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LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY
No. 20 Vol. V \$2 Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca Thursday, May 14, 2026

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Sports



SONGS FOR ALL - The variety show titled "The Final Cut" featured the State Street Singers, the Sextets and the Bluejay Blend. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Choir Director Megan Kreinbring brings 'The Final Cut' to the PAC

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

A matinee performance of this year's Variety Show titled, "The Final Cut" was presented for elementary students on Thursday, May 7 in the Waseca Junior Senior High School Performing Arts Center (PAC). Under the leadership of choir director Megan Kreinbring, the show featured the State Street Singers, the Sextets, the Bluejay Blend and high school students grades 8 through 12. Students from Hartley Elementary's first, second and third grade attended, as well as students from Waseca Intermediate School, filled up every seat in the PAC with energetic and excited students. For Thursday's special show, available only to students, the schedule was reduced to 12 numbers to give the little ones time to see it within the school day. The Friday and Saturday shows featured 23



MATINEE FUN - The group performed a special matinee on Thursday, May 7 for Hartley Elementary and Waseca Intermediate School Students. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Final Cut continued on 6

Photos requested for Memorial Day

The Waseca County Pioneer will run a special section honoring those who served in our second annual Memorial Day edition of the paper. We are kindly requesting people call, email or write the Pioneer to request who they would like to see pictured in this year's edition. Please email or bring photos in person to: Email: news@wasecacounty-pioneer.com
In person: 111 Elm Ave. W, Waseca.

Graduation Open house ads available

Celebrate this year's graduates in the paper with a photo and open house announcement. Cost is \$25 for one week or \$40 for two weeks. Please email: news@wasecacounty-pioneer.com.

Team Academy Burger Fry at Waseca Legion Thursday, May 14

Waseca's Team Academy will hold a burger fry at the legion from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, May 14. There will also be a bake sale and silent auction. Cost is \$10.

Grandparent/grandchild reading activity New Richland Public Library May 14

The New Richland public library reading activity featuring the book, "The Lion Who Stole my Arm," by Nicola Davies, recommended for students in grades 3-5 at 6:15 p.m. on Thursday, May 14. This is for grandparents to spend time with their grandchildren. Read the book, both show up and get free refreshments while you discuss the book with others.

Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board Meeting May 14

The SWCD will be holding its monthly board meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 14. The meetings will be held in the SWCD offices located at 300 North State Street - Door 4.

A word from The Word

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore.
Revelation 21:4

Center for Family Unity combats child abuse

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Beth Hortop, executive director of the Exchange Club Center for Family Unity, spoke to the Waseca Exchange Club in observance of April being named "child abuse prevention" month.

Hortop attended the April 14 meeting to tell local members about the Owatonna-based agency which serves a large circle of southern Minnesota counties, including Waseca.

"Abuse is happening all the time," stated Hortop.

"It creates costs for taxpayers, it leads to trauma and loss for families, and it hurts innocent children.

"We need to save the children and stop the cycles of abuse."

Hortop explained the Center exists thanks to the National Exchange Club's central goal of



STOPPING THE CYCLE - Staff members from the Exchange Club Center for Family Unity were presenters at a recent Waseca Exchange Club meeting. Waseca club president Mikhail Rostislavovich presented Center executive director Beth Hortop with a certificate of gratitude. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

preventing child abuse. She said she and her staff provide a wide variety of services aimed at supporting both children and parents.

Among them, she mentioned, is "parent men-

toring." Hortop said the stresses and demands of being a parent are ongoing and relentless, so

Unity continued on 3

Mullen sentenced to 15 years

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Waseca area resident Franklin Mullen, 45, was sentenced to 180 months in prison during an emotional hearing at the Waseca County Courthouse on May 5. About 30 family members and friends attended in support of victims attacked and threatened during a June incident when Mullen, under the influence, stabbed his now estranged wife Sarah in the back and used a gun to threaten his parents who entered the room in response to Sarah's screams.

Waseca County Attorney Rachel Cornelius argued to the court that Mullen should receive the maximum sentence specified in Minnesota statute for second-degree attempted murder, a charge to which he had previously pleaded guilty.

Mullen's attorneys had motioned for a sentence of about 12 years.

Sarah Mullen shared a statement which summarized the traumatic experience, the frightening uncertainties surrounding her health after the injury, and the many losses caused by the attack—including that she and her children can no longer find a sense of safety and security in their daily lives.

"I wondered if I would live," she shared. "I wondered if I would ever walk again." She described that the knife Mullen planted in her back had come within a centimeter of severing her aorta on one side and her spinal cord on the other, so that her recovery process has led to lengthy, ongoing physical therapy.

Cornelius told the court the severe mental and physical impact of Mullen's attack merited the longest allowable sentence.

Mullen's attorneys argued that his remorse over the crime, which included his decision to plead guilty rather than to require his family members to testify at a jury trial, justified a lower sentence. Mullen read a tearful personal statement in which he apologized to each of his family members in turn, then stated he "would give anything" if there were a way to undo his actions.

While delivering her judgment on the matter, Waseca County District Court Judge Carol Hanks told Mullen her decision to impose the longer sentence was based on numerous decisions he made prior to the attack. These included disregarding the advice of medical professionals, stopping use of prescribed medications, and "self-medicating" with dangerous substances including alcohol and THC.



SUPPORTING INITIATIVES - The Waseca Area Foundation held its Grant Celebration at the Starfire Event Center on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

WAF awards over \$140,000 to local groups

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Well over 100 people attended a recent celebration during which more than \$143,000 in grants awarded to local organizations by the Waseca Area Foundation (WAF) during its spring round of funding. Representatives from local groups or events gathered at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca on Thursday, May 7, 2026.

Though the organization started as a "\$6,000 pipe dream" in the 80s when it awarded its first grant

of \$600, it has now been able to donate more than \$13.5 million to area causes.

Hartley Elementary School was awarded \$3,000 total from the Sankovitz Family Fund. Waseca Intermediate School was awarded \$3,000 for clay glazes from the John Priebe Education Fund, the Noah and Samuel Priebe Memorial Fund and the Barb Penny Youth Fund. The WIS also received \$1,200 from Waseca Public School Bluejays Fund for a 3D printer. Waseca Jr/Sr High School was awarded \$800 for a cardiac

monitor for emergencies from the Scott and Holly Martin Fund, and \$5,200 to update equipment from the Waseca Bluejay Public Schools Fund, Noah and Samuel Priebe Fund and the John Priebe Education Fund. The Waseca Schools Band Program was awarded \$4,263 from the Herb Streitz Band Fund. Waseca Alternative Learning Center was awarded \$1,000 for basic needs and student activity fees from the John Priebe Education Fund. Waseca Public School was awarded \$5,000 for science, tech-

nology, engineering and math (STEM) programs from the Rosenau Legacy of Angels Fund. Transitions Program Southwest Metro Schools were awarded \$2,045 for a sink and \$1,158 for a printer from Rosenau Legacy of Angels Fund and the Tracy Jevning Memorial Fund. TEAM Academy was awarded \$1,720 for a basketball system and \$2,000 for field trips from the John Priebe Education Fund and the Barb Penny Youth Fund. Waseca Community

WAF continued on 5



Compostings

by Al Batt

Bewildered by the day

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

I see you walking most days. I walk every day. Nietzsche said, "All truly great thoughts are conceived by walking."

I had a great thought while seeing you walk. Instead of walking 10,000 steps a day, I'm taking 100 steps a day for 100 days.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I've given more eulogies than I can count. Not all succumbed to the maladies of age. Philip Roth wrote, "Old age isn't a battle: old age is a massacre." After giving a recent tribute, I was driving home when I thought of the Burma-Shave signs. Burma-Shave was a shaving cream whose advertising campaign involved erecting six signs, each of the first five containing a line of verse and the sixth displaying the brand name. An example is: "On curves ahead/Remember, sonny/That rabbit's foot/Didn't save the bunny/Burma-Shave." The former Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda said, "Baseball is like driving, it's the one who gets home safely that counts."

I was bewildered by the day. There are days when I can't remember anything but passwords. I stopped to pick up a few groceries. I walked through the health food section on my way to the ice cream department. It made sense. I forgot a couple of passwords, but I remembered that a million seconds is 11.5 days and a billion seconds is 31.7 years.

I'VE LEARNED

Researchers at Delancey Street, a debt relief company, analyzed financial health across 48 states, using metrics like debt levels, credit scores, income and financial stress. Mississippi leads the list of most financially strained states, with the highest delinquency rate and low median income, alongside more than half of its residents reporting stress from price increases. Louisiana and Alabama follow, both showing high delinquency rates, declining credit scores, and widespread financial pressure. Nevada and Florida stand out for extreme debt-to-income ratios, suggesting many households are stretched thin. States like Georgia, Texas and Tennessee rank in the top 10, where moderate earnings are offset by high debt burdens and growing financial anxiety. Northern states dominate the least strained rankings. Vermont, Min-

nesota and New Hampshire benefit from low delinquency rates, strong credit scores, and lower levels of financial stress. North Dakota is the 40th most stressed state, Iowa is ranked 41st and Wisconsin 44th.

I had a Shetland pony. I named him Cough Drop because he was a little horse.

I led a tour on a cruise to Alaska. At one stop, while everybody got off for a shore excursion, I decided to stay on the ship with those who had lost a step and were unable to walk well enough to enjoy hoofing around a busy city. I sat with them on the deck of the ship. We watched whales, and I listened to their stories. It was fantastic. Last off, first whales. The Good Book says the last shall be first. When we get too busy, like the White Rabbit in "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," who carried a pocket watch and said, "I'm late! I'm late! For a very important date!" we need to slow down, take a good look at nature, and listen to the stories of others.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

What do you call a Viking who had his driver's license suspended? A Hiking.

Why shouldn't you kick a volcano? You might Krakatoa.

My days are backward. I wake up tired and go to bed wide awake.

NATURE NOTES

I listened to a brown thrasher and its gleeful, repeated musical phrases. I want to sing along, but I don't know the words. I recited the human words from the mnemonic I'd learned in my youth. "Plant a seed, plant a seed; bury it, bury it; cover it up, cover it up; let it grow, let it grow; pull it up, pull it up; eat it, eat it."

I love watching the exploits of birds. Starlings insert their bills into the ground, then pry their mandibles open, creating a space to grab prey. I don't mind seeing those birds. I've developed starling callouses.

I heard a spirited discussion in a tree and saw the copper-top battery of birds. The male brown-headed cowbird has a glossy black body with a dark brown head.

I gazed at a rose-breasted grosbeak eating sunflower seeds, cracking the hulls, and spitting them out before swallowing the hearts. It did so in an effortless way that would put any baseball player to shame.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"A part of kindness consists in loving people more than they deserve."—Joseph Joubert.

The importance of versatility in clothing

Thank goodness for blue jeans. I'm really grateful for how durable and versatile they are, and for how universally acceptable they've become.

I began my career as a teacher in the early 1990s. It was decades before I wore blue jeans in my classroom, and that was only on casual Fridays. As a product of my generation and my upbringing, I still don't think it's acceptable to wear them to church.

But as a retiree who spends perhaps more time than she intended on her post-employment job, I feel free to dress rather casually, including a sweatshirt and blue jeans. After all, I'm no longer at the front of the room—I'm just a spectator at the back, taking notes.

At special events, I become a bit more visible, though.

I frequently walk around when everyone else is seated so that I can get pictures from beneficial angles, whether that's a matter of just getting closer to get a decent picture of the speaker or finding an



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

angle that allows the faces of all the band members to be seen.

At times like that, I dislike that I may be a distraction, but at least in our close-knit communities, I believe people know who I am, or at least can easily tell what I am doing. Something I know for sure is that they appreciate the pictures I am able to take and publish so that everyone can enjoy them.

This past week I attended "Band Night" at NRHEG. It pleased me greatly to see that pictures I had taken of appearances in parades and special events have now become records of cherished memories for the band members. We are always happy to communicate

with local organizations about sharing our photos. In our efforts to be sure and get "the" picture of an event or occurrence we end up with far more photos than we will be able to use in the newspaper—even if it happens that we're planning a photo page.

There are also times I end up in places where dressier clothing might be awkward—stepping to the side of a farmer's field to get a picture of work going on there, interviewing someone at a factory or other large installation where a dress and fancy shoes would seem out of place. And there have been many times when a single day included everything from being in a

courtroom to touring a fish hatchery, so versatility becomes very important.

There you have it: That's how I reassure myself my "non-professional" appearance is not significant. It's what I'm doing that matters, not how I look.

Thus, my choice of wardrobe each day is almost always simple—which pair of blue jeans do I wear?

This weekend I spent a couple days at my family's cabin near Akeley. It was chilly up there, with temperatures just below freezing overnight and daytime highs in the low 50s. It was the first time I'd been there this year after the ice was out, so I was determined to spend at least some time on the lake—which got me thinking about how grateful I was for my blue jeans, which served me well out in the cool temperatures and wind.

So I repeat, thank goodness for blue jeans. They make my life simpler, more versatile, and oooh, so much more comfortable.

A weekend of plants, stitches, and sunshine

I feel gross. I haven't been able to wash my hair in five days (I'm a three day wash gal), there's sweat and blood crusted in my hair, and I have a bad sunburn on my back. But at least I got to play in the dirt.

