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AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE
It's about being a community that takes care of each other. Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.

Relay for Life



This large grain bin on the Mark Byron farm in St. Mary township was crushed by the August 5 tornadoes. It was empty at the time.
Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Aug. 5 tornadoes leave long path of destruction

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Waseca County Sheriff Jay Dulas reports the National Weather Service visited Waseca County Tuesday of last week and, after viewing damage which occurred along a trail beginning southwest of Janesville then continued eastward into Otisco township, determined the county had experienced two “EF 1” tornadoes. The classification indicates the storms reached top wind speeds of around 110 mph.

Dulas mentions that the county dispatch center received numerous

calls the evening of August 5 about 7 p.m. reporting homes without power, downed power lines, fallen trees and damaged property. A considerable number of trees were damaged in Courthouse Park.

On the Steve Harguth farm south of Waseca, Ashley Harguth and her daughter Emily took shelter in the basement, where they could hear many loud noises and were suddenly in the dark when the power went out. Emily admits it was a “scary” ex-



Emily and Ryan Harguth next to a gigantic maple tree which was stripped of its branches during the August 5 tornadoes.
Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Tornadoes continued on 5

Generation Gap at the Janesville Veterans Memorial Park from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, August 22

The band Generation Gap will be performing at the Janesville Veterans Memorial Park on Thursday August 22 from 5:30-8pm. Classics from both young and old will be played by this duo who is also young and old.

Ben Scruggs at Club 57 in Waseca from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, August 22

Ben Scruggs will be performing at Club 57 in Waseca on Thursday August 22 from 6-9 p.m. He is a singer/songwriter of folk, blues and Americana music. He is a resident of Mankato.

Waldorf Antique Car and Truck Show Friday, August 23, followed by the Waldorf Fire and Rescue's Annual Sweet Corn, Burger Feed and Dance

The Waldorf Antique Car and Truck Show will be on Friday August 23 from 4-7:30 p.m. Pre-Register your vehicle to be a part of the drawing to win a nice prize. The annual Corn and Burger feed will be from 5:30-8 p.m. The dance will be from 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

Doggy Play Date and Picnic, Waseca Dog Park, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, August 24

A doggy play date and picnic will be held at the Waseca Dog Park on Saturday August 24 from 10am-2pm. This will include a tail wagging talent show. A dog costume contest, a dog race and a visit from Sparky the Waseca Firemen Dog. Also visiting will be four-time Iditarod dog sled musher Linda Jay. Picnic food provided by Barney's Drive-In.

Briefs continued on 3

A word from The Word

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
Matthew 11:28-30

One and one half centuries

History wall summarizes, celebrates bank's history, roots

Keen offers live music, giveaways, food on August 22

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

The live music, food and giveaways at Waseca's Keen Bank location on North State Street are celebrating 150 years of lively history that ties in closely with the community.

“We’ve grown and changed together,” observes president and CEO Bernie Gaytko. He observes that the bank’s 2022 rebrand from its century-old name of “First National Bank of Waseca” was the institution’s way of emphasizing that unique interdependence. “There is—or at least was—a ‘First National’ or a ‘First State’ bank in most communities,” he observes. “People could easily come to believe they were all part of some gigantic corporation.”

“But we are a family owned community bank, so we chose a name that would represent that.”

Local ownership, Gaytko explains, means “decisions are made locally with the community in mind.”

One example, he says, is that Keen Bank has given more than \$1.7 million to support local programs and initiatives over the past 20 years. “If we were not locally owned, those decisions would have been made on a corporate level, and that money would likely have gone somewhere else.”

Keen Bank’s marketing director, Briana Worke, says the anniversary being celebrated this week has been planned for some time. During the planning, it was decided that not only should the anniversary be marked, but some record should be made of the many elements of history those years have included, some of which are quite surprising.

Founded as The Bank of Waseca in 1874, the bank had numerous investors including well-known local historian James Child. The bank was housed for a good portion of its history across



Current Keen Bank President and CEO Bernie Gaytko and Board Chair Emeritus Richard Sankovitz near the first section of the history wall being unveiled during this week's anniversary.
Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

State Street from its current location.

As it weathered the depression, the Federal Reserve printed specially labeled money. The idea, Board Chair Emeritus Richard Sankovitz explains,

Keen continued on 4

“We’ve grown and changed together.”
— Bernie Gaytko

Crumb's artwork on display at Waseca Art Center

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Dick Crumb of Cottonwood Farm Photography had a showing of his photos on August 15 in the Harguth Gallery of the Waseca Art Center, alongside Abigail Blythe who was in the Beckman Gallery with her paintings. Blythe began her artistic journey with a camera, but switched mediums to paint when she was without a darkroom.

