. The Mansmiths purchased the business from Leo Held taking possession on July 1 of this year. Since that time Mansmith

changed the franchise at the store to Family Pharmacy, which makes the business more competitive. After 14 years as Held Drug, the pharmacy is once more New Richland Drug.

- A proposal offering services in city redevelopment and development projects was presented to the New Richland City Council, Tuesday evening, October 14. Representing Yagey & Colby, Jeff Munt, certified planner said, "I've been working with Bernie Anderson." Munt has attended Commercial Club meetings to discuss a medical clinic project on the empty lots, where the former Friedrich buildings were located. "We're at a stand still, as far as the clinic is concerned," stated Mayor John Harrington. "Nothing's happening. It's very frustrating." According to Munt, Yagey & Colby has an interested investor for a clinic project.

- The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva School Board approved six employment contracts, and policies regarding hazing prohibition, internet use and discrimination at a meeting, Monday night at New Richland. The need to adopt a policy concerning the prohibition of hazing is new to public school districts. A law passed in the last State Legislative session requires that all school districts adopt such a policy. Although hazing in the local school district has never been a problem, according to Supt. Rich Lorenz, it has been in some other public school districts. "This policy relates to the fact that no student may be asked to perform an activity which may cause physical harm or embarrassment to become a member of a school related organization or team," Lorenz explained.

Treats on the Street Thursday, October 27



Landon, Oliver, and Lilly showing off their creative costumes



Berkley, Zoey, Addie and Kaylie as a ghost, cookie monster, Elmo, and a cowgirl



Avannah and Annarae dressed as Stitch and Eeyore



Sonny dressed up as a dinosaur with his dad



Robert Tackett as a ninja



Michael, Mitchell, Matilyn, and Becky Petsinger



Oktavia dressed as Batman featuring her dad



Angel and Amaya



Siblings Maridia and Riley



Lilli the Pirate



Ashton cheesing



Rosalyn in a costume inspired by cats



Cruella dressed in a Paw Patrol costume featuring her mom



Siblings Amor and Ava



Brody as Spiderman and Hazel as a police officer



Grace as Sparky the dog and Griffin dressed as a firefighter

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Grandma wolf Macy Whiteside, Einstein Levi Whiteside, Little Red Riding Hood Kendall Whiteside, and a “poor attempt” at a scarecrow Jon Whiteside

Halloween in NR 2022

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The streets of New Richland were full Monday evening with trick or treating events.

Ambulance Department members Scott and Dawn Tangen handed out candy donated by crew members at the city park for the second year in a row from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. “Body parts and eyeballs were the favorite candy selection last year,” Scott Tangen joked.

The New Richland Care Center and Royal Villa both hosted trick or treaters. At Royal Villa, Susan Clay was responsible for numerous decorations, including several mannequins, and hand decorated bottles. Next year, several joked, they hope to have costumed mannequins on remote controlled cars, possible corn stalks, and maybe even a decorated cemetery out front.

From 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Macy Whiteside and Community Education hosted Halloween Kids Fest at New Richland City Hall,



Trick or treaters attending New Richland Care Center, from left, Kali Balsimo, three-month old Ella Curtis, and werewolf Preston Curtis.

Star Eagle photo by Eli Lutgens with dozens of kids participating in the first annual event’s costume contest. Photos of those who took part will be posted on their Facebook page, and the winners of the contest will pick from prizes displayed on their prize table. Whiteside commented that this year’s event was a continuation of last year’s Halloween event put together by Lynn Stoltzman.

More than a half dozen games were played by those who attended, including tic-tac-toe, crafts, zombie eyeball toss, a pumpkin decorating station, and many more.

Trick or treat



Left, dancing pigs greeted people at Arnoldt’s Good Spirits during the Trick-or-treat Uptown Bash Thursday, October 27. Right, volunteers dressed in Hocus Pocus costumes greeted kids and handed out candy at the Purple Goose.

Janesville trick or treat uptown bash

By SUSIE HABERMAN
Contributing Writer

The trick-or-treat “Uptown Bash” in Janesville Thursday, October 27 was a huge hit. Hundreds of people came out to show off their costumes—many of which were homemade—ranging from superheroes to mermaids.

Lots of businesses on Main Street took part in the event from as far south as Ginger P. Designs to as far north as the Janesville Fire Hall where Palmer Bus Service handed out candy and colored pencils. Observers noted that this year’s trick-or-treating event was one of the biggest since the Uptown Bash started.