Jack and I drove to the auto store Saturday morning to get an oil filter so he could change the oil in my car. After we were done, he turned to me and asked, "Do you want to go on an adventure?" My answer to that question will always be a resounding yes. Who doesn't love an adventure?

So off we went, pulling up shortly after to one of the greatest places: the garden center. This man knows me so well—I was practically giddy as I strolled down every aisle with him in tow. Halfway through, I decided I was indeed going to walk away with at least one plant in hand, although I had told myself going in that I should consider restraint.

I was struggling to decide which plant to get when Jack mentioned some pretty ones he had seen in the front. I was honestly surprised he wanted to have an opinion on what



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

plant we got, so we picked out two from the front and another one we came across on our way to the checkout. All three of the plants were colorful, as we both agreed the many succulents in our apartment would benefit from the company of some vibrant color.

Needless to say, I got to spend an enjoyable afternoon in the sun working on repotting plants while nearby Jack changed the oil in my car. Hence the sunburn.

As for the sweaty and bloody hair, that's a whole other matter. You see, I have a number of cysts on my head. They are small and benign, and a blessing from the genetics of my mother. I get them

removed once they become large or annoying. Or like the one on my hairline in the middle of my head, painful after a few hours of wearing my headphones.

I found a dermatologist who could remove two of them, so I immediately agreed and there I was last Friday, lying on the table as I was numbed, cut open, and stitched up.

It's not my first time getting a cyst removed, nor will it be my last, but this one was definitely different. I've never had aftercare instructions like this. I've had two large bandages pinned to my hair for almost two days now as I can't touch them or remove them for 48 hours. Then

I can finally wash my hair with gentle soap and reapply new bandages for ten days until I can finally take out the stitches.

It just seems so extra. When I've had them removed before, they stitch me up, clean me up, and send me off with no care instructions other than when I could take the stitches out. One place even let me take my cyst home in a little cup.

What I guess I'm trying to say is that I've been doing things both fun and unnecessary. But what isn't life without the fun and the unnecessary? I keep talking about adding whimsy to my life, and you all will be proud to know that I did that. With my new plants, I went thrifting and bought a bunch of different little plates to act as drip catchers for the pots. Each plate is unique and different, adding fun and whimsy to the apartment. It's just the best.

My Determination: "Don't let anyone make you feel like you don't deserve what you want."

— David Levithan, Ten Things I Hate about You

Thanking the mothers in my life

Another Mother's Day has come and gone.

I would like to thank the mothers in my life for everything they do.

Starting with my mother. Thank you for raising me. Teaching me quality newspaper lessons.

My mother doesn't get enough credit for the opportunities which came to me because she and my father operated the newspaper, or the many lessons she taught me as I worked there. She hired me when I was 15 years old. When my dad fired me on my first day of work, she told me not to worry and ensured I still had a job.

Although my mother doubted I would show up to work that first day, I did. From that point forward, she supported me every step of the way.



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

She believed in me enough to ask me to help start her newspaper, The Janesville Journal, in 2019.

As I worked for her, each time I felt like I had mastered whatever responsibility I had been given, I would ask her for more. Then she would teach me something new. It's how I learned the accounting, sales, and more importantly the customer relations side of running a newspaper. Mom was patient with me. I never felt stupid for asking a question she had already given me the answer to three times

before.

Thank you, Mom, for everything. (I left out all of the childhood thanks like going to the fair and stopping at McDonald's or all the great home cooking. More topics for next year.)

To Editor Deb.

Deb has been here every step of the way in my life since we started working together. I am proud to call her my friend, Editor, and mentor. I have leaned on her for every important decision made at the newspaper. Thank you for

being my friend.

To my Aunt Teresa.

I have no doubt you would defend me to your last breath, even though I sometimes make you angry. I try not to. Theresa has been a person I could talk or vent to at any hour of the night. Many lunches have been shared together, game nights and holidays. Thank you for your support.

To my Grandma Kathy. The countless memories from my youth are irreplaceable. Thank you, and Grandpa, for giving me those memories. I cherish them.

To all of the moms out there. I hope you spent your Mother's Day doing whatever you wanted to do. And I thank you for your patience.

"A child's first teacher is its mother."

—Peng Liyuan

WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

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ZED by Duane M. Abel



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4-H Garage Sale at Waseca County Fairgrounds May 16

The largest sale of the Waseca City-Wide Garage Sale will take place at the Waseca Fairgrounds from 7 a.m. through 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 16. Hidden treasures or everyday essentials, organizers have something for everyone.

New Richland Town & Country Garden Club Sale May 16

The New Richland Town and Country Garden Club's annual plant sale will be from 9 to 11:30 a.m. the morning of May 16 at the New Richland City Hall community room. Annuals, perennials, rhubarb, hostas and houseplants will be among the offerings. Those who ordered supertunias in advance will be able to pick up their plants.

Waseca Chorale Concert at Performing Arts Center May 16

The Waseca Chorale's spring concert "Surprise!" will feature a wide variety of choral pieces at 7:00 p.m. on May 16 in the Waseca Junior Senior High School performing arts center. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for youths age 12 and under.

The Steve McLoone Memorial Fest at the Mill Event Center Sunday, May 17

The Steve McLoone Memorial Fest will take place at the Mill Event Center from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 17. Gather to share stories, music and memories in celebration of Steve's life and the impact he had on so many.

Classic Car Roll-In at Indian Island Winery May 17

There will be a Roll-In at the Indian Island Winery at 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 17. Bring you classic are, tractor, motorcycle or other unique vehicle. Or just bring the family. Music provided by Melissa Schulz.

Blood Drive at Grace Lutheran Church Thursday, May 21

Grace Lutheran Church is hosting a blood drive on Thursday, May 21 from noon to 6 p.m. Successful donors will receive a free beach towel. Appointments preferred and can be made at redcross-blood.org. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Bruce Bednarchuk at the Indian Island Winery May 22

Bruce Bednarchuk will perform at the Indian Island Winery from 6-8:30 p.m. on Friday, May 22. He is a composer, arranger and studio musician.

AZBY at the Mill Event Center May 22

AZBY will perform at the Mill Event Center from 8-11:30 p.m. on Friday, May 22. They play 70s classic rock and 90s alternative.

Community Ed Bike Rodeo focuses on learning, safety

By **BEN REVERMANN**
Staff writer

About 25 children attended the Waseca Community Education Bike Rodeo at the Waseca County fairgrounds during the late afternoon of Thursday, May 7. With the supervision and guidance of local police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel, children had the chance to learn safety procedures to follow while riding their bicycles. The first 25 children who did not have bike helmets received them for free, courtesy of Walmart and Scheel's. Four donated bicycles were also given away as prizes. Extra bikes were on site for use by children who didn't have one.

With nearly perfect weather, the mood of the event was festive. There was music playing, courtesy of "Airraid," and DJ Gary Palm. A big gas grill was used to cook free hot dogs for the crowd. The hotdogs, cookies and condiments were donated to the event by the Owatonna Hy-

Vee. Courtney Hartle, Waseca Police Detective and organizer for the rodeo, mingled among the parents and children in attendance.

Officer Jarret Imlay was near his police vehicle letting children see the inside. He commented, "We're here today for the bike rodeo. I like the event because it gives kids a chance to see what the rights and wrongs are for biking on the road." Another important benefit, he said was for the children to interact with public safety workers so they can learn. "those are the good guys."

"Children can also see inside an ambulance and fire truck, talk to firefighters and first responders, maybe learn something, or maybe we might just get another public servant out of them when they grow up."

The model training areas included a pedestrian crossing, a 4-way intersection, and a street. Areas were represented using orange cones and chalk-line street



BIKING FOR THE BEST - Officer Courtney Hartle was directing traffic for Bailey at the Waseca Community Education's Bike Rodeo at the Waseca Fairgrounds on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

borders; tennis balls cut to sit flat were used as obstacles. Officers directed children in the proper way to cross. Continued Imlay, "Yes, children on sidewalks is technically illegal, but do we want children out on busy roads? Do we want that bad interaction with the police when they try to correct the kids? But before we even get there, a lot of this is just teaching kids safety first. If we take that educational approach, it's so much more beneficial. Even if it's just the basic training, we've all heard, 'Look both ways before you cross the street.' We just need them to pay attention!"



RODEO RIDERS - Noah and Malachi attended the Waseca Community Education Bike Rodeo at the Waseca fairgrounds on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann



ON DISPLAY - From left: Jeanne Sexton, Tara Bjerke, WAC Vice President Penny Vought, featured artist Ava Lambert, Larry Jacobson, mathematician and painter Steven Sperber, Molly Hendrickson, and Ann Staloch were at the Waseca Art Center's artist reception on Saturday, May 9, 2026. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Works by painters Lambert, Sperber on display

By **BEN REVERMANN**
Staff writer

The Waseca Art Center (WAC) opened new displays and held a reception on Saturday, May 9, featuring Steven Sperber and Ava Lambert. Sperber, originally from Brooklyn, New York, recently retired. Lambert is a self-taught artist born and based out of Minneapolis.

After a short introduction and artist mission statements from WAC, Vice President Penny Vought introduced her and said, "Ava, when I first saw some of your paintings, I thought they were photos."

Lambert, who has received regional and international awards and recognition said, "I spend anywhere from 20 to 80 hours on each painting. Some of them are from canvases

I set up in the field, where I will spend time out there painting the subject matter. But many of them, like the paintings from the Twin Cities of the streets and buildings, I take pictures of them so I can do it from home." Her masterpiece is a recreation of a Johannes Vermeer painting titled, "Girl Reading a Letter at an Open Window," worth a large amount of money. Vermeer, a painter from the Golden age of Dutch paintings, first completed the painting in 1659, which was replicated by Lambert step by step. She even has a hardcover book dedicated to her painstaking process.

She was asked by a guest of the WAC, "Have you ever started a painting as a day painting, but changed it to a night theme over the course of painting it?" She replied,

"If I start a daytime painting, I usually keep the day theme." She was also asked about her Vermeer painting, and if she was going to pick another giant project like that and she said, "Maybe, but if I do, I will probably pick something by Cornelius Pietersz Bega (1632-1664), I have preference for Dutch artists."

Sperber's work was featured in the Beckmann Gallery. This former mathematician taught at the University of Minnesota School of Mathematics for 48 years and retired on his 80th birthday. One particular painting of interest was titled "The Sad" which featured a solo figure in a desolate lonely place, indicated by an orange background.

Another painting titled, "The Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man,"

drew a question from his grandson, "How old were you in that painting?" To which Sperber replied, "That painting actually changed for me, it featured me from 20 to 30 years ago, but it's changed because now I'm older than that man in the painting." Some of his paintings have a Picasso feel to them, said Sperber, "I don't want to copy anyone, but I do like to understand how their process works, if I can I try to break that down. I like to capture ordinary people at work." He was asked about his career as a math man and he replied with a laugh, "I don't know many artists who were in mathematics."

Works by Steven Sperber and Ava Lambert will be on display at the Waseca Art Center until Friday, June 12.

■ Unity

from Page 1

the Center offers the help of trained individuals to serve as "mentors," that is, to be available for questions and support. "We're like your sister or your best friend," she said.

"We're not going to judge you."

The mentors' priorities, she described, include listening, helping parents identify issues they would like to work on, answering questions, and helping select goals or targets for change.

For anyone dealing with stressed family relations, she said the Center for Family Unity, located at 1820 Hartle Avenue, is one place to begin. "We're here for people who feel they can't get help, or who don't know where to get help," claimed Hortop.

"Our goal is doing whatever we can within reason to reduce stress on the family and protect children's safety."

No referral, insurance coverage, or even appointment is necessary, Hortop said. As a private agency, the Center works under different sets of parameters than public entities. The agency does collaborate with government agencies, though-including providing services like supervised visits.

Hortop invites anyone who feels at a loss when it comes to children's safety to contact her agency, either by visiting in person or calling 507-455-1190.

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OBITUARIES

Bradford Nelson

Bradford Robert Nelson passed away February 12, 2026 from a ruptured Aorta at Mankato Mayo Hospital.

Brad was born Oct. 7, 1943 to Robert and Evelyn (Skjelset) Nelson of Hannaford ND. After he graduated from Cooperstown High School in 1961, he joined the Navy and was stationed on the USS Intrepid. He married Maryann Asmael in 1963; in 1964 they had a son Brian; in 1965, their daughter Melissa was born. Brad entered college, and graduated from the State School of Science at Wahpeton ND. He moved to Waseca to work for E.F. Johnson. MSRA member # 632. In 1985, he married Rita Hoverson. He and Rita each enjoyed pets, antiques, cars, toys, trucks, tractors and ran a few enterprises over the years. They ended up in rural New Richland. That land gave them the opportunity to expand, pur-



Bradford Nelson

suing their interests with room for the next "Project" that came along the way.

Brad's knowledge, trouble shooting, mechanical skills and automotive trivia will be missed.

A Celebration of Life will be from 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the Second Avenue Event Center, 113 Second Avenue NW, Waseca, Minnesota.

Jack Edward Dahl

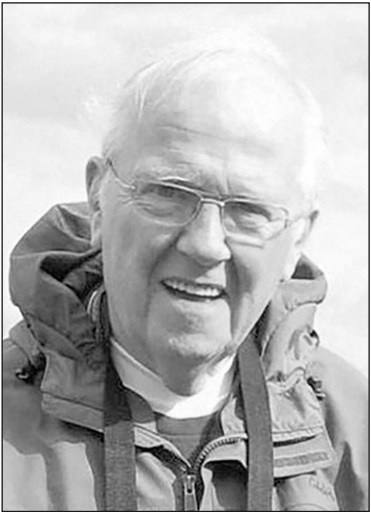
Jack Edward Dahl, age 86 of Waseca, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, May 4, 2026.

