



Compostings

by Al Batt

Three-year-old troublemaker

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS’ CLUB MEETING

I told my sister that she had drawn her eyebrows too high. How did she take that? She looked surprised.

DRIVING BY BRUCE’S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. The rain sounded cold. That’s because it was cold. For many years of my walking on this good Earth, such things signaled it was time to get the house ready for cold weather by putting up the storm windows and stacking firewood. I’d scurry up a sturdy (our least wobbly) ladder while carrying a putty knife to pry out any stubborn screens before replacing them with the storm windows. Then we installed tar paper first, followed by straw (or hay) bales around the base of the house to insulate the uninsulated stone foundation. This was meant to block freezing drafts and lower the amount of wood and fuel oil needed for heating. Stacking the bales tightly against the home’s base stopped the frigid winter wind from rushing into crawl spaces or uninsulated floor cavities. Without such precautions, the wind gained speed as it whipped through the house. Standard bales provided an R-value that I am guessing was even higher than their X-value or Z-value, but I’m no expert. We did all this without consulting a single woolly bear caterpillar (woolly worm) or for that matter, a single woolly mammoth. Woolly bear caterpillars cannot predict the weather, but I examine them each year. I like simple answers, of which there are few, perhaps none. Folklore says long black bands mean a harsh, cold and snowy winter. A wide, rusty brown middle band predicts a mild winter. If the dark head is the longest, it means a severe early winter, while if the dark tail is longer, it foretells a cold late winter. The reality is that the bands show the caterpillar’s age and how much it has eaten, not future weather. But keep looking—we get plenty of reality elsewhere.

READ ANY GOOD T-SHIRTS LATELY?

I see a lot of T-shirts worth reading: here are three of them. “Family troublemaker” being worn by a 3-year-old boy but would have been just as proper on a grandfather. Stupid should hurt. I’d agree with you but then we’d both be wrong. I’VE LEARNED The hardest thing to say is “I’m sorry,” but “Worcestershire” has to be a close second. I’m the world’s greatest advocate of hyperbole.

Mumbling is the glue that holds a marriage together.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

What happens when you call the tinnitus hotline? It just keeps ringing.

If you drive a Subaru in reverse, what are you? U r a bus.

I asked the librarian if there were any books on the Titanic. She said, “Probably, but they would be soaking wet by now.”

I saw a man pushing a wheelbarrow filled with horseshoes, four-leaf clovers and rabbit’s feet. He was pushing his luck.

NATURE NOTES

Not all gulls are eating pilfered pizza or fallen french fries in a parking lot. A Bomgaars store had a large flock of ring-billed gulls on its roof. The Latin word “arena” means sand, and the stage where gladiators and exotic animals engaged in mortal combat was covered in a thin layer of sand. The store’s roof might have been a gull arena. There are at least 28 gull species in North America, and not one of them is officially called a seagull. They are named Bonaparte’s gull, herring gull, ring-billed gull, Franklin’s gull, etc.

My neighbor Crandall enjoys watching true crime documentaries. That’s what he says he is doing when the squirrels swipe the seed from one of his bird feeders.

A flock of starlings filled a tree. They were noisy, definitely not the silent majority. They are complex learners and were likely sharing the news of the day, the locations of predators, food sources, prime roosting sites, their hopes and dreams, and their frustrations with dunderheaded humans.

The number of pheasants counted in Minnesota DNR’s August roadside survey jumped nearly 20% from last year. This year’s pheasant index was 90 birds per 100 miles of roads driven, compared to 75 birds in 2025. There were 93 broods per 100 hens, an increase from 82 broods per 100 hens in 2025, with an average of four chicks per brood. Weather and habitat are the main influences on Minnesota’s pheasant population. There was a net loss of about 22,500 acres of protected wildlife habitat compared to 2025. The cottontail rabbit index (14 rabbits per 100 miles) was similar to 2025 (14.5 rabbits per 100 miles).

MEETING ADJOURNED Mark Twain wrote, “I could live two months on a good compliment.” Please become an expert at forgiveness, be happy about the good fortune of others, and offer kind words.

Impossible to ignore the rain

Walking or driving around, one pays little attention to small rises and falls in the landscape. In Waseca, I am aware the library is significantly lower than the courthouse and the downtown area. In New Richland, had I been asked, I could have described that the city park and Highway 30 past the school are lower than the business district.

One needn’t pay much attention however, because on a day-to-day basis, those differences in elevation are incidental, essentially irrelevant.

On a day-to-day basis, there is no reason to consider how fundamentally important those changes in elevation are when the town fills up with water.

I live about five miles north of New Richland. The rain gauge on our weather station claims we got between two and three inches of rain on Friday and overnight into Saturday. As it got dark on Friday, it was impossible to miss the lightning and thunder, but I was not looking at radar, so I was oblivious to the long, narrow band of heavy, heavy rain that was sliding past only a few miles south of me.

Instead, I saw its aftermath as I drove into New Richland Saturday morning thinking I was going to the post office.



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

I should have been somewhat prepared for what I saw—on my drive into town, first my usual way was blocked by water overflowing a bridge. My first alternate route was impassable because a wide band of water covered a gravel road. When my third route brought me into New Richland from the west on Highway 30, my first dramatic introduction to the flooding was two flashing fire-trucks parked at each end of a giant pool of water.

It wasn’t long before I realized I was no longer simply running an errand.

Instead, I had wandered unawares into a catastrophe.

At the back side of the school, I could see people in wheelchairs being brought off a bus and rolled inside. At the front, water filled the street and covered most of the sidewalk, but wasn’t quite touching the building’s lowest entry doors, the

“lobby” to the main gym. Looking east and north from there, the city water tower seemed to be presiding over a lake rather than a town.

The more I saw, the more surreal it all became.

Inside a disaster, the human brain retreats to collecting information, taking in impressions. I kept looking for pictures that could convey the gravity of the circumstances. In some places, there were flurries of activity as people tried to control the water’s advance, especially keeping it from going inside doorways or setting up pumps to remove it from basements. In other places, there was no hope of control. One fellow in waders came polling out of a storage building on a flat, motorless boat. Nearby stood a car almost up to its windows in water.

As I moved around taking pictures, I would realize my jaw was hanging open, or that I was shaking

my head in dismay. One person pointed to the water in her yard and mentioned she had lived in this same house for the two previous flooding incidents over the past five years, but the water had never come as high as it was now; only the high wooden platform of her children’s swingset was showing above the water. Nearby, two colorful “noodle” floats bobbed against the grass. An older couple of grandparent age stood in water calf deep on their front yard.

When I eventually found a route to the business district of town, a large group of people of many ages was filling sandbags. Their busy activity sent an impression of good-willed determination to do what they could. Downhill from them, the city-operated care center was surrounded by water.

I snapped one picture of the group, then realized the battery in my smart phone had died. Though that made me want to howl in frustration, it was probably a good thing that circumstances forced me to stop taking pictures.

Had I been 50 photographers, I could not have taken enough pictures to record the loss, the bravery, the sense of being overwhelmed, that was Saturday morning in New Richland.

Gradually becoming a pro at travel

I am, once again, sitting in an airport.

But not only sitting, I am also sipping my delicious pumpkin Caribou coffee—why wouldn’t I want joy in a cup before a flight? Jack thinks my obsession with Caribou doesn’t have any ground to stand on, but he doesn’t understand the memories that make each coffee taste like comfort.

I feel very fortunate that I have been able to travel so frequently this summer (heck, these past few years). I think I would consider myself—not an expert per se—but very familiar with traveling.

That’s saying a lot, considering I used to experience sharp anxiety each time I went far from home. So the fact that I don’t worry the way I used to is genuinely meaningful to me.

I am no longer unable to sleep the night before, nor do I insist on being at the airport an unnecessarily large number of hours before a local flight. While my dreams are still anxiety-filled, I am able to sleep. And you won’t see me at the airport until an hour or hour and a half before my scheduled departure.

But I have learned some things that I will pass on in hopes it will inspire some thought or ease some minds for those of you who also



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

travel.

First, I promise you it’s never as serious as it seems. Think you’re going to be late? Chances are, you’re probably good. Think you’ve forgotten something? There’s probably a store nearby where you can get whatever you need. That TSA line making you ants? It’s always sunny on the other side.

Second, people are absolutely in their own little world and could care less about you—unless they’re airport staff, in which case they’re usually very kind and willing to help. People don’t realize that when they walk slowly in the airport it can be considered annoying to those trying to traverse efficiently through the airport. The person resting their arm on your armrest probably doesn’t have a single thought in their head concerning your comfort or their taking up space. And the people blasting Tik-Toks or videos through their phone

on full volume have absolutely no regard or care for you or anyone around them.

For me, I’m always thinking about what other people might think of me or how they might view me. In highly populated areas like an airport, I’m always thinking about my walking pace, whether I’m incurring on someone else’s space on the tram, if my desire to be somewhere in a fast time is inconveniencing someone else.

I have learned that, actually, no one is watching me. Other people don’t care what I look like or how fast I am walking. At least, no one ever seems to express any reactions.

Third, enjoy the characters. You can meet so many interesting and different people at the airport, on the plane, or traveling in general. Instead of losing patience with someone who might be annoying, I try to enjoy meeting someone who exhibits a lot

of character or individuality. I take the opportunity to ask what their life is like, why they’re traveling. Alongside all the apparently indifferent people, I have found there are some who remind me there are still good people, and those folks help make my day and bring light to the world.

Along with all that, eavesdropping at the airport is my favorite thing ever. It’s fun to learn about why people are traveling, what they care about, how they decide to travel. It’s also entertaining and thought-provoking.

The reason I am traveling this time is to visit Jack’s father in Maryland. We left Saturday morning, showed up an hour before boarding, and parted ways. Jack to his Capital One lounge and me to Caribou (don’t worry, he always brings me snacks).

But I was proud of myself to find that I was not stressed. I was comfortable with the travel and excited for the adventures ahead. I’m sure my anxiety appreciated the break as well.