As people began filtering into the cozy atmosphere and soft lights of the Waseca Art Center, Crumb, who has been confined to a wheelchair for the past 50 years, was happy to chat. When asked whether he plans his photographs before he takes them or all of them are random events, he

thought for a moment before answering, “A little of both.” He pointed to a nearby photo featuring yellow-leaved birch trees along both sides of a leaf covered road. “That’s my picture ‘Road not Taken.’ I planned that one out and named it after the Robert Frost poem titled, “The Road not Taken.” Crumb received his degree from UM Waseca.

Having grown up in New Richland, Crumb is partial to photos of nature. On his website, he says he focuses on “Landscape, rural, farm, wildlife, creation, nature and outdoors.” Indicating a photo printed on raised metal, he said, “I never knew

Crumb continued on 4



(From left) Artist Abigail Blythe, chief administrator Mikhail Rostislavovich, photographer Dick Crumb and Art Center Director of Education Christy Easton at the new exhibit opening at the Waseca Art Center on August 15.
Photo by Ben Revermann

Area city mayor and council filings close

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

Area filings for election to city and county elected positions closed last week.

Many candidates are running. Notably, Waseca County Commissioner Douglas Christopherson has a challenger for his seat, John Donahue. Christopherson was first elected in 2016. He represents New Richland, Waldorf and the surrounding townships: Alton, Freedom, Vivian, Byron, New Richland and Otisco.

In city elections, Waseca Mayor Randy Zimmerman faces challenger Milton Madson. Waseca Council members Stacey Schroeder and Mark Christiansen’s both face challengers.

Waseca Council member John Mansfield has chosen not to run for re-election.

Here are who have filed for various city council/mayor and county commissioner positions across southern Minnesota per the Minnesota Secretary of State’s website.

- Waseca County**
Commissioner District 1 -
New Richland area
Douglas Christopherson
John Donahue
Commissioner District 2
Brian Harguth
Soil and Water Supervisors
Both running unopposed
Wayne Cords, Dan Roemhildt
- Waseca**
Mayor
Milton Madson
Randy Zimmerman (i)
Council Ward 1
Adam Jensen
Stacey Schroeder (i)
Council Ward 2
Gary M. Conrath
Marty Johnson
Nicholas Allen Meister
Council Ward 3
Mark A. Christiansen (i)
Theresa Riecke
Chad Schlueter
Koby Wright
- Janesville**
Mayor
Andrew Arnoldt
Council member
Sarah E. Johnson
Kyle Luitjens
Council member
Andy Ahlman
- New Richland**
Mayor
Janda Ferguson
City Council - 2
Matthew Economy
Ryan Alan Gehrke
Sam Genelin
Brandy Jacobson
Robert Swenson
Melissa Thompson
Joshua Gene Warke

Filings continued on 4



Compostings

by Al Batt

They both thought I was a loveable doofus

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

I can see into the future. When did you start being able to do that?

Next Wednesday.
DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I was upside down and walking backward. Situation normal. I got an email from a friend in Arizona. He's a heat seeker who didn't want to live in a land like ice cream, preferring a place where winter is a novelty. He recounted a flight from hell where a passenger, claiming her rights were being trampled upon, misbehaved and demanded more drinks despite being obnoxiously intoxicated. One of the most common dreams people have is about flying. I don't dream about flying because the last time I did, the dream lost my luggage. Money can't buy happiness unless you're flying first class. I often sit frugally in the airplane's wayback that rides like the rear of an old station wagon.

My wife and my mother shared a belief about me. They both thought I was a lovable doofus. Mother believed in paying bills the same day she received them. A bill showed up one morning, and the check was in the mailbox before the mailman arrived. My wife and I believe in prompt payments of bills. Even when first married, we were fortunate enough to pay all our bills on time. A Lutheran Brotherhood insurance agent thought we were ideal candidates for financial planning, which included the purchase of an ample amount of life insurance. He was as difficult to get rid of as are those few extra pounds that most of us carry. Financial planning? To us, that was hoping someone forgot to send us a bill on schedule.

I'VE LEARNED

An hour of sleep before midnight is worth two after. My father said that often. It's likely untrue, but the time spent in restorative deep sleep predominates in the first sleep cycles. Dad also told me that nothing good happens after midnight. He wasn't always right.

It's difficult to become lost if you don't know where you're going.