Many of the businesses were active. Sparky the dog handed out candy and interacted with trick-or-treaters on Main Street. A friendly gorilla was delivering high-fives near Dane’s Auto Body. The Janesville Public Library gave out materials to assemble paper clip airplanes.

Any children who didn’t have enough fun on Main Street could get their fill at the two schools. The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) held a Halloween party in the high school gym with a bounce house for the children and teachers running activities. Meanwhile, Trinity Lutheran School held its own party with a CandyLand lollipop theme and glow sticks to “let your love shine.”

But the trick or treating fun wasn’t limited to youngsters: Adults were greeted by some dancing pigs at Arnoldt’s Good Spirits, then given little sample shots to lift their spirits.

All in all, it was a fun evening with treats going out to everyone big and small. The businesses involved in this event, along with Trinity and JWP, would like to thank everyone for coming out.

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Waseca Electric Utilities for 44 years
Electrical Line Foreman for 35 years
MN State Fire Chiefs Assoc. Board of Directors for 25 year
Waseca School Board for 10 years

GOALS:
Attract new businesses & home owners
Continue to repair/upgrade infrastructure
Seeking ways/ideas to decrease tax burden by grants, state/federal aid
Seek prospects to fill vacant buildings
Continue to seek ideas in order to bring needed grocery store to Waseca

I'd be honored to earn your vote to lead Waseca into the future as your Mayor!

By TRISTAN JENSEN
Editorial Assistant

Sarah Berry, Public Health Director for Waseca County Public Health, accompanied by two representatives of Blue Plus, the health maintenance organization affiliate of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, attended the November 1, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to discuss using an existing contract between the county and Blue Plus to provide care coordination and case management services for county residents using the Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP) and MinnesotaCare senior care. The contract has been previously used for some county residents in need of home visits, but the additional sections of the contract discussed at the meeting had never been utilized. A vote in favor of utilizing this contract would mean Blue Plus would take on the task of providing insurance for some of the county’s residents receiving medical assistance – recipients would be allowed to choose between a Blue Plus plan or the existing South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) plan. The default option for recipients who did not choose a plan, as determined by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, would be SCHA for those on PMAP and would alternate between the two plans for those in the senior care program. A vote against utilizing the contract would mean some county residents would temporarily not receive services, and the county would need to seek out another contractor to fill that role, potentially requiring some residents to make changes to their healthcare providers. Berry provided the Board of Commissioners with a comparison between the SCHA and Blue Plus plans, which showed the plans were extremely similar, with the Blue Plus plan being slightly favorable in certain cases.

The Minnesota DHS has been pushing Waseca County to make a change, in the words of Board Chair-

man Brad Krause, but the Board of Commissioners is hesitant to alter the county’s relationship with SCHA, a county-based purchasing entity serving nine Minnesota counties, including Waseca. Minnesota state statutes allow counties to elect for this method of providing insurance, as opposed to working with a health management organization, like Blue Plus, or a community integrated service network; Waseca County is currently in litigation with the Minnesota Department of Human Services related to that right. Commissioner Nelson, who sits on the SCHA board, announced during discussion that he’d vote against utilizing the Blue Plus contract due to that litigation and in support of county-based purchasing. Commissioner Malterer moved to vote. Commissioner Christopherson seconded the motion, but said during additional discussion that he was also hesitant to vote in favor of using the contract, and asked whether a vote against this motion would aid the cause for county-based purchasing. With no answer forthcoming, the board voted. The motion failed four-to-one, with Commissioner Malterer voting in favor of utilizing the contract and Commissioners Nelson, Harguth, Christopherson, and Krause voting against. Berry told the board that Waseca County Public Health would begin looking for a new contractor and thanked them for their time.

The Waseca VFW made a \$400 donation to Waseca’s Community Emergency Response Team for the purchase of equipment. Commissioner Malterer moved to “accept with gratitude,” and the board voted in favor. Veteran Services brought forth their annual application for their Operational Grant from the Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs, and the County Ditch Authority asked the board to provide final approval and payment authorization for the paving project on County State Aid Highway 41 and

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

mill reclamation on County State Aid Highway 18; both were approved without discussion. The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veteran Services Officers (NACVSO) have sent out a nationwide invitation to take part in an initiative they term “Operation Green Light for Veterans,” which amounts to illuminating municipal spaces in green on November 11, Veteran’s Day, to show support. The two organizations provided outreach resources for counties in their Operation Green Light County toolkit. The board resolved to participate, with Commissioner Krause commenting that the new lighting at the courthouse would go a long way towards a quality display of support in this initiative. County Administrator Michael Johnson informed the board that, thanks in part to the favorable weather, Lenz Lawn Care has nearly completed the landscaping project; he shared a picture of the courthouse taken the previous night, lit in purple for Halloween.

