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WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY
No. 29 Vol. I \$2 Offices in Waseca, New Richland, and Janesville Friday, July 22, 2022

■ Inside



Waseca Free Fair

FCA junior sports camp Aug 2-4

The Waseca FCA Junior Sports camp for grades 3-8 will be held Aug. 2-4 at Waseca High School. The deadline for submissions is July 28. Athletes will pick one sport each day for three days from the following sports to participate in: football, baseball, wrestling, volleyball, soccer, tennis, track, golf, hockey, softball, basketball, gymnastics. Essentially, if it's a sport, it's an option, for both boys, girls, and some coed events.

A little info: The Waseca FCA Junior Sports Camp is a day camp for young athletes who want to develop their skills in sport and strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ. The coaching staff will include some of the best high school coaches around.

Register online at: minnesotafca.org/waseca-jsc

For more information, please contact camp directors:

John Conway -507-461-4379
JCONWAY@FCA.ORG
Barry & Stacey Dufault:
SRDUFAULT@GMAIL.COM

How to subscribe to the Pioneer

To subscribe to the *Waseca County Pioneer*, simply stop in our office with your address and \$40 or mail a check to:

Waseca County Pioneer
P.O. Box 578
Waseca, MN, 56093

Beginning the afternoon of June 30, and through the weekend, the *Pioneer* has temporary office space courtesy of Matthew Petsinger, located at 101 S. State Street, Waseca.

Our permanent location is scheduled to open July 5, next door at 103 S. State. Over the weekend we will be renovating our new office space; readers are invited to stop by and subscribe, or to simply say hello.

Polka Service in Waldorf, August 28

The Waldorf Days and All School Reunion Event is welcoming everyone to the Waldorf Community Polka Service on Sunday, August 28, at 10 a.m. at the Waldorf school. Polka music will begin 30 minutes prior to the service and continue 30 minutes after and will be followed by a pancake breakfast at the Waldorf Community Center.

Memorial Ride and Benefit Sept. 10

A memorial ride and benefit dinner will be held in honor of Hunter Alexander Frank, a 2018 graduate of Owatonna High School who was killed in the line of duty in 2020, at the Waseca American Legion on September 10.

Money raised will support the nonprofit program which provides caregiver respite, veteran training, and other services to veterans and their families. At this time, donations are being collected for silent auction items and door prizes. Financial support is also welcomed. To donate, or for more information about the benefit, contact Flores at 507-363-1569 or hafinmemoial@outlook.com.

A word from The Word

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

Waseca County Fair

143 years and still counting

It takes a lot to disrupt the Waseca County Free Fair, which has been held every year since 1879, except for three times, when it was not held because of World War II, Polio, and Covid.

This year's celebration began Saturday, July 9 with the 4H dog shows and ended Sunday, July 17 with a grand parade of champions.

Observations about this year's attendance was inconclusive, with various fair goers and volunteers claiming that attendance was both up and down. Some argued that more people showed up, but didn't stay as long; others declared it was a steady stream.

"We have heard more positive things this year than ever before," Jennifer Johnson of the Waseca County Fair Board said. "People just seemed really happy. Every (vendor) we've talked to said they had way more sales or persons stopping by and the food vendors have had zero complaints. They said it was very steady and some even sold out their inventory for the first night."

According to some indicators from wifi usage, it could be estimated that approximately 2,500 - 3,000 people attended the week-long event which costs around \$300,000 to put on—an amount of money and work, which County Fair Treasurer Robin Dulas said never stops.

"We couldn't do this without our board, our volunteers, and of course our many sponsors," Dulas said.

Planners and helpers, whom Dulas says are too numerous to list, include the 15-person board, treasurer, the Hockey Association, the local Boy Scouts chapter, and many, many more.

"A lot of people think we just show up a week before the fair, but really it's a year-long process," Waseca Fair volunteer Tyler Huber said. "When it all comes together, that's the best memory. Oh, and it's always good seeing a packed grandstand on Friday night. Seeing the families having a good time makes it all worth it."



Surrounding Magic Norm prior to his final performance on Sunday July 17, are Jaxon, Avery, and Jace Seovik; Griffin Storey; Braxton Rowe; Lilly Muff and Michael Petsinger.



Evelyn Sommers celebrates with family following her performance in the Open Class Dairy Show



Arya and Jennifer Jutzi enjoy face painting



Amelia Madsen



Little buddy Tangen



Hadley Roeker

Imaginary Invalid July 29-31

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

The idea for the July 29-31 production of *Imaginary Invalid* was born as Waseca graduates and theater enthusiasts Elijah Ayers and Patrick Leigh attended one of this spring's high school productions.

Energized by what they had just seen, the two bounced around a range of creative ideas, then contacted the Waseca Community Education department to make their dream a reality. Because Waseca has not had community theater on its stage in seven years, one important goal of this play is to try to reintroduce community theater as a whole. If the community shows interest, then there is a possibility to do it again next year and continue the program.

"The goal of the show is to entertain," says Ayers. "We want the audience to have fun and the cast to have fun and if we get both of that, we've succeeded." The *Imaginary Invalid* is a 400-year-old French



Emily Rux portrays an emotional moment during *Imaginary Invalid*.

comedy. "It's very wordy and it's very much a 'talking head' play," explains Leigh, saying that the droning comedy of the show is completely worth it. The play is a form of humor still used in modern comedy, in which a joke is dragged along until finally it becomes funny again.

"Because you hear that it's a 400-year-old French play, you come into

Invalid continued on 8

A 'Kozy' time

70 years at Waseca Music

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff Writer

Jim Kozan is a name that most Wasecans are quite familiar with. Having lived in this town for about 60 of his 73 years, Kozan has been an important part of the community via his small business, Waseca Music Co., as well as his many music endeavors.

This year, Waseca Music marks its 70th year of business, having first been acquired by Kozan's parents in 1952. That's not the only way music was central in the Kozan household.

"My mother and dad met because they were both accordion players," Kozan said.

When he was three years old, Kozan's parents took over the current Waseca Music Company after the owners of the business previously housed in the building decided to sell out their store. The Kozans approached the owners, Perrin and Brisbane, and offered to take any inventory that they didn't sell - and thus, the Waseca Music Company began.

"Dad did repairs at night, and Ruth ran the store during the day - she did that for 52 years," Kozan said.

Kozan first started working for his parents' shop when he was 10. "My mom gave me 30 cents," he said, "and I thought, 'oh, my God' - we had no tax back then - with 30 cents, I could get six candy bars!"

Since then, Kozan has remained involved with the store, officially taking ownership in 2006. In the 1970s, during some of his earlier days performing music with various groups, he met his wife of 44 years, Judy. Judy ran the office for a company that put bands



Waseca Music owner Jim Kozan stands proudly in an aisle filled with vinyl records. The business has been in the Kozan family since 1952, with Jim taking ownership in 2006. Pioneer photo by Jessica Lutgens

together at the time, and Kozan happened to be in one of those bands. The band chose Kozan, then 28, to be its business manager, so to speak, which meant a lot of communication with Judy.

The relationship continued from there, with the two eventually marrying and having three children: Amber, now 43 with four children of her own; Clint, 38; and Clayton, 35.

In the 1990s, Judy was notably elected the first female mayor of Waseca,

Kozan continued on 7

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Two 100th birthdays observed

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

100-year birthdays were celebrated at the regular Waseca city council meeting at 7 pm July 19, but no, it wasn't the mayor reaching this significant milestone. As the meeting closed, Mayor Srp read and signed celebration declarations recognizing two 100-year-olds as honorable and outstanding citizens of Waseca: Audrey Stafford, whose 100th birthday is August 4, and Dolores Sommers, whose 100th birthday is August 2.

Action Agenda

This week's action agenda included a motion for a no parking zone on the north side of 4th Avenue NW in Waseca. The request explained that there is no room for two-way traffic when cars are parked on both sides of the street, leaving only 10 feet for each driving lane. As two minor accidents involving side mirrors have happened, council members approved a motion designating a no parking zone and the installation of "no parking" signs.

Added to the agenda by council member Jeremy Conrath, a discussion about park vandalism took place. Conrath informed the council of another vandalism incident which had happened that day at University Park, with two 10-year-olds damaging the bathrooms to a point where water overflowed; both the police and utility had to be called to shut the water off. The council has decided to bring this issue up to the park board during its August meeting.

Also addressed during the meeting was internet service used at the airport and wastewater treatment plant. Current service is operating off of a hot-spot and has proven unreliable. Working on this issue since 2019, staff members at the treatment plant are looking at having underground cable installed for

Council continued on 6



STAR GAZING
by Eli Lutgens
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A hundred dollar bill and a smile

I had an incredible time at the fair this week.

Perhaps I should have kept a list of all the people who wanted to wish my father well, who asked whether I'm "Jimmy's boy" or who told me I'm their cousin. I would say I don't have words for the warm welcome we've received at the paper, but that would be a lie. I have many, many words.

The first two subscribers who walked into our temporary office on July 1 do a nice job of illustrating the welcome we have received.

A fellow, a veteran wearing all camo and a "Pawn Stars" t-shirt, walked into our temporary office and asked for "the newspaper people." He said he had never in his life ever subscribed to a newspaper and told me ours was the first one he had ever read that was worth subscribing to.

The next person who walked into the office handed me a hundred dollar bill, smiled, and said, "I don't need any change. Keep it. Or better yet, buy someone else a subscription with the change."

The comments, the letters (many handwritten), the hugs, the Facebook posts, the voicemails, the emails: The number and variety of ways people have chosen to express their enthusiasm and support simply take my breath away. I can't help including my favorite comment, one from Jurgen Peters which had me laughing for a considerable time: "Finally! A local newspaper I won't be wrapping fish in or lining a bird cage with!"

I'm reminded of a recent interaction at our printer, House of Print in Madelia. Michael, myself and Darin (our driver who usually picks up the papers) were all there to acquire and deliver our first edition—a total of 9,000 papers, which when stacked together stood taller than me and wider than I am tall.

Once we arrived, in three separate vehicles, I walked into the office to meet Brenda Ahern face to face. Although I delivered the Star Eagle newspapers for three years, which meant I drove the hour and

a half to Madelia every week, I had never met Brenda in person. She and Dean Schilling handle everything we do at House of Print. Their business prints newspapers from across at least 4 states. I made a point of finding her that day because I wanted to thank her for everything she does.

Well, anyways, I walked inside to meet her at the same time she walked outside to meet me. So outside I went to shake her hand for the first time.