Born on November 9, 1939 in Madelia, Jack was the son of the late Jack Melford and Velma Mae (Brewer) Dahl. Jack was baptized at First Baptist Church in Owatonna and confirmed his faith at the United Methodist Church in Janesville. He graduated from Janesville High School in 1957. Following graduation, he enlisted in the US Navy and served during the Vietnam War aboard the aircraft carrier USS Hancock. He served honorably and in later years was willing to share more about his experiences during the Vietnam War.

Following his discharge, Jack returned to Janesville and continued his education at Mankato State University and the School of Associated Arts. In November of 1966, Jack met Barbara Elizabeth Radintz of Maple Grove and on August 19, 1967, they were united in marriage.

Following their marriage, he followed his passion for fine arts as a watercolorist, oil painter, and illustrator and opened a studio on the Le Sueur River in rural Janesville. He had a particular love creating artwork representing rural Americana. He later supported his passion for art as a representative for Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL). As a young man, Jack felt called to the holy ministry in the United Methodist Church. He heeded that call later in life and was ordained into the holy ministry on August 11, 1985. He served Lutheran congregations in Iowa and Minnesota, concluding his called ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville.

After retirement, he was blessed to continue his passion for fine arts and was prolific in his work, even winning first prize for his artwork with the Minnesota Watercolor Society. While the top of his desk and drawing table often looked chaotic, Jack was meticulous in his bookkeeping and had an eye for the details in his artwork that many others would overlook. He was a voracious reader, precisely cataloging



Jack Dahl

what he had read. He could often be found curating his many collections of stamps, coins, baseball cards, and toy tractors. As his health failed, he would gather the energy to get himself on the lawnmower and loved maintaining his yard. He loved his family and was so proud of his grandchildren.

During Jack's brief final illness as he spent a month away from his beloved wife and home, his passion for fine arts, his love for conversation with people, and sharing the love of Christ never wavered. While Jack expressed his not wanting to leave his family and hobbies, his identity was firmly in Christ and he talked repeatedly about wanting to see Jesus.

Jack is survived by his wife, Barbara; children, Luke, Andrew (Jill), Elisabeth, and John (Kaaren); and his grandchildren, Erik, Niklas, Jensen, Elin, Kjerstin, Sonja, and Lucia. He is also survived by his brother, James (Dianne), and many beloved in-laws, nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Judith Eileen Dahl and a grandson, Samuel.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Visitation was held one hour before services at the church. A time of fellowship with follow the service in the Trinity Discipling Center. Graveside services were held on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery in Corcoran.

Memorials are preferred to Trinity Lutheran School in Janesville.

Eugene Welch

Eugene "Gene" Edward Welch of Waseca passed away peacefully on April 10, 2026, with family by his side.

Eugene, the only child of Walter and Marguerite (Moon) Welch, was born on August 13, 1939, in Des Moines, Iowa. Gene graduated from high school in Des Moines in 1957. He began his college education at Simpson College, where he studied for two years before transferring to Iowa State University, earning a bachelor's degree in mathematics and another in electrical engineering. After completing college, he accepted a job at EF Johnson in Waseca, and he and Janet relocated there to start his career and build their family.

Throughout his career, he thrived as an electrical engineer, taking pride in his work. He spent 28 years at EF

Johnson and later continued his career at Itron for 10 years before retiring. Using his expertise with Viking Amateur Radios, he played a role in helping establish the Waseca County Civil Defense, providing vital communication support during emergency situations. Gene took great pride in his work at EF Johnson, especially knowing that a Citizens Band radio he worked on is now displayed at the Smithsonian Institution. A true innovator, he also held a patent himself.

In their early years together, Gene and Janet embraced adventure as a young family, setting out on sight-seeing trips, exploring new places, and treasuring the simple joy of being together. On Christmas Eve, he especially loved creating a sense of magic for his children, with Santa's visit bringing wonder and excitement as they discovered the gifts left behind. He spent many years playing in

a volleyball league alongside his colleagues. Gene fully embraced being a grandfather, taking great pride in each of his grandchildren and their accomplishments while offering steady support and encouragement along the way. He cherished time with them, whether it was lively games of ping pong or the joy of hosting an annual Easter egg hunt.

Gene will be lovingly remembered by his children, Lorri Welch and Larry (Beth) Welch; grandchildren, Rachel (Patrick) Doughty and Andrew (Maria Rute Costa) Welch; prior wife, Janet Welch; along with many cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and numerous extended family members.

A visitation to Celebrate Gene's Life will be held on Saturday, May 16 from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM at the Third Street Chapel of the Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Crema-



Eugene Welch

tion Service in Waseca, MN. A burial will be held at a later date in Rock Rapids, IA.

Beverly Guse

Beverly Eileen (Gehring) Guse, age 89 of rural Waseca, passed away Friday, May 8th, 2026 at her home, surrounded by her family.

Beverly was born to Chester and Effie (Kujath) Gehring on April 15, 1937 in Wilton Township in Waseca County. She was baptized on May 9th 1937 and confirmed her faith on May 28th, 1950 both at Trinity Lutheran Church, Wilton. Beverly attended country school in Wilton township and later Waseca Public Schools, graduating with the class of 1954. Following her education, she worked in banking until becoming a mother. In 1953, Bev met the love of her life, Clarence Guse. They were married March 18, 1956, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wilton Township. After living briefly in Waseca and Morristown, they settled on the family farm in 1959, where they built a life together for 65 years until Clarence's passing in 2021.

Bev loved to travel. She and Clarence were fortunate enough to travel

much of the United States and abroad. One of their adventures that will not easily be forgotten was the family trip to the North Shore. Bev and Clarence enjoyed watching their children and grandchildren spend time together which included swimming in some very chilly temperatures.

Bev was known for her potato salad and rhubarb meringue dessert. She enjoyed needlework, sewing, playing cards, dominoes, and watching her children and grandchildren's many athletic and art events. She especially enjoyed winning on a slot machine at various casinos and had a final trip with her daughters the week before she passed. Family, friends, farming, and faith were the cornerstone of her life and will continue for generations to come. Her grandchildren reminisce about their grandparent sleepovers and the fun they had. Bev's faith showed strongly as she quietly sang hymns during her final resting moments.

Bev is survived her children: John

(LuAnn) Guse of Albert Lea, Richard (Kristin) Guse of Waseca, Jean Kirick of Sartell, Judy (Craig) McCourtney of Eagle Lake, Kay (Gary) Gottschalk of Janesville, Mary (Steve) Kramer of Dodge Center, Larry Guse of Rochester, Lori (John) Kulander of Farmington; siblings, Norman (Donna) Gehring, Marilyn Marsh, and Darrold (Bev) Gehring. She is also survived by 22 grandchildren and their spouses, and 29 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Beverly was preceded into death by her husband Clarence, her infant son Duane Dean; parents, Chester and Effie (Kujath) Gehring, Stepmother Marie Gehring and her sister Lois (Bob) Leger.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 - 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026, in the Discipling Center of Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville, and will continue for one hour prior to the service on Friday.

Funeral services will begin at 11:00 a.m. on May 15, 2026, at



Beverly Guse

Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Interment will follow in St. John Trinity Lutheran Cemetery in Iosco Township, Waseca County. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Services in Janesville is handling the arrangements. dsoufuneral.com



REAL WARM WELCOME - The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors welcomed Johnson Premier Mortgage - Edge Home Finance as a new member to the Chamber.

Ambassadors welcome Johnson Premier Mortgage

Waseca, MN — The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors are pleased to welcome their newest member, Johnson Premier Mortgage – Edge Home Finance, owned by Larry Johnson.

Whether individuals are buying, selling, refinancing, or building their dream home, having a knowledgeable loan specialist is essential. With market conditions and mortgage programs constantly evolving, Larry Johnson brings the expertise and up-to-date insight needed to guide

clients through a wide range of financing options. His commitment to providing timely, accurate financial advice helps ensure clients can make confident decisions throughout the home financing process.

"We are excited to welcome Larry Johnson and Johnson Premier Mortgage – Edge Home Finance to the Chamber," said Robin Dulas, Executive Director of the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce. "His dedication to helping individuals and families navigate important financial

decisions makes him a valuable resource for our community."

Chamber Board President Mikhail Rostislavovich added, "Having experienced professionals like Larry in our network strengthens the support system available to both residents and businesses in Waseca. We're proud to have him as part of our Chamber and as an Ambassador."

Ambassador Chair Katie Gonzales also shared her enthusiasm: "It's always exciting to welcome new members, and Larry's passion for

helping people achieve homeownership truly stands out. We look forward to supporting his continued success and connection within the community."

For more information about Johnson Premier Mortgage – Edge Home Finance, visit the Larry Johnson Team Page at Edge Home Finance, or connect with him on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok. You can also reach him at 117 2nd St NW, Waseca, MN, or by phone at 507-461-0815.

Second cannabis growing permit on path to approval

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

One conditional use permit for outdoor growth of cannabis in Waseca County was issued during the May 5 meeting of the Waseca County board of commissioners. A second one was approved by the county planning commission the evening of May 7; planning commission members offered their recommendation that the county board should consider approving the permit during its May 19 meeting.

Both sites are south of Waseca near Highway 13. The fully approved location is on property leased by commissioner Brian Harguth, who recused himself from both the discussion and the May 5 vote regarding the conditional use permit (CUP) applying to him.

The parcel to be considered May 19 is owned by Daniel and Tara Harguth.

Minnesota state rules limit the size of any single outdoor cannabis "canopy" to no more than two acres—with a pos-

sibility that the state Office of Cannabis Management will eventually increase the allowed size to four acres if there is sufficient market demand. Statute requires that fields be behind a locked fence and that records be kept regarding who enters and leaves the site.

In the case of Brian Harguth, about 25 acres within a 53-acre were made eligible under the CUP for use in culti-

vating cannabis.

Dan and Tara Harguth's field is about 9.5 acres in size, and may eventually include up to 5 growing sites for cannabis production. According to information shared at the planning commission meeting, each 2-acre site will require a separate license; fees for a state commercial cannabis growers' license can be as high as \$30,000 a year.

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Caterpillar contributions allow hands-on learning

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

During their May 7 workshop, members of the Waseca school board heard from high school agriculture teacher Robin Tidd and community member Brenda Harguth speaking of an opportunity that arose for students. During a career fair last autumn, the previous ag teacher convinced Caterpillar to donate two diesel engines and the accompanying technical manuals to the program.

Along with that, Mike Shepherd, a Caterpillar employee who trains diesel mechanics all over the United States, lives in Waseca and consented to hold Wednesday night teaching sessions for a group which included 17 Waseca students in grades 10-12, one Morris-town student, and three adults. Bomgaars donated all the tools needed for class valued at \$1200, and Southside Marine allowed the group to use its facility for the sake of security. Caterpillar also brought the students to tour their facility in the Twin Cities and donated scholarships to South Central Community College to the three students who attend South Central.

Harguth said Mike is willing to return next winter to repeat the 6:30 to 9 p.m. program, and Caterpillar is willing to make sure he is home every Wednesday night during the winter trimester. Harguth also said that both Cole Electric and Schumacher Electric are willing to send employees to lead a wiring class. The students are hoping for a plumbing class as well.

Harguth said she has been contacted by NRHEG and Waterville to see whether students from those districts would be

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

allowed to participate in the classes. She said it seems to be catching on, as she heard on the radio that the Mankato school district is now running a similar program after seeing it run in Waseca.

Director of Teaching and Learning Brooke McGuire presented the math curriculum implementation process for updating the district's books as the new state standards come into place. During the current school year a number of math resources were piloted by teachers, and then feedback was shared. By mid-year the options were narrowed to two and the math teachers will finish the year and make a final decision. Implementation will take place for grades Kindergarten to 6 during the 2026-27 school year with the transition to the new standards, and grades 7 to 12 during 2027-28 with the full implementation of the new standards.

Superintendent Eric Hudspith introduced the timeline for the strategic plan review process and said summer 2026 is an appropriate time for reviewing the current plan, refreshing priorities that might need further attention and reinforcing the board's commitment to the established goals.

Hudspith also shared the summer 2026 district facility planning timeline with the board, and said that the district is balancing the need for long term facility planning and current maintenance needs. The district uses the guidance of numerous information resources to ensure both aspects are being considered.



WELCOMING ANOTHER - The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors welcomed CADA as a new member. CADA provides safety, support, and advocacy for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Ambassadors welcome CADA as new member

Waseca, MN — The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors are proud to welcome CADA as a new member of the Chamber. CADA's commitment to providing safety, support, and advocacy for victims of domestic and sexual violence makes them an invaluable resource to the region.

CADA's mission is to provide safety and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence through education, advocacy, and shelter. The organization was established as a grassroots collaborative, growing out of the efforts of several local women active in the battered women's movement. In 1979, CADA's founders signed the articles of incorporation with the goal of providing safety to victims of domestic violence in the Mankato area. By 1981, with strong community support and funding, the doors to the first CADA shelter opened.

Throughout the 1990s, as the region grew and the need for services increased, CADA expanded its reach. In 1997, the organization built a new shelter, allowing them to serve even more victims and survivors.