My Determination: “We like companionship, see, but we can’t stand to be around people for very long. So we go get ourselves lost, come back for a while, then get the hell out again.” - John Krakauer, Into the Wild

County looking to approve 5-year highway construction plan

By DEB BENTLY

News Editor

During their Sept. 15 meeting, members of the county board set aside time at the beginning of their next regularly scheduled meeting at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6, to share an updated list of county highway projects scheduled for completion through 2035.

The hearing is both an opportunity for residents to feel better informed, and a necessary step in allowing Waseca County to continue collecting a transportation sales and use tax of one-half of one percent for eligible sales made within the county. State law allows the tax when it is approved by the county board after a public hearing, and is collected for use on a designated road construction project or a list of projects. Waseca County has been imposing the tax since 2018; over that time, \$7.2 mil-

lion has been collected.

County Highway Engineer Jim Kollar reported during the Sept. 15 meeting that the tax typically brings in about \$1.1 million a year, and is the primary source of funding for construction projects on county roads. Kollar’s report also stated no money from property taxes is used for construction, although it may be used toward project planning and development.

Another source of funding for county projects is the state-aid highway user tax distribution fund (HUTDF) used for county state-aid highways (CSAHs). In 2026, the county was allotted \$4.17 million through this avenue.

The county is also authorized to collect \$20 from each vehicle registration. This tax brings in nearly \$400,000 a year and, according to Kollar, is “the primary source for the

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

seal coat program.”

Occasional federal and state grants also help fund specific, eligible projects. Kollar’s report stated these amounts vary and may or may not be received in any specific year.

The proposed project list includes 45 projects at a total cost of about \$74 million.

Kollar told commissioners plans focus on preserving pavement and replacing aging bridges, with no projects included that entail paving previously unpaved roadways.

Processes planned for 31 pieces of roadway on the list include refurbishing pavement, improving drainage, paving shoulders, or some combination of the three. Two county state-

aid highways are scheduled for “reconstruction.” In 2029, 4.5 miles of CSAH 4 between CSAH 3 and CSAH 12 are due for major reworking. In 2033, half a mile of CSAH 18 in Janesville between CSAH 14 and North Street will be reconstructed.

Between this year and 2035, 12 bridges or culverts are due for replacement.

Other business transacted during the Sept. 15 meeting included setting the 2027 levy amount: refer to a separate article in this edition for more information about the county’s preliminary 3.5 percent proposed levy increase.

Board members approved slightly more than \$11,000 to construct a screening enclosure around a dumpster located within Waseca city limits and approved a set of operating guidelines for county commissioners.

County EDA seeks to publicize its benefits

By DEB BENTLY

News Editor

“I want to see people benefit from these programs,” stated Waseca County Economic Development Authority (EDA) member Patti Schuch. “How can we make sure they know they’re available?”

The programs Schuch is speaking about include low-interest loans, assistance learning about opportunities such as tax increment financing (TIF), and guidance and support for people looking to start or expand a business anywhere within Waseca

County.

The county EDA has control of a revolving loan fund which businesses can access for nearly any type of improvement, from updating aging facades to creating whole new business plans.

Discussion during the Sept. 16 meeting of the EDA included brainstorming options to help notify everyday community members of the programs and services they could access. Publicity ideas included creating brochures to be set out in public places, or perhaps sending out information via either electronic or tradi-

tional mail.

EDA members discussed that, when most people think of borrowing money, they go to a bank. “Can we make sure someone at all the banks knows about these loans?” Schuch asked the group.

Along with the discussion about publicity, EDA members heard from Waseca County Zoning Administrator Tina Wilson about other area organizations promoting economic growth.

The regional organization Green-seam, Wilson reported, is holding an ag-focused forum in Mankato early

in December. Greenseam also recently produced a report on the topic of local business retention and expansion based on what was learned by interviewing Waseca area business owners.

Wilson also reported the local initiative for a food cooperative continues to work forward.

She mentioned a groundbreaking ceremony for the planned Workforce Development Center will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25. Congressman Brad Finstad will be a speaker.

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Beer and Brat night for Waseca on Oct. 1

There will be various locations and participating bars taking part in the annual Beer and Brat night in Waseca starting at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1. The Mill Event Center, Barden's Bar, Boxcar Bar, the Waseca Legion, Waseca Sweet-Sommers VFW, and Katie O'Leary's.

Comedy Show at Indian Island Winery Friday, Oct. 2

Comedian Steve Sabo will perform at Indian Island Winery from 7-8:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 2. Performing 52 weeks out of the year, he has a 25 year career in comedy.

Waseca Senior Center Lot Sale Friday and Saturday, Oct. 2 and 3

The Waseca Senior Center will hold a lot sale from 8 a.m. thru 3 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 2 and 3. They are also looking for donations, drop off at the Senior Center Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m. thru 4 p.m.

Family FunFest at Autumn Acres Farm Saturday, Oct. 3

Autumn Acres Farm will have their Family FunFest from 10 a.m. thru 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3. Live music from Johnny Moeller and Family Traditions, wagon pull, corn pit, pumpkin patch and much more.

Flavors of Fall at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm Oct. 3 & 4

Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm will hold Flavors of Fall from 4-7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3&4. Music by Midwest Farewell, Drew Peterson and Ron & Steve. Sunset photos ops, cider beers, garden walks, scavenger hunt and much more.

Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board Meeting October 8

The SWCD will be holding its monthly board meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 8. The meetings will be held in the SWCD offices located at 300 North State Street - Door 4.

Date Night on the Farm at Autumn Acres Friday, Oct. 9

Autumn Acres Farm will hold a Date Night on the Farm event from 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9. Includes hayride, bonfires, music, pumpkins, pulled pork sandwiches, romance and much more.

Deer Hunters Bingo and membership drive at VFW Oct. 10

Sweet-Sommers VFW will hold a Deer Hunters Bingo and membership drive from 5:30-7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10. Bingo \$60 with raffles and silent auction. Contact Tim or Pat with questions at 507-201-7933 or 507-380-5363.

Los Tequileros at Indian Island Winery Saturday, Oct. 10

The Indian Island Winery will host Los Tequileros from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10. Some tex mex music with your beer and food.

Council sets preliminary tax levy at 15%

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

During their meeting on Sept. 14, members of the Waldorf city council set the city's preliminary property tax levy increase at 15 percent; a final levy will be determined in December. Under Minnesota law, the final levy can be lower than the preliminary one, but cannot be higher.

The Waldorf Fire Department's Burger Feed served upwards of 450 people.

There is a Waseca County Roadway Safety Plan workshop available from 11:30 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 6 at the Waseca County East Annex, 302 North State Street. Lunch will be provided.

The council passed an ordinance establishing a meeting stipend of

WALDORF CITY COUNCIL

\$150 for the mayor and \$125 for council members to be paid for attendance at either a regular or a special meeting. The stipend for work sessions will be \$75. Stipends will be paid out monthly.

On behalf of the Park Board, the council accepted donations toward the new playground equipment in the city park from Barbara Fischer, Cynthia and John Beckwith, The Backyard Bar and Grill, Martin Tesch, and IDC Food Truck totaling \$3,435.

Ron Fischer of Waldorf Maintenance repaired the potholes on Railroad Street and painted the guard rails at the park. Second Street and

Railroad Street, however, still need repairs; there are also other locations around town that require attention. Council members discussed the possibility of applying for grant money to help with the cost. Mayor Rob Wilkening asked council members for a resolution alerting the city engineer to apply for them. The council expressed concern that paying for the engineer's time to complete the grants would be costly; Wilkening responded that such costs are sometimes covered by the grant. The council approved. Wilkening suggested that in order to improve sound quality of recorded meetings, there should be a better microphone than the one currently in use. The meetings are recorded using the pre-installed microphone on the city clerk's

computer. The council took this under advisement. The council clarified the stipend/reimbursement for using private phones. Council member Missy Sorbo stated that accepting such payment affects the phone's status under data practice laws. Currently there are no council members seeking this reimbursement.

The October council meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. There will be a Park Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wed, Sept. 23 to discuss future fundraising ideas; the public is invited to attend. Doug Christopher will be giving a presentation about the new jail that will be built in Waseca County at the next city council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

Board sets preliminary levy at 2%

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

September is School Board Recognition Month. Superintendent Eric Hudspeth presented his proposed 2026-2027 performance goals to the board during the September 17 business meeting. The goals, which mirror the district's strategic plan, are part of the superintendent evaluation completed by board members at the end of each school year.

Hudspeth proposes to lead the district in implementation of strategic priorities emphasizing student achievement and future readiness, to strengthen effectiveness and community trust through purposeful communication, to lead the district through development and implementation of a comprehensive facilities alignment strategy, and to implement a financial strategy that aligns available resources with strategic priorities while also maintaining fiscal stability.

The board will vote on the proposed superintendent performance goals in October.

Business manager Andrew Adams provided a report on the preliminary payable property tax levy for 2027. As of Sept. 16, the preliminary maximum equals a 1.61% increase. Adams showed the board the historical data for the previous five calendar years, stating that the average increase is only 0.72%. The district's "Truth in Taxation" hearing was set for 6 p.m. Dec. 17 in the Central Building second floor conference room.

Sacred Heart Fall Festival



Father Frerichs was inspecting the silent auction items at the Sacred Heart Fall Festival on Friday, Sept. 18, 2026. The weekend's festivities were able to continue as planned despite the rain.



Above left, Chris and Henry Weber visited the concession stand on a rainy night during Sacred Heart's Fall Festival on Friday, Sept. 18, 2026. Pioneer photos by Ben and Juniper Revermann



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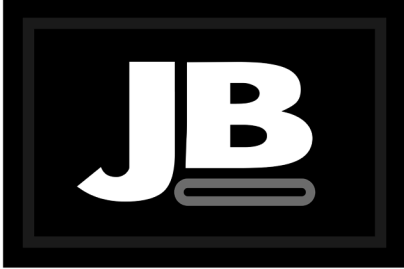
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Council

from Page 1

Markeson's words, "Are basically electric motorcycles," which requires that the drivers must be at least 16, require a helmet, and must be licensed if they are driven on streets. Markeson stated that drivers of all e-transporters are expected to follow all traffic signs and safety rules. He wanted the public to know police officers are doing what they can to watch out for everyone's safety, but it's up to the parents who have full access to the kids to make the rules of the road clear and give their kids guidance. One rider at a time, no doubling up. Waseca is deferring to Minnesota state laws for guidance. There have been three reported e-crashes in Waseca. Markeson stated he wants to see children out having fun safely; he is not trying to discourage outside play.