She said she was proud of us. She was holding a sample copy and told me she had never seen a paper quite like ours.

Many members of the plant also came out to make comments. It was almost a line of people with glowing things to say.

Next was Dean. I asked to see him. After walking me through a literal maze (it's a large printing company) we came to Dean's office, tucked away with no windows.

"If I had windows I could escape," Dean joked.

I shook his hand and started to thank him and Brenda, saying what an important job they have and the vital role they provide. Without them, we couldn't print this paper, the Star Eagle, the "Golden Link," or the Janesville Journal. Oh and the Steele County Times is printed there as well.

But he stopped me. They both stopped me.

"This is my job," Brenda said. "No thanks is needed," Dean added as Brenda nodded along.

So now, when people thank us, I know what to say.

"This is my job."

And I love it.

P.S. There are false rumors going around that the *Janesville Journal*, *NRHEG Star Eagle* and the *Waseca County Pioneer* are planning to consolidate. They are three separate entities and are going to stay that way. News coverage, subscriptions and specials will all remain distinct to their respective communities.

The Waseca County Free Fair reminded me that even in a small county of 19,000 people, there is a lot to do and write about.

One of my favorite events this year was the demolition derby. Even though I had been covering the fair for the last few years for the Janesville Journal, I had never gone to the derby: I only realized how much awesomeness I had been missing out on when the time came for me to sit and watch the chaos happen in front of me. It's crazy how watching aggressive drivers destroying each others' vehicles gives such an adrenaline rush. I can only imagine how that same rush felt for the drivers.

That night, like every other night I covered something at the fair's grandstand, I took a few random photos of the carnival rides—the ferris wheel, the swings, the zipper. The bright lights were gorgeous, and I couldn't help thinking of the random scenes from the *Netflix* series *Stranger Things* which show the fair going on during the 4th of July in Hawkins, IN (a fictional town in the show).

It got me thinking about the '80s for some reason. I guess it helped that the first thing I heard on the radio was Tears for Fears' "Everybody Wants to Rule the World." That



Well, like I said...

by Michael Roy
copyright © 2022 by Michael Roy

song is such a quintessential '80s tune that hearing it makes me feel like I've been transported back in time.

And it got me feeling this weird sense of...nostalgia? I don't know how to describe it. It felt like I had those same feelings as nostalgia - longing, reminiscence, and a sense of soberness. But how could I feel nostalgia about a time in which I never lived?

I feel like there has also been a 1980s revival going on lately. Neon-colored everything is making its way back into style, songs like "Levitating" by Dua Lipa have that 2020 pop feel with a sheen of '80s funk, and you have shows like *Stranger Things* based in the mid '80s that references a lot of pop culture during the time. Songs like "Everybody Wants to Rule the World" are not only celebrated but covered by bands like Weezer. Even metal bands like Def

Leppard and Journey still sell out a stadium or two once in a while 40 years later.

I find that when I write songs - whenever I get a hot minute to do that - they have some kind of 1980s feel to them. Part of that is because I love the sound of synthesizers and electric pianos, especially the saw synthesizer. You can hear it in songs like "Everybody Wants to Rule the World," Hall and Oates' "Out of Touch," and in Def Leppard's "Foolin'." Even Judas Priest - one of the heaviest metal acts of all time - had a brief phase where they used synthesizers in songs like "Turbo Lover" and "Locked In."

I have always wondered if the 1980s were as good as the music, movies, and modern-day media make them out to have been. I have always wanted to stop a few people on the street and ask them if the '80s were really as good as advertised.

Humble and kind in memory of a young man

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
I saw a great baseball game on TV last night.
Which one?
The one in my man cave.
DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It was so hot, my neighbor sat in his garage and stared fondly at his snow shovel. I walked in an herb garden and wondered where the thyme went. I'd listened to someone at lunch complain vehemently because his sandwich hadn't any mustard. "Enjoy every sandwich," singer-songwriter Warren Zevon advised while discussing his terminal cancer diagnosis.

A man left his cat with his brother. He called to ask about the cat. His brother hesitated before saying, "I'm sorry, but your cat died."

The caller was upset and yelled, "You could have broken the news to me a little gentler. You could have said my cat was on the roof and wouldn't come down. Then you could have said that he fell off and you took him to the vet to patch him up. Then, you could have said he'd passed away."

The brother thought about it and apologized.

"So, how's Mom?" asked the man. "She's on the roof and won't come down," said his brother.

I heard from a teacher/friend who had cancer. We shared many



Compostings

by Al Batt
copyright © 2022 by Al Batt

things—a love of birds and an appreciation of humor. He was thoughtful and composed in revealing he was down to his last "couple days, a week." I wasn't composed. I shed tears. His sense of humor remained intact, but he was on the roof. He hoped to leave the planet better than he'd found it. He did.

ASK AL
"What is the purpose of raccoons?" They let us know when the sweet corn is ripe.

"I saw a tern being shadowed by another tern. Whatever one did, the other did likewise. What were they doing?" One was a tern and the other was an intern gaining valuable experience.

"Why do vultures fly in circles?" They're rerouting.

WILT THE STILT AND THE SPLENDID SPLINTER

I read a wonderful piece in *Sports Illustrated* (August 2022) titled "Bovine Decline" by Steve Rushin. I grew up on a dairy farm where milk was on the menu for every meal and snack. Rushin wrote about 7-foot-1 Wilt Chamberlain drinking a half-gallon of milk after he scored 100

points in an NBA game. Ted "The Splendid Splinter" Williams drank two quarts of milk after Red Sox games. 1941 was the peak annual milk consumption at 744 glasses per capita.

NATURE NOTES
What should you do if you find an injured animal? Call the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota at 651-486-9453. If you find an injured raptor, contact the University of Minnesota Raptor Center at 612-624-4745.

Bird, Incubation period, Nestling period

American robin,	12-14 days,	9-16 days
House finch,	13-14,	days
11-19 days		
Mourning dove,	14	days,
11-15 days		
Northern cardinal,	11-13	days
,7-13 days		
Barn swallow,	12-17	days,
15-24 days		

If you have a robin battling a window, it's because it sees its reflection in the glass and thinks it's seeing a rival male and tries to drive the offender out of the territory. Covering

I believe it depends heavily on your thoughts on then-President Ronald Reagan or United Kingdom Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. If you loved them, the '80s were when America and the world were at their peak. If you hated them, the 1980s were glorified and are now overly fantasized. I have yet to meet a person I've discussed this topic with who doesn't have some opinion on either world leader. It seems as if people either loved Reagan and Thatcher or hated them. Maybe those that didn't care were too busy banging their head to Quiet Riot.

When it comes to nostalgia, sometimes I wonder if you can truly have that type of feeling for a time you never lived in. I am of the belief that if reincarnation is real, I had to have been reincarnated from someone who lived in the 1980s. Maybe I was an unsuccessful musician whose name no one remembered.

In any case, *Stranger Things* is a great show and "Everybody Wants to Rule the World" is a fantastic song. Maybe someday, we'll have music as good as there was back then. No offense to today's artists, but I just can't listen to Billie Eilish or Imagine Dragons anymore.

the window glass on the outside with a trash bag, cardboard, soap or plastic cling could stop the behavior. Avoid using fake snakes and owl statues. They're a waste of money. If the bird is attacking your car mirrors, either move the car or cover the mirrors with bags.

Poison ivy is a salad bar for some animals, but not for humans. Every part of the poison ivy plant is poisonous to us. Humans and possibly a few other primates are the only animals that react to poison ivy. Your dog and cat don't get it (You could get it from their fur.), nor do birds, deer, squirrels, snakes, bears and insects. I've watched deer feed on the plant. Some people are immune to urushiol, the compound poison ivy produces that causes an itchy rash. Other people think they are immune. Studies have shown that, as the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases, it boosts the growth of poison ivy plants. Bigger, stronger poison ivy plants produce more urushiol. As the Coasters sang in "Poison Ivy," "Measles make you bumpy. And mumps'll make you lumpy. And chicken pox'll make you jump and twitch. A common cold'll fool ya. And whooping cough'll cool ya. But poison ivy, Lord'll make you itch!"

MEETING ADJOURNED
I visited with a man wearing a T-shirt encouraging us to be humble and kind in memory of a young man killed in a car accident on his way to the Stoughton (Wisconsin) Fair.

Dear Editor,
Thanks to you and your journalists for providing our community with interesting articles and photos in the Waseca County Pioneer. Keep up the good work!
Marie and Russell Tesch



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

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Skeletons in a \$50 million mansion

Basically all of my life I've wanted more for myself than I already had. That's not to say I'm unhappy, only that I am extremely aspirational. Though my delusions of fame and fortune faded as I began to recognize the pitfalls of a life in the public eye, I still want to be successful and important enough to have undeniable influence, at least someday.

I'm not exactly sure what type of innovation can or will come from me, but I see enough potential in what I've accomplished already that my dreams are within sight and closer to reality. My optimism has come in the form of a series of writing-related opportunities that have me considering writing as my final career field in a way that I never had before. I don't know to what level I'm pursuing writing long-term: A number of people have told me I should write a book; I have dipped my toes in journalism more seriously lately; I enjoy writing poetry from time to time, and I also probably have a knack for public relations writing. The latter is actually going to be a class I take next semester, so we'll see.

Certainly, all of the right ingredients are here for me to ride this wave and thrive, but everything worthwhile does take time. Just this week, I went to the Elvis movie and



*Looking in the Mirror
Looking in the Mirror*

by Jonah Stafford
copyright © 2022 by Jonah Stafford

if even the King of Rock and Roll faced obstacles on his road to the top, what does that say for the rest of us? Before capturing the popular zeitgeist, Elvis Presley was a loner teen musician who was jeered by his peers for wearing too much makeup and greasing his hair. Even once his career got going, his success was hampered by a mountain of haters who believed that his music, with a combination of country and gospel influences, was creating a generation of hooligans.

One standout aspect of the Elvis movie was that it showcased musicians such as Big Mama Thornton (of "Hounddog" fame), who originally wrote and performed many of the songs we now associate with Presley. Similarly, my writing is only as good as where I learned my habits from.

One avenue I'm potentially exploring is the business/entrepreneur-

ship side of things. I would melt away like the witch on the Wizard of Oz if the opportunity to lead or start a business presented itself into my life now, but someday being the man in control does interest me in the long-term. Being at the forefront of innovation is exciting as well! Steve Jobs got people out of their seats to invest fortunes in the latest gadgets. Mark Zuckerberg is kind of a laughing stock now, but turning his college dating app into the largest and most-used social network in the world was no small feat, either. That's not even mentioning the granddad of Silicon Valley- college dropout turned tech innovator Bill Gates, whose Microsoft empire has landed him among the world's richest people.