ConAgra Foods Packaged Foods LLC applied for an amendment to its conditional use permit (CUP) to add an equalization tank, a truck loadout scale, and a new access onto 128th Street to their site just outside the Waseca city limits. In addition to the board’s approval, ConAgra will need to obtain permits from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), including an erosion control permit, which has not yet been completed. The planning committee recommended six conditions, and the board voted in favor of amending the CUP with those conditions.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has a competitive grant program for environmental improvements, with \$1 million available statewide in 2023 in amounts between \$150,000 and \$250,000. A local match of at least 25% of the grant amount is required for eligibility. The board voted in favor of applying for a \$250,000 grant for a yard-waste compost site east of Highway 13 near the solar farm. The projected cost of the project is \$479,310, which would leave the county responsible for paying nearly \$230,000. This local match amount is not a tax levy or a burden which will be passed directly to residents. Waseca County applied for this grant for the same project in 2021, but was not approved at that time.

Closing the day’s action items was the resolution to adopt the Aquatic Invasive Species Plan for 2023. The plan for the following year must be adopted by December 31 to receive state funding for invasive species control. In 2022, Waseca County spent \$83,475 on invasive species control, including public education, watercraft inspection, chemical treatment for Eurasian Watermilfoil in Reeds and Clear Lakes, and physical removal of Curlyleaf Pondweed in Clear Lake. The amount budgeted for 2023, according to the plan submitted to the Board of Commissioners for approval, is \$43,000. Most of the disparity comes from the whole-lake fluoridone treatment Clear Lake received for Eurasian Watermilfoil, which is not expected to be necessary again. In the coming years, the lake will be monitored for the invasive plant and spot treatments may be applied where appropriate. Removal of Curlyleaf Pondweed will continue in 2023, with the staff aiming to spend eight weeks harvesting it instead of the four managed this past summer. This was the first of a three-year cooperative, grant-supported effort to harvest and compost the Curlyleaf Pondweed, and at the end of harvesting the staff had removed an average of three tons of pondweed per acre over 75 acres. The board was informed that there were concerns from the city over the amount of loose pondweed which washed up on the shores of Clear Lake, requiring cleanup. The representative of the removal team stated that they “put the black eye on us” for allowing some of the harvested material to be swept away on currents, to which Commissioner Nelson replied, “I’d put the black eye back on them, because they ignored that lake for the last forty years. And I hope I’m quoted.” The board approved the plan, which will allow the county to receive \$46,830 in state funding to continue work reducing invasive species infestations in our waterways. The board also received a brief update on the DNR’s infested water list for the surrounding area. Lake Tustin in LeSeuer County now has Eurasian Watermilfoil, and LeSeuer and Rice Counties are both seeing Flowering Rush. Flowering Rush currently has no foothold in Waseca County, so residents using the waters for sports and recreation in those counties should be especially aware to help prevent its spread.

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The Pastor's Column

Workmanship

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

Some days are just busy. It seems like just as you think things can't get busier, they do. You try to create time to slow down, and something comes up. There are important things to do, and they must get done whether you like it or not. That has been my week so far.

It is 8 p.m. on Monday night, my second meeting of the night has ended, and I have several tasks to accomplish in the next few days, but it is good. I like these days of meetings where things get done and good activities are planned well. Yes, things need to be adjusted and plans need to be prioritized, but we get to do good things for God's glory.

I love when Paul writes in Ephesians 2:8-10: 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

This passage reminds us of God's work of salvation through Jesus and how God created us to be His workmanship to do the good things He has prepared ahead of time for us to do!

That excites me! God has created me to be me and do the good things He planned for me to do.

So why am I writing this at 8 p.m. on a Monday night? Because I get to do good things that were planned for me to do tomorrow. God created me with the ability to be flexible and adapt to situations and find time to get a lot of stuff done. Others I know need things planned out ahead of time and don't like to adapt to changes in schedules, but God still uses them for good things that He has planned out for them as well!

It is nothing that I have done, but rather it is the good things that God has done on my behalf that made all the difference in my life. He works out my salvation as a gift to me and I respond by being obedient to do the good things He has planned. I get to do great things that He has equipped and planned for me to do, how cool is that?