Chris Ziemer of the Economic Development Authority spoke about business opportunities in the Waseca area. He called attention to the former Cash Wise building and

according to council member Schroeder, "Waseca is losing \$17.4 million per year to neighboring grocery stores." Mayor pro tem Christiansen also added, "Instead of just bringing in new stores, we also need to focus on the stores already established, and maybe find out what we can do to help." Christiansen also signed two letters of interest to send to possible grocery stores or hotels looking for a location such as Waseca County.

Councilman Ebertowski said the Loon Lake aerators are "basically just keeping the bullheads alive," and introduced a successful motion that, since Waseca will no longer be aerating Loon Lake, the equipment be donated to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The two units have a cash value of \$2,000.

The council voted to begin the process of determining the city's official newspaper. Any newspaper wishing to seek that designation should submit its proposal by noon on Friday, Nov. 20.

Jorge Pena Roriquuez was approved for a 2026 liquor license for 100 North State Street in the Saloon Bistro Bar.

The council was reminded there are still ash trees in every park in Waseca, and they are in fact dying and will soon become a hazard. Some are still undergoing treatment in the hope of saving the large trees already there.

Councilman Jeremy Conrath said, "I just want to thank our Finance/Human Resources Director Alicia Fischer, this is her last meeting with us. So thank you for your service to this city." She received a round of applause.

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Grain bin in county will be world's largest

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

A grain bin currently being built by J & D Construction of Montevideo, MN at the Guardian Energy ethanol plant near Janesville will have a capacity of 2.3 million bushels, making it the world's largest—outsizing each of two 2.2 million bushel bins in Mason City, Iowa.

J & D salesman Daylen Mitlyng shares that work on the bin began in May with the 10-foot-tall concrete foundation. Work on the roof and walls began in June with project completion expected within the next few weeks. Mitlyng says the bin is 165 feet in diameter and will be 158 feet tall, dwarfing a 1 million bushel bin that stands next to it. It will have 31 rows of corrugated metal sheets, each 3 feet tall. Its outer circumference is about 500 feet.

He explains standard practice when building a bin is to assemble the cone-shaped roof—the structurally most challenging part of the project—on the ground, then lift it a little at a time and gradually build the cylindrical walls beneath it.

About 25 workers at once, located mostly inside but also outside the walls, have been bringing in

Shown here about two-thirds of the way through construction, the 165-foot-diameter grain bin being built at Guardian Energy near Janesville already dwarfs the 1-million bushel capacity bin standing next to it. When complete, the new bin will be the world's largest, capable of holding 2.2 million bushels.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

and distributing the needed supplies for each layer and using impact wrenches for hours at a stretch to fasten the metal sheets in place. He says the company had to acquire about 425,000 bolts for the construction project.

He points out the work can continue in most kinds of weather, but sometimes shuts down for winds of 15 miles per hour or more since when the giant roof is standing above the rest of the struc-

ture on jacks, it takes surprisingly little air movement to "turn it into a giant sail."

When the walls and roof are complete, the next step will be adding the various equipment needed to deposit and remove grain, and to keep it dry while in storage. The roof has been engineered, Mitlyng says, to hold up to 150,000 pounds of equipment. A typical farm bin, he offers for comparison, is built to support about 20,000 pounds.

The organizers of the Waseca Legion's Heroes Appreciation Breakfast had 50 meals delivered to the New Richland City Hall on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2026 to feed emergency personnel dealing with the flood.

Photo by Mary Jo Knudson

Above, at left: Mike Anderson; Above, at right: Deb Dobberstein, Cindy Dickie, Leanna Sutlief, Kevin Dickie, and Mike Sutlief. Below: Denny Hoehn, Sandy and Randy Prange, Wes Ruedy, Ed Hoehn, Bruce Tappe and Roger Ockwig were the cooks for the Heroes Appreciation Breakfast at the Waseca American Legion on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2026.

Pioneer photos by Ben Revermann

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Le Sueur and Waseca encourage personal preparedness

The Le Sueur-Waseca Community Health Board (LWCHB) recognizes that September is National Preparedness Month. National Preparedness Month is an annual September observance to encourage Americans to prepare for disasters and emergencies that could happen anywhere and at any time. This year's theme, Americans Stand Ready, encourages preparedness at home to strengthen the resiliency of our communities.

Preparedness is not going to look the same for everyone. Factors like children and pets in the home, the areas you live and work, and disabilities will change the actions you should take to prepare yourself.

"Preparedness is a shared responsibility, and we all have a role to play," said Public Health Emergency Preparedness Specialist Sara Porter.

Not sure where to start? Con-

sider taking these important steps to ensure your household is prepared.

Sign up alerts and warnings with PHApp, Regroup (Waseca), or Everbridge (Le Sueur)

Make a family communications plan

Practice emergency drills at home and work

Safeguard important documents and keep extra copies in an alternate location

Assemble a go kit with supplies like food, water, batteries, and a light source

Learn more about National Preparedness Month and actions you can take to prepare for disasters at ready.gov and how local public health prepares at LeSueurCounty.Gov/790/Public-Health-Emergency-Preparedness-PHE or WasecaCounty.Gov/593/Public-Health-Emergency-Preparedness-PHE.

■ Flood

from Page 1

decades, including 2010, 2016, 2023 and now 2026.

Lendt said the city has been working for years to address the issue.

"There's plans in the works. We've had engineering studies done that show where the high water mark is. We're developing the plan. We're talking to the right parties, the key members, and we're not quite to the point where all we're waiting on is funding but we're getting close to that point," Lendt said.

Johannsen said, "A lot of these people have seen this before because many of our residents are local. I think it was more trauma-

tizing for the staff because they had no idea where the residents were going to go."

According to Johannsen, as of Sunday, the residents were at different care centers across the area. He is hopeful they can be back in the building in the next six months.

There's been an outpouring of support and more volunteers will be needed in the coming days to help with cleanup.

"It was a humbling experience to go through this with a town like this. It was incredible," Lendt said.

According to Lendt, the American Red Cross is helping people impacted by the floods.

Locally, a benevolence fund maintained by the Area Food Shelf of New Richland is helping about 20 victims. Those interested in helping the nonprofit can send monetary donations to: AFSNR Benevolence Fund, PO Box 12, New Richland, MN 56072.

■ County

from Page 1

required under state law, Johnson explained that Minnesota requires all entities which rely on real estate taxes for funding set a preliminary levy amount before the end of September. Levy amounts for cities, school districts, townships and the county are placed on an individualized tax summary that is sent to

property owners in November.

Property owners are also invited to attend a "truth in taxation" meeting which all entities must hold in December.

Waseca County's truth in taxation session will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Tax levy amounts continue to be counted as "preliminary" until the end of December, by which time entities must establish their "final" amounts. Under state law, the "final" amount can be lower than the "preliminary" one, but it cannot be higher.



NRHEG fifth-graders took part in Farm and Home Safety Day at the Waseca County fairgrounds on Sept. 15. The day included a chance to see a medi-vac helicopter as well as a variety of safety presentations. Star Eagle photo by Deb Bently

Farm Bureau Safety Day educates youth

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

About 280 local fifth-graders took part in safety-related conversations and activities during the Farm Bureau Farm and Home Safety Camp the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 15, according to organizer Debbie Roemhildt.

Students from the Janesville public school system, New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva, Team Academy in Waseca, Trinity Lutheran School in Janesville, and Waseca Intermediate School took part.

Learners were shown what a power take-off (PTO) is and county sheriff Jay Dulas explained the dangers of any spinning tool. Then a staged accident took place, during which a straw-filled mannequin came in contact with a spinning PTO

bar. Volunteers from the county sheriff's office, Waseca Fire Department and North Waseca Ambulance then demonstrated the procedures typically followed after an accident, with each agency arriving in turn.

Dulas described the inter-agency cooperation and communication which protect the health, safety and privacy of the injured person.

The mannequin was loaded onto a backboard and carried to a nearby ambulance, Dulas described that, when first responders believe an injury needs to be treated at a trauma center, a helicopter might be called in to facilitate the fastest possible transport.

Dulas went on to share information about the processes and limitations of the helicopter, including that it could land only in wide open areas away from power lines.

"You are very lucky today," he told the group, and went on to inform them an evacuation helicopter had been dispatched to the demonstration and would arrive in about 8 minutes. The group walked to the edge of the open field on the fairgrounds and was able to watch as the helicopter arrived.

With the engine off and the rotors still, students were given a chance to walk past the craft and ask questions of the pilot and two emergency medical technicians.

Along with the staged accident and evacuation, students divided into groups and rotated among speakers who shared information about being safe as a passenger or driver, risks of exposure to chemicals, handling of chemicals, electricity and power lines, and safety around animals.

Roemhildt stressed the value of

the various presentations and how knowing the information in advance could be pivotal in preventing future injuries or accidents.

She expressed Farm Bureau's gratitude to the presenters, including the county sheriff's office, Steele Waseca Cooperative Electric, North Waseca Ambulance, Crystal Valley, Summers Ridge Veterinary, the Waseca fire department and Northland Farm Systems of Owatonna.

She also expressed thanks to numerous local agencies whose donations helped make the day possible: Culligan of Waseca; Waseca County Corn and Soybean Growers; the Schoenfeld Family Fund; Cally Jo Children's Fund; Janesville State Bank; Keen Bank; Compeer Financial and Midwest Bank.