A thirst to be included in lists of innovative, influential, and affluent individuals like those above is healthy: everyone should dream of success and manifest their talents and

skills to their maximum potential for the betterment of themselves and society. However, it's a matter of achieving notability honestly and fairly: Mark Zuckerberg sleeps in a \$50 million mansion, but I'd bet he is still haunted at night by the Winklevoss twins, who are skeletons in his closet. Seriously, watch *The Social Network* if you haven't yet! Fascinating stuff. That's not even to mention the infamous false innovators of recent years: Elizabeth Holmes promised a future that included pocket-sized blood testing machines and allowed people to take their healthcare into their own hands. Unfortunately for Ms. Holmes, the college-dropout-innovator lightning did not strike 3 times and her invention was a pure farce. She was found guilty on felony fraud charges just this year, for lying to both investors and users of her company's inaccurate blood tests.

Let me just say that, although I'd love to lead the charge in a breakthrough, especially within the media sector, I want to go down in history as a Gates and not a Holmes. But, even as I'm writing this column, my impact is here to stay- my words are in print and as my life continues, I only seek to aim higher.

Waseca County Free Fair 2022



Great Frontier Bull Riding was the first show at the Waseca County Free Fair Grandstand Thursday, July 14. The event featured bull riders from across the country with Clown Dalton Wells providing entertainment between rides including skits, dancing to music, and hyping the crowd.

Pioneer photos by Michael Roy



Hypnotist Freddie Justice was one of the many acts to hit the free stage on Thursday, July 14 at the Waseca County Free Fair. Justice demonstrated the power of hypnotism by having volunteers on stage type on a typewriter, play an instrument in an orchestra, and dance to "Footloose."



Nearly 100 kids ages 4-11, participated in the Kids' Power Pedal Pull on Thursday, July 14. The top three contestants in each age group received a voucher to compete in the state power pedal pull in Fairmont in September. Pictured above is six-year-old contestant Isabel Schoenfeld.



The Enduro races concluded the events at Waseca County Free Fair Grandstand Saturday, July 16. A total of 37 compact and full-sized cars raced for either an hour or 150 laps, whichever came faster. Taking it easy on the first turn of the track are, at the top, from left, Tate Baue, Adam Gransee, Jack Schrot, and Nick VonRuden. Jerry Coopman, left, attempts to sneak past Jack Schrot to take his spot in the race. Tanner Chadderon, right, attempts to keep his spot as Nick Vonruden approaches him from behind.



Kyle "the Krusher" Bathke, left, is shown in the compact heat of the derby. He also drove in the minivan and standard weld classes. The fairground crew, middle, check on Tristan Langford after he took a brutal hit to his minivan. Brandon Paul and Jason Pestorious, right, have a head-on collision.



Logan Ayers, left, accepts his trophy for first place in the stock truck class. Spencer Velzke, middle, had some difficulty moving around as fire shot out of his vehicle's front exhaust pipes. Sage Stanke, right, is greeted with the first trophy of the night.



Jason Pagel, left, rams the side of Scott Christian's car. Logan Johnson, middle, won the \$50 award for crushing the watermelon in the compact class. Thomas Budin, right, drives away from the smoke and pile of cars behind him.

Pioneer photos by Michael Roy

It's a derby, not a dance party

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

There was a sellout crowd at Waseca County Fair Grandstand Friday, July 15 as cars, trucks, and minivans went to battle at the demolition derby. This event only required a small section of the track, which the fairgrounds crew muddled up for the night's action.

The derby had an array of prizes, including trophies for the top three spots, an award for "hardest hitter," and a \$50 cash bonus for whoever crushed a watermelon set at the center of the track at the beginning of each round.

The demolition derby included seven heats: stock cars, stock trucks, compacts, minivans, 80s chain, limited welds, and standard welded cars. The variety provided plenty of entertainment throughout the evening.

Stock Cars: Three drivers partici-

pated: Sage Stanke won the heat and took the hardest hitter award. Blake Craig took second. Dominic Stoecker took third place and captured the \$50 bonus for crushing the watermelon.

Stock Trucks: Three drivers battled in this category. Logan Ayers took a clean sweep of the prizes, winning first place, the hardest hitter award, and the \$50 bonus. Erich Velske took second while Sam Jewett placed third.

Compacts: Eight contestants registered for the compact class. Jacob Johnson took first prize, with Gavin Sonnsen taking second and the hardest hitter award. John Stanke took third with Logan Johnson taking the \$50 for crushing the watermelon.

Minivans: Eight drivers took part in this heat. It was a close battle between Kyle "the Krusher" Bathke and Brandon Paul for first place. For a couple of minutes, the two went

around in circles trying to get a hit on each other. The announcer shouted at one point, "This is a demolition derby, not a dance party!"

Kyle "the Krusher" Bathke claimed first prize, with Brandon Paul taking second and the hardest hitter prize. Jason Pestorious took third prize. Tristan Langford took the prize for crushing the watermelon.

80s Chain: This heat featured 14 vehicles, the most in the ring at one time throughout the derby. Taking first was Tom Stern, with Brandon "the Sledge" Hammer taking second and the hardest hitter award. Kyle "the Krusher" Bathke took third place. Adam Thelen got the \$50 watermelon prize.

Limited Weld: Seven trucks participated in this category. When the mud settled, Matt Schwartz had taken first place. Matt Rossow took third place and the hardest hitter

award, with Mitch Tix taking second place and the watermelon bonus.

Standard Weld: 11 drivers battled in the final heat of the night. It was the longest and most entertaining face-off of the entire derby, going for over 20 minutes with two watermelons at the center of the track instead of one. This heat also featured Kyle "the Krusher" Bathke for the third time in the derby.

It came down to Bathke and Kollin Lange. At the last minute, Bathke had issues backing away from the track wall, leaving Lange the perfect opportunity to smash into and pin him, giving Lange the victory and leaving Bathke to settle for second. Jason Pagel took third, with Nick Richardson receiving the watermelon bonus and Doug Lund named as the round's hardest hitter.

Waseca County Free Fair



Dennis Knutson, Elma Tollefson



Jenna Krassin, Pete Madel



Paul Byron, Greg Matz and John Conway



Vicki Neidt and Keith Sykora of CERT which boasts about 15 volunteers



Brittany Kruegar and Ann Fitch work the Waseca Chamber booth giving away many donated items, including their "famous" pens.



Sue McKay



Team Academy's Janae Ross and Amanda Partain



Patty Archembault, Kristi Cambas, Kelly Breck



Janelle Schmidt started Scentsy Wick-liss Candles 8 years ago as a hobby



Chloe



Alora Flintrop, Marianna, Jay Dulas



Ralph Roesler, McKenna Miller



Evelyn Sommers presenting in the Open Class Dairy Show



Richard Rohn, Vernon Prechel



Lynn Carlson, Don Behrns



Lexie Herman, Nicole Logsdon



Kasie Kuckenbeck and Kayln Sandmeyer



Hannah Sommers



Andrea Roemhildt, Kelly Olmsted, Angela Ristau, Robin Janssen, Sara "I run this place" Ruedy, and Jess Royer



Brett and Babs Miller



Karlee Grams, Isaac Eaton



Aurora W.



Gemma Eaton was told to "yell it loud" before announcing whose order was ready in the 4H building



Melissa Eaton and Clair Bartelt high five as they run the 4H register

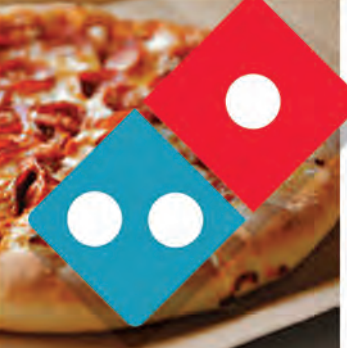


Melissa Eaton, Clair Bartelt, and Randi Eaton helped serve more than 100 people by noon on Saturday



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Farm and City Days July 8-10



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Daniel, Matt Petsinger



Jane Tappe



Liam



Amelia Roessler, Jill and Jade Peterson



Helping fair office, sitting at the table from left: Noah Battenfeld and Jennie Johnson. Standing from left: Ali Miller, Jeff Johnson, Jenny Graupmann, Kelly Martens, Kaitlyn Androli, Robin Dulas



Photogenic



Emerson Braund



Ripples



Lori Arnold



I mustache you a question



Officer Jolene Gundermann



Duey Ferber



Blakeley



Blakeley



Sondra Herman



Paul Archambault



Cece Bjerke, Maddie Mosser and Tanika Johnson



Amelia Madsen



Brianna



MOO!

Photos by Eli Lutgens

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Railroad to install materials at Teal Street crossing

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

In relatively routine business during its July 19 meeting, the Waseca County Board of Commissioners accepted a \$55,030 bid from SF Enterprises to repair and clean county ditch 50 in sections 3 and 4 of Wilton Township, approved an “affirmative action” plan required for all entities which receive federal funding, and confirmed that the county will provide its 10% share (the other 90% being covered by federal monies) of the costs to install new safety equipment at the railroad crossing along Teal Street in Janesville.

Regarding the expected \$256,000 costs for the railroad crossing, Public Works director Jim Kollar explained that the Union Pacific Railroad will be acquiring and installing all needed materials and equipment at the Teal Street crossing within the next 18 months, with the costs to be covered by government agencies. Discussion among the commissioners revealed that Teal Street/County Rd. 5 is a busy street and a designated truck route.

Another action taken by the board was to pass a resolution saying that it is represented by legal council in upcoming mediation regarding processes followed by the “Southern Country Health Alliance,” a group of 10 area counties who work together to procure government-subsidized health insur-

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ance for eligible individuals within their constituency. According to board member Blain Nelson, the mediation is occurring because of some dispute over whether the 10 counties can legally seek bids as a group, or must all seek bids individually. According to county administrator Michael Johnson, this particular resolution simply carries out “due diligence” in assuring that the county “has a voice” in the mediation process.

Johnson also informed commissioners he is meeting with department chairs to work toward determining a preliminary budget that will be used to determine the tax levy for taxes payable in 2023. Commissioners expressed concern regarding the current 9% inflation rate. Board member DeAnne Malterer stated the commissioners’ hope that a steady, reliable pattern of tax levies could be maintained, as opposed to one which goes up and down. Johnson assured board members that he was working toward that goal.