Have you had the opportunity to do something good recently? Did you know that God planned for you to do that? Did you know that He created you specifically and uniquely for you to do good things? God has a plan for your salvation, growth, and actions.

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Fields of Faith



A first for New Richland, Fields of Faith took place at the high school football field Wednesday, October 26, 2022. Front row, from left: Matthew Williams, Jamison Vallejo, Preslie Nielsen, Hallie Schultz, Faith Nielsen, Erin Jacobson, Camryn VanMaldeghem, Sidney Schultz, Quinn Wayne, Faith Phillips, Memphis Schlaak, Dakota Schlaak, Alex Wyrum, Brock Holland, Gus Bethke. Middle row: Ronda Staloch, Elsie Schultz, Ava Reich, Levi Whiteside, Bailey Ihrke, Bree Ihrke, Chloe Riewer, Chloe Stork, Kyra Eustice, Tayler Schmidt, Eva Wayne, Quinn VanMaldeghem, Owen Wayne, Chas Garcia, and Judy Tweeten. Back row: Sydney Lewer, Keira Lenort, Madison Murray, Gabbie Schlaak, Makota Misgen, Sawyer Prigge, Aiden Dobberstein, Ryan Schlaak, Wyatt Groskruetz, Seth Staloch, Aiden Schlaak, Andrew Phillips.

Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

NRHEG holds first-ever Fields of Faith

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

More than 50 NRHEG students took part in a first ever Fields of Faith event held in conjunction with 444 others at the high school football field in New Richland Wednesday evening, October 26, 2022.

Fields of Faith is a movement started in 2002 by Oklahoma Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Area Director Jeff Martin. Its purpose is for students to "challenge their peers to read the Bible and follow Jesus Christ." Student-led assemblies take place across America at local athletic fields, which are regarded as a "neutral rally point" where communities come together.

In previous years, NRHEG students may have participated in Fields of Faith in Waseca, but increased interest in FCA at NRHEG created the opportunity for Wednesday night's gathering.

With the exception of volleyball players in attendance (who didn't want to get hurt prior to Thursday night's playoff match), the night's events began with high school students playing touch football, while others took part in a dance, "Church Clap."

"It's important to bond with people of similar beliefs," NRHEG student Elsie Schultz said. "This is a very loving environment, full of positive energy. It's a vibe."

After a brief photo shoot, student leaders gathered those in attendance for prayer, praise, and gospel.

Huddle leaders led the activities. Keira Lenort led by reading Chronicles 34:31, "And the king stood in his place, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which are written in this book."

"I'm excited to be a (huddle) leader!" Lenort exclaimed. "I just wish more people got this excited about their faith."

"I just knew today was going to be a good day after going to (faith reformation) class after school."

Those in attendance couldn't have really asked for better weather, with temperatures in the high forties with no wind.

Senior Andrew Phillips followed with an opening prayer. After a song of praise, senior Wyatt Groskreutz shared his faith journey. "As you move in life, your faith will move you to be a better person, to better places," Groskreutz testified. "My faith has helped me through the toughest times in my life. I know He's gonna be there for me."

Groskreutz shared the story of battling several injuries which sidelined him for the majority of his senior football season, something he never expected.

"Faith strengthens through good and bad," Groskreutz concluded. "It's always there. No matter what, He loves you."

After Groskreutz's testimonial, huddle leaders took part in a "challenge," followed by "The four."

The pair of presentations included devotional readings, including the gospel and real word applications of faith.

The "challenge" part included a comparison to exercise for athletes, claiming that faith is like a muscle: "If you don't use it, you'll lose it."

"The four" was the gospel mes-

sage of the night, delivered by Sidney Schultz, the Ihrke twins, and Sawyer Prigge.

Each student read a card with a symbol displayed on the front.

The heart: Represents love

Division: Represents Adam and Eve and a person's "spiritual death at birth" and how all Christians fall short of the cross.

Cross: Represents forgiveness, the purpose of Jesus Christ.

Question mark: Represents faith.

The night's events concluded with students breaking into small groups led by huddle leaders: Phillips, Hallie Schultz, Prigge, Groskreutz, Makota Misgen, Kia Buendorf, Erin Jacobson, and Lenort. Everyone in attendance enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies and was given FCA bracelets and prayer cards. With the success of this first event, organizers say they hope it will be continued. Throughout the rest of the school year, NRHEG FCA has several events in the works including a "Courts of Praise" event and "Diamonds of Disciples."