When someone tells me they can sleep through anything, I hope that never includes a fire or a tornado.

The state record hailstone is 6.0 inches in diameter, occurring near Elgin in 1955 and near Reading in 1986.

Sometimes, all we have are

questions.

I see pennies on the ground near gas pumps. That's because people are afraid of change.

After many visits to the State Fair, I've learned that it's possible for me to get into one line just to have the chance to stand in another, longer line.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

If they'd stop making margarine, this would be a butter world.

Veterinarians refuse to work on grizzlies unless the animals have been anesthetized because there is safety in numb bears.

The couple in the car ahead of me appeared to be smooching. They were weaving all over the road. I wished they'd get a loom.

If you want to know what to do after falling, check with Tripadvisor.

NATURE NOTES

Bird songs have quieted, but insects call loudly to be heard. It's usually the male that calls and the intensity increases at dusk and continues through the night. They aren't using their voices, they use stridulation, the act of producing sound by rubbing two body parts together. The most well-known insects that stridulate are crickets. The snowy tree cricket, which is pale in color, inhabits woodland edges, bushes, small trees and vines. Often called the "temperature cricket" because it's possible to tell the temperature by adding 40 to the number of chirps heard in 13 seconds. Nathaniel Hawthorne described its song as an "audible stillness" and declared, "If moonlight could be heard, it would sound just like that." Producers of movies and TV shows frequently dub their songs onto soundtracks to signal that the action is taking place on a quiet summer night in a rural or suburban setting.

The field cricket is a common household insect. This accidental invader is a large, shiny black cricket. It produces its chirping by rubbing its wings together to create the quintessential cricket song.

Katyids, resembling muscular green grasshoppers, call ch-ch...ch-ch-ch...ch-ch-ch. This is likened to the words ka-ty-did or ka-ty-didn't.

A gray treefrog hunted on my office window on a warm night. The light attracted insects, and that attracted the green predator (they come in various colors). I've been hearing their calls—territorial, I suspect.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"The Supreme Ethical Rule: Act so as to elicit the best in others and thereby in thyself."—Felix Adler. Be kind.

Beehives and a Model T

The last few days have been a string of adventures, from talking with George Klug about WQ3D, interviewing local archeologist Kaitlyn Hoehn, and learning that there can be fascinating elements of history even for a bank.

I feel as if I've been either interviewing someone or writing a story about it for the last five days solid.

Perhaps you can tell I'm not sure what to highlight here in my column, but I've now decided to provide more information about the human-scale queen bee Terry McDaniel, who was part of the program at World Honeybee Day at Hofmann Apiary this Saturday. Terry was quite a surprise to me—here I come walking onto the property of a historic site and in front of me towers a woman with a beehive for hair, a long, flowing dress decorated with honeycomb patterns, and even glasses with a honeycomb design. Oh, and she was standing on stilts, so



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

she was probably about 9 feet tall.

It was literally something to stop me in my tracks.

Once the surprise had worn off, I remained fascinated. Terry is clearly very knowledgeable about bees; she was "waxing" rhapsodic about the many ways hives function together to keep their operation going. She talked about the queen bee, and referred to all of us below her as workers and drones. I'm pretty sure I had a smile on my face the whole time, it was so enjoyable to witness her enthusiasm and knowledge about her topic.

I also enjoyed learning about a Model T car owned by New Richland area resident Dave Russell. Dave's a quiet fellow, but I guess his enthusiasm about his fascinating vehicle allowed him to endure me and my many questions. There were some things about the car that I understood correctly in advance, but a great many more that I did not. Dave described appreciating the simplicity of the vehicle; I found myself acquiring the same appreciation. Just seeing it in his driveway as I arrived made me smile—it spoke so clearly of another time and another way of ex-

periencing the world.

And since I'm going on about historic things, I was also drawn in by the sincerity and integrity of Kaitlyn Hoehn, an area resident with a degree in-of all things—archeology. Kaitlyn says her interest in history draws her to visit local cemeteries and even look for ways to help improve them. But I would say she is simply a "humanitarian"—she is willing to connect with the experiences of people who have occupied this planet ahead of us. Whether their stories are heartwarming or heart-breaking, she enjoys thinking about them and what their lives must have been like.

Yep, the past few days have kept me very busy. Yet again, I feel privileged to be a vehicle which brings these fascinating people and events to you on the pages of the Pioneer.

You see, I got the itch...

Well, I did it. I chopped off all my hair. Not actually, but a large portion of it is no longer attached to my head. Nine inches to be exact.