Johnson also reported that construction projects within the courthouse are coming to a close, with cleanup due by the end of July and county workers looking forward to the space being “organized and functional.”

Two officers, chief, resign

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff Writer

The New Richland City Council held a special meeting on Monday, July 18 to accept the resignation of Josh Knudtson as Chief of Police and discuss a plan for finding a replacement. The notice of resignation came after Knudtson was offered a position with the Waseca County Sheriff's Office, which he accepted. His last day as New Richland Chief of Police will be August 5. Earlier in the month, two other part-time officers also resigned and accepted positions in Waseca.

In his letter of resignation, Knudtson wrote, "The last 18 months have been a great opportunity for me to grow in this career. Thank you for this opportunity to serve the community of New Richland and the residents that call New Richland home. I have learned a lot and grown a lot here and look forward to taking those

experiences and relationships on my next endeavor."

Knudtson gave special thanks to City Administrator Tony Martens, former New Richland Chief of Police, for his help, guidance, and mentorship during Knudtson's time as an officer with the NRPD as well as his time as chief.

"Not many Chiefs get the opportunity to work for their Chief as their administrator and I am forever grateful for that opportunity," Knudtson wrote.

After receiving notice of Knudtson's resignation, Martens reached out to New Richland's Officer Bruegger, who may be willing to serve as acting chief until a replacement can be found. No official commitment on her part has been made, however. In the meantime, Martens requested approval to post the open chief position online, as the department is required by Minnesota

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

Statute to have a chief of police.

It was noted by the council and Martens that trouble finding and keeping officers is not just a local issue, but a state-wide one, as evidenced by the number of postings online from cities around the state in need of officers and chiefs.

"We are not alone [in this]," said Mayor Gail Schmidt.

Martens noted that many officers have also been transitioning to other departments that offer better pay or sign-on bonuses, which isn't something that can be offered by New Richland at this time.

"It's a new, confounding problem," Martens said. "Larger departments are [taking] 20-year veterans from other departments, offering signing bonuses, and [departments are] los-

ing [officers with] knowledge and training."

Councilperson Loren Skelton asked if the city could offer signing bonuses to draw more applicants, as two other officers recently resigned from the NRPD.

"As a city, we cannot provide a bonus, but we can offer incentive pay," Martens said. "We can say, 'If you choose to stay for a year, we can give you \$500.' That's the biggest problem between the city/public and private - private has free will to toss money around, and it's not that way for the public."

The council approved posting the position online, and Martens stated that conversations with Officer Bruegger will continue. The matter will be discussed further during the next council meeting on Monday, July 25. The special meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Agreement reached on sports fields

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

In a one-hour meeting the evening of Monday, July 18, NRHEG School Board members addressed a wide variety of business, including recent maintenance and upgrade projects on athletic fields, the acquisition of a replacement “mobility” van capable of transporting students in wheelchairs, and approval of a recently negotiated contract with the employee union representing office staff, food service and custodial workers.

During superintendent Michael Meihak's report, he mentioned that the school board, representatives of the City of New Richland, and spokespersons from various athletic organizations had met to discuss the status of the baseball and softball fields located on city property near Highway 13. Because the district does not own the property, it cannot spend money directly on facility up-

grades. However, the district plans to take part in a lease agreement which will help provide funding for the improvements.

School board chair Rick Schultz commented that the agreement seemed like “a good collaboration between the parties that will help meet everyone's needs.” During his report, Meihak also called attention to upgrades and repairs at other sports venues used by the school, including resurfacing and painting of the track and the sanding and refinishing of the basketball court in the high school gym.

With an annual audit set to begin next month, the administration is also in the process of continually reviewing its budget for the 2022-23 school year. Business manager Karla Christopherson informed board members that efforts are being made to apply money from federal and state funding sources in such a way

NRHEG SCHOOL BOARD

as to keep the district's local tax levy as reasonable as possible.

A discussion about the already-delayed purchase of a replacement “mobility” van led into further observations about the difficulty the school district and other organizations are having in moving forward with construction projects and vehicle purchases. It was commented that some care companies are no longer even manufacturing suitable vans, and that the district has been waiting overly long for the deliver a new bus ordered some time ago. Also mentioned was the planned upgrade of the entry which leads directly into the high school gym: once scheduled for last fall, the reconstruction now has an anticipated start date in January.

Board members also voted to approve the terms of a contract recently negotiated with the secretarial, food service and custodial staff working for the district. With an overall pay increase of roughly 2% per year, the members of the employee group had voted unanimously to approve the contract.

The board also acknowledged the receipt of nearly \$11,000 in donations over the past months. Nearly \$9,800 of that was the value of 14 laptop computers purchased for the business education department through a Carl Perkins grant obtained by teacher Lise Weegman. Weegman has also applied for and received other grant monies for her department over the past couple of years; To Weegman, who was present at the meeting, board chair Rick Schultz commented, “Keep up the good work!”

■ Council

from Page 1

both facilities, since doing so would provide reliable access. Online technology allows staff to work remotely with vendors in diagnosing maintenance or repairs at the plant. Council approved this non budgeted project, with the plant and airport each scheduled to pay for their own portions of the installation.

Also discussed at the meeting was the council's financial participation in road repairs underway in Woodville Township. Waseca's 14th Ave. SE/ 139th Street is receiving an overlay, with the full reconstruction of the road expected some time in the future, after possible grants and other sources of funding can be arranged. The council consented to contribute to the cost of the overlay, with the expectation that the amount of the assistance will be taken into account when the future project occurs.

Public Comment

During the public comment section, Waseca citizen Donald H. asked the council to look into providing an option for citizens to be able to fill out a form with their mortgage or deed that states that no action may be taken against a piece of property or its deed holder without the physical presence of that person.

City Manager Report

City Manager Lee Mattson pre-

sented numerous items, one of which was the “Vision 2030” project, which previously surveyed area residents about the types of goals and initiatives they would like to see for the city. It was moved to proceed with the work of an updated survey to establish where the community stands.

Work is in progress to finalize the purchase of land in the Fox Meadow subdivision. It is plotted and most of it has electricity and infrastructure already installed. Construction has started as well, with one house already framed and other lots either sold or spoken for.

8th St. SE Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Project Update

For the reconstruction section north of the railroad tracks, the base and intermediate bituminous courses have been completed and the backfilling of dirt along curb and gutter, driveways, and along sidewalks has begun. Work expected this week includes completing utility adjustments, preparing for final restoration/seeding, and completing backfilling. The placement of surface pavement is anticipated for the following week.

For the rehabilitation of the south section of the railroad tracks, the completion of sewer repairs and pavement milling happened last week. This week, full depth patches will be filled with 3” of bituminous base, the intermediate course will be placed, and utility adjustments will begin. It is anticipated that the surface pavement will be placed the following week.

Bus service currently looking for drivers

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School Board looked over a proposed contract between the district and Palmer Bus Service at its meeting on Monday, July 18. The contract will go into effect for two years beginning August 1, with an option to extend for up to four additional contract years.

Palmer was the only local busing service to give the district a quote that satisfied its specifications. Changes from past agreements include a two-step fuel clause that determines how Palmer Bus Service and JWP cover the cost of fuel. When fuel prices exceed \$3.50 a gallon, the district pays 70 percent with Palmer paying 30. When the cost is between \$2.75 and \$3.50, the cost will be split 60-40. They will “revert to the old contract language” if fuel costs go below \$2.75 a gallon.

Tom Watson, CEO of Watson Consulting, told the school board members that Palmer Bus Service will also look into getting an app for parents to track the locations of their kids' buses in real time. “We can have that as a separate item to look into in the future,” he said.

Board members heard a report from Tim Engel - Janesville Manager of Palmer Bus Service - who is currently looking for five drivers for the JWP school districts, but has been unable to fill the positions despite the company's large ad campaign this summer.

“We hope to get the word out that [driving bus] is not that big and not that scary,” he said. “Help is hard to find. Soon, I'll need to explore more options and have a plan B.”

Superintendent Jeremy Erler reported that the construction project within the school is doing well. “We are approximately 54 percent done,” he told the board. “Things are coming together.”

Although mostly on schedule, Erler stated that a chiller has not yet arrived. “That's running behind even though we ordered that back in December. We may need something temporary so we have a dehumidified school before the year begins.”

Technology Director Mike Berding explained a new data privacy bill put in place by the Minnesota state legislature and how it will affect the upcoming school year. The bill in question amends a state statute concerning how technology vendors and third parties handle student data.

JWP SCHOOL BOARD

The new law requires schools to prepare a list of tools used for their curriculum, testing, or assessment within 30 days of the start of the school year. The law also requires school districts to give every parent a link to the school's policy and terms of service.

The law allows for more transparency between the school and the parents. “If there's any piece of information on a student's device that is cause for concern and an imminent threat to life or safety, we have to notify the parents within 72 hours,” Berding said. “We will respond whether or not it's a false positive.”

Berding acknowledged that it was a lot of info to take in in one sitting. “It may be complicated, but it's for the greater good,” he said.

JWP's Community Education Director Andrea Kronbach gave a proposal to change some items on the school's Wrap Around and School Age Care programs. The proposal would give pay increases to the program leader, aides, and assistants

within the community education sector of the school. Hourly wages for aides will go from \$11 to \$12, assistants \$12 to \$14.75, and a leader from \$13 to \$16.85.

“I feel like the proposal that we've put together will help us retain good employees,” Kronbach said. “It keeps us competitive with the rates in the area as well. We've had staff leave for places like Panera Bread because they paid more than we do.”

The proposal also makes the roles of these positions clearer. “In the past, the titles and positions within community education have been all over the place,” Kronbach explained. “This helps us identify what the positions are in the SAC program and what said positions entail.”

The group finished the meeting acknowledging donations from four donors. The Waseca Area Foundation donated \$1,000 to go toward the J. Priebe 2022 Scholarship. Lake Elysian Watershed Association donated \$500 for its 2022 scholarship. Douglas and Cheryl Lochner-Wright donated another \$500 for the Lochner Scholarship. \$50 was donated by Jason and Amy Westphal for the school's football team.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Rocky Nelson runs around the bases after the game. Right, second baseman Scott Hanson prepares to grab the ball in mid-air.



Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

A back and forth battle

Braves leave 14 runners on base in loss to Aces

In their final regular season action of the year, the Waseca Braves hosted Owatonna, falling 8-5, leaving 14 runners on, including the bases loaded in the final frame. A back and forth affair saw the Aces go up early, before the Braves tied it at three in the third. The Aces added two more in the fifth, one in the sixth and two more in the eighth. The Braves tacked on one in the sixth on an RBI ground-out and another in the seventh to cut the lead to one. Mistakes in the

field and multiple walks led to the Aces' final runs ultimately icing it. Despite the first two men reaching in the ninth, the Braves went down without adding any further runs. Kelvin Nelson led the Braves in hits going 3-5, followed by Ben Schoenrock and Alex Feeney who both had two hits apiece. The playoffs begin Saturday, July 23 at Morristown at 2 p.m. and then again on Sunday, either at Waterville or home against Lake Crystal.



Ethan Fox takes a big swing at the ball. This photo was taken during the Jays' game against the Braves July 10. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

Jays look to end the season 8-7

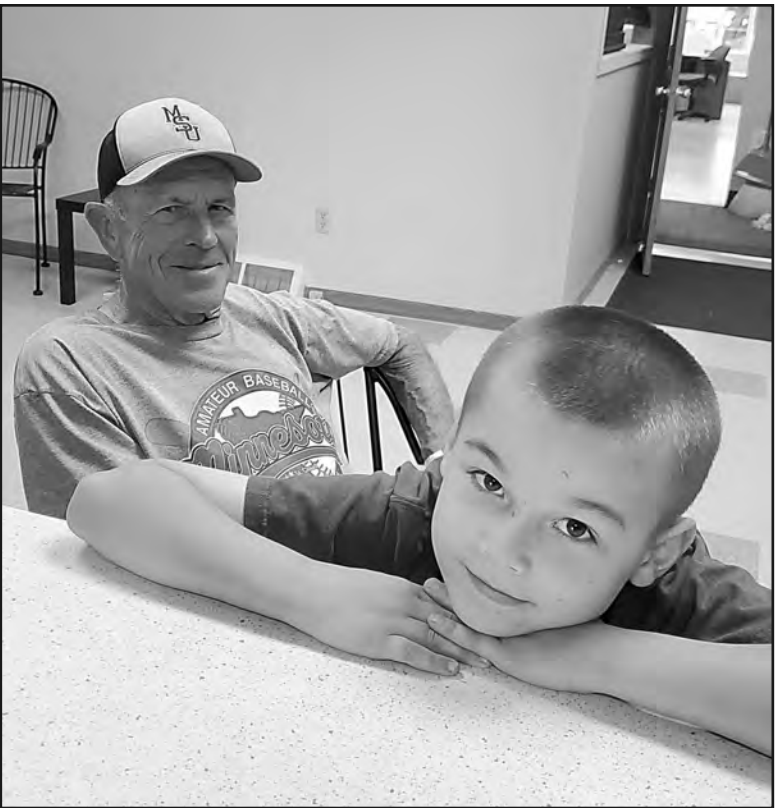
The Janesville Jays are looking to end their season with a winning record after starting the season as low as 1-7. With a huge 17-8 victory against the Eagle Lake Expos Wednesday, July 13, they are one game away from achieving that goal. This game wasn't the first match between the two teams. The Jays edged the Expos at home on July 6 for a 4-3 victory. It was a close battle that helped Janesville earn its fourth win of the season and added a third game to its winning streak. But this time around, the outcome was never in doubt. The Jays ran around the Expos at Mankato East's Thomas Park in Mankato to the tune of 17 runs while allowing eight. The win was the largest score differential in their favor since their 14-5 performance against Lake Crystal back in June. Janesville now has a six-game win streak and a 7-7 record. The team's last game of the regular season was against Faribault on Wednesday, July 21. Stay tuned for the results of that game in next week's paper.

Waseca-Steele Farmers Union to hold meeting

PRESS RELEASE
The Waseca/Steele County Farmers Union will hold its annual county convention at 5 p.m. Aug. 8 at the Boat House Grill and Bar in Waseca. (406 9th St NE lower level). Our guest speaker for this event will be Mr. Gary Wertish, president of the MN Farmers Union. No charge for this event. A cash bar is available. Food can be ordered off the house menu. The event will include policy discussions, election of next year's officers, and election of delegates to the annual state convention. This event is open to anyone interested in learning more about Farmers Union policy and its activities. Please call Roger Rucker for more information at 507-835-2111. Minnesota Farmers Union works to protect and enhance the economic interests and the quality of life of family farmers and ranchers and rural communities. MFU is a nonprofit membership-based organization. Membership is open to everyone. Learn more and join at www.mfu.org and follow MFU on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Meet your neighbor, Tink

Name: Tink Larson
Town: Waseca **Age:** 80
Hometown: Kasson
Family: Parents: Ilevorn and Wana; Siblings: Laurie and Karen; Children: Mike, Paul, Jodi; Grandchildren: Clint, Morgan, Tara (Mike); Jordan (Paul); Pepe and Jennifer (Jodi); Great-grandchildren: Wyatt and Abby (Pepe), Peyton (Jennifer); Croix (Clint); Elsie and Gemma (Tara)
Occupation: Retired, and still coaching
Hobbies: Coaching, site seeing, vacationing at national parks
My dream vacation would be: Visit every single major league baseball park in the country.
The best thing about small town living is: Little traffic and well known neighbors.
Last Good Book I Read: *Heaven is for Real*
Favorite TV show: Sportscenter
Favorite Food: Medium rare ribeye
All Time Favorite Movie: *For the love of the game*
Favorite Sports Team: Minnesota Twins
Favorite musical artists: Hank Williams Sr. or anything classic country from the '40s or '50s
My favorite activities when I was growing up: Playing ball
My biggest pet peeve: People who lie to me
The best advice I've ever received: You can't please everybody.
If I could have lunch with any one person, living or dead: Honus Wagner
Something about me that would surprise people: Tink baseball played against Satchel Page in Rochester MN in 1965. Page was playing with the Kansas City Monarchs and was called up to the big leagues later that season as part of promotional stunt at the age of 59 years old.



Neighbor Tink said it was by chance that he was able to accept a teaching job in Waseca when he did. He was only in town for one day, applied, and received a call the same day, later accepting the job. Had he not been in town, or applied and had a return phone call, he would not have been around for months, and likely would have been passed by.

■ Kozan from Page 1

"She was a tough cookie," Kozan said. "I can only compare her to [New Richland's] Margaret [Engesser] - she's right up that alley." During that time, being female and being elected mayor was no easy feat, though Judy's nine years of experience on the Waseca City Council helped pave the way. She also served as acting mayor while she was on the council when the mayor at the time was unavailable. "You had to have a lot of friends in order to sway [the public]," Kozan said. "In the history of my life, women have to do more than expected just to be considered to be doing the job." When she was elected mayor, Kozan's father - who also served as acting mayor for a period of time - was particularly happy. Following his wife's passing in the fall of 2021, Kozan continues to own and operate Waseca Music Company and perform with various musical groups. Over the years, the biggest change for the store has been the evolution of the internet.

Dieke and Steve McLoone. In 2015, the band was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame. "All the songs we made up were all kinds of jazz rock," Kozan recalled. "It was very difficult stuff." Once he and his wife had children, Kozan scaled back his performing for a while, though he continued as a one-man band for many years. "I didn't have time to rehearse with groups," he said, explaining that being a one-man band back then was very different than it is today. He used electronic percussion and vocalizers to harmonize his voice, but he had to create his own background music, starting with reel-to-reel recordings that he mixed down to cassettes for his performances. "I did that for more than a decade," he noted. "It's a life-saver when you have kids." Though his knowledge of all instruments is particularly impressive - and important for helping customers at his shop - Kozan's favorite instrument to play is the keyboard. He loves singing, as well. His keyboard skills are unique, as he is able to play bass with his left hand and chords and melodies with his right. "Whether it's a duo or a trio, that really makes it easier for bands," he said. "When you've got a keyboard player that can also play bass, that's great. You do a two-for-one thing." In 1994, Kozan had to step away from singing and playing due to a car accident that led to a stroke, causing him to lose his speech and memory of all songs. For 14 years, he switched gears and became a DJ, which allowed him to rehabilitate his voice and practice self-therapy in order to get back to singing and performing music. "I'm a lucky guy," he said. "It's wonderful that I was able to get my speech back, but what's amazing is the kidney that I got in 2006." In 2006, Kozan underwent a kidney transplant following a diagnosis of kidney disease 20 years prior. He discovered the problem with his kidney at age 37 after opting for a physical exam offered by Brown Printing, where he worked for over 18 years in HR, bindery, and as a supervisor in the paper warehouse. The exam cost \$5, and Kozan decided it would be worth the cost: the results, however, took him completely by surprise. "The test showed too much protein," he said. "They told me, 'Something isn't right, Jim - you need to go to a kidney specialist at Mayo.'" A biopsy at Mayo clinic led to the news that, in about 20 years, he would need a kidney transplant. "They were right on with that one," he said, explaining that the kidney he received was from a 19-year-old whose family donated his body after he passed away. "Now I'm 73 and my kidney is 35. I really appreciate getting a second round."

Opry Band. "It keeps me out of trouble," he said with a chuckle. Over the years, many fond memories have been made, though Kozan says his favorites are when his music has brightened the day or mood of others. "The ones that mean the most are when people come to your gigs, and they're down in the dumps, and they leave feeling good about life," he said. "They had a good time that night, and it's time now to turn the corner. Whether it's a wedding or a funeral, it gives them peacefulness, serenity, from your vocal presentation." Kozan also likes that his shop and his music have helped others get into music, either for the first time or after taking a break to pursue careers or other life goals. He says that the trick, however, is to never quit playing. "There's a lot of talent in Southern Minnesota - it's wonderful," Kozan said, adding that his Los Tequileros bandmate, Jerome Broughten, has been inducted into the Minnesota Blues Hall of Fame with another group, Willy Murphy and the Bees. "A lot of those people spent a lot of time right here in this store." As for the future, Kozan plans to

continue doing what he has been: running Waseca Music Company and playing with various musical groups. "We don't have paychecks here [at Waseca Music] - my pay is breakfast at the Pheasant Cafe, or supper at Oscar's, stuff like that," he said with a laugh. "That's kind of funny, but it's true." The Waseca Music Company is open Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nearly every kind of instrument is available, from guitars, drums and keyboards to brass and marching band equipment. Also in stock are instrument accessories, vinyl records, sheet music, and more.

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OBITUARIES

Brandon Young

Brandon James Young, 23 years old, passed away unexpectedly on July 9, 2022, in Cass County, Minnesota.