Welcoming Waseca Vape Shop



INVESTED IN SERVING - The Waseca Area Chamber Ambassadors recently stopped by to welcome Waseca Vape Shop as a new member of the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism. Located at 109 2nd Ave SE in Waseca, Waseca Vape Shop is another local business investing in and serving our community. We are pleased to welcome them to the Chamber and look forward to seeing them become even more connected within our local business community.

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		1	2 6PM BAR BINGO	3 7pm HALL BINGO	4 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	5
6	7	8 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	9 6PM BAR BINGO	10 7pm HALL BINGO	11 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	12
13 Breakfast 8-12 Your Host Waseca Exchange Club	14 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	15 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	16 6PM BAR BINGO	17 7pm HALL BINGO	18 Air Force Birthday POW/MIA DAY MEAT Raffle Horse racing 6:30 pm	19
20	21	22 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	23 6PM BAR BINGO	24 7pm HALL BINGO	25 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	26
27 GOLD STAR DAY	28	29 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	30 6PM BAR BINGO			

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The Pastor's Column

The joy of the Lord is my strength

By Rick Wulf, Pastor
Christ Community Church,
Waseca

Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

Maybe you remember the movie, Inside Out. It's a Pixar animated film about a young girl and her emotions. In the film, Joy is the primary emotion character and she leads the show. It's her job to direct the emotions of the main character. It's a great film and the sequel was really cute, too.

But what is joy? Maybe you use it to describe being happy. Or maybe blessed. #blessedlife! Or fulfilled. Or maybe we think of the feeling of joy as we think of good things, like family, or hobbies. While we could go into a deep dive on this word, we just don't have the room here in this article.

But what is joy? How do we define it? And how do we experience joy in our everyday life? In this article, I just simply want to ask some probing questions and offer some insights from God's Word. Because I believe joy is missing from our lives.

So here is our first probing question:

Is joy something we experience only when life is good?

For many of us, we may think, yes. Maybe we think of joy as something that gives us strength when life is hard. But joy is more than simply an emotion; it's a way of living. Joy has to be a state of being. It is who we are, not simply an experience or an event.

With that said, sometimes joy comes easily. Let me tell you about the most joyful experience I have had in a very long time. Over Labor Day weekend, our daughter, Lily got married. It was so easy to find joy. I got to officiate the ceremony. I got to dance with her. I got to celebrate her and her new husband, Eli. I'll never forget it. There are moments when circumstances practically hand us joy.

But that leads to probing question number two: what if joy isn't right in front of you? What do you do? Where do you find joy when it feels like it is intentionally playing hide-and-seek?

If we were to really look at Nehemiah's story in the Bible, his people had plenty of reasons to be sad. Life was hard. People were actively against them and

the rebuilding of the wall around Jerusalem. But Nehemiah directs their attention away from their circumstances and towards, wait for it...the Lord!

Now, go back up to the top and read the verse again. Nehemiah did not say, the joy of your circumstances, or the joy of your health, or even joy of everything going right. He said the joy of the Lord is your strength. Maybe you need that strength right now. I want that for you today.

The joy of the LORD is your strength. I'm not just saying, God is good when you feel good, or strong, or happy. I'm saying: God gives a joy that can carry you when you don't feel good, or you're weak, or life is heavy.

So, here's probing question number three. Where are you actively seeking joy?

God's joy can give us strength when our circumstances don't. In fact, to be completely honest, while the wedding really did bring me joy, that joy didn't last forever. The teardown came and we began throwing things away. I watched all the money we spent on decorations, food, favors, and more be literally thrown away. And that wasn't joyful! How quickly my attitude changed when joy of based on my experience!

There may be things about your life today that you would change if you could. But what if I were to tell you there's a more important truth in the mix. Here is the best news of the day: There are things that haven't changed. God hasn't changed.

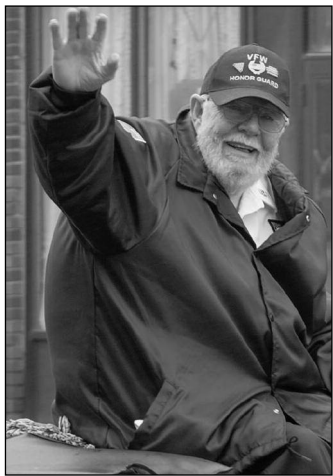
His love hasn't changed. His faithfulness hasn't changed. Jesus hasn't changed. And the promise of eternal life hasn't changed.

Last weekend I saw my daughter experience one of her great joys. But eventually the flowers wilt, the pictures fade, and the wedding day becomes a memory. They went on their honeymoon and now they're back to real life and work. I want to encourage them their joy doesn't depend on good days: their joy is rooted in the Lord. I want them to remember that circumstances change, but God doesn't.

If you don't remember anything else from this article, remember this: Joy isn't found in having a good day; joy is found in having a good God.

So, where are you going to look for joy today?

Waseca Marching Classic



Photos by Deb Bently and Ben Revermann



Classic

from Page 1

It speaks strongly of the Marching Classic's resilience that most people in attendance perhaps took little notice of the changes.

Hundreds of people lined State Street downtown as more than 60 units passed by. Local businesses, pageant winners, event honorees, organizations, and hobbyists including owners of classic cars and tractors all took part.

Mixed in among the other units

were the Waseca Junior High School band and the Marching Jays, the Simley High School Marching Band, the Stewartville Marching Tigers and the Pipestone Area Arrow Marching Band.

Award winners for the parade were:

Nine performances were included in the field show competition, which took place at the Waseca High School football field beginning at 5:30 p.m. Though there were periods of light rain as the evening progressed, all groups were able to perform. Class A competitors were the Dassel-Cokato Marching Chargers, the Luverne Cardinal Marching Band and the Pipestone Area Arrows.

In Class AA were Rochester Lourdes High School; the Hutchinson Marching Tigers; the Spirit of Madison (S.D.) Marching Band; The Force, from Spirit Lake, Iowa; and the Coon Rapids Marching Cardinals.

Parade Awards: Taking first place in their class in the parade was Pipestone. In class AA, Stewartville placed first and Simley second. Stewartville received the People's Choice, Exceptional Percussion, and Exceptional Color Guard awards. Simley's drum majors were selected as exceptional. The Pipestone horn line was ranked as exceptional.

Field Show Awards: Among field show competitors in class A, Pipe-

stone was ranked first, Luverne second, and Dassel-Cokato third. In class AA, Rochester Lourdes was ranked first, Coon Rapids second, Spirit Lake third, Madison fourth and Hutchinson fifth. Rochester Lourdes was awarded the field sweepstakes, exceptional percussion, exceptional hornline and Herb Streitz Spirit titles. Coon Rapids was acknowledged for both exceptional drum majors and color guard.

Pipestone was acknowledged with the Richard Butch Dufault Sweepstakes award. To be eligible for this honor, a band must have participated in both the parade and the field show.

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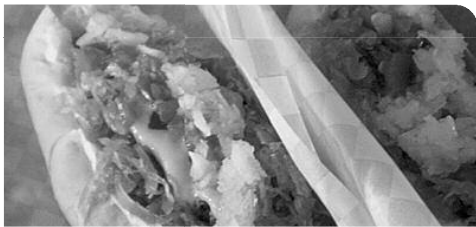
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Janesville

25 years ago

- On the Monday, Aug. 6, meeting of the Rotary Club at the Janesville American Legion, the Rotary District Governor, Doug Johnson was present to present a past-president plaque to Don Hainlen. He also presented a pin to Cliff Gardner honoring him for 32 years of perfect attendance and to Tom Kiner for his 22 years of perfect attendance. On Monday, Aug. 13, the club held a business meeting at their regular weekly meeting. On Monday, Aug. 20, the guest speaker for the evening was Pete Madel, administrator of the Janesville ad Waseca Nursing Home. On Monday, Aug. 27, the Rotary Club entertained with a picnic at the Janesville American Legion for the teachers from both Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School and Trinity Lutheran School.

- Prairie Ridge Golf Course is Janesville will host the fourth annual JWP Fall Brawl on Saturday, Sept. 8. All proceeds from the event go to support JWP wrestling. The \$40 entry fee includes golf, awards and hors d'oeuvres. Carts are available for an additional fee on a first come basis, or by calling ahead to Prairie Ridge at 234-5505. The golf event is a foursome scramble. Golfers can select their own threesomes, and a local celebrity or coach will be added to the group. Check in time is 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at noon. For further information, contact Mike Niemczk (234-6757) or Jim Schultz (234-5632).



- The JWP Elementary staff worked last week to get ready for parent conferences. They will be oined by the paraprofessional staff for the first day of school.Front row: (from left): Kristi Nadolsky, Becky Borneke and Tracy Helms; row two: Mike Francis, Monica Borneke and Diane Landwehr; row three: Paula Sanders and Dorothy Rittal-Mcintyre; row-four: Sherry Trahms; row five: Sharyn Miller and Kristin Bartelt; row six: Duffy Schuldt, Beth Jorgenson and Autumn Worden; row seven: Tanah Janike and June Grams; row eight: Linda Hendricks and Kathy Dierks; row nine: Heather Winter; row 10: Gretchen Oison and Gloria Hoppe; and row 11: Kris Fude and Liz Winter.

50 years ago

- The Busy Bees Home Extension Group met Aug. 11, at the Lakeview Park with nine members present. New officers elected during the business meeting were president, Mrs. Lyle Miller: vice president Ruth Smith; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Billie Quast: leaders for the year, Ruth Smith and Mrs. Arthur Storjohann and councilors, Mrs. Billie Quast and Mrs. Alvira Blank. Following adjournment of the meeting, games were played for entertainment with everyone receiving a prize. A pot luck lunch was then served. The next meeting will be at Lakeview Park, Sept. 8, at 2 p.m. with the club furnishing the lunch.

- Five Waseca County 4-H'ers are among the 240 Minnesota youth attending Fair Youth Camp at the Minnesota State Fair for twelve days. Among their other duties, these boys are ushering at the grandstand for both afternoon and evening performances. The area youth include Kevin Dana, Pemberton; Ken Frederick, Waseca; Jerry Cahill, Darold Rudolph and Peter Scheffert from Janesville.