Today, CADA provides services across a nine-county region in south-central Minnesota. Their services include multiple advocacy office locations, a supervised parenting time and exchange center, and an emergency safety

shelter that can house up to 22 women and children at a time.

"We are honored to welcome CADA to the Chamber," said Katie Gonzales, Ambassador Chair. "Their work supporting individuals and families during some of the most difficult times in their lives is truly impactful, and we are proud to have them as part of our business community."

"We are excited to have CADA join the Waseca Chamber," said Mikhail Rostislovovich President of the Board of Directors. "Their dedication to advocacy, education, and safety strengthens not only individuals but our entire region."

"CADA is grateful for the opportunity to connect with the Waseca business community through Chamber membership," said Robin Dulas, Executive Director. "Partnerships like this help us continue our mission and expand awareness of the resources available to those in need."

CADA operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Those interested in donating, volunteering, or learning more are encouraged to reach out.

To speak with an advocate, CADA offers a 24-hour helpline:
Call: 507-625-8688
Email: info@cadamn.org

County Board looks at zoning, tourism matters

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

During their May 5 meeting, county board members voted down a proposed change to the county's Universal Development Code (UDC) whose terms had been prompted by the legalization of marijuana and a new state law allowing "cannabis events" up to four days in duration.

As discussion on the topic began, planning and zoning administrator Tina Wilson explained that, under current language, permits are required only if an event has an anticipated crowd of 1,000 or more, and lasts eight hours or longer. Terms also exempt school events, places of worship, and certain other non-profit organizations from needing a permit, regardless of the size of their gathering.

The proposed change removed the exemptions and set the threshold for requiring a permit at 500 or more people for any length of time.

Wilson commented the proposed modifications had been drafted because "cannabis changes the landscape." For one, state laws governing cannabis events include stipulations having to do with public safety, including traffic

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

control, access to water and restroom facilities, parking, and security, among others. It would be the county's duty to ensure those stipulations would be met.

Though there is no fee for an event permit, the permitting process requires applicants to submit information pertaining to the listed public safety matters, allowing county staff to review them and give input. Since permits are considered at public meetings held by agencies which meet only once or twice a month, getting approval for a permit could lengthen the planning process by days or weeks.

The change to a decreased crowd size and the removal of exemptions for many non-profit organizations were stumbling blocks for commissioners as the new language was considered.

Commissioners named events including ice cream socials, cross country competitions, and even funerals which might require a permit under the new criteria.

After a lengthy discussion on the topic, the matter was taken to a vote in

which three of the five commissioners voted against the changed language. The question of what criteria would be acceptable was remanded to the planning and zoning subcommittee with the expectation that a changed proposal will be presented at a future meeting.

Also on May 5, Waseca County Engineer and Public Works Director Jim Kollar was appointed to remain the head of public works for a period of 5 years. Commissioners expressed gratitude for Kollar's expertise in his field, his close attention to finances, and his dedication to maintaining a high-quality road system.

Commissioners also heard from Waseca High School social studies teacher John Hanson regarding the Explore Waseca County Tours application available online. The app, which provides information and narrated tours regarding sites and locations of interest all around the county, shares details about communities, parks, dining, shopping and more.

Hanson said that, thanks to tours and information assembled by his students, the many quality features of the app, and the support of city and county agencies, the app is "as good as it gets"

in terms of collaboration and intercommunication.

In addition to providing visitors and tourists with useful information, the app tracks statistics which show how much usage is taking place. He shared that, in the prior 20 days, about 500 users had logged in. Also recorded are the elements of the site they visited, the "screens" they used and the amount of time they are logged in.

In another item of business, a conditional use permit (CUP) was approved to allow a renter to grow cannabis on property south of Waseca along Highway 13 leased by commissioner Brian Harguth. Because it dealt with him, Harguth recused himself both from the discussion of the CUP and from the vote on its approval.

The parcel of land is more than 50 acres in size; the permit allows up to 22.5 acres to be used in growing cannabis. According to state law, outdoor cannabis fields must have security lighting, must be enclosed within a locked fence, and must keep a record of who comes and goes at the property.

Another article in this edition of the Pioneer shares additional information about this topic.



REPRESENTING GOOD - Representatives from local organizations receiving grants from the Waseca Area Foundation were present at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca on Thursday, May 7. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

■ WAF

from Page 1

Education was awarded \$2,000 from the Cally Jo Children's Fund. Sacred Heart Elementary was awarded \$5,000 for laptops from the Homer and Betty McIntire Fund and the John Priebe Education Fund. Trinity Lutheran Preschool was awarded \$3,500 from the Barbara and Jack Dahl Fund.

The Waseca Public Library was awarded \$2,000 for its summer reading program from the Scott and Holly Martin fund. Farmamerica was awarded \$644 from the Cally Jo Children's Fund. Waseca 4-H was awarded \$1,500 for Centennial Celebration Support and \$5,000 toward Power of Produce (POP) Club vouchers from the Barb Penny Youth Fund and the Scott and Holly Martin Fund. Waseca County Farm Bureau Asso-

ciation was awarded \$1,500 for fifth-grader safety day and \$1,500 for Taste of the Farm from the Schoenfeld Family Fund and Cally Jo Children's Fund and the WAF fund. Big Brothers Big Sisters was awarded \$7,500 from the Barb Penny Youth Fund, the Cally Jo Children's and the WAF fund. Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center was awarded \$2,000 for the In a Pinch program, \$10,000 for the food shelf and \$5,000 for the backpack program from the Scott and Holly Martin Fund, WAF and the Barb Penny Youth fund. Feeding Our Community Partners backpack program was awarded \$2,000 from WAF. Lutheran Social Services was awarded \$5,000 for Meals for Seniors from the WAF. Caregiver Services was awarded \$400 from WAF. Santa's Workshop was awarded \$500 from the Barb Penny Youth Fund. The Waseca Arts Council was awarded \$2,150 from the Tracy Jevning Memorial Fund. The Waseca County Historical Society was

"We cannot thank all partners and donors enough."
— Amy Potter

awarded \$3,000 for an air purifier from the Greg and Donnette Wheelock Fund. The City of Waseca was awarded \$2,400 for flowers from the Tracy Jevning Memorial fund. The Waseca Police department was awarded \$4,000 for a trailer from the Rosenau Legacy of Angels Fund. The South-Central Drug Investigation Unit was awarded \$9,500 for a night vision system from the Rosenau Law Enforcement Fund and the Rosenau Legacy of Angels fund. Discover Waseca Tourism was awarded \$1,500 from the John Priebe Community Runs/Events fund. The Waseca County Fair was awarded \$5,000 from the John Priebe Community Runs and the WAF. Waseca Lakes Association was awarded \$3,000 for Lakefest, \$500 for the Lakefest Freedom Run/Walk and

\$1,000 for the Take a Kid Fishing Event from the John Priebe Community Runs/Events Fund and the WAF. The Sleigh and Cutter organization was awarded \$2,000 from the John Priebe Community Runs/Events fund. The Don Eustice Committee was awarded \$5,000 from the WAF.

Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (JWP) High School was awarded \$220 for food safety certification and \$5,000 for a learning lab from the John Priebe Education fund and the Rosenau Legacy of Angels fund. JWP was awarded \$7,000 for auditorium lighting from the Rosenau Legacy of Angels fund. The City of Janesville was awarded \$500 for Songs in the Park from WAF. Hay Daze was awarded \$1,000 for food and prizes from the John Priebe

Community Runs/Events fund. The City of Waldorf was awarded \$5,000 for a new playground from the Rosenau Legacy of Angels fund.

WAF Funds that support Spring 2026 grants include: Roy and Jeanette Tollefson, Bud Schmidt Trucking, W.H. and Estelle Rethwill, John and Jane King, James Corchran, Dr. Robert and Helen Collins, Dr. O.J. and Betty Swenson, Wes and Carol Rethwill, Curt and Nita Sjoberg, Gedosch-Fell, Harold and Gert Sturner, Rutledge Family Fund, Neil and Sharon Fruchte Fund and the Waseca Area Foundation Endowment.

Amy Potter, executive director for WAF, complimented area organizations for the work they do in support of important causes, saying, "We cannot thank all partners and donors enough."

The fall deadline for grant applications is September 30, 2026. Anyone who would like to donate can visit the WAF website.



The Pastor's Column

Ascension and return

By PASTOR MICHAEL GRANNIS

So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven." ~ Acts 1:6-11

May flowers have come into bloom. Spring is in full swing. For many Easter is already a distant memory. However, the Church has still been celebrating Easter. This year, Thursday May 14th marks the end of the Easter season for Western Christians. That day marks the 40th day since Easter Sunday; the day when our crucified and resurrected Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ascended from earth into heaven.

You see, when Jesus rose from death on the third day after His crucifixion, He did not go to heaven right away. He remained on the earth for 40 days, visiting His disciples a number of times. He taught them, opening their minds to understand many of the prophecies about Him in the Old Testament Scriptures; showing them many of the things that were foretold about Him. He explained all that He had come to do and had indeed fulfilled. He then commissioned them to go out into all the world proclaiming the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins in His name, and building up those who have faith in His name. They are to live as those who have been created, redeemed, and sanctified to bear His image of selfless love to the world. In order to accomplish this great task of spreading the Gospel and living out love, Jesus promised that they would receive "power from on high" (His Holy Spirit).

This Gospel of forgiveness which Jesus has earned for the world means resurrection from death for all people; the undoing of death, which is the wages of sin. Moreover, this forgiveness Jesus has earned gives eternal life to all who trust in Him as Savior. This trust (faith) is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is produced through the power of the Gospel message of God's love for us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

This Gospel of forgiveness on account of Christ comes to sinners through the call to faith in Christ and

repentance from sin. This Gospel is applied to sinners in the waters of Holy Baptism, by which God adopts us as His beloved children, making us heirs of His eternal kingdom, pouring His Holy Spirit into our hearts, imparting faith, and forgiving our sins. This same Gospel of forgiveness is received upon our lips when we receive Christ's very body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar (a.k.a. the Eucharist, Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, etc.). The Holy Spirit works through the Church as we strive to live by faith, and to faithfully carry out all that Christ has given us to do until He comes again in glory to raise all the dead and stand as Judge over all the earth.

In the back of our church (St. Paul Lutheran Church) we have a statue of the risen Christ. He is in the air with His hands raised in blessing. He is wearing a white robe draped in red (it kind of looks like a red cape!). This image could be thought of as the ascension of Christ, but the red implies that it is actually depicting the return of Christ in glory as Judge of the living and the dead (see Revelation 19:11-16).

I mention all of this to say this: the Christian faith is not just about moral lessons, or a list of "do this and don't do this." The Christian Faith is about faith in Christ. It is about trusting in the One true eternal God who paid for our sins by coming into the world as one of us in order to die on the cross and rise victorious over death. The Christian Church is that peculiar people who have been called by the Gospel of forgiveness in Christ's name and by the power of the Holy Spirit have received that Gospel in faith.

Knowing the salvation which has been afforded to them by Christ, Christians continue to gather together to regularly hear and to grow in the Word concerning Christ; they continue to be built up in the Faith by receiving the gracious gifts of Christ's Holy Sacraments for the forgiveness of sins and the living out of their faith in Him. By the power of His Word and Spirit, they selflessly show forth their love for God and their love for a world in need. They spread the Gospel of salvation in Jesus' name, looking forward to the day of His return with longing confidence.

If you have not been regularly gathering with those who proclaim and live according to this Gospel of Christ, I encourage you to make a point of doing so. This is the most important thing a person can do. There is no salvation apart from Christ Jesus our Savior. He will come again in the same way as His disciples saw Him go into heaven. He will come again in glory as our Judge. I pray you would grow in the knowledge of the truth of forgiveness, life, and salvation until that day.



Students of the Month: Brilliant+ Bluejays



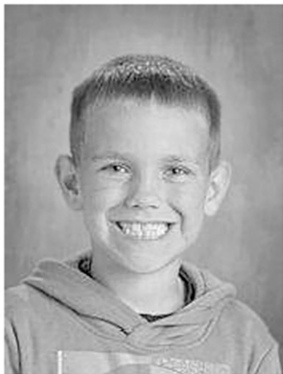
Becca
Kindergarten



Vincent
1st Grade



Mindy
2nd Grade



Rory
3rd Grade



Adlee
3rd Grade



Josie
2nd Grade

■ Final Cut

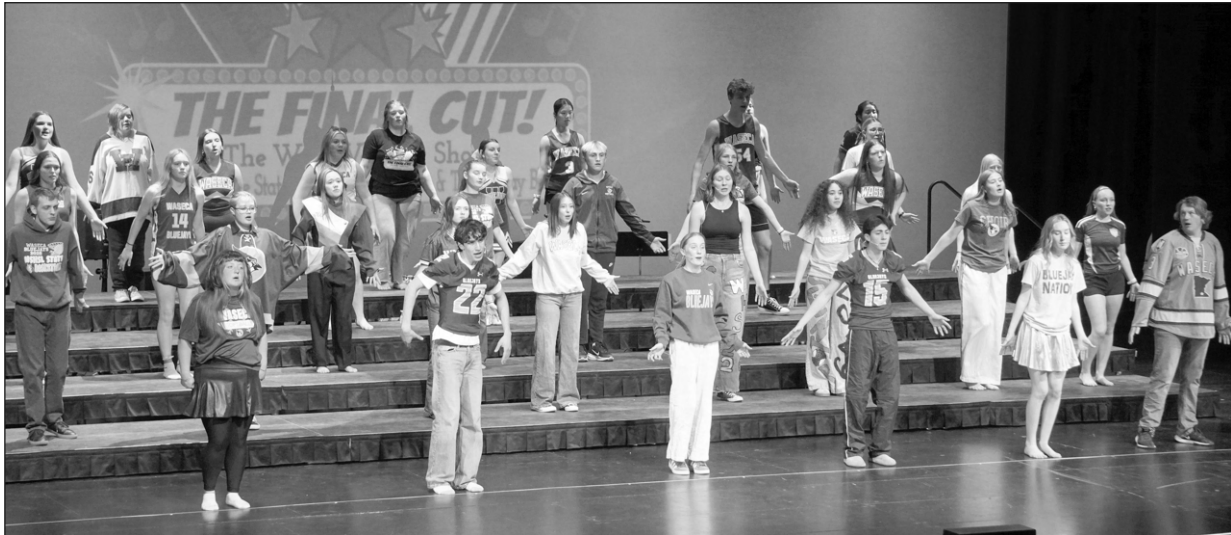
from Page 1

separate songs as well as a senior slide show.