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. * * *	507-607-8245 Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m. * * *	Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting * * *	Brad Donner, Branch President Waseca, Minnesota www.lids.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 a.m., 10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship * * *	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 Sundays: Sunday School 9 a.m., Bible Study 9:20 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. * * *	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. * * *	REAL LIFE CHURCH 620 W Elm Ave, Waseca * * *	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS * * *	NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.

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SWEET-SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 CALENDAR EVENTS						
November 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5-7pm BURGER NITE	2 6pm Bar Bingo	3 7pm Bingo	4 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	5 BENEFIT for FRANK J. STENGEL starts 5pm
6	7	8 5-7pm BURGER NITE get out & VOTE	9 6pm Bar Bingo	10 U.S. Marine Corps Birthday 1775 7pm Bingo	11 VETERANS DAY Meat Raffle 5:30pm	12 Private event
13	14 7pm Post & AUX Meeting	15 5-7pm BURGER NITE	16 6pm Bar Bingo	17 7pm Bingo	18 Meat Raffle 5:30 WALLEYE OR SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7:00	19 TURKEY BINGO starts at 7:00pm MEAL Available
20	21	22 5-7pm BURGER NITE	23 6pm Bar Bingo	24 THANKSGIVING Closed	25 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	26 Private event
27 All you can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am to Noon Your Host Fraternal Order Of Police	28	29 5-7pm BURGER NITE	30 6pm Bar Bingo			

HOURS of Operation.
Sun. - Mon. Closed
Tue. - Wed. - 3pm to 11pm Tue. is Lady's nite 2 for one - Men Busch Light \$2.50 from 4 to 6pm.
Thur. - 1pm to 11pm
Fri. - Sat. - 11am to 1am
POST & AUX Meeting 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

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MENU

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Suggested Donation \$9.00

Faith United Methodist Church
801 4th Ave. NE Waseca

FARMLAND SALE

ALTON TOWNSHIP, WASECA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Sealed bids are now being received by PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A. Law Office on behalf of the Delores E. Murphy Revocable Trust for the sale of approximately **52.7 acres of farmland** located in Sections 21 and 22 in Alton Township, Waseca County, Minnesota, and generally described as: The South 2 acres of the N ½ of NW ¼, AND the West ½ of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ all in Section 22-107-24, containing 22 acres, AND Government Lot 1 in Section 21-107-24 containing 30.7 acres.

Interested parties are invited to submit a sealed bid in person or by mail with a check for \$5,000.00 made to PHB Real Estate Escrow Account at 216 Main Street N, PO Box M, Janesville, MN 56048 or at 215 E. Elm Avenue, PO Box 249, Waseca, MN 56093 or present such a bid and check at the meeting room on the afternoon of the sale and prior to opening the bids. **Bids will be opened at the Public Meeting Room at the Janesville City Hall, 101 N. Mott Street, Janesville, MN on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.** Only persons submitting a written bid together with a \$5,000.00 bid deposit shall be allowed to be present and may raise their bid in writing after the initial bids have been opened. Deposits shall be returned on November 17, 2022, to all unsuccessful bidders. The successful bidder will be able to use the \$5,000.00 bid deposit toward the earnest money obligation.

Terms of Sale: Terms will be set out in the information packet and include earnest money of \$50,000.00 payable on November 17, 2022, and the balance due on or before December 20, 2022, the date of closing.

An information packet including the exact legal description, diagrams of the property, and other information about the property and terms of the sale is available by calling the offices of PATTON, HOVERSTEN, & BERG, P.A. at Waseca, MN, at 507-835-5240.

The Sellers reserve the right to reject any or all bids, to modify any pre-announced bidding procedures, and to waive any irregularities in the bidding proceedings.

PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A.
William L. Hoversten, Attorney for Seller
215 E. Elm Avenue PO Box 249
Waseca, MN 56093
Phone: 507-835-5240 Fax 507-835-1827

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STRONG voice for our area!

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- ✓ A government in need of reform — eliminate the HUGE omnibus bills so legislators can work together to pass important bills!
- ✓ Everyone, no matter your political party, should come away from an election feeling like it's fair and Secure. I authored two election reform bills and am committed to work on this issue until it is fixed!
- ✓ Education needs to go back to basics. Teachers are overloaded with paperwork and mandates. We need to get back to the basics of math, literacy, basic science, and history!
- ✓ People deserve to feel safe. I support our police officers and well funded law enforcement to keep our communities safe!

VOTE PEGGY BENNETT November 8th!
She is a strong voice for our area!