You see, I got the itch. Sometimes things are just too routine, things feel too much the same and while I don't want a drastic, drastic change of my schedule or what I do, I need something to change in my life. Have you ever had that feeling? Usually my answer is to cut my hair or dream of finally getting a tattoo.

I still live my life tattoo-less, mostly because I am scared of the permanence they bring. There's nothing I have found yet that I have decided I want on my body forever. But I love the looks of them and I think they are really cool, so maybe someday I will get over the fear and just go for it. Maybe when I get the itch again. But for now, the haircut is enough for me. A nice fresh change that a haircut can bring, it just lightens the day and probably the week if the hairstylist did a great job. And mine did.

But sometimes just trying something new can satisfy the itch as well. Like today, I got invited to play with



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

the Waseca pickleball group that plays Monday and Wednesday nights (but pretty much every night). It was extremely fun to play with these people on the new and beautiful courts in Waseca, but I'll be honest - I was humbled. Thank you to all those I played with for being so kind to me and welcoming this stranger into your group and letting me play (occasionally poorly) with you.

What was really interesting was that many of the pickleball nets, possibly all, had been vandalized a couple of days prior. The nets were slashed and cut, leaving large holes and sagging nets. The courts were closed due to the damage, and many people expressed anger and sadness, as the new courts have only been

available for three weeks now. Thankfully someone had taken the time and effort and gone and zip-tied all the nets back together so they were at least playable. But it is just interesting to think that someone would be so angry or want to cause destruction like that on the nets. What did they get out of it? Why did they do it? I guess we'll never know. I'll just continue to get some losses handed to me whenever I go to play, but I'm ok with that. Pickleball is the type of sport that I can play all day because it is so fun and rewarding. Of course everyone knows that, considering the pickleball craze going around, but it is a valid craze. Pickleball is fun and worth it; I recommend it to everyone. Plus the

community is great. Live, laugh, love pickleball.

Anyway, I turn 21 this week. Feels like it took long enough, but I finally got here. And I'm not just saying that because I finally get to drink - this isn't all about that.

It just feels like everyone hypes up turning 18 because you're an actual adult and you can go and do whatever. Wrong. That doesn't happen until you turn 21, because that's when you actually become a true adult. Book a hotel, be allowed in at bars (even if you're not drinking!), adopt a child. The world is now my oyster in ways it was not before.

(Mom and Dad, I promise I'm not adopting a child, I just said that to make a point that there are a lot of things you can't do before you turn 18 and become "an adult" that you can do at 21.)

My Determination: "I feel like my life is just a series of unrelated wacky adventures." - Bojack Horseman, Bojack Horseman.

It costs nothing to be kind

Deb Bently wrote an entire column once about a single mistake she made in the newspaper.

It's my turn. But my mistakes are too numerous to list here.

One of my writers failed to show up for an event this week and there's nothing I can do about it. I've already disappointed the folks I made a promise to.

Another gut punch. I had a lengthy conversation with my friend Dave Zika a couple weeks ago. He mentioned Deb's column and it got us talking. Every error published in the newspaper falls back to me. If an error is pointed out by a reader, I don't pass the news of the mistake along to members of my staff unless it affects them. If they can't do something about the mistake and if there is little to learn from the mistake, why subject them to the pain?

This philosophy means I take shots to the chin every week.

The saving grace, however, is that for each of those punches and gut checks, there are many, many positive comments—"attaboys" and statements of thanks.

This week, there was a handwritten letter from Grandma Sharon Eckart.

There are often notes on subscription renewals in which folks tell me how much they value the paper.

A phone call came from a gentleman in Faribault. He asked me to start a newspaper in that town because he enjoys ours so much. He even offered to help pay for it. Unfortunately I had to tell him my most strained resource right now is time, and so I could not comply with his request.

Members of the city council and frankly, a lot of my staff are not notified or thanked when they do a good job. They don't get hundreds or thousands of "attaboys" throughout



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

the year. I have to speculate that, without all of the positive reinforcement I get, I would not continue in my current profession.

I can keep going because I am repeatedly reminded the work I do has value and meaning for the many people who read it.

I believe it's easy for me to visualize what my life would be like without that positive reinforcement: All I have to do is pretend the complaints I hear are not balanced by statements of gratitude, and instead just keep on coming.

And all of these people, including myself, have personal lives, outside of our jobs/careers with additional stresses.

I've found myself saying, numerous times this week. "It costs me nothing to be kind."

I was at Walmart this week buying some groceries.