- Elementary Principal Bill Burns stifles a smile as he obliges the Argus with this “discipline” photograph. Ricky Frechette, 11, isn’t in trouble and we couldn’t even get him to act like it hurt! Ricky is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Frechette and a sixth grader in Mr. Burn’s class.

75 years ago

- The Hearty Neighbors club met with Mrs. Donald Lohmann August 22. The afternoon was spent in playing Indian Bingo with prizes awarded. Mrs. Earl Manthe was a guest. At the close of the afternoon the hostess served lunch. Mrs. Alvin Kopischke will be the club’s next hostess, Sept. 12.

- The following enjoyed a picnic dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Grams Sr. in St. Clair, Labor Day: Mrs. Ed Santo, Mrs. Dora Grams, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kollos and Gerald, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Santo and son Alan, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Santo and Jill. Elizabeth Buchholtz, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Santo and Jill Elizabeth Bucholtz, Mrs. Victor Blazing and Larry, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Westphal and Shirley, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Westphal and two daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kurzbein and two children, and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Priem and children.

100 years ago

- Janesville Butter Best In a Large Field of Entries: Fre Ulman, Janesville buttermaker, took first honors with his entry at the Mankato Fair, the judges pronouncing the local man’s butter the best in the long list of entries. The Janesville Creamery Association will also send a tub of their fin Land O’Lakes to the State Fair competition. Mr. Ulman in winning premier honors at Mankato gives our local butter plant an excellent boost, while he can not fail to derive a measure of satisfaction for himself from the fact. The Janesville creamery man is usually up near the top in all contests in which he is entered, if he does not actually head the list, and it has been his pleasure on various occasions to take down first places. Janesville friends congratulate him, while it is needless to say that the patrons of the creamery too are delighted with the recognitions Mr. Ulman has earned for them.

- For Sale–As I am leaving Janesville permanently, I offer for sale my house and a lot and half of land, well located and now rented for \$22.00 per month. A very attractive price and terms can be given on this property. Mrs. Ella Rickerman. Inquire at Citizen’s State Bank of Janesville.

Waseca

25 years ago

- A short in wiring is believed to be the cause of a fire that occurred in a shed in which antiques are stored at Farmamerica on Monday morning. A total of 19 Waseca firefighters responded to the blaze, which was reported at 8:33 a.m. No one was injured in the fire. The shed had some framing damage and the door was also damaged. The fire department cleared the scene at 9:33 a.m. Waseca Fire Chief Bob Johnson said, “It could have been a lot worse with all of the antique stuff in there. It is good that someone noticed it right away. It could have been disastrous.”

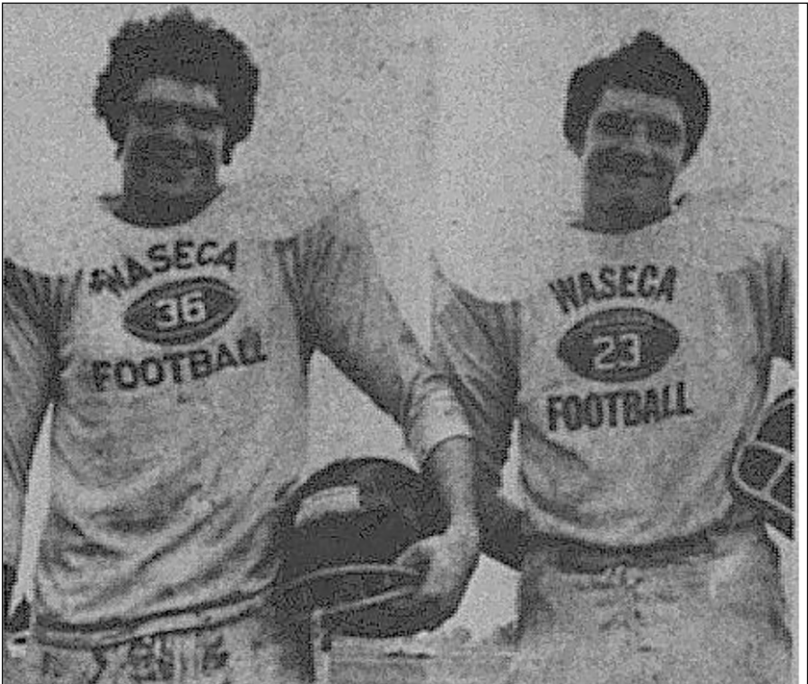
- Luis and Heather Marrero of Waseca are proud to announce the birth of their son, Michael Luis, born August 28, 2001, at Owatonna Hospital. He weighed eight pounds, seven ounces and was 21 inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Lowell and Virginia Wobschall. Paternal grandparents are Luis and Pamela Marrero. Michael is welcomed home by his sister, Maria, who is three years old.



- Retired Waseca County Sherift Mert Schwarz and Sue Jacobson of the Steele County Sheriff's Posse led the way for Minnesota Sheriffs Youth Programs (SYP) of Minnesota Wagon Train for Youth this weekend as it traveled throughout Waseca County Pictured (from left) are: Schwarz a horse "Bill", Schwarz, Jacobson, Waseca County Sheriff Tim Dann and Waseca County Chief Deputy Brad Milbrath. The purpose of the event is to raise funds for at-risk children served at the SYP, and to acquaint the public with programs for youth and families. This year's event raised more than \$14,000. SYP was established In 1965 in Austin and provides juvenile treatment to more than 1,600 children annually throughout Minnesota.

50 years ago

- Due to a delay on the part of the contractor, Duinnick Brothers and Gilchrist of Olivia, the starting of the project to cover the chuckholes and cracks of the U.S. Highway 14 between Waseca and Eagle Lake has been put off until next Tuesday, Sept. 7, according to Dave Trooien, resident engineer at the Mankato Office of the Minnesota Highway Department. In late June, Highway Commissioner Frank Mirzitelli had stopped in Waseca to announce that the work on Highway 14 would start immediately. However, Duinnick Brothers and Gilchrist were unable to start work then and the project was delayed, according to Trooien. Trooien estimated that the bituminous overlay will be completed from the east edge of Eagle Lake to the east edge of Waseca next to Kiesler’s Clear Lake Campground, in approximately five weeks. The 20-foot wide road bed will not be widened or changed, but 15 turn lanes and by-pass lanes will be added.



- Bluejay Football Captains Doug Gehring, on the left, and Pat Clemons will be leading the Bluejays against Faribault in their opening game Friday night.

- Lawrence Clemons and Keith Dibble were the winning team in the two-man best ball sweepstakes yesterday at Lakeside with a 56. There was a tie for second places as two teams shot a 57. Jerry Rutledge and Bud Evans were tied with Ray Johnson and Joe Finley. In fourth place were the team of Al Butler and Dick Wobschall with a score of 58. Fifty-nine was good enough for the team of Mel Jeddelloh and Jerry Huhlman to take fifth place. Lakeside members are reminded that there will be another special sweepstakes next week.

75 years ago

- Mrs. Harriet R. Hudson, wife of Robert D. Hudson, 721 N. State St. has taken over the duties of society editor of the Waseca Journal and Herald, succeeding Mrs. Eiana O’Hara. Mr. and Mrs. Hudson and Children, Jeanne and Dickie, have resided in Waseca since October 1948. Mrs. Hudson has been active in various Waseca civic and social affairs for a number of years. News of a social personal and club nature should be called into her phone 13 for inclusion in the Journal and Herald.

- According to the Elysian Enterprise the Smiths Mill creamery closed the first of September 1956. It was one of the oldest creameries in this country. Recently the creamery had been buying only cream.

- A milk drying plant will be discussed at the Waseca County Creamery Council meeting to be held at the Waseca Creamery hall Tuesday, Sept. 18, 8 p.m. Paul Kopischke, Janesville president of the county organizations will secure a speaker thoroughly versed in milk drying and he will discuss the pros and cons of a milk drying plant for this county.

100 years ago

- A young man walked up and down the aisles of a crowded theatre the other evening, called out “Marchino cherries and chocolates.” I watched him closely for ten minutes and he didn’t make a single sale. No wonder.

- A seventeen pound pickerel, the largest fish taken from Clear Lake this year, was caught last week by Francis Webber. The big fish measured 40 inches in length and was extremely stocky. Webber caught the big fish directly out from the old ice house.

- Scottish Golf Course Rule: “Members will refrain from picking up lost balls until they have stopped rolling.”

New Richland

25 Years Back



- Margaret Engesser was thrilled to receive the game ball from Panthers Friday night 27-0 win over Lake Crystal-Welcome Memorial from a group of the football players at the “Pep Fest” held for her Sunday afternoon, at the American Legion Clubrooms. Making the presentation of the ball signed by all the members of the team were Kyle Utpadel, Gavin Berg and Clark Field.



- This albino squirrel makes his home in the third street Northeast neighborhood of New Richland. The squirrel is a true albino, with pink eyes as shown in the colored photos. Josh Krueger was the fortunate photographer that was able to get near enough for a shot of the interesting wildlife creature.

- Kara Ignaszewski and Paul Hagemeister take this opportunity to announce their engagement. Parents of the couple are Mary Ignaszewski of New Richland and the late Florian Ignaszewski, and Donald and Bertha Hagemeister, Cathay, North Dakota. Kara graduated from River Falls the University of Wisconsin and Paul graduated from Jamestown (North Dakota) College. A Saturday, October 20, wedding is planned in St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fargo, North Dakota.

- A total attendance for the 2001 Minnesota State Fair, August 23 through Labor Day, September 3 was 1,762,976 breaking the former record of 1,689,034 set in 1998.

50 Years Back

- Waseca County Sheriff Mert Schwarz announced the appointment of Al Kroeger of Janesville as chief deputy, Tuesday. He succeeds Schwarz in the position.

- Dennis Dinneen of New Richland was hired as Veterans Service Officer for Waseca County by the Waseca County commissioners at their meeting, Tuesday. Dennis was one of the five selected by veterans groups in the area from a field of 25 applicants. Dinneen will take over the position January 1, on the retirement of Ethan Allen, present service officer.