Emcees introduced each act, supplying humor and getting their own share of the applause. On the program were assorted songs like, "The Time Warp," "I Don't Believe in Love," "When the Party's Over," "Danger Zone," "Ordinary," and "The Way You Look Tonight."

The program included numerous costume changes. For "Flashlight" by the State Street Treble Singers, the entire auditorium was darkened, leaving only the screen with lights and each of the dancers on stage with their flashlights. The most popular song among the children was "Ghostbusters." The beginning of the song involved a ghost chased on stage while being pursued by a Ghostbuster. During the song, Slimer, the popular character from the movies, appeared on the projector screen, leading to screams of delight from the young audience as he flew around looking at everything. The performers on stage didn't seem to be scared of the green ghost at all.

To wrap things up there was a senior slideshow and the final song, "We're All in this Together," which included the entire cast.



Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH
2200 4th St NE, Waseca
507-833-2235
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
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/Fellowship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Eve Worship 6:30 p.m.
* * *

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: 1cwaseca@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
Father Glenn Ferichs
507-835-1222
Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m.
* * *

REAL LIFE CHURCH
620 W Elm Ave, Waseca

507-833-0017
Sunday worship 10 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 School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.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
* * *

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 Glenn Ferichs
Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays
p.m. Mass
Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m.
* * *

FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod
Waldorf, Minnesota
Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Larry Sipe
Sundays: Worship 8 a.m.; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and adult bible class
* * *

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9:15 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
Services 6 p.m. Saturday
* * *

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

12-18
* * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
412 N. Main Street, Janesville
Pastor Jason Wolter
Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 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 - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter)
* * *

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

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St., Janesville
Pastor Sarah Krolak
* * *

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Alma City, Minnesota
Pastor Robert Harting
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship
* * *

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

NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA
404 30 120th St, Waseca
Pastor Sarah Krolak
507-234-6463
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship, Second Sunday "Young at heart"
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. confirmation
* * *

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

The City of Waseca
current Drinking Water Quality Report
is now available on the City's website at
www.ci.waseca.mn.us
on the Water Department page
or contact Waseca Utilities for a copy.
(507) 835-9718
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



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GUARDIAN ENERGY

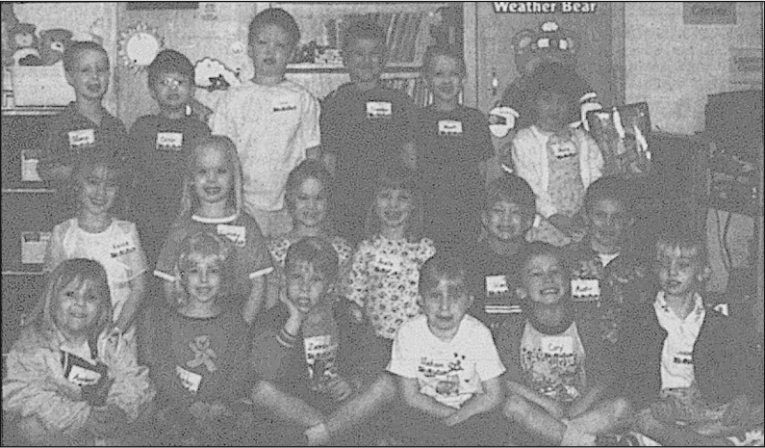
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ETHANOL

Janesville

25 years ago

- The Celebration Singers will present "Glorious In Majesty-Worship The Lord In the Splendor of His Holiness" on Friday, April 27, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. at the Janesville Methodist Church. "Glorious in Majesty" is a collection of choral arrangements by Doug Holck interspersed with narration. The choir is under the direction of Jowane Howard and the members are from various local and are churches. There is no admission charged for the concerts; however, there will be a free-will offering taken and used to help defray the music expenses of the concerts.



- Kindergarten round-up was held on Friday, April 27 at the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Elementary School. The following children attended the morning session: Front row (from left): Amber Hawes, Ashley Meyer, Zachary O'Brien, Madison Krienke, Cory Gehring and Josse Crouch, Second row: Kelsie Sonnek, Lynsey Guse, Carleigh Munz, Arielle Schmitz, Max Burley and Austin Wendier. Third row: Marco Krienke, Colton Froehlich, York Thissen, Brandon Issendorf, Wyatt Wehking and Anna Burns.

- The Nite Owls met on Saturday, April 21, for their annual night out at the Janesville American Legion for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School track team pork chop fry. Husbands were the guests for the evening. Following dinner, the members and guests enjoyed cards at the home of John and Marcia Dimmel. Prize winners were: Dale Koplen and Harriet Oftedahl, high; and Marvine Manthe and Ger-dane Witts, low. Pfeffer went to Vernon Roemhildt. The next meeting will be held at the home of Barb Koplen.



- Kristen Goves, Tiffany Smith, Tasha Kalis, Leroy Kleimola and Brandon Kreinke were selected for the Dorian Festival for band and choir.

- Five Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School students were chosen to participate in the Dorian Festival held at Luther College in Iowa. Selected to attend the choir festival was Kristen Voges, Tiffany Smith, Tasha Kalis and Leroy Kleimola. Band participants were Brandon Krienke, Tasha Kalis, Kristen Voges and Tiffany Smith. The choir festival was held in January and the band festival was in March. The students are at Luther College for two days for the festival.

50 years ago

- The Janesville Gold Star Rebekah Lodge No. 42 met in the Odd Fellows Hall on April 12, with 14 members present. Twenty-one sick calls were reported. The charter was draped for Sister Oline Korgness, a past assembly president, who died in March. Mrs. Joe Miller reported on the district meeting in Waseca. Discussion was held on assembly sessions to be held in Alexandria June 17,18 and 19. Following adjournment and the social hour, lunch was served by Mrs. George Witham.

- Steve Dimmel, Janesville, president of the Farm and Home Association, welcomed the members to its twenty-second annual banquet on April 6. Al Trahms, Janesville, introduced Waseca County Extension Director, Roger Wilkowske, who spoke about the pioneer leaders of Waseca County and the United States. Wilkowske concluded that "the horse and buggy days weren't so bad." Looking toward the future of agriculture, he stated, "The impossible is done by people who didn't know it couldn't be done." Pastor Allen Grundahl of New Richland related his experiences in agriculture while serving in Rhodesia.

- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wiste announce the engagement of their daughter, Roberta to William Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Johnson. Roberta is a 1973 graduate of Janesville High School and Bill is a 1972 graduate of Janesville High School. He is presently attending Mankato State University. A June wedding is planned.

75 years ago

- The Janesville Fire Department has a streamlined new addition to its fire fighting equipment, namely a 700-gallon tanker, dual purpose fire truck. The truck, which can now be seen at the fire station, can be used as a tanker alone or for fire fighting. There will be a demonstration of the efficiency of the new tanker in the near future, said Harvey E. Gardner, fire chief.

- Delbert Sweet, 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Sweet of Wells, was fatally wounded Saturday when a revolver he was handling discharged, the bullet striking him in the throat. The lad was rushed to the hospital where he died later. A companion told authorities that Delbert was sitting on a davenport in the Sweet home, handling the weapons, which he thought was not loaded. He heard the shot and looked around to see Delbert bleeding from a wound in the throat.

- St. Mary's Circle entertained at a card party in St. Ann's Catholic church parlors in Janesville on Sunday evening, March 25. Bridge was played at one table with Mrs. Foss and Father English receiving the prizes. Snouse was played at sixteen tables with high score prizes awarded to Mrs. Henry Eustice and Eugene Glynn, consolation prizes to Mrs. Elanor Joyce and Pat Eustice, and the door prize to Mrs. Sib Kahnke. After cards lunch was served.

100 years ago

- J.J. LaCourse of Meridith, N.H. shouldered his gun and hiked to distant parts for an afternoon's hunt. Shortly after his departure four coons appeared in his front yard and climbed a tree, where they were held (with broom and apron) by Mrs. LaCourse until his return with an empty bag some hours later. All four coons were captured.

- Dora Hagerman of this city entered the ballet dancing tournament held in Faribault Saturday, April 17. The divisional contests were \$5, first place; \$3, second; \$2, third. The finals were: \$15, first; \$10, second; \$5, third and fourth; \$2, fifth and sixth; \$1, seventh place.

Waseca

25 years ago

- To the Editor: The fourth graders at Central Intermediate School were recently treated to a personal presentation by Marshal Cawley as part of the disabilities unit. He related some of his experiences growing up with a physical disability as aspects of his job at Waseca County News. Waseca is indeed fortunate to have its own son turn out to be such a talented man. The fourth grade staff and their students are grateful for Marshal's willingness to share his challenges as well as his triumphs. We were all able to learn from many positive things from this courageous man. Thanks Marshal.

- Kevin and Debi Kinny of Waseca are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Shanna Emmalee Kinny, born April 20, 2001, at Immanuel St. Joseph's Hospital in Mankato. She weighed nine pounds and was 20 ½ inches in length. Shanna is welcomed home by her three siblings: Tyler, who is eight, Zachary, who is five and Griffin, age one and one-half.

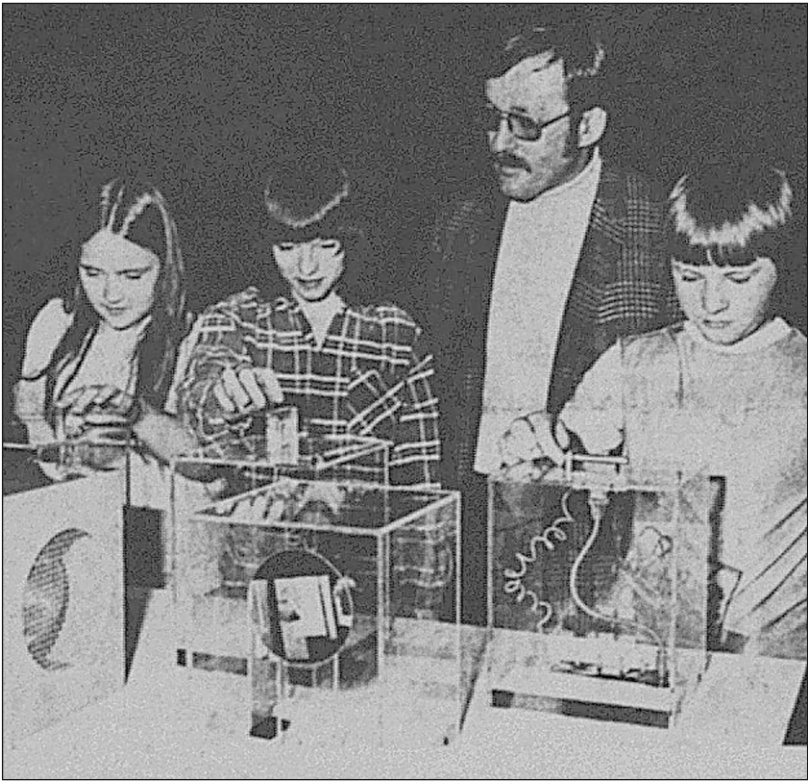


YESS ASK

- The Waseca Exchange Club has selected the following as Youths of the Month. The recipients for the month of April are Jennifer Yess and Justin Ask. Yess has been involved in student government, annual staff and choir. She has also been involved in stage productions, DECA, track and softball. She has been active in the community in Church choir, Sunday School teacher and youth group member. She is the daughter of Curt Yess and Cindy Yess. Ask has been active in DECA and is a past Student of the Week. He is involved in the community as a Sunday School teacher, youth group member, church council, vacation bible school coordinator and Law Enforcement Explorers. He is the son of Ward and Carol Ask.

50 years ago

- The 5th annual Awards Banquet will be held at the University of Minnesota Technical College, Waseca on Tuesday, May 11at 6:30 p.m. in the UMW gymnasium, according to Don Collins, banquet chairman. Awards will be presented to a number of UMW students, including athletic, student activities and the Provost's List Awards. Featured speaker for the event will be Barney Lewellyn, assistant football coach at Mankato State University. Tickets are on sale at \$3 for adults and \$2 or students and are available at the UMW Business Office or may be reserved by calling the UMW business office at 835-1000.