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FOR HOUSE 23A
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Visit my website www.Bennett4House.com to learn more about my accomplishments, priorities, and challenges I am working on every day for the people of District 23A.

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Prepared and paid for by the Bennett for MN House 23A Committee • PO Box 308 • Albert Lea, MN 56007

Last coffee break

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

Waseca County Attorney Rachel Cornelius and challenger Brenda Miller took part in the final round of the Waseca Coffee Break debates at the Waseca High School Performing Arts Center, Wednesday, October 26, 2022.

Moderator for this final session was senior Lindsey Kopetzki. “We volunteered and drew names out of a hat,” Kopetzki offered as she clarified for those watching how one becomes a moderator. Hailey Deml assisted in the electrician’s booth, helping Chuck Pollock. Sophia Krause assisted as the afternoon’s official timer.

Opening statements included resumes from both candidates, along with many statements of thanks to the school, to those listed above, and to people in attendance.

Cornelius is married, has two children, attended college at Southwest State in Marshall before majoring in political science and Spanish. She graduated from William Mitchell College of Law in 2002 and has been an attorney for 20 years.

Incumbent Cornelius highlighted the office’s retention rate, worker satisfaction, and technological improvements brought to an outdated case management system. In addition to internal improvements, Cornelius also made trips to each of Waseca County’s three high schools to speak on the dangers of online/cyber bullying.

Brenda Miller, also a former Waseca County Attorney, has lived in Waseca since she was in first grade, was the youngest of five children, raised two children here, and has been married for 29 years. Miller is also a rural farmer.

Question 1: What aspects of your education and previous job experience make you the most qualified person to be the county attorney?

Miller
Waseca high school graduate, MSU Mankato Graduate, Hamline Law Graduate.

Former attorney in the Fifth Judicial public defender’s office in Watonwan County

Managed public defender investigation branch in Watonwan County. 31 years as an attorney

4 years as Waseca County Attorney

“Working as a public defender makes me uniquely qualified to review police reports with the eye of a defense attorney.”

Cornelius
Southwest State graduate, William Mitchell College of Law

Worked in Ramsey County Attorney Office

LeSueur County Child Protective Services

Worked in Waseca County Attorney’s office since 2006

Cornelius said the highest profile case she has been involved with was the attempted murder of Aric Madison.

Question 2: Are there any improvements in the attorney’s office you would like to see the county board support?

Cornelius
Body worn cameras
Funds for another drug task force agent as the county currently has only one

Miller
Retention of employees. Salary increase to help retention of employees. “You get what you pay for.” Miller shared that the Waseca County Attorney’s office is among the lowest starting salaries in Minnesota.

“The top end pay scale needs to go up.” Miller said metro attorneys earn between \$10,000 and \$14,000 more with their starting salaries.

Question 3 - Describe a challenging case in your legal career that caused you to grow professionally and helped you be a better attorney.

Miller
John LaDue case.

Miller said she grew as an attorney because of her experience with that case, citing the wide range of media attention. Three different judges oversaw the case, and Miller said in court it was her office against three different defense attorneys.

Cornelius
A sexual misconduct case from a few years ago, involving two children.

The case eventually reached a plea agreement with the defendant accepting 168 months in jail. However, the judge gave a probationary sentence, meaning the defendant would not go to jail. Cornelius appealed the case, her first time doing so, and won

the appeal.

Question 4: What do you believe are the biggest criminal concerns in this community? How will you work to minimize this illegal behavior?

Cornelius
Drugs
Chemical Dependency
Mental health

Cornelius said working daily with all the various agencies, which she listed, helps accomplish this. She also said helping get people treatment, including involuntary placement, sometimes involving the court are also, sometimes, necessary.

Miller said she agreed, but added one point.

Rural burglaries
“Are the punishments after these criminals caught enough?” Miller asked.

Miller shared that mental health and chemical dependency often go hand in hand and said they are now treated as such in drug court.

Question 5: Besides the role of prosecution of criminal behavior, what other important roles should be a priority in the prosecutor’s office?

Miller
Civil issues
Elections, ballots
Reviewing bonds

Working with the planning and zoning department to determine what laws legally fall within differ-

ent ordinances.

Cornelius agreed with everything Miller said and added a couple things.

Timely responses to department heads
Representing the county on law-suits

Question 6: What qualities will you look for when hiring people in your office?

Cornelius
Hardworking
Cooperation/collaboration
Cornelius said she has three “fantastic assistant attorneys.”