75 Years Back

- We don't know how often it happens but it is unusual for a lamb to be born at this season of the year and Orland Hagen owns an ewe that went the records one better and became the mother of twin lambs at his farm southwest of New Richland last Thursday.

- Gwen Byersdorff, daughter of Mrs. Ray Byersdorff of New Richland has been named a member of the debate squad at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter.

- Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Schmidt (Marian Schlekau) of Camp Rucker, Ala., are the parents of their first child, a daughter, born at Camp Rucker, Friday, October 12. The baby weighed 7 pounds and 4 ounces and has been named Ruth Alice.

Get your news in the Pioneer
• news@wasecacountypioneer.com

Waseca County Pioneer History Question of the week:

An area-wide meeting 75 years ago at the Central School building in Waseca regarded the future of education in the region. What year did the Central School experience a devastating fire?



The answer to this question and future history questions can be found online at explore.wasecacounty.gov, through the Explore Waseca County app, or by scanning the QR code shown here.

Bluejays blank Fairmont, 28-0

Football team improves to 3-0

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

In week one, the Waseca High School football team dealt with sweltering temperatures. In week two, it was extremely high winds. What did week three have to offer? Rain, and rival Fairmont. And another Bluejay victory.

The Jays broke open a close game after halftime, scoring 21 unanswered points in the third quarter to blank the visiting Cardinals 28-0 in a Tackle Cancer game on the WHS field. The opening kickoff was moved up by two hours, to 5 p.m., to try and avoid the heaviest rain. But the soggy field was a definite factor, contributing to fumbles by both squads. "The field conditions affected both offenses," said WHS head coach Brad Wendland. "It's hard to run, it's hard to pass. It's tough to get your footing."

The Bluejays, starting the game from their own 32-yard-line, quickly moved the football into Fairmont territory before a fourth-and-four play fell just short. The Waseca defense quickly forced a three-and-out by the Cardinals.

Again, the Bluejays moved the football, starting at their own 32 and driving into Fairmont ground as the first quarter ended. Two plays into the second period, though, the Bluejays gave the Cardinals a golden opportunity, with a bad snap in punt formation giving Fairmont the ball on the 50. From there, it was another three-and-out for Fairmont.

Then the Bluejays drove 82 yards in nine plays, mixing Sam Seltun runs and a pair of passes from Kellen Klinger to Titan Rahe for 30 yards. The final yards came on a Seltun run, with Owen Honstad recovering a fumble in the end zone for a touchdown. Owen Rupe kicked the PAT.

Fairmont's next possession? Another three-and-out.

The Bluejays threatened to put more points on the board before a fourth-and-14 pass was intercepted by the Cardinals in the final minute of the second period.

Brady McKenna sacked the Fairmont quarterback for a seven-yard loss on first down, and it was 7-0 at halftime.

The first action of the second half saw a big play for the Bluejays, who recovered a fumble on the opening kickoff, giving Waseca the ball on the Fairmont 20.

Selthun and Klinger traded carries from there, and six plays later Klinger plunged for the final yard for a touchdown. The PAT kick failed and Waseca led with 8:51 to play in the third quarter.

After forcing another three-and-

"We definitely took a step forward today."
— WHS coach Brad Wendland

out - this one emphasized by a Rupe sack for -11 yards - the Bluejays needed only three running plays before Isaiah Dymeck scored from a yard out. Klinger's successful two-point PAT made it 21-0 Bluejays with 5:14 left in the third.

The domination continued after halftime as Rupe picked off a Cardinal pass and returned to the 6-yard line. Two plays later Klinger ran for another score. Rupe kicked the PAT, putting the Jays on top 28-0 with 3:32 still remaining in the third.

The Cardinals' best scoring threat came late in the fourth quarter as they drove to the Waseca 15 before stalling on fourth-and-one.

The Bluejays ran out the clock and collected their third win of the season against no losses. Fairmont, shut out 30-0 by New Ulm last week, fell to 1-2.

Seltun ran the ball 23 times for 140 yards. Klinger completed six of 11 pass attempts for 47 yards.

The iWealth Player of the Game was Kallen Glynn.

"One of our goals this week was to improve our completion percentage, and we did that," said Wendland. "We also wanted to play tougher. We're not there yet, but we definitely took a step forward today. Don't count Fairmont out and don't be surprised if they're super improved by playoff time. Also, I want to thank all the students who turned out for the game."

The Bluejays are on the road this Friday to face Central of Norwood-Young America. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Waseca 28, Fairmont 0				
FMT	0	0	0	0-0
WAS	0	7	21	0-28

First Quarter				
No scoring				
Second Quarter				
WAS — Honstad rumble recovery in end zone (Rupe kick)				
Third Quarter				
WAS — Klinger 1 run (kick failed)				
WAS — Dymeck 1 run (Klinger run)				
WAS — Klinger 6 run (Rupe kick)				
Fourth Quarter				
No scoring				
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS				
Rushing — WAS: Seltun 23-140; Klinger 11-44; Dymeck 7-9; Rahe 1-3; F: 25-58				
Passing — WAS: Klinger 6-11, 47; F: 5-9 34				
Receiving — WAS: Rahe 33-33; Nelson 1-10; Honstad 1-4				
WAS Defense Highlights— Knutson two tackles for loss; Rupe one sack, one interception; O'Brien 1 fumble recovery				
	WAS	FMT		
Rushing Yards	42-196	25-58		
Passing Yards	44	34		
Total Yds.	210	92		



WEATHER WAS A FACTOR — Rain hampered both offenses during Waseca's 28-0 shutout victory over Fairmont last Friday. At left, Owen Rupe sacks the Cardinals' quarterback. At right, Kellen Klinger hands off to Sam Selthun, who topped 100 yards rushing after topping the 200-yard mark in the first two games. Photos by Waseca Football Association



WIN NO 1 — The Waseca High School volleyball team posed for a photo after its first win of the season at Medford last week. From left: Hannah Helget, Avery Barto, Addison Zimmerman, Tyler Stagman, Ellie Schleicher, Savanna Vagts, Kaia Sartori, Ashley Fliflet and Madalynn Root.

WHS spikers top Medford for 1st win

The first win of the 2026 season was elusive for the Waseca High School volleyball team.

But the Bluejays got it last Monday, sweeping Medford 3-0 on the Tigers' court. Set scores were 25-17, 25-21 and 25-21.

"The team worked really well together," said Waseca head coach Krissy Plonske. "They were mixing up the sets, moving the ball around at the net, and had some really good plays. It was nice to see the girls get their first win. They work hard and they deserve it."

Avery Barto topped the Bluejays with 15 set assists. She also served up three aces.

The leader in digs was Ellie Schleicher with 21. Kaia Sartori had 14, Madalynn Root six.

Ashley Fliflet topped the team with eight kills, with Sartori registering four and Savanna Vagts three.

The next night, the Bluejays host-

ed Tri-City United and lost 3-0, with set scores of 25-14, 25-18, 25-17.

"We battled," said Plonske. "The team didn't give up after a dropped ball; they kept pushing to win the next point."

Barto again led the Bluejays in set assists, totaling 11.

Root served up three aces.

Schleicher led the Jays in digs with 10. Addison Zimmerman had seven, Sartori five.

Zimmerman registered five kills, Fliflet three.

The Bluejays hosted Fairmont Thursday and dropped the match in three sets, 25-23, 25-16 and 25-22.

"It was a tough loss," said Coach Plonske. "They were super close sets."

Barto netted 18 set assists.

Root registered 22 digs, Schleicher had 17 and Sartori 14.

Fliflet and Sartori led the Bluejays with six kills apiece.



OLDEST FAN — The oldest fan for the WHS volleyball team, Leland Root, 92, was in attendance last week to watch great-granddaughters Tyler Stagman, left, and Madalynn Root.

Waseca cross country girls seventh at Mayo Invitational Markeson, Omtvedt again pace Bluejays

The Waseca High School cross country teams traveled to Rochester for the Mayo Invitational Thursday, Sept. 17.

"It was a very challenging course with a lot of hills, but we had some strong performances," reported Bluejays head coach Grant Popp.

The Bluejays had three complete teams. The varsity girls finished seventh among 17 teams, the junior varsity boys were 14th out of 17, and the junior high boys placed fourth among 10 squads.

"Despite the difficulty of the course, most of our athletes improved from last week at Montgomery," said Coach Popp.

Senior Taylor Markeson again led the varsity girls, finishing 14th with a time of 21:09.7 for 5000 meters. Following for the Bluejays: Stella Omtvedt, 44th, 22:24.1; Maren Schimming, 46th, 22:27.4; Quinn Yoder, 52nd, 22:38.8; Ellie Kopischke, 61st, 22:56.9; Leah Wilson, 77th, 23:40; and Megan Tegmeier, 78th, 23:41.2.

Violet Rohwer was the only girls' JV runner. She finished 97th in 27:39.2.

Placing in the 2500-meter girls' middle school race were Zoe Popp, 56th, 12:45.0; Lylah Jorgenson, 57th, 12:46.2; Josie Selthun, 59th, 12:46.9; and Violet Hughes, 60th, 12:49.4.

The WHS varsity boys had two runners. Samuel Feldkamp finished in 28th place, clocking 18:01.01. Keenan Collins was 62nd with a time of 19:07.5.

For the JV boys, Luke Feldkamp was the top finisher, placing 49th in 20:05.0. Miles Popp was 131st in 21:59.9, Ryan Yoder 142nd in 22:14.6, Eli Hager 144th in 22:16.5, and Collin Guggisberg 322nd in 32:14.2.

Waseca placewinners in the middle school boys' division: Noah Love, 13th, 9:56.9; Kurt Erickson, 14th, 9:59.9; Korbin Collins, 25th, 10:12.6; Levi Rohe, 52nd, 11:15.7; Will Demo, 57th, 11:23.9; Eli Rohwer, 62nd, 11:29.5; Joe Harguth, 80th, 12:04.2; and Owen Fierke, 90th, 12:39.7.