- A group of 120 sixth-grade students from Waseca Central Middle School recently toured the Science Museum of Minnesota in downtown St. Paul. Viewing a display in the museum's physical sciences area with Waseca teacher Terry Gilbertson are Kim Peterson (left), Kim Burt and Jim Gregor. The participatory display demonstrates principles of light and electricity.

- Waseca Middle School students presented a musical salute to the U.S. Bicentennial in the auditorium Thursday evening. The show was a "sellout" and reportedly was well received by the audience. The program was under the direction of William Brooks and Thomas Case. "Our audience was wonderful," said Bill Brooks today. "The theme was patriotism and the kids were all set for it and really outdid themselves. I think it went marvelously well. The kids are ten feet tall today."

75 years ago

- Discussion lessons on Sanitary Production of Milk and Interior Decorating were given when the Waseca County Rural Youth members met last Thursday evening. The meeting was held at the home of Kennard Kahne's advisors of the organization. Alvin Edler and Bill Jewison conducted the lesson for the boys and Anita Root has charge of the girls' topic. Refreshments were served by Edna Monke and Gordon Mittelsteadt. Rural Youth members have been invited to attend several events to be held jointly with other counties.

- Improvement Association was awarded 40 bushels of the new Black Hawk certified soybeans. These will be grown this year by Rueben and Joe Nelson, Charles Grubish, Art Byron and Eugene Miller. These men have been approved by the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association.

100 years ago

- Efforts are being made to arouse the interest in Waseca for the observance of Music Week in Waseca the first week in May. The past two years Waseca has held splendid programs in observance of the week and will again this year. The Sacred Heart school plans a program for one evening of the week and other programs will also be arranged.

- Hazel C. Sheldon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Sheldon of Waseca, was graduated from the School of Agriculture at University Farm, at the 37th annual commencement exercises held last week. Miss Sheldon has taken a position as Club Leader in Washington county with headquarters at Stillwater. She is taking a week's short course this week and will begin active work at Stillwater next week.

New Richland

25 years ago

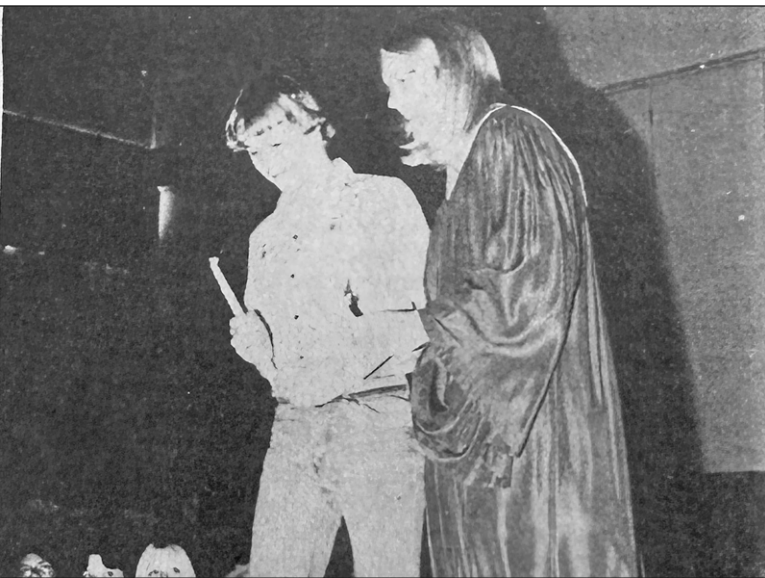


- Five new candidates for Girls State are welcomed by the Janesville American Legion Auxiliary. They are from the left, Mollie Holmes, Waldorf; Megan Tappe, New Richland; Caitlin Groh, Waseca; Lacey Peterson, New Richland and Julie Ulmen, Janesville.

- Curtis and Becky Stenzel of Waldorf are the parents of a daughter born Thursday, April 26, 2001 at Immanuel-St. Joseph's - part of Mayo Health System, Mankato. The little Miss weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and has been named Hailey Jean. She has four brothers: Rob, 11; Zachary, 4; Luke, 3; and Christopher, 1 ½ years.

- At Riverview Golf Course, Tuesday, April 24, the Panthers Girls golf squad defeated Maple River 230-266. Leading the Panthers was Shari Miller with a 47. Amy Sack shot a 56, Lindsey Langlie a 63 and Sally Johnson a 64.

50 years ago



- Eric Espe is pictured as he accepted his candle from Marlene Tappe after his name was called as a new member of the National Honor Society. Eric, a junior, is an employee of the STAR.

- Bruce Byron, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Byron of rural New Richland, will graduate from Waldorf College, Forest City, Iowa, Sunday, May 16.

75 years ago

- Karen Thea, weighing eight pounds, 10 ½ ounces was born at the Waseca Memorial hospital, Tuesday, June 5, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon blowers of St. Olaf Lake. Mr and Mrs. Blowers have a son, LaVerne.

Child's History of Waseca County

Cont. CHAPTER XI, 1855. Death of Henry Howell--First settlers in Blooming Grove, Janesville, and Byron.

TOWNSHIP OF JANESVILLE

The records of this township for the first ten years of its existence are missing; and the best that can be done is to give what can be picked up here and there from other sources. It is among the early traditions that the first white settlers in Janesville were a man named John Douglas and another named Hughes. They did not become permanent settlers, but removed, shortly afterwards, further west.

The next settlers were two dissolute characters, Alfred Holstein and John Davis. Davis claimed a portion of section 28, and Holstein a portion of section 27. Their principal business was trading with the Indians, and, by common reputation, they dealt mostly in whisky and tobacco — Davis, especially, being a great drinker himself. Both of them were social, friendly, and kind hearted to all comers, but their ideas of morality and decency were not of high grade. Davis finally went to one of the Carolinas. Holstein was sent to state prison by a United States court for stealing horses from the Winnebago Indians. A man named John Rowley settled on section 9, the same summer and became a long-time resident.

James, Thomas, John and Jerry Hogan, four brothers, came from the state of Kentucky in 1855, and settled in the timber on the west side of Lake Elysian. These were among the hardy pioneers that came here to make homes for themselves and their children, and they became permanent settlers.

Mr. Patrick Moonan made a settlement in this township the same year. Mr. Moonan was born in County Louth, Ireland, March 17,

1825; came to America in 1844, and settled in Janesville. Mrs. Moonan's maiden name was Mary A. Delaney and they were married in 1853. Mr. Moonan was in business at Janesville for several years. He came to Waseca in 1882, and built the Sheridan House, now called the Waverly hotel, where he carried on business until 1887, when he sold out and removed to Minneapolis with his family. He afterwards returned to Waseca, where he died November 22nd, 1899. John Moonan, Esq., the well-known attorney of Waseca, is his son.

John McCue, who became a wealthy farmer of the county, and his brothers, James and Patrick, also came that summer. James remained a bachelor and died in 1885, on the McCue estate. Patrick removed to Parker's Prairie, in this state, while Mr. John McCue removed to Missouri, where he became more wealthy than he was here. He finally went to California, where he died about 1893.

George Morrill, now a resident of Alton, settled in Janesville, in 1855. Mr. Morrill is a modest, quiet farmer, and has a good home.

John Cunningham was one of those first-class men who settled in Janesville in 1855. He made his claim on section 29, where he resided until his death, August 30, 1870. He was one of the first to respond to the call for men to fight the Indians in 1862, and enlisted October 4th, with ten other men from this county, in Company B, First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, and served until the close of the Indian war. He married Mrs. Mary Crawford, widow of W. H. Crawford, one of the early settlers of this county. At the breaking out of the war Mr. Crawford was murdered by Texas rebels for the awful crime of being a northern republican.

Baseball Bluejays win 2 of 3

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

So far this season, wins have not been easy to come by for the Waseca High School baseball team. And maybe, just maybe, the Bluejays signaled a turn of the tide last week, winning two of three games. Most recently, the Bluejays blanked Worthington 3-0 last Saturday at Waseca's Tink Larson Field. Avery Wetzel kept the Bluejays in it with a fine pitching effort, leaving the bases full in the second inning and cruising from there. He finished with five strikeouts and three walks while allowing four hits. The Bluejays were held hitless through three innings, but that changed in the fourth, when they delivered some big hits and took advantage of some Worthington efforts to score three unearned runs. Kamerin Schaefer started it, reaching safely on a one-out error by the third baseman. Wetzel singled and, after a strikeout, Kallen Glynn scored Schaefer on a single. The other runs came home on a single by Riley Mitchell. Wetzel went 2-for-3 with a double. Glynn, Mitchell and Payton Garza had one hit each. "We received a little bit of help from the Worthington defense," said Larson. "We did a good job of keeping our errors to just one for the game."

That wasn't the case Thursday when the Bluejays gave up four unearned runs in a 6-2 loss at St. Peter. Kellen Klinger had a good day at the plate, going 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI. Honstad pitched. The Bluejays defeated Tri-City United 8-6 last Tuesday at the friendly confines of Larson Field. The Bluejays jumped on top with five runs in the first inning, then fought off bases-loaded situations in the bottom of the first and second. "It was a nice win," said Larson. "We had a great first inning, one of the best in the past few years. We hit the ball hard in the inning." Klinger had a great day at the plate with a 3-for-3 performance, driving in a run on two of the hits. He had three of Waseca's last four hits of the game. Honstad, Wetzel, Glynn and Logan Reger had one hit apiece. Reger started on the mound, but Cash Lynch got the pitching win with three two-hit innings in relief. TCU stranded 10 baserunners for the game. The Jays made some nice defensive plays, none better than the leaping grab by Ferch on a line drive in the seventh that looked like a double to the left center field alley that would have likely cleared the bases. TCU had the bases loaded and no outs at the time. Ferch turned the catch into a double play.



SETTLING IN — Avery Wetzel delivers a pitch during the Waseca High School baseball team's 3-0 shutout of Worthington Saturday at Tink Larson Field.

Photo by Jim Lutgens



CONFERENCE SWEEP – The JWP/WEM track and field teams captured both the girls' and boys' Gopher Conference championship Saturday at Janesville. From left, Gavin Atherton, Ashlynn Wolff and coach Sam Schruin.



Another conference crown for JWP/WEM girls Bulldogs claim seventh straight championship after advancing to True Team state meet

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

At the start of the season, many people picked the JWP/WEM track and field teams as the favorites to win the Gopher Conference championship. The Bulldogs are no longer favorites. They're champions. Again. The JWP/WEM girls captured another first-place trophy and the boys did the same in last Saturday's conference meet at Janesville. "It was another beautiful day to be a track and field athlete," said Bulldogs coach Sam Schruin. "You can really feel the momentum building at exactly the right time of year." The Bulldog girls added to their dynasty with a seventh consecutive conference title. The boys won for the second season in a row. This year marked the first time JWP and WEM combined for track and field. "I think that is just a testament to the work ethic and drive these athletes have," said Schruin. "It's been a good year, progressively getting better and sticking to the plan and everyone just buys in. We have a

great group of upperclass leaders that really set the tone at practice and meets as far as expectations." The JWP/WEM girls won decisively, totaling 189.5 points to 126 for second-place Kenyon-Wanamingo/Goodhue. Nine schools participated. The Bulldogs won three relays. Kyla Schlingmann, Alese Wolf, Katelyn Olson and MaKaela Westphal clocked 54.46 seconds for first in the 4x100. Schlingman, Alese Wolf, Olson and Westphal took the 4x200 in 1:52.52. Westphal, Alese Wolf, Ashlynn Wolff and Rachel Mielke won the 4x400 in 4:09.63. Addison Condon swept the jumping events, going 17-9.25 in the long jump and 35-0.75 in the triple jump. She was second in the 100 in 12.99, third in the 200 at 27.99. The Bulldogs' other conference champions were Ashlynn Wolff, who won the high jump at 4-10, and Sarah Bulman, who cleared 8-1 in the pole vault. Nevaeh Weimert was second in the 200 in 27.58, taking third in the 100 (13.16), third in the 400

(1:03.52) and third in the triple jump (31-10.5). Others: Ashlynn Wolff, 2nd, 400, 1:02.43 and 6th, 800, 2:41.14; Mielke, 2nd, 300 hurdles, 46.81; Aubrey Adams, 2nd, shot put, 31-0.25; Olson, 2nd, long jump, 16-4.5; Norah Welvaert, 3rd, 3200, 13:20.01, 4th, 1600, 5:57.08 and 4th, 1600, 5:57.08; Mielke, 3rd, 100 hurdles, 17-7, and 3rd, long jump, 16-3.5; 4x800 relay, 3rd, 11:22.74 (Alenka Jans, Adelaide Splett, Victoria Appel, Kwynn Krause); Jaclynn Mulder, 6th, 100 hurdles, 18.93; Bulman, 6th, 300 hurdles, 57.06. "The PRs alone made it a memorable meet, but Rachel Mielke breaking her own school record in the 300 hurdles again this season and by more than a full second is absolutely outstanding," said Schruin. "Dropping that much time at that level is huge and speaks to how locked in she's been all season long." Earlier in the week the Bulldogs hosted an extremely tough True Team section meet, in which they were edged for first by GMLOKS