Miller
Staff which can connect with a Waseca County Jury
Staff which knows their audience, including potential judges

Believable (when presenting to a jury/judge)

Quick on their feet
Versatile/wide knowledge base.
“We can’t have lazy people.”

Question 7: What are the key factors the county should consider when deciding whether to seek a plea bargain or take a case to trial?

Miller
Information
Best/worst case scenario
Criminal history

“What can we do so this person doesn’t commit this crime again?” Miller said this is the question to ask.



PREPARING TO DEBATE — Waseca County Attorney candidates Rachel Cornelius (left) and Brenda Miller (right) prepare for the final Coffee Break Debate Wednesday, October 26. In the center moderating the debate is senior Lindsey Kopetzki. Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

“What’s best for the county?”

Cornelius
Public safety
Victim centered entity
“We are paid to protect public safety,” Cornelius explained. “Plea agreements help save victims the pain of testifying. We try to respect that whenever we can... (but) When the victim says “I want to go to trial, we go to trial.”

Question 8: Can you provide an example of a current law you would like changed? And how can you do this?

Cornelius
2020 Madson Strong Law

In lieu of talking about a law she would like changed, Cornelius shared the journey of getting the law changed regarding the consequences for police shootings. “The law didn’t allow us to charge the shooter with the consequences we wanted him to have.”

The law, which was successfully changed, had the same punishment for criminals who shot at police officers regardless of whether the officer was actually shot.

“It’s easy to say you’re going to change a law, but it’s not easy in practice,” Cornelius explained. “The process took over a year, included hundreds of zoom calls, phone calls, and testifying before the legislature. It was a long process, but I would redo it everyday.”

Miller
Attempt statute

Miller said “attempt” applies to every criminal case and is the reason why changing this law is so difficult. She said current Minnesota law led to the dismissal of the attempted murder charge filed in the John Ladue case. The federal law, Miller shared, says a person needs to take substantial steps toward more than preparation, highly corroborate of

intent. “Minnesota law is missing a line.”

A result of this was that, in the Ladue case, despite Ladue having plans drawn up, more than 20 explosive devices and having practiced setting off devices, the court dismissed the attempted murder charge because Minnesota Law doesn’t have “highly corroborate of intent.”

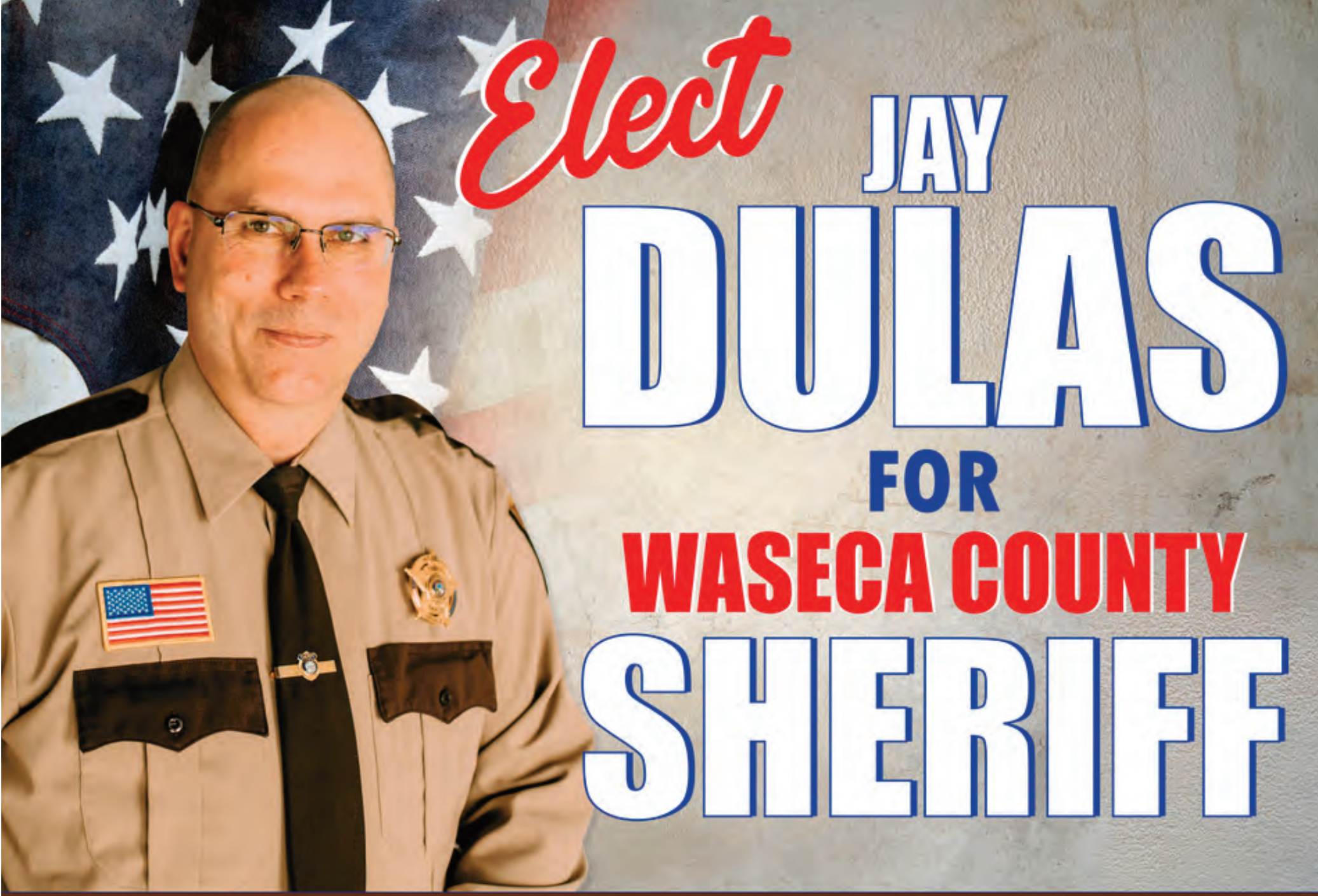
Closing statements
Miller thanked everyone, reminding viewers of her ethics and experience. She said if these are important qualities, then “Go vote.”