BLUEJAY FOOTBALL



PLAYER of the WEEK
Kallen Glynn
Waseca Player of the Game in a 28-0 win over Fairmont on September 18, 2026

Bluejay Football Player of the Week Sponsored by:



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AT YOUR SERVICE — Hannah Sommers prepares to serve during a recent match on the WHS tennis courts.
Photos by Jim Lutgens



EYES ON THE PRIZE — Libby Miller sets up for a forehand during a recent home match for the WHS girls' tennis team.



HIGH BACKHAND — Ava Miller goes up for a two-handed backhand during recent home-court action for the Waseca High School girls' tennis team.

WHS netters improve to 3-2 in conference

The Waseca High School girls' tennis team defeated the Marshall Tigers 5-2 in Waseca in a "Serve it up for Cancer" match Thursday, Sept. 17. The junior varsity tied 1-1.

Varsity singles results:

No. 1 - Hannah Rugger def. Kathryn Coudron 6-0, 6-1

No. 2 - Ava Miller def. Cora Medina 6-0, 6-2

No. 3 - Sam Sutton lost to Julie Pafko 6-0, 6-1

No. 4 - Kayla Landrum lost to Emry Jans 6-2, 6-4

At doubles:

No. 1 - Hannah Sommers and

Lucy Deml def. Ava Weller and Madeline Kisner 6-2, 6-4

No. 2 - Libby Miller and Chloe Hagen def. Greta Bailey and Mallory Wendorff 6-3, 6-4

No. 3 - Olivia Hagen and Everly Kestel def. Kinley Boerboom and Julia Sherman 6-2, 4-6, 12-10

Two days earlier, the Bluejays claimed an exciting 4-3 victory at Worthington. The JV lost 2-0.

At the varsity level, Waseca breezed through the No. 1 and No. 2 singles matches. The Bluejays dropped all three first sets at doubles before prevailing at No. 1 and No. 2

doubles, with the No. 1 team clinching the fourth and deciding points.

Singles results:

No. 1 - Rugger def. Lily Brown 6-0, 6-0

No. 2 - Ava Miller def. Kah Blu Moo 6-2, 6-1

No. 3 - Sutton lost to Isabella Poe 6-2, 6-2

No. 4 - Landrum lost to Isabelle Kouame 7-6 (3), 6-2

Doubles:

No. 1 - Deml and Sommers def. Emma Heitbrink and Claire Schultz 4-6, 6-4, 6-4

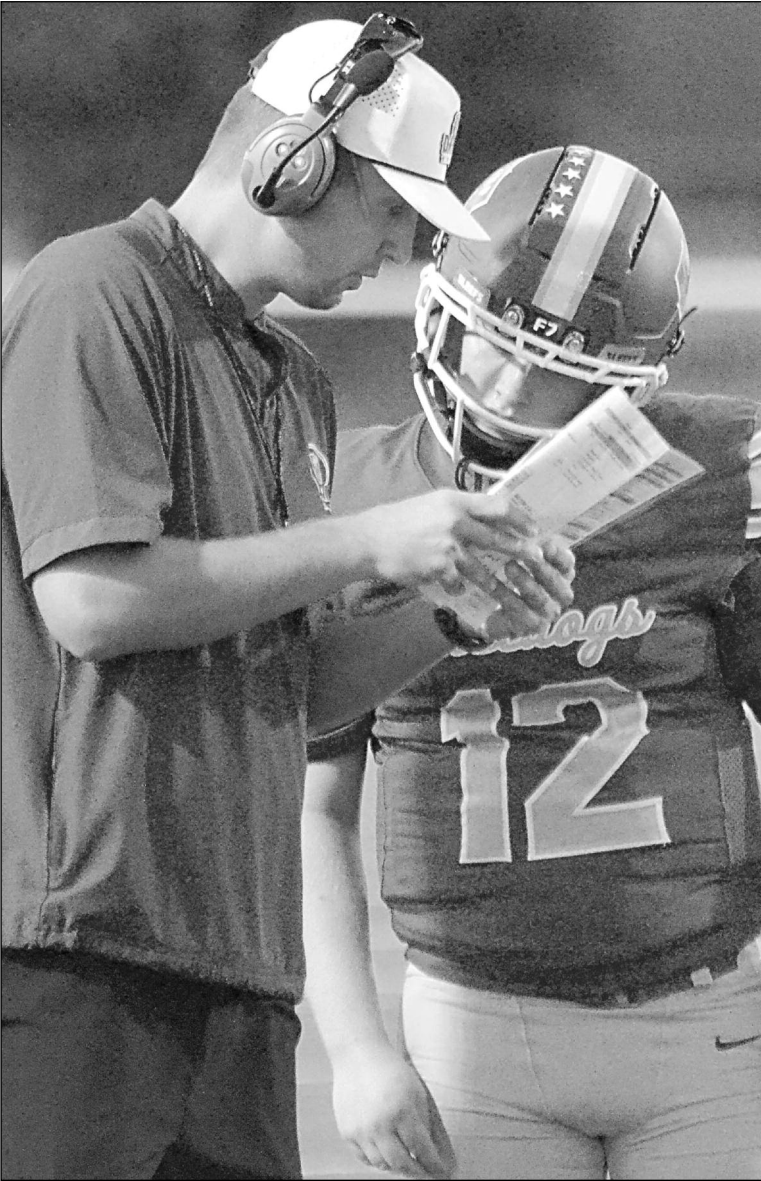
No. 2 - Libby Miller and Hagen

def. Marie Shewe and Nalley Escalante 3-6, 6-0, 6-0

No. 3 - Kestel and Hagen lost to LewKaPaw Ehmo and Lisbeth Soto 6-1, 5-7, 6-3.

Big South Conference Black Division Standings

St. Peter	4-0
Tri-City United	3-1
Waseca	3-2
Worthington	2-2
Belle Plaine	1-2
New Ulm	1-3
Marshall	0-6



THIS SHOULD WORK — JWP head coach Brandon Goebel consults with quarterback Seth Dahlberg on a play call.
Photo by Jim Lutgens

Bulldogs shut out BEA in lightning-delayed game

The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School football shut out Blue Earth Area twice last week.

But only one counts. The Bulldogs were victorious at Blue Earth with a 21-0 decision in a game that was started Friday night but concluded Saturday afternoon due to lightning.

The Bulldogs, 1-2, scored the lone points of the opening half on first-quarter touchdown pass from Seth Dahlberg to Gavin Bauer, covering five yards. Ayden Peterson kicked the PAT.

After a scoreless second period, Dahlberg found the end zone from three yards out in the third. Peterson added the PAT.

The final points came in the final period, with Tyson Kronbach scoring a touchdown from seven yards out. Peterson again kicked the PAT.

Kronbach led the Bulldogs in rushing with 45 yards on nine carries.

Dahlberg finished 15-for-22 passing for 121 yards. Bauer caught four passes for 53 yards, Jaxon Wolff four for 23, Kronbach three for 23, and Gavin Weedman two for 20.

Yale Johnson anchored the defense with six solo tackles and seven assists. Weedman was in on eight stops, five solo. Jeff Sturdivant and Weedman had one interception apiece.

The Bulldogs play this Friday

at 7 p.m. at Waterville-Elysian-Morristown.

JWP 21, Blue Earth Area 0				
JWP	7	0	7	7-21
BEA	0	0	0	0-0

First Quarter
JWP — Bauer 5 pass from Dahlberg (Peterson kick)

Second Quarter
No scoring

Third Quarter
JWP — Dahlberg 3 run (Peterson kick)

Fourth Quarter
JWP — Kronbach 7 run (Peterson kick)

	JWP	BEA
Total plays	49	54
First downs	12	12
Rushing Yards	39	114
Passing Yards	111	80
Total Yds.	150	194
Third down	2-10	3-10
Fourth down	2-3	2-5
Penalties-Yds	4-15	3-
	26	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing — JWP: Kronbach 13-45; Dahlberg 6-7; Schultz 4-7; Miller 1-2; Wolff 2-1; BEA: Juba 10-53; Baurista 13-48; Hodges 4-16
Passing — JWP: Dahlberg 15-22, 121; BEA: Juba 13-27, 80
Receiving — JWP: Bauer 4-52; Wolff 4-23; Kronbach 3-23; Weedman 2-20; Geariety 2-3; BEA: Bell 6-30; Hodges 2-16; Weerts 2-16; Engelby 1-11; Preuss 2-10
JWP Defense — Wolff 1T; Bauer 2T; Sturdivant 5T; Weedman 8T; Harris 1T; Geariety 4T; C.Schultz 2T; Bure 2T; Kronbach 4T; Elliott 1T; B.Schultz 1T; Rider 3T; Winters 1T; Huber 3T; Schoenrock 2T; Y.Johnson 13T; T.Johnson 2T

It's been a rebuilding season for boys' soccer

First-year head coach David Vasquez predicted the fall of 2026 would be a rebuilding season for the Waseca High School boys' soccer team.

And that's what it's been. "So far, this season is undoubtedly testing us with its fair share of challenges," said Vasquez. "But confronting that adversity head-on has only strengthened our bond as a team. We are starting to understand that true resilience requires us to work seamlessly as a collective unit while simultaneously pushing ourselves to grow as individuals."

What does that entail?

"This means stepping up to take full accountability for our actions and having the courage to own our mistakes on and off the pitch without making excuses," said Vasquez.

"By shifting our mindset to focus on steady progress rather than looking for perfection, we are building a culture where every setback becomes a lesson, and our shared commitment continues to drive us forward."

The Bluejays' roster includes seniors Tovin Grannis, Edwin Aragon and Jacob Harguth, juniors Sawyer Mairs, Matthew Nelson and Kendrick Spies, sophomores Ivan Schoenrock, Tomas Vasquez-Neigebauer, Shylo Driessen and Jayden Lenz, and freshmen Mateo Vasquez-Neigebauer and Ryder Benham.

"I want to highlight everyone, from student athletes to coaches to parents," said Coach Vasquez. "Without them, none of this would be possible."