1543.5-1527 but still advanced to state for the second year in a row by wild card criteria. Thirty-two schools were entered. The lone first for the girls was in the 4x400, where Wolff, Mulder, Westphal and Wolff combined to clock 4:14.72. Ashlynn Wolff was second in the 400 (1:00.48) and fourth in the 800 (2:30.12); Condon was third in the long jump (16-11.5), fifth in the triple jump (35-1) and sixth in the 100 (13.12). Other top-nine finishes: 4x200, 5th (Schlingmann, Alese Wolff, Olson, Westphal); Mielke, 6th, 200, 27.47; 4x100, 6th, 52.94 (Condon, Schlingmann, Olson, Westphal); Weimert, 9th, 400, 1:03.62; Ashlynn Wolff, 9th, high jump, 4-8. The girls will compete in the True Team state meet Saturday, May 16 at Eden Prairie. "Everyone is extremely excited to go back up and compete at the True Team state meet," said Schruin. The JWP/WEM boys dominated the conference meet with 171 points while second-place Triton had 129. And they did it without their top-

flight thrower, Grady Grohman, out with an injury. Gavin Weedman was a double winner, taking the long jump at 20-0.75 and the triple jump at 40-11.25. He was second in the 800 in 2:14.22. Wyatt Jans won the 1600 in 4:50.8 and Trey Richards took the pole vault at 11-1. Gavin Atherton took second in the 200 (22.94) and third in the 100 (11.17). Aiden Gruber was second in the 300 hurdles (46.47). Also taking second was the 4x400 relay team of James Morgan, Weedman, Tyson Kronbach and Wyatt Jans (3:50.71) and the 4x800 foursome of Charles Adams, Cash Wenker, Wesley Heinz and Teagan Mulder (9:28.89). Also: Daulton Bauer, 3rd, 200, 23.71, 5th, triple jump, 38-11 and 5th, long jump, 18-9; Kronbach, 3rd, 800, 2:18.5 and 4th, 400, 54.59; 4x200, 3rd, 1:39.83 (Gavinn Kaiser, Gruber, Cole Bartz, Morgan); Brennan Welvaert, 4th, 3200; Dawson Slechta, 5th, 300 hurdles, 47.95 and 6th, 110 hurdles, 18.62; Bartz, 5th, shot put, 32-2, 5th, discus, 123-10 and 5th, high jump, 5-8; Kasey Jewison, 6th, 800, 2:22.81;

4x100, 6th, 50.07 (Leighlan Harris, Trey Richards, Kaiser, Morgan); Gruber, 6th, high jump, 5-6. The boys took sixth in the True Team section meet with 1379.5 points. St. Charles won with 1698.5. Top-nine placewinners for the Bulldogs: Atherton, 2nd, 200 (22.72), 2nd, 400, 51.51 and 8th, 100, 11.27; Bartz, 5th (tie), high jump, 5-10; Gruber, 5th (tie), high jump, 5-10; Bauer, 8th, triple jump, 39-3.75. Said Schruin: "I can't stress it enough about the support I have, all of the coaches (Brandon Goebel, John Kaplan, Liz Kvebak, Emily Olson, Andrea Kronbach, Cory Zimmerman, Mike Richards, Tim Johnson, volunteers Katie Cahill and Mae, Kari), the community (parents and volunteers that help us run all the meets, administration Mike Daschner (building and grounds), Jeremy Erler (superintendent) and Nicci Malecha (athletic director). If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't have the success that we do and what they do helps us coaches support our athletes to the best of our abilities."



SHOOTING STRIKES – JWP's Jaxon Wolff fires a pitch for the Bulldog baseball team that improved its record to 10-4 last week.

Baseball Bulldogs improve to 10-4

The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School baseball team won three of five games last week, running its overall record to 10-4. The Bulldogs improved to 5-1 in Gopher Conference play. Most recently, the Bulldogs dropped a 5-1 decision at Cleveland May 9. Seth Dahlberg had the lone RBI for JWP. Ayden Peterson started and took the pitching loss, allowing two earned runs on five hits through three innings. Jaxon Wolff gave up two earned runs in three innings of relief. They combined for eight strikeouts and five walks.

A day earlier the Bulldogs defeated St. Clair 11-2. Dahlberg, Parker Gearity and Chase Gerdts had two hits each, with Dahlberg hitting a two-run home run and a triple while driving in three runs. Dahlberg doubled. Jaxon Helder got his first varsity hit, a double. Zander Terbeest was in control on the mound, allowing only two hits in seven innings. He fanned seven and walked four. The Bulldogs blanked Southland 4-0 in a rare Wednesday game. Peterson, Gerdts and Dahlberg each had one hit. Dahlberg drove in two runs. Caleb Quast drew three

walks. Gerdts pitched a complete game, scattering five hits, with no walks and no strikeouts. The Bulldogs dropped a 20-15 slugfest to Granada-Huntley-East Chain/Truman/Martin Luther. Quast and Yale Johnson collected three hits apiece. Quast scored three runs. Johnson tripled, scored twice and drove in one run. Peterson, Gerdts and Dahlberg each had two hits. Dahlberg had two doubles and two RBIs. Gerdts hit a two-run home run, drove in five runs and scored twice. Six pitchers threw for JWP, which surrendered 18 earned runs on 16

hits, with nine strikeouts and nine walks. "It was not the best outing by our pitchers," said JWP coach Cory Jewison. Finally, the Bulldogs defeated Kenyon-Wanamingo 13-2 in four and half innings. Getting two hits each were Blayne Wandrie, Blake Bure, Dahlberg and Gerdts. Wandrie had four RBIs. Peterson pitched the first four innings for the win. He struck out eight and walked one. Wolff threw in relief.



At left, coach Wendy Schultz congratulates the Panthers' Ezra Boerner after Boerner's triple against Austin at Legion Field last Friday. In the middle, Panthers catcher Addy Stadheim is a little late applying the tag at home plate. At right, Emmy Stadheim squares around to bunt.

Photos by Jim Lutgens

After drilling AC/GE, softball Panthers drop two

Last week started on a great note for the NRHEG High School softball team. Unfortunately for the Panthers, it was downhill from there.

After drilling Alden-Conger/Glenville Emmons 16-1 at home Tuesday, the Panthers were edged 4-3 by WEM on Thursday and lost to Austin 6-3 at Legion Field Friday.

Ezra Boerner led the Panthers, going 2-for-3 with a triple. Izley Boerner was also 2-for-3, with Addy Stadheim, Emelia Stadheim and Kyera Eustice adding one hit each.

Izley Boerner pitched all seven innings, allowing four earned runs on 11 hits, with three strikeouts and one walk.

"The girls played pretty good defense, despite losing," said NRHEG coach Wendy Schultz. "Offensively, we had some solid hits to the outfield, but right at the fielders."

The Panthers dropped a close one at home against WEM.

"It could have gone either way," said Schultz, whose squad saw a seventh-inning rally fall just short as WEM's shortstop made a great play for the third out.

Eustice was 2-for-3 with a double. Ezra Boerner, Quinn VanMaldeghem, Brooklyn Summer and Addy Stadheim had one hit apiece.

Izley Boerner pitched, giving up three earned runs on 11 hits.

The Panthers stranded baserunners in three innings and, according to Schultz, played pretty good defense with 20 putouts and seven assists.

The outcome last Tuesday was never in doubt as the Panthers plated 14 runs in the first two innings and ended the game after four.

Ezra Boerner was 4-for-4 with four stolen bases and three runs, VanMaldeghem 3-for-4 with a double and four RBIs, Olivia Berg 3-for-4 with a double. Going 2-for-3 were Sommer, Emelia Stadheim, Addy Stadheim and Izley Boerner, with one hit each going to Eustice and Chloe Stork.

Boerner allowed only two hits in the circle.

The Panthers, 8-6 overall and 5-3 in the Gopher Conference, close out the regular season this week, hosting Triton for Senior Night tonight after playing Monday at Randolph.

NRHEG nine wins three straight, improves to 10-3

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

At this point of the season, there's one logical conclusion you can come to for the NRHEG High School baseball team.

These guys are good.

The Panthers had three games and won three times last week, most recently a 6-5 triumph over Maple River last Friday at Jeff and Carol Reese Field in New Richland.

"Maple River always fields a tough team, are well coached, and do not give up games," said Panthers coach Marcus Fischer. "We knew it was going to be a fun game."

It was tied 5-5 in the bottom of the fifth inning when Brooks Gilliland singled home the game-winning run.

Owen Wayne did the rest.

Wayne, who started on the mound but struggled with his control early, found a zone in the later innings, needing only four pitches to dispatch the Eagles in the fifth and 16 in the sixth.

He also came up with what Fischer called an amazing diving catch from his shortstop position as Dakota Schlaak came on to pitch in the seventh. With two outs, the Eagles hit a sharp shot between shortstop and third base, which

Wayne leaped and snagged for the game's final out.

Wayne earned the win, surrendering two hits and five runs (two earned) over six innings, striking out seven and walking five. Schlaak collected the save.

NRHEG piled up 12 hits in the game. Mack Gilliland drove the middle of the lineup, leading NRHEG with two RBIs while going 2-for-4 on the day. Brooks Gilliland led the team with three hits in three at-bats. Sean Lassahn, Brock Holland, and Schlaak each collected multiple hits for NRHEG.

"Our bats did enough again and were hot in finding ways to get runners on and to advance the runners," said Fischer. "I was so proud of how composed our players stayed during the entire game. When needed with base runners on, the boys found ways to put the ball in play. This was a game that took grit to come up on top. The boys have been putting in a lot of extra work with wanting to go in before school and hit 2-3 days a week. They want to do it; they beg me as a coach to come in with them in the morning to put in extra work to be more prepared for the next game, and on top of that, they are lifting several days a week. This is what it takes to be a better team. They are the ones that are getting these wins!"

Wayne had a big day at the plate on Thursday, collecting three hits and four RBIs as the Panthers upended WEM 15-3 in five innings at Waterville.

Mack Gilliland and Sean Lassahn were also 3-for-4, Gilliland driving in two runs. Dakota Schlaak, A.J. Deen, Ryan Schlaak and Brooks Gilliland had one hit each. Dakota Schlaak had three RBIs, the Gilliland brothers two apiece.

"Contagious bats made the hits continue to flow throughout the game," said Fischer.

Brooks Gilliland settled in on the mound after early control problems, allowing five hits and two runs through four innings. Brock Holland appeared in relief.

"This was a big conference and sectional game," said Fischer. "WEM has a solid team, well coached, and have had a decent season so far. We knew it wasn't going to be an easy game, so it was nice to see the bats continue to hit until the end of the game. It was great to have the game stop after five, as we have a few games coming up. This way, our arms could be rested."



IN THERE – Mack Gilliland slides safely into home during the Panthers' 6-5 victory over Maple River last Friday, one of three wins on the week for the NRHEG baseball team.

Photo by Jodi Wayne

Deen had a hot bat Tuesday as the Panthers prevailed 6-4 at Kenyon-Wanamingo.

Deen, who had three hits, finished with four RBIs.

NRHEG amassed 14 hits in the game. Deen and Gilliland each collected three hits. Calvin Nissen and Lassahn each collected multiple hits.

The Panthers turned one double play and played errorless defense. Wyatt Larson had the most chances in the field with 12.

Mack Gilliland pitched four innings in relief for the win. He allowed four hits and zero runs while striking out seven and walking one. Ryan Schlaak started on the mound.

The Panthers improved their record to 10-3 overall and 5-2 in the Gopher Conference. They sit atop the section with a 6-2 mark.

NRHEG has a busy schedule this week, at home Monday against Randolph and home Tuesday against Lyle/Austin Pacelli before traveling to Triton today.

NRHEG golf teams compete

The NRHEG High School golf teams completed the second round of Gopher Conference play last Thursday.

The Panther girls finished second. Scores: Alexis Olson 111, Olivia Wilkenson 113, Hailey Staska 120, Addison Bauleke 130.

Scores for the boys, who finished eighth: Reid Sandry 84, Braxton Arnold 101, Blake Olson 102, Matt Williams 107, Chuck Tufte 107, Shane Hansen 108.

Two days earlier the Panthers faced Maple River and JWP in a triangular.

The NRHEG girls took first. Scores: Wilkenson 53, Olson 56, Staska 58, Mya Wilson 61, Bauleke 71.

The boys finished second. Scores: Arnold 44, Olson 47, Sandry 48, Tufte 51, Williams 51, Hansen 57.



CONFERENCE ACTION – The Panthers' Clara Buendorf competes in the triple jump in Saturday's Gopher Conference meet.

Photo by Larry Nydegger

NRHEG track teams take 3rd, 6th in conference meet

The NRHEG track and field teams ventured to Janesville Saturday for the Gopher Conference meet, where the boys finished sixth and the girls third among nine schools. JWP/WEM took the title for both boys and girls.

Brendan Schmidt was the top finisher for the boys, clearing 10-7 for second in the pole vault. Hudson Chrz took third in the 110 hurdles in 17.8 and Jacob Karl was third in the 800 in 2:19.21 and fourth in the 1600 in 4:59.3. Gavin Lewison, Wyatt Tuttle, Quen Meyering and Schmidt combined for fifth in the 4x100 relay in 48.95. Lewison was fifth in the long jump at 18-10.75 and Kasey Jewison took sixth in the 800 in 2:22.81.

For the girls, Julieann Wobbrock was second in the 3200 in 13:18.21 and third in the 1600 at 5:45.51. Chloe Riewer, Peyton Frye, Clara Buendorf and Gabby Schlaak were second in the 4x100, clocking 55.19. Riewer was second in the pole vault at 6-7.