Cornelius said she ran in 2018 to be county attorney to regain trust in the office and “rebuild fractured relationships within the office.

“Money was not the problem, relationships were the problem.”

Cornelius also cited her ethics and experience.

This was the final debate of 2022; the election will be November 8.



WHY VOTE JAY DULAS FOR SHERIFF?

Education/ Experience

Alexandria Technical College - AAS Degree

25 years as a licensed peace officer (1997)

25 years of law enforcement experience

23 years with the Waseca County Sheriff's Office

15 years with the Waseca Fire Department - currently serving as Captain

Former Dispatcher for Waseca County

Former Police Officer for the City of Waterville

Former Dispatcher/ Correctional Officer for the Steele County Sheriff's Office



Duties/ Assignments

Waseca County Crime Prevention Officer (current)
Patrol Deputy Union Steward (Current)

Disaster Response
Investigates crimes, interviews victims & witnesses

Coordinates search and rescue operations

Collaboration with other emergency services during natural or man made disasters

Mock Crash Presentations

Farm Bureau - Farmamerica Safety Days Presentations

Bicycle Safety Days

Annual ECCE Childhood Fair

Waseca County Insurance Committee

Professional Development

2022 Minnesota Sheriff's Association Institute for Credible Leadership Development

2016 Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education Leadership Development

Homeland Security/Incident Command Training

Active Shooter - Preparedness & Response Training

Investigation & Prosecution of Child Abuse & Child Maltreatment Training

Crisis Intervention Training

Mental Health & Wellness Training

National Incident Management System (NIMS) - FEMA Training

Awards & Recognition

2022 Waseca County Employee of the Year

2018 Waseca County Sheriff's Office Medal of Valor

2018 Waseca County Commendation Medal-Meritorious Service

2018 Minnesota Sheriff's Association Nomination for the Medal of Valor

2017 CADA Distinguished Peace Officer of the Year

2017 Minnesota Sheriff's Association Deputy of the Year Award - Honorable Mention

2013 Faribault Police Dept. Commendation for response to a violent domestic assault

Community Involvement

Minnesota Fraternal Order of Police South Central Lodge #16 Executive Board Member 2008-Current

Minnesota Fraternal Order of Police South Central Lodge #16 Secretary/Treasurer 2008-2012

Current Member of the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association

Shop with a Hero

Waseca Family Education Center- Reading to & teaching pre-school children about safety

Member of the Waseca County Agricultural Society

Volunteers with Waseca County Sheriff's Posse Events

15 years with the Waseca Fire Department - currently serving as Captain

Serving with Pride, Leading with Integrity
I would appreciate your vote on November 8th.

Prepared and Paid for by the Jay Dulas for Sheriff Committee. PO Box 462 Waseca, MN 56093