Go Bluejays!



Members of the Waseca High School girls' soccer team get fired up before one of last week's games. It was a successful week for the Bluejays, who defeated Tri-City United 5-1 on Tuesday and Worthington 3-1 on Thursday.



BIG PLAYS — At left, the Panthers' Calvin Nissen skies to pull in a first-half pass from Brooks Gilliland. At right, Gilliland delivers the football under pressure.

Photos by Jim Lutgens

Panthers fall to Southland in twice-postponed game

After two postponements - the first to avoid heavy rain Friday night, and the second because of the resulting flooding, the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School football team got to play a game.

The outcome wasn't what the Panther faithful hoped for, a 32-20 loss to Southland, but at least they got it in Monday afternoon at Jim Gustafson Field in Albert Lea.

"First of all just want to give a shout out all of the volunteers and people that helped out in New Richland Saturday," said NRHEG head coach Devin Lockerby. "In a time of need, people stepped up and helped wherever they were needed."

As for the game, Lockerby said the Panthers have some things to improve on as they head into Friday's Homecoming game

against Lewiston-Altura.

"Southland is a really good team," said Lockerby. "And we made some mistakes that cost us the game. But I am excited about how our team responds to adversity. Things didn't go our way and they continued to get up and fight back. We're excited about Homecoming this week."

The Rebels showed the ability to move the football early in Monday's game, taking the opening kickoff and driving deep into Panther territory, but a defender was there to break up a potential touchdown pass in the end zone.

The Panthers responded well, but their next drive ended in a punt and it was scoreless after a fast-moving first quarter.

Then the Rebels embarked on their first scoring drive, capped by a quarterback

keeper from the 5. A successful two-point conversion made it 8-0 with 10:49 left in the second period.

Then it was the Panthers' turn and, behind the hard running of Sean Lassahn, they marched to the Southland 13-yard line before a fourth-down pass fell incomplete.

The Rebels again marched inside Panther territory before another incomplete pass on fourth down.

It looked like the Panthers had a chance to score late in the first half, but it didn't work out that way. The Rebels intercepted a third-down pass and returned it 67 yards for a touchdown with no time remaining. They again made the two-point conversion and it was 16-0 at halftime.

The second half couldn't have started any worse for the Panthers as Southland recov-

ered an on-side kickoff and went 44 yards in four plays, again making a two-point conversion.

The Panthers' next drive finally gave their fans something to cheer for, with Lassahn runs mixing with some Brooks Gilliland passes, the last one going to Calvin Nissen from seven yards out, capping a nine-lay, 58-yard drive. A two-point conversion run was stopped.

After the Panthers forced a punt after three plays, Lassahn broke loose and raced to the end zone from 32 yards out. Brooks Gilliland passed to his brother Mack for the conversion and it was 24-14 with 5:17 left in the third.

The Rebels, after a nice kickoff return, answered with a 10-play, 51-yard drive and added another two-point conversion, mak-

ing it 32-14 with 1:24 left in the period.

The Panthers responded with a scoring drive of their own, capped by a Lassahn run from three yards out. It covered 60 yards and took 14 plays, and it was midway through the fourth quarter when it was completed.

Next was one of the most curious referee calls you'd ever see. The kickoff was fumbled and the Panthers apparently recovered but, after talking it over, the refs called for a re-kick due to an inadvertent whistle.

The Panthers then stopped the Rebels on fourth down, but were forced to punt on fourth-and-23.

Southland ran out the clock, handing the Panthers their first loss of the season in three games.



ALL OUT — The Panthers' Aubrey Hendrickson goes to the floor for a dig during NRHEG's loss to Bethlehem Academy last week. In the background is Emmy Stadheim.

Photos by Jim Lutgens

NRHEG spikers top Medford, fall to BA

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School volleyball team ventured to Medford Tuesday, Sept. 15.

It was an enjoyable bus ride home.

The Panthers came away with a 3-0 victory, with set scores of 25-19, 25-21 and 25-19.

The Panthers came from behind to win the first set, holding steady in the second and third sets.

"The girls found more confidence in our hitting options behind the service line," said Panthers head coach Bethany Tennis.

The Panthers served up a season-best eight aces.

Full individual statistics: Ezra Boerner six kills, five digs, two blocks, one ace; Izley Boerner four digs, one ace; Clara Buendorf one kill, one block; Gia Cazares one dig, one block; Aubrey Hendrickson eight digs, two aces; Jovey Knudson three digs, two blocks, three aces; Anika Ladlie seven kills, eight digs, one ace; Brooklyn Sommer 12 set assists; Emmy Stadheim four digs.

"We hope to take this success and continue on Thursday when we face Bethlehem Academy at home," said Tennis.

It didn't happen, though, as the always-strong Cardinals pulled out a 3-0 win, with set scores of 25-20,

25-11 and 25-21.

"It was a tough night for the Panthers and we couldn't quite come away with a win," said Tennis. "We struggled to get our offense connected and were not able to consistently put the ball down when we had opportunities."

Tennis said outside hitters Ezra Boerner and Ladlie gave the panthers some good offensive opportunities throughout the evening.

"Moving forward, we need to do a better job of making decisions with the ball and finding ways to place it strategically to give ourselves more to score," said Tennis. "The girls want to win, and are hungry to get

back on the court and compete. As we head into Homecoming week, our focus will be on bringing energy, playing with confidence, and finding more consistency on our side of the net."

Individually for the Panthers against BA: Ezra Boerner six kills, three digs; Izley Boerner two digs, one ace; Buendorf two blocks; Sierra Fish one kill, Hendrickson 10 digs, one ace; Knudson one kill; Ladlie eight kills, 14 digs; Sommer one kill, five digs, 18 set assists, one block, one ace; Stadheim one kill, three digs.



PERFECT PLACEMENT — Jovey Knudson (8) spikes the ball as Bethlehem Academy's Sarah Tobin goes up for the block during Gopher Conference action at New Richland last Thursday. The Panthers beat Medford Tuesday, but lost 3-0 to BA.

Wobbbrock places third overall as NRHEG CC teams run at Hayfield

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School cross country teams competed at Hayfield Saturday, Sept. 10.

For the Panther girls, Julieann finished third overall with a time of 20:29. Following were Violette Botten, 43rd, 26:51; and Rylie Cromwell, 49th, 28:40.

For the NRHEG boys, Kasey Jewison placed ninth with a time of 17:33. Colton

Lermon was 47th (21:05) and Devlin McWilliams 58th (22:59).

"The dryer and cooler temps made for some nice running conditions," said Panthers head coach Larry Nydegger. "Kasey and Julieann ran very well today, both finishing in the top 10 and earning awards in the process."

The Panthers traveled to the Blooming

Prairie Invitational Tuesday, Sept. 15. Schools in attendance were Blooming Prairie, Hayfield, Medford, Austin Pacelli, Cannon Falls, NRHEG and Randolph.

Lake City took the girls' team title, scoring a near-perfect 19 points. Second was Blooming Prairie with 42. Randolph had 81.

For NRHEG, Wobbbrock finished third overall in a time of 20:02. Botten was 30th

at 26:23, Cromwell 33rd at 28:46.

For the boys, Pacelli captured the top spot with a perfect score of 15. Lake City followed with 59. Blooming Prairie had 64, Randolph 105.

Jewison led NRHEG with a fourth-place finish, clocking 17:33. Lermon was 29th in 20:42, McWilliams 38th with a time of 22:08.

"The weather was finally comfortable for the runners," said Coach Nydegger. "It was a nice night to get some fast times. Julieann continues to get quicker, getting her best time of the season. And Kasey continues to get some solid times. All the runners are putting in the work, and the improving times are evidence of that."

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE WASECA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SALES & USE TAX PROJECT LIST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Waseca County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing regarding the adoption of a resolution amending the Transportation Sales & Use Tax Project List & Map. The public hearing will take place as part of the regular County Board meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the Boardroom of the Waseca County East Annex, 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Adoption of the resolution will enable the county to continue to impose the Transportation Sales & Use Tax and utilize the proceeds on specific transportation projects or improvements.

All interested persons may appear and be heard at the public hearing or may file their written comments prior to the hearing date with the County Administrator at the Waseca County Courthouse, 307 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093, or at michael.johnson@wasecacounty.gov.

The draft Project List & Map is accessible on the Public Work’s page of the county website, www.wasecacounty.gov, or a copy can be obtained by contacting the Public Works Director/County Engineer at (507) 835-0661 or at jim.kollar@wasecacounty.gov.

Jim Kollar
Waseca County Public Works Director/County Engineer
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on September 24 and October 1, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Waseca County Property & Election Services Office will test the electronic voting machine to be used for vote tabulation for Early Voting for the November 3rd, 2026, General Election.

Testing will be held on Wednesday, September 30th starting at 10:30am in the Election Room on the main floor of the Waseca County Courthouse, 307 North State Street, Waseca, MN.

The Public is invited to attend.

Tamara J. Spooner, Director of Property & Election Services

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on September 24, 2026

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ORDINANCE NO. 75-2026
CITY OF WALDORF
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COUNCIL SALARIES

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 415.11 and Waldorf City Code Section 30.08 require that the Mayor and City Council’s compensation be set by ordinance:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of the City of Waldorf does hereby ordain as follows:

That the Waldorf City Code Section 30.08 is hereby amended and shall read as follows:

Section 30.08 Compensation of Mayor and Councilmembers

1. The mayor and city council members shall be compensated as follows:

a. The Mayor shall be paid \$150.00 and Councilmembers \$125.00 for attendance at any City Council Meeting or Special Meeting.

2. The mayor shall be paid an additional \$75.00 and councilmembers shall receive \$75.00 for work sessions attended.

3. Payment to the mayor and councilmembers shall be monthly. If the mayor or any city councilmember is not in office for any reason during the calendar year, compensation shall be prorated based upon the amount of time served.

4. Any amendment to the compensation of the Mayor and Councilmembers must follow the provisions of Minnesota Statute 411. 11 or any successor statute.

Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication in accordance with law.

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