Born on May 1, 1999, in Owatonna to Kristi Hanna and Shawn Young. Brandon grew up in New Richland and attended Waseca Public Schools, graduating with the class of 2018. He worked for Sommertime Dairy in rural Waseca throughout high school. Brandon later worked for Daikin in Owatonna as well as Greener World Solutions in Waseca until November of 2021, when he moved to Walker and started his own construction company "Kabekona Construction". Brandon lived a fast and carefree life! He lived to help others. Brandon enjoyed working on his trucks and riding side-by-sides with his friends. He loved anything outdoors whether it was ice fishing, pheasant hunting, or just hanging with his family, friends and dog, Ozzy.

Brandon is survived by his mom, Kristi (Nick) Kern of New Richland; dad, Shawn Young; siblings: Brian Allen, Emma Allen, and Grayson Kern; grandparents: Bob and Lavon Hanna of New Richland and Dale and Linda Young of New Richland; longtime



Brandon Young

love, Makayla Fawver of Waseca; dog, Ozzy.

Preceded in death by his unborn child and great grandparents.

Visitation was from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. on Monday, July 18, 2022, at the State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes in Waseca. Visitation continued for one hour prior to the service at the church on Tuesday.

Funeral Service was noon on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at Le Sueur River Lutheran Church in rural New Richland. Burial was in the church cemetery. 56093.

Myron "Butch" Schumacher

Myron "Butch" Marlin Schumacher, 90, passed away peacefully on July 16, 2022 with his loving family by his side.

Myron was born on August 4, 1931 to Carl and Loretta (Kettner) Schumacher on the family farm in Leavenworth Township. He attended school at the Leavenworth Township Country School. When he finished 8th grade, he then helped work on the family farm and drove gravel truck for his uncle.

On November 28, 1950, Myron enlisted in the United States Army. When he returned home after basic training, he married the love of his life, Eldoris (Kettner) on October 17, 1951. They moved to Boston, MA where Myron would serve as an Army Security Agent until November 6, 1953. Myron was proud to have served in the Army and was recently honored for 60 years of service with the American Legion.

In 1953 Myron and Eldoris made their way back to Minnesota and lived in Sleepy-Eye, MN and Stewart, MN before settling down in New Richland, MN. He worked for Land-O-Lakes in the egg division for many years before taking a rural milk delivery route and then later a route as a semi driver delivering milk to retail stores. In 1998, Myron retired from land-O-Lakes. Myron took great pride in his community and served on the New Richland City Council and Economic Development Association. He was a member of All Saints Catholic church where he volunteered many hours.

Myron adored his family and especially loved Sundays which were filled with a family dinner, games and laughter. He was an extraordinary handyman and helped with many remodeling projects for himself and his children. He also enjoyed fishing and growing flowers and vegetables in his garden.

Myron was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Douglas in 1965; brother, Donald Schumacher; sisters, Phyllis Schroepfer and Marjorie Friederich; and brother-in-laws, Leo Schroepfer, Jim Manderfeld, Bob Friederich and Steve Johnson.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Eldoris; children, Pam (Mike) Shurson of New Richland, MN, Kathy (Chuck) Hinkley of Freeborn, MN, Jeanne (Al) Waldhauser of New Richland, MN,



Myron Schumacher

Scott (Julie) Schumacher of Janesville, MN, Mike (Erin) Schumacher of Austin, MN, Joe (Betty) Schumacher of Rogers, MN, and Mary (Rusty) Lear of Becker, MN; 15 grandchildren, Marcus (Cailin) Shurson, Kalana (Matt) Carlson, Mollie (Brandon) Mullenbach, Marcie Flor, Nate Waldhauser, Holly (Darek) Iverson, Betsy (Dan) Salzar, Ben (Shauna) Waldhauser, Ryan (Shawna) Schumacher, Sara Schumacher, Isaac Schumacher, Andrew Schumacher, Katherine Schumacher, Tamaura (Cody) Radtke and Katelyn Peters; 12 great grandchildren, Maren Carlson, Spenser Swenson, Marnie Mullenbach, Libbie Mullenbach, Mace Mullenbach Trygve Iverson, Elliette Iverson, Addyson Salzar, Keegan Salzar, Henry Waldhauser, Leo Waldhauser and one on the way; sister, Bernice Manderfeld; brother, Jim (Bonnie) Schumacher; sister-in-law, Liz Johnson; brother-in-law Jerome (Rita) Kettner; and many nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at Friedrich's Funeral Home in New Richland, MN on Friday, July 22 from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Funeral Mass will be held at All Saints Catholic Church in New Richland, MN at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 23, with a visitation one hour prior. Military Honors will follow the service and burial will take place at a later date.

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

Loretta Schwartz

Loretta Ann Schwartz,, age 93 of Waterville, died at her home on the afternoon of Wednesday, July 13, 2022.

Born on August 8, 1928, at her family's home on Main Street in Waterville, Loretta was the oldest of sixteen children born to Henry and Anna (Hollinger) Hager. As a child she attended country school at Waterville School Number 8. She lived in the Deerfield and Blooming Grove Townships for four years before marrying Vernon J. Schwartz on April 22, 1947, at the Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Deerfield Township. After their marriage they returned to the Schwartz family farm in Waterville where they remained for over 75 years until her death. Lorretta worked at Herter's until their closing, and later worked at the E.F. Johnson Company for over twenty years until her retirement. Loretta enjoyed tending to her yard and garden, flowers, watching her birds-especially cardinals, playing cards, and crocheting.

She was a long-time member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Waterville where she volunteered her time with the Rosary Society, Catholic Daughters, and as a funeral lunch server. She also delivered Meals On Wheels for many years.

Loretta is survived by three children, Christine "Chris" Schultz and her significant other Ken Gottschalk of Waseca, Linda (Marshall) Nelson of Waseca, and Loren "Curly" (Arlene) Schwartz of Elysian; seven grandchildren, SkiAnn (Mark) Christiansen, Richard Schultz, Alex (Amy) Nelson, Katie (Joey) Stadheim, Nicole (Derek) Tramp, Stephanie (Justin) Wenker, and Lindsey Schwartz; fifteen great-grandchildren, Taylor (Allie) Zinkle, Parker Christiansen, Spencer Christiansen, Patrick (Indira) Schultz, Charlie Schultz, Henrik Nelson, Anders Nelson, Aksel Nelson, Declan Stadheim, Asher Stadheim, Byron Tramp, Clayton Tramp, Paxton Wenker, Sutton Wenker, and Vada Wenker; seven

siblings, John (Shirley) Hager of Medford, Dennis (Becky) Hager of Monticello, Roseanne (Wayne) Barbknecht of Janesville, Gene (Tena) Hager of Owatonna, Susan (Don) Redman of Medford, Sandra Sutlief of Northfield, and Debra Halbleib of Faribault; and three sisters-in-law, Betty Hager of Owatonna, Donna Dokken of Owatonna, and Loretta (Terry) Ratajczyk of Circle Pines.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband in 2000; a great-granddaughter Faith Wenker; her parents-in-law; five brothers Neil, Donald, David, Louis, and Paul Hager; and three sisters, Lucille Hager, Mary Jean Hager, and Helen Karsten; and many other relatives and friends.

Visitation for Loretta will be held from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, July 24, 2022, at the Waterville Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes and Crematory and will continue for one hour before the service at the church on Monday.



Loretta Schwartz

Funeral Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, July 25, 2022, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Waterville, with Father John Powers officiating. Interment will follow at Calvary Cemetery in Waterville.

■ Invalid

from Page 1

the show thinking that it's going to be some sort of Shakespeare drama where it's just talking the whole time, and it's super boring, and there's a lot of 'thees' and 'thous' and 'thines' and people in the audience are super confused," Ayers says, which is opposite of what the *Imaginary Invalid* is.

"There is so much funny packed into this play," Leigh explains, as he goes through the storyline of the main character, who convinces himself that he's sick of every disease possible. The actual author at the time the play was written was dying of tuberculosis, so the whole play is the author taking jabs at society's view of medicine.

Back and forth, Ayers and Leigh explained the play and the process of bringing it together. Ayers is the producer and assistant director while Leigh is the director. Both have had experience directing and with theater. Four years apart, the two have only previously performed together in two shows: Both were in theater throughout all of high school. Ayers took a directing class in high school and therefore was prepared to direct the high school's spring play his senior year, two years ago. "It's different depending on who you're working with. In high school, it's a lot weirder than having to work with people who



Patrick Leigh and Elijah Ayers will be directing *Imaginary Invalid* at the Waseca Central School building stage on July 29-31. A new community theater production in Waseca since 2015, both directors are hopeful that the program will grow.

Pioneer photo by Amelia Roessler

have done community shows before. When you're working with people who have done community shows, the role of being a director and an actor aren't too dissimilar," Ayers observes. "Especially for a show like this, where we're kind of up for ideas from the actors," Leigh adds. The two directors' collaboration with the group of community actors from

Waseca, Mankato and surrounding areas is evident when they are together making jokes and being open to each others' opinions and ideas.

Imaginary Invalid will be performed on the Central School building stage on July 29 and 30 at 7 p.m. and as a matinee at 1:30 on July 31. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 1999 Ford F150 pickup with topper, 6-6.5' box, Northland edition, newer tabs and tires, with brake controller, about 172xxx miles, \$2,500 OBO, 507-304-0903, can text for photos of vehicle.

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Waseca County Free Fair



Kids participated in a Kiddie Coin Find, managed by Noah Battenfeld, a first-year member of the Waseca County Fair Board.
Pioneer photos by Tristan Jensen



Featured at this year's fair were the "Agri-puppets" Boomer and Oscar, life-sized characters who spent Thursday through Saturday mingling with fair-goers to highlight the impact of agriculture on everyday activities. They also presented a few programs each day from their specially designed stage to share interesting facts and information.
Pioneer photo by Tristan Jensen

Agri-puppets teach kids about animals

By TRISTAN JENSEN
Staff Writer

Who knew that a cow can drink a bathtub of water and eat 40 pounds of food each day, or that while eating an apple a day, it would take more than twenty years to eat one of every kind? The "Agri-Puppets," life-sized characters Boomer and Oscar, brought fun facts like these to the Waseca County Fair with their act which teaches about agriculture, farming, and animals in a fun-filled twenty-minute show.

Boomer took the lead with content geared towards the youngest children – teaching Oscar about

various farm animals, the way they looked, and the sounds they made. For older audiences, Oscar chimed in with jokes and Boomer added in fun facts and songs. The show was kept exciting for all ages with dynamically changing backgrounds, a bubble machine and a water squirter that let the kids get interactive, all built into their specially designed stage.