Other NRHEG places: Ellie Clark, 3rd, 300 hurdles, 51.59; Scarlett Chance, 3rd, shot put, 30-3.5; Alexandria Barnes, 3rd, discus, 82-2; Schlaak, third, high jump (tie), 4-8; Anika Ladlie, 3rd, high jump (tie), 4-8; Riewer, 4th, 100, 13.46 and 6th, long jump, 15-4.5; Buendorf, 4th, triple jump, 31-0; Frye, 5th, 200, 28.63; Holly Bartness, 5th, 300 hurdles, 57.03; 4x800, 5th, 12:17.74 (Bartness, Giz Cazares, Frye, Vivienne Schlaak); 4x400, 5th, 4:55.57 (Bartness, Cazares, Frye, Vivienne Schlaak).

"JWP/WEM proved to be the best two teams in the conference this year," said Panthers co-head coach Larry Nydegger. "I was extremely pleased that our girls put for such a strong effort to take third place in a very strong field of competitors. There were some personal-best performances, which is always great to see."

The Panthers were at Janesville earlier in the week for the True Team section meet, in which the boys place 11th and the girls 10th among 14 teams.

Chrz finished 12th in the 110 hurdles, 13th in the 300 hurdles. Tuttle, Chrz, Schmidt and Meyering teamed for seventh in the 4x100.

"There was a lot of strong competitors at this meet, but we did get some personal-best performances," said Nydegger. "Hudson accomplished two PRs in his hurdle events."

Top placewinners for the girls: Wobbrock, 5th, 1600 and 3200; Ladlie, 3rd, high jump; Schlaak, 7th, 100 hurdles; Buendorf, 9th, triple jump, personal-best 30-6.5.

"There were some strong teams to contend with tonight," said Nydegger. "It was a nice chance to see where our kids stack up against other section competitors. It was nice to see some season bests and personal bests as well tonight."

After a meet at Waseca Tuesday, the Panthers are off until May 21, when they travel to St. James for sub-section competition.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF WASECA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Civil Division
Case Type: Quiet Title
Court File No. 81-CV-26-291
County of Waseca, a Municipal Corporation,
Plaintiff,
vs.
The Unknown Heirs of Howard W. Chard; the Unknown Heirs of Alice J. Chard; the Unknown Heirs of Philo C. Bailey; the Unknown Heirs of Lurinda C. Bailey; the Unknown Heirs of William Hoover; Connors Ready Inc., a Corporation under the laws of the State of Minnesota; Jane R. Dunn; Linda S. Grant; Millennium Telcomm, LLC, a Limited Liability Company under the laws of the State of Florida; New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, a Limited Liability Company under the laws of the State of Delaware; SBA Towers V, LLC, a Limited Liability Company under the laws of the State of Florida; Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, a trust company chartered by the State of New York; and all others claiming any estate, title, or interest in the

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

graph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.
4. **YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IS YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS.** If you do not Answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the Complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.
5. **LEGAL ASSISTANCE.** You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, The Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. **Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.**
6. **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate

in an Alternative Dispute Resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving the dispute.
7. **THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OPR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY** located in Waseca County, Minnesota, legally described as follows:
See Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.
The object of this action is to obtain a judgment that Plaintiff is the owner, in fee simple, of the above-described real property, and that none of said Defendants have any estate or interest therein or lien thereon. Dated this 22nd day of April, 2026. PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A.
By: Keith L. Deike (#148635)
215 E. Elm Ave., PO Box 249
Waseca, MN 56093-0249
(507) 835-5240
keith.deike@phblawoffice.com

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Auditors Addition to Block 1, Bennett's Addition and Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 12 & 13, Subdivision of Block 1, Bennett's Addition and Lots 1, 2 & 3, Subdivision of Block 1, Trowbridge Addition, Waseca County, Minnesota.
COUNTY OF WASECA
All of Auditors Addition to Block 1, Bennett's Addition and Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 12 & 13, Subdivision of Block 1, Bennett's Addition and Lots 1, 2, & 3, Subdivision of Block 1, Trowbridge Addition, as said plats are drawn and recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota; described as follows:
Commencing at the northeast corner of the NE ¼ of Section 18-T107N-R22W which is marked by a 5/8" rebar cap and stamped SJT 22705 having grid coordinate of North 190421.16 feet, East 344892.80 feet, Minnesota Department of Transportation County Coordinate System North American Datum of 1983, 1996 adjustment; thence North 89°57'00" West on a grid bearing, a distance of 134.00 feet on the north line of said NE ¼, to the northeast corner of said Auditors Addition to Block 1, Bennett's Addition which is the point of beginning; thence North

89°59'41" West a distance of 169.38 feet on the north line of said Auditors Addition to Block 1, Bennett's Addition, to the southeast corner of said Lot 13; thence North 00°09'03" West a distance of 115.00 feet on the east line of said Lot 13, to the south right-of-way line of 4th Avenue NW; thence North 84°56'46" West a distance of 171.56 feet on said right-of-way line, to the west line of said Lot 12; thence South 00°14'44" West a distance of 130.07 feet on the west line of said Lot 12, to the northwest corner of said Subdivision of Block 1 of Trowbridges Addition; thence South 00°28'23" West a distance of 290.32 feet on the west line of said Trowbridges Addition, to the southwest corner thereof; thence South 86°41'41" East a distance of 327.83 feet on the south line of said Trowbridges Addition and said Auditors Addition to Block 1, Bennett's Addition, to the southeast corner thereof; thence North 03°00'28" East a distance of 309.61 feet on the east line of said Auditors Addition to Block 1, Bennett's Addition, to the point of beginning.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on April 30, May 7 and 14, 2026

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WASECA

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE COURT DIVISION
Court File No.: 81-PR-26-302_

In Re: Estate of

MYRWOOD A. BAGNE,
Decedent

ORDER AND NOTICE OF
HEARING FOR FORMAL
PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

will of the above named decedent, dated November 3, 2017, and for the appointment of Karen E. Pederson whose address is PO Box 561, Waseca, MN 56093 as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent, in an unsupervised probate, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the probate, the representatives shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court and close the estate.

/s/ Carol M. Hanks
Judge of District Court

/s/ Shannon Asselin
Court Administrator
PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A.
William L. Hoversten #47478
215 East Elm Avenue
Waseca, MN 56093
(507) 835-5240

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of June, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Waseca, Waseca County, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: April 30, 2026.

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NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Waseca City Council held a public hearing on **Tuesday, May 5th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** in the City Hall Council Chambers, 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093, and adopted the following Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 1141 – Amending Chapter 154: Zoning

Complete copies of Ordinance 1141 are available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk at 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Published in the *Waseca County Pioneer* on May 14th, 2026

Julia Zuehlke
City Clerk

SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	2
3	4	5 Burger Night 5-7 pm	6 6pm Bar Bingo	7 7pm BINGO	8 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	9
10 Breakfast VFW 8:00am to noon Your Host VFW Baseball Team	11 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	12 Burger Night 5-7 pm	13 6pm Bar Bingo	14 7pm BINGO	15 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	16
24	25	26 Burger Night 5-7 pm	27 6pm Bar Bingo	28 7pm BINGO	29 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	30
31						

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

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Looking back on a year of growth

By ERIC HUDSPITH
Superintendent

As we move through the final weeks of the school year, there is a noticeable shift across our schools. Classrooms are wrapping up projects and final units. Concerts, competitions, celebrations, and graduation preparations fill the calendar. Students and staff are beginning to reflect on how far they have come since the first day of school.

The end of a school year naturally brings excitement, but it also offers something just as important: perspective.

In education, growth is not always measured in dramatic moments. More often, it happens steadily over time. It shows up in the student who became more confident reading aloud in class. It appears in the group project that required students to learn how to collaborate through challenges. It can be found in the persistence of a student who struggled early in the year but continued showing up, asking questions, and improving little by little.

When we look back on a school year, those moments matter.

This year, our students have continued to demonstrate resilience, effort, and growth in many different ways. They have succeeded academically, participated in activities and athletics, supported one another, and represented Waseca Public Schools well in classrooms and throughout the community. None of that happens by accident. It happens because students commit themselves to learning and because the adults around them continue to provide guidance, encouragement, and support every day.

Our staff deserves tremendous credit for the work they do throughout the school year.

Teaching, supporting, coaching, transporting, feeding, and caring for students is demanding work that requires patience, adaptability, and

consistency. The positive experiences our students have each day are the direct result of people who care deeply about helping them succeed.

Families also remain an essential part of that success. The encouragement students receive at home, the routines families help maintain, and the support shown throughout the year all contribute to student growth. Education works best when schools and families continue to move forward together with a shared purpose.

As a district, we continue to focus on preparing students for life beyond graduation. That preparation certainly includes academics, but it also includes helping students develop responsibility, communication skills, perseverance, and the ability to work through challenges.

Those skills are built over time through daily experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

For our graduating seniors, this season carries additional meaning. Graduation marks the completion of an important chapter, but it also represents the beginning of new opportunities and responsibilities. We are proud of what the Class of 2026 has accomplished and look forward to seeing the different paths our students pursue after leaving Waseca Public Schools.

As we finish the school year, there is still important work ahead. Learning continues through the final day, and finishing strong remains important. At the same time, it is worth taking a moment to recognize the progress that has been made across our district this year.

Thank you to our students, staff, families, and community for the role you each play in supporting Waseca Public Schools. Together, we continue building a school community focused on growth, opportunity, and preparing every student with options for their future.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Your mental health matters at every age

Waseca, Minn. – May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and remind everyone that mental health is an important part of overall well-being. This year’s message, “Your Mental Health Matters,” highlights that mental health is just as important as physical health, no matter your age.

Mental health affects how we think, feel, and connect with others each day. Just like physical health, it can change over time and deserves attention and care. Older adults, in particular, may face life changes such as retirement, health concerns, or loss of loved ones, which can impact mental well-being.

“Taking care of your mental health is just as important as managing your physical health,” said Colin Ayers, Le Sueur-Waseca Public Health Educator/Planner. “It’s never too late to check in with yourself, build connections, and reach out for support.”

Simple steps can make a meaningful difference in supporting mental health:

- Stay connected with family, friends, and community
- Keep a routine that includes physical activity and

- rest
- Talk openly about how you are feeling
- Reach out for help when needed

Mental health challenges are common, and help is available. Many people experience stress, anxiety, or depression at different points in life, and support from family, friends, and professionals can make a difference. Talking about mental health helps reduce stigma and reminds others they are not alone.

Throughout May, Public Health encourages community members to take time to reflect on their own mental well-being and support those around them. Small actions, such as checking in with a neighbor or having a conversation, can help build a stronger, more connected community.

If you or someone you know needs support, help is available. You can call or text 988, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, for free and confidential support.

For more information about local mental health resources, contact Waseca County Public Health at 507-835-0685 or visit mnprairie.crediblemind.com.

Waldorf Petal Pushers



PUSHING PETALS - The Waldorf Petal Pushers, from left: Judy Kelling, Teresa Suek, Beverly Janike, Patty Coy, Kathy Stencel, and Julie Tesch were 7 of the 9 volunteers at the community center plant sale on Saturday, May 9, 2026. Open from 8-11 a.m., they saw around 100 people and in Suek's words, "If you'd been here earlier, we weren't so picked clean." The Petal Pushers do all the Waldorf public gardens, the Veterans' Memorial and the Public Library's book drop. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

New Richland Masseuse kneads out the knots

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Emma Olson, owner of Sanctuary of Serenity massage in New Richland, has a question for people who think of massage as a luxury: “Would you rather be dealing with wellness or illness?”

Olson has been a masseuse since 2019, when she completed the massage therapy program at LaJames College in Mason City. She chose the profession, she says, because she has known since childhood, when others gave her compassionate, loving care during an illness, that she wants to give a similar sense of comfort, safety and wellbeing to others.

It seems to be working, since Olson says one of her customers has called her “an angel,” another described feeling “reborn,” and nearly all express gratitude and satisfaction. “People tell me I have really good hands,” says Olson with a smile.

She speculates her hands probably have be-

come stronger and more agile thanks to the many ways they are moved and positioned during the various types of massages.

Olson charges \$30 for a 30-minute typical massage during which, unless the person requests any changes, she touches on the back, arms, legs, feet and face.

Customers, she explains, usually schedule themselves using the Sanctuary of Serenity Facebook page. The sign-up process includes completing a questionnaire on which people provide information which will guide how the massage will go. The form asks whether people have any sore areas, whether there are any areas they want left untouched, and whether they have any special requests.

“Massages aren’t the same for everybody,” Olson comments. “I always ask whether they have something they want me to pay special attention to. We figure out what we should do to make it the best possible.” Adaptations often focus on discoveries made along the way. “I ask people ‘What happened to this spot?’ or ‘Why do you think this spot hurts?’” Olson explains.

Cranial and prenatal massages are two examples of specialized sessions she offers.

During the massage, Olson uses carefully selected lotions and heated towels to make the experience as pleasant as possible. Her custom massage table has a “face cradle” so customers can lie flat when facing downward.

Training to become a masseuse, she describes, begins with a fairly intensive study of the body’s muscles and the ways they interact to allow movement. Learners also cover pathology to



MAGIC HANDS - Emma Olson, owner of Sanctuary of Serenity massage in New Richland, suggests that getting a massage is an investment in one's own health. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

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DEB WANTOCH - YESS
AND JOHN HOEHN

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"SURPRISE"

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7:00 PM AT WASECA H.S.
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