The checkout lady was quick, and kind, but as I walked away I noticed she had rung me up for one too many of an item.

I decided it wasn't important enough for me to go back and complain, and then I thought "I bet the receipt lady stops me."

She did.

She was kind.

As she looked at my receipt I said, "It's ironic, we both checked the receipt and what you will find is I'm missing an item."

She looked mortified.

I then felt bad and immediately smiled and said.

"I'm not mad. I want you to have a wonderful day. You did nothing

wrong and I don't want you to do anything."

This woman, Sue, immediately says, "There need to be more people like you in the world."

She offered to help me get my \$5 back and I assured her it was okay. We had a nice conversation and I said again, "It costs me nothing to be kind."

It's a really interesting job being a newspaper publisher.

I simply rotate from task to task, doing whatever needs to be done. Each week I have my own responsibilities, mainly, putting the pages together, running meetings, ensuring deadlines are met, etc. etc.

In addition, as we hire new people and I assign new responsibilities to folks (that is, as I delegate), my attention shifts from areas of strength to areas of weakness. My attention goes wherever there is a hole that needs patching and it stays there until either the problem is solved or a larger problem distracts me.

At the Star Eagle, I've been focusing attention on Ellendale and Geneva, because the "Eagle" side of our readership deserves more attention than we've been able to devote to them. Doing so has been a goal ever since the Pioneer opened. I want the news in the Star Eagle to pertain entirely to New Richland, Hartland, Ellendale, and Geneva, as well as Clarks Grove, Waldorf, Freeborn and Hope.

At the Pioneer and Star Eagle, Ben Revermann has essentially acted as our utility infielder, covering stories

all over Waseca, Steele and Freeborn Counties these past few weeks. It has been an incredible relief to have someone I can count on to help in these respects at a moment's notice. I am one person, and those are three counties and more than a half dozen towns.

This past week we've been putting together an Activities Poster and Calendars for the NRHEG school. We did a complete makeover with the art, graphics, and style, all thanks to Mr. Jon Lucca. He is a true all-star.

School is right around the corner, or already here for college students. I have numerous friends whose profession is in education. If I were not a publisher, I imagine I would have likely pursued teaching and/or coaching. An honorable and incredibly valuable profession.

A great many more people have subscribed to the paper since our subscription special went out. I would like to remind folks that the special is available even for folks whose subscriptions are not currently due. For example, if a reader already subscribed for 2024-25, they are eligible to use the coupon for their 2025-26 subscription, so as not to miss out on the savings.

The new publication day of the Pioneer has supercharged my schedule in a way that has me running around every week. It seems pretty well set in stone that I am in the Waseca office every Thursday from early until late at night. Folks seem to have figured it out and I enjoy it when they stop to see me or talk about something they'd like to see in the paper.

A few weeks ago it was Mr. Zika. This past week, it was Tink Larson. Thank you, fine folks, for taking time out of your day to stop and visit. It really does brighten my day.

"Who indeed can harm you if you are committed deeply to doing what is right?" — I Peter 3:13



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

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GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

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Contributing writers/photographers: Dave Zika, Al Batt, Pastor Ken Andrs

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Vatos Locos at Indian Island Winery from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, August 24

Vatos Locos will be performing in Janesville at the Indian Island Winery on Saturday August 24 from 5:30-8:30pm. As a trio they focus on playing rock, classic rock and country.

Polka Service and meal at St. Paul Lutheran Church beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday, September 7

A polka service and meal will be available at the St. Paul Lutheran Church beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 7. Everyone is welcome. Music provided by Chuck Thiel & The Jolly Ramblers.

Flood relief lunch and silent auction at St. John Lutheran 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. September 15

A free will lunch and silent auction fundraiser will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 401 Third Ave NE, Waseca, on Sunday, Sept. 15. The meal will include hot beef sandwiches, salads and chips. Money raised will benefit three Waterville families who are members at the church and whose homes were damaged by flooding.

Waseca Area Foundation Anniversary 7 to 9 p.m. September 19 at Northeast Park Pavilion

The Waseca Area Foundation will be celebrating its thirty-fifth anniversary from 7 to 9 p.m. the evening of Thursday, September 19 at Waseca's Northeast Park. Food trucks and live music will be featured. More information is available from the Waseca Area Foundation at 507-835-5990.

Woodville Cemetery Tour Sunday, October 6

Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service is planning a walking tour of Woodville Cemetery for the afternoon of Sunday, October 6. The organization invites interested individuals to keep an eye on the company Facebook page for more information and "sneak peeks."