The Agri-Puppets show ran several times each day throughout the duration of the fair. Between shows, Boomer could be found roaming the fairgrounds and greeting children in his personalized golf cart.



Jim Steinworth and Cal Spooner, the River Rats Dueling Pianos, put on a high-energy, request-driven show during which heckling is encouraged and "We'll try anything!"
Pioneer photos by Trista Jensen



Pictured above were the recipients of the Waseca County 4-H 2022 senior scholarships. Each recipient received \$250 in scholarship money. From left: Rylee Gruenhagen, Teagan Dann, Benjamin Walechke, Eliza Sankovitz, Brooke Jahr, and Taylor Anderson.

The pinnacle of Waseca 4-H

Hamilton, Feldkamp named champions of showmanship

By TRISTAN JENSEN
Staff Writer

The pinnacle of the Waseca County Fair's 4H Livestock Showmanship category is the Premier Showmanship event, in which the champions and reserve champions who showed each livestock species compete to become the champion of champions. This year, the announcers noted for the crowd that some of the exhibitors had been competing against each other for thirteen years. Despite the high stakes and potential for rivalries, all the exhibitors were congratulated by announcers for doing an excellent job displaying the values of the 4H code. This year's Premier Showmanship Champion was Matthew Feldkamp, who is in his last summer as a 4H participant as he is graduating the program. Reserve Champion went to Karley Hamilton, a ninth-grade student who has participated in 4H shows since she was a Cloverbud.

The Premier Showmanship category tests exhibitors' general knowledge and flexibility. Within the judging arena, an area is set up for each of the livestock categories: goats, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbits, dairy, and beef. The participants then rotate through the arena in pairs and show all of these animals – even though many only regularly show one or two species. A judge is present at each station, and a five-minute timer runs while the exhibitors do their best to show each animal. At the same time, the judges ask questions of the exhibitors – quizzing them on identification, care, and breeding of the animals they are showing.

Because they'll be shown by less experienced exhibitors, the animals

used in Premier Showmanship are especially well-behaved specimens volunteered by 4H families. The focus for the exhibitors should not be on managing the animals' behavior, but on the breadth of their knowledge. Additionally, each animal has a different style of halter, different show sticks, and other equipment used to encourage the animal to stand properly and show its best features, all of which the exhibitors must use during the Premier Showmanship event.

Feldkamp qualified for Premier Showmanship after winning in poultry, and has also previously shown rabbits and swine. Hamilton won in rabbits, and has also shown horses, sheep, and goats. Both chuckled a bit at a judge's comments that they looked very comfortable in each station: Hamilton expressed having some difficulty with the beef and dairy categories. When asked about how they prepare for the possibility of Premier Showmanship, both winners said they practice showing each animal just a few times in the weeks leading up to the fair.

Because Premier Showmanship is about the best of the best, and all exhibitors have already won ribbons in their own categories, the prizes are stepped up. All participants in Premier Showmanship get an exclusive t-shirt. Feldkamp and Hamilton will both receive belt buckles for their wins. As the Champion, Feldkamp also received a banner.

Premier Showmanship, held yearly after all livestock species have been shown and judged, is a fun and exciting experience for both exhibitors and audience members.



Top: Matthew Feldkamp, right, was named 2022 Premier Showmanship Champion during the Waseca County Free Fair. Karley Hamilton, left, was this year's reserve champion. Just above is Hamilton showing a swine pig.
Pioneer photos by Tristan Jensen

Waseca County Free Fair 2022



Tyler Stagman, Paxton Karbo, Maddie Root, Addy Zimmerman



Maverick and Wilfred



Sadie Stalock and Audrey Williams



Kiesrtsen, Josie, Jackie



Ella



Bentley, Bri, Sadie



Jim Kozan



Duey, Amy, and Mason Ferber



Steve and Oliver More



Valerie Knish



Liam



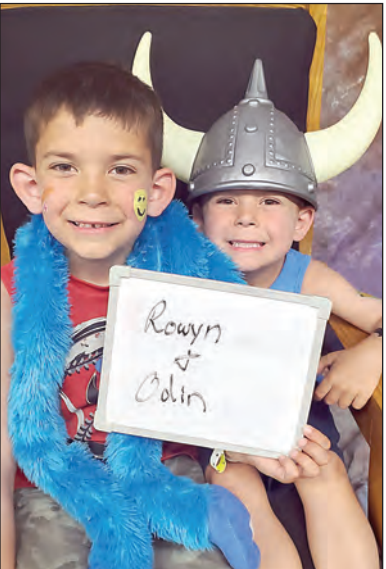
Atlas, Arrow, Axton S. and Keeley and Aurora W



Nora and Josie



Jakobee, Keenan, Mason



Rowyn and Odin



Marcee, McKenna, Amilya



Lincoln and Diana



Dylan and Tashe



Peyton and Brynn



Ashley and Nataley Haefs and Kay Berg



Anne, Daniel and Charles



Mikael Nelson



Kodi and Johanna Morgan



Olivia, Ethan, and Syd



Avery and Jackie



Avery Madsen and Will King



Marcy and Emily



Karen Tlougan, Brandon Fawhead, and Kate Falvey



Teagan, Samantha, Hannah, Charlotte, Madelyn

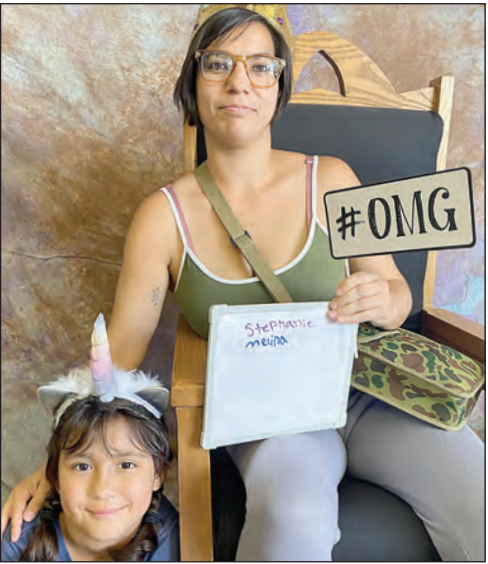


Chase

Waseca County Free Fair 2022



Auri Brnolken, Braelyn and Zayden Snyder



Melina and Stephanie



Ari and AJ



Peyton Cheney and Anna Marker



Sherry Schenjegeders



Violet and Abby



Addison



Melaina and Chase



Zoet and Chelsia



Colin



Nate



Daniel and Tobiathan Garrison



Jack Peters



Taylor, Savanna, Ella, Stella



Parker



Kaitlyn and Natalie Schoenfeld



Eve and Rocky Nelson



Lillian, Natalie, and Marilyn



Maddyx



Cruz



Maverick and Layla Osborne



Arlo



Tristan Jensen and Corwyn Gehrig



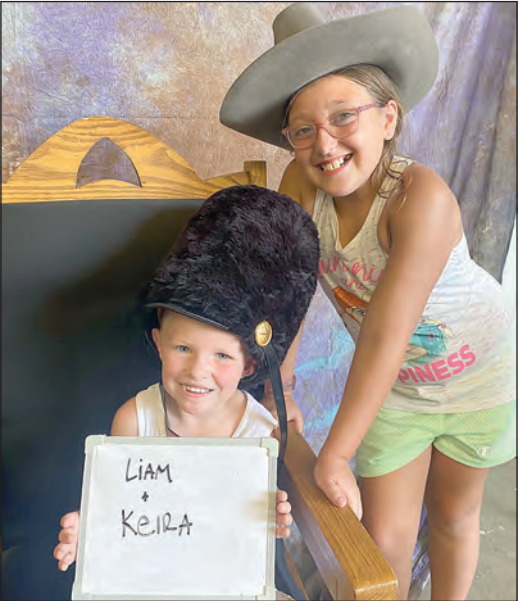
Leta, Violet, and Indie



Peyton and Kelly



Eli Lutgens



Liam and Keira



Treadway and Karen



Layla Keith, Grace Below, Haydn Lynch, and Ava Omtvedt



Grayson

Waseca County Free Fair 2022



Adelynn and Brynlee



Jade and Jill



Gena



Madison Roessler and Julius Oviedo



Kirby Myers



Rylee and Chloe



Brad W.



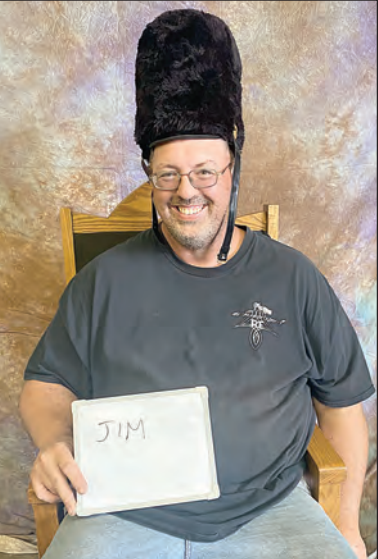
Elizabeth Roessler, Alexandria Eustice, and Cole Schlueter



Reyna Welch and Mary Lou



Alyce and Jordin



Jim



Eli Miller and Lindsey Kopetzki



Isaac, Damarcus cousins, and Quandalus



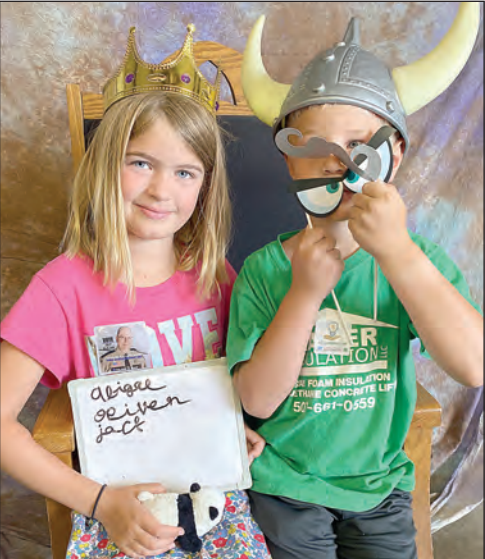
Aillm Rivera, Satie, Sofia Silva and Emely Rivera



Maison



Joeslyn, Landon, and Levi



Abigail, Oliver, and Jack



Paul, Allen, and Lauren Warzecha, and Alli Madden



Isaac and Tim Terrell



Amelia Madsen



Norah, Ella, and Liliana



Blakeley



Parker, Kage, and Zander Madison



Safira and Rohnan



Maisy Madsen



Addie



Avery, Olivia, Claire, and Charli



Emma



Josie Stensrud and Clark family



Ben



Reflecting the creativity of God

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

It is fair season! From our County Fairs to the great Minnesota Get-Together we get to celebrate our neighbors by viewing and enjoying their hard work and dedication to their craft. County fairs have a little something for everyone and an opportunity to gather and stand in awe over the creativity and skill of our friends and family.

I love it when I can talk to the 4H kids and hear their passion for their animals and farm work. I love it when the artists share their passion for their subject and medium. I love it when the local musicians croon and the music permeates the grounds. It is the people that make the fair and their passion that make it fun.

In all of this fair celebration is the creativity of creation. The artist knows their craft and the details of their creative work, they have been inspired and purposeful in their work. And we get to enjoy their work for a brief time.

The creativity of our friends and neighbors reflects the creativity of God. To know that He created this world out of nothing and breathed life into humanity starting with Adam puts me in awe. To see our community exercising their creative inspiration, gives us a glimpse of who God is. To appreciate one person's gifts challenges us to look upon God's creative

work in nature and humanity.

God has taken time to creatively make the earth and in His wisdom made the earth. Genesis 2 in the NIV(1984) says, "8 Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.9 And the Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground--trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters."

In His creativity He made the earth, and humanity to tend it. He created the trees and waters for us to enjoy. And during Minnesota Summers we get to really enjoy them. He did that for us to understand Him. He revealed His passion for humanity and diligently worked to create the best world for us to know Him.

In His creation we see His love and skill, we see His concern for our needs in giving us food and makes the Sunrise and set for us to see the colors and enjoy the passage of time. Take time today to slow down and appreciate not only the creativity of our neighbors, but also of God's in giving us unique talents and abilities to appreciate. Let us be thankful for the creative work of our neighbors and of God.

Waseca newspaper archives

Waseca Herald 1922 (100 years ago)

The Herter-McHugo circus which was exhibited here last Saturday afternoon drew a capacity audience and all were greatly pleased with the performance. George Herter and Kenneth McHugo are the owners and promoters of the circus and we doubt if P. T. Barnum could have displayed more skill in this direction when at their age.

Following a plan outlined by W. C. Coffey, director of the University Department of Agriculture, a group of Experiment Station staff men and editors of the agricultural papers visited the State Experimental Farm, adjoining this city last Saturday.

James Houdek, aged 37, a laborer employed with a road construction crew near Albert Lea, fell out of a boat and was drowned in Clear Lake Sunday morning.

Mrs. Anna D. Olesen, democratic candidate for U. S. senator, delivered an interesting address before an audience of nearly 300 people in the park at New Richland Monday morning. Following the address, a large number of those present, many of them republicans, congratulated the speaker and pledged her their support.

A party of five people had a narrow escape from death last Monday morning when a car in which they were riding turned turtle near the McLoone homestead, four and a half miles west of this city. The party comprised Rev. Bernard Kramer, of Lismore, Rev. John Dolle of Iona, Rev. Henry Dolle of Wilmont, Miss Dolle, his sister and housekeeper, and lady friend of hers.

Few people are aware of the wealth derived from butter and eggs in this locality. During the month of June approximately \$1,000 was paid out by the Waseca Creamery Associ-

ation for every working day in the month. The total amount paid to the farmers by the Creamery Association was \$26,032.37.

It is estimated that upwards of 3,000 people attended the anniversary festival and young peoples' rally of the Missouri Lutheran church at Maplewood Park last Sunday. Old timers say it was the largest and most successful event of the kind ever held in this country.

Edward F. Priebe, the popular local auto livery man, is operating an auto bus line between Waseca, Mankato and Rochester. This bus line solves the local transportation problem caused by the removal of several of the Chicago and North-western of several of the Chicago and Northwestern passenger trains on this division, as the bus makes connections with trains at Waseca, Mankato, Owatonna and Dodge Center, and auto connections at Mankato, Owatonna and rochester for towns to the north or south.

Waseca Herald 1947 (75 years ago)

A small boy, the only son of a Vivian township family was killed Monday morning in a tragic accident when he was run over by a truck. Allen Besser, the five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Besser, died Monday morning at about 9:45.

The body of Jimmy Walburn, two and half year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Walburn of Warsaw township, was found in the remains of a barn that burn on the Mrs. Arnold Wilkowske farm near Warsaw, which is east of Morristown. The remains were found at 2 p.m., on Tuesday and the fire in which the small boy died occurred in the morning.

The second health examination for our 4-H club members will be held this coming week in each of the four trade centers in the county according

to Mrs. Doris Wyman, home demonstration agent.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McCarthy of Waseca who live at 419 West Elm avenue celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 13th. Friends and members of their families crowded the open house, which was held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., to offer their congratulations. The couple was married July 14, 1897, at the Sacred Heart church by late Rev. J. J. Treanor.

Over two hundred girls and women attended the annual 4-H Achievement Day on Friday, July 25, with members from all 24 clubs in the county participating.

Waseca county had a break-out of automobile accidents in the past week with the number up to four on Tuesday evening. Drivers and passengers in the cars escaped serious injury in all four of the crashes and cuts and bruises were mostly reported by those involved.

Warm weather has pushed along the ripening of crops in Waseca County, according to Cletus Murphy, county agent, and cutting operations are well under way.

Waseca met New Ulm last Thursday in a twilight game over there and came back victors in a game which showed Waseca with ten runs to New Ulm's one.

Blue Ribbon winners in the field of Canine entertainment, these clever and beautifully trained dogs rank among the world's greatest. They will be seen in front of the Grandstand at the Steele County Free Fair for six days, starting August 12.

Waseca Daily Journal 1972 (50 years ago)

Things are shaping up for the annual Tractor Pulling Contest to be held Sunday night at the Waseca County fair. According to the chairman of the pull, Don Senske, there are more than 28 entries and more of them are expected before entries close.

A car reported stolen from an automobile body repair shop in Le Sueur County on Saturday was received in Bemidji Monday by Bemidji police who took a suspect into custody according to a report by Le Sueur County Sheriff Pat W. Smith, Sr.

Hollywood AP: Natalie Wood and Robert Wagner are honeymooning in the yacht in which they were married 10 years after their divorce.

Michael Kopp, Waseca was the winner of a new boy's bicycle at the Waseca County Free Fair Wednesday. The bike was given away during Kid's Day.

John Fenelon, director the Day Activity Center in Waseca for the past two years, has resigned. Fenelson turned in his resignation July 5th and said he has resigned so that he may further his education.

Timothy N. Talbert, 18, Owatonna, was arraigned today in County Court in front of Judge John H. McLoone for possession of Marijuana. Waseca Chief of Police Earl Halleck said that Talbert and two others from Owatonna, Terrance L. Dahl, 19 and Richard J. Martell, 18, were arrested Tuesday following a call from a Waseca citizen who said the three men were tampering with his car.

Orvin Anderson has been named the new band director for the Waseca High School. Anderson began working with the summer program the first week of July. Anderson's first performance with the band be Aug. 31 at the Minnesota State Fair.

The Waseca American Legion baseball team under the direction of coach Tink Larson meets Caledonia in the first round of the District One Baseball Tournament at Planeview Saturday.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH
2200 4th St NE, Waseca
507-835-2235
Service times 9:30 a.m.
* * *

4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH
605 4th St NE, Waseca
507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
Worship Sundays 10 a.m.
* * *

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.
* * *

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 6th St NE, Waseca
507-835-9176
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m., Wed. 6:30 p.m. (for the summer)
* * *

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
* * *

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-2647
Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
* * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: lcwaseca@hickorytech.net)
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.
* * *

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 E Elm Ave, Waseca
507-835-1709
Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
* * *

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
507-607-8245
Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m.
* * *

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca
507-835-4640
Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m.
* * *

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
1221 8th St SE, Waseca
507-835-2213
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
* * *

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.
* * *

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
* * *

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship
* * *

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
* * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Pamela Jensen
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship
* * *

LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota

Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting
* * *

VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

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
* * *

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass
* * *

FIRST LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
Waldorf, Minnesota
Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor
Sunday — 8 a.m. Worship; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class
* * *

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship
* * *

ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF

CHRIST
Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Waldorf, Minnesota
Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship
* * *

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
Waldorf, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Wilton Township
Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor
Sunday — 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

THE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Brad Donner, Branch President
Waseca, Minnesota
www.lds.org
Sunday — 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School
Wednesday — 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18
* * *

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
* * *

JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 N. West St., Janesville
Pastor Kathy King

Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship
* * *

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Morristown
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship
* * *

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 W. 2nd St, Janesville
Father Brian Mulligan
10 a.m. - Mass
* * *

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St., Janesville
Interim Pastor
* * *

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Alma City, Minnesota
Vacancy
Sunday = 1 p.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Smiths Mill, Minnesota
Vacancy
Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.



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Waseca County Free Fair 2022



Hudson and Karbo



Maddey and Ollie



Audra



Ellie, Madi, Raylen, Stella, Angelia, and Morgan



Joeslyn



Elise, Myra, and Ronda



Kendle



Kyah and Brydon



Bryleigh



Brodie Borst



Nevaeh



Greta and Andy



Bailey K.



Caliyea and Nifaya



Roman



Landon and Tobin



Kaylie Baumann



Mylah and Kiya



Sophie



Michael Roy



Ellie and Emily Harguth



Lareky



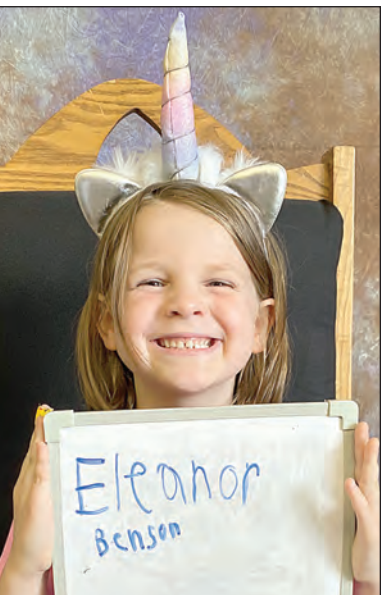
Autumn Sticha and Nehemiah and Lydia Stutsman's Kids



Adely and Laura



Greta



Eleanor Benson



Amelia and Shane Roessler



Oliver Jones



Palmer Dahnert and Addie Schmitz



Finley