Pub & Grub Comedy Tour at Starfire Event Center 7 p.m. on October 12

Andrew Wegleitner will be performing his comedy show beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, October 12, at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca. Also performing will be Dave Kousgaard. Ticket info is available at www.BarComicTix.com

Waseca Farmers Market Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon

Every Saturday untill the fall season the Waseca County Fair Grounds will be hosting a farmers market from 8 a.m. until noon.

CredibleMind offers free mental health resources

All area residents are eligible to use free online access to mental health resources available at MNPrairie's "CredibleMind" website.

The site offers interactive, evidence-based ways to explore local and national mental well-being resources. Free and anonymous at www.mnprairie.crediblemind.com

Waldorf Veterans Memorial Fund Drive

Donations are requested to support the construction of the Waldorf Veterans Memorial. Checks written to WVMP Fund Drive can be mailed to WVMP Fund Drive; Judy Joecks, treasurer; P.O. Box 55; Waldorf, MN 56091. Questions can be directed to Charlie Barnes at (763) 286-2246.

Majesky takes Longenecker's place on council

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Members of the Waldorf City Council voted during their regular August 12 meeting to install city resident Jim Majesky as its newest member. Majesky replaces former councilman, Jay Longenecker, who is no longer eligible to serve in the position because he is now a resident of Janesville.

Two in-town lots were sold for a dollar each under the condition houses will be built there within the next two years.

Ron Fischer, in charge of maintenance for Waldorf, said the dugout once located at the intersection of North Street and Third Avenue is no longer there. Mike Weyhrauch was hired to remove and dispose of the old dugout because it had caved in and was no longer safe for use. The pedestrian walkway in front of the

community center will be repainted by the end of this week.

The water and sewer department reported that, as of July 31, four customers had either not paid or only partially paid their bills. A total of about \$1,300 remains uncollected and one building has had services suspended.

The St. Paul engineering firm of Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH), requested that its contractually set "not-to-exceed" amount for services rendered in 2024 be increased from the original \$5,000 to \$10,000. The council approved the change.

The Waldorf Fire Department (WFD) was granted permission to transfer \$50,000 from its savings account to a Certificate of Deposit. The transfer leaves more than \$54,400 in WFD account.

Mayor Rob Wilkening applied for a \$10,000 grant from the Southern

WALDORF CITY COUNCIL

Minnesota Initiative Foundation to go towards the renovations for the new field for the Waldorf Wood Ducks. A fundraiser has been scheduled at Papa Olie's Bar and Grill; raffle tickets are available.

The problem with the alleyway behind Fourth Ave will be tabled until next spring. Right now, the alleyway is grass and dirt. When it rains, the alley becomes impassable, especially for larger trucks such as propane deliveries or garbage removal. When the budget is reassessed, this issue will be approached again by the council.

The League of Minnesota Cities has grants and funds from tourists bringing money into the area, that money is being matched by the DNR

to go towards park renovations for Waldorf.

The next Waldorf City Council workshop will take place at 6:30 p.m. on August 26.

Charlie Barne's property Parcel D was split so part of it could be placed under the conservancy of the city. Council members expressed a wish that the city have more Christmas lights on display this year than in 2023; a decision was made to increase the numbers. It was mentioned QR codes have been added to the city website to provide a shortcut for residents paying their water bills. Ron's will asses the exhaust fan in the Fire Department area. A few Waldorf signs will be upgraded, including those for handicap parking, the post office, and the library. The street in front of First Lutheran Church of Waldorf will receive seal coating in the near future.



Joel Born left, is standing with volunteers from both Waseca and Steele counties Relay for Life cancer research and charity.

Relay for life event set for Sept. 21

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Joel Born, 61, works about 70 hours each week for a private construction contractor. Raised in Waseca, Born spent a short time living in Ellendale before becoming a full-time resident of Owatonna for the past 45 years.

Beth Ohnstad, sister to Born, was diagnosed with Ovarian Cancer that eventually spread to her liver. The day she was diagnosed and the day of her death in 2000 were only seven weeks apart. She left behind two children under 16.

The diagnosis and loss left Born with many questions about cancer: the where, why, who and how, but especially the why. Faced with the reality of his sisters' situation and its aftermath, a broken-hearted Born went looking for a place where he could make a difference, and chose the American Cancer Society's (ACS) Relay for Life.

The work continues 24 years later.

The ACS is sponsoring an event at the Steele County Fairgrounds Beer Garden beginning at 5 p.m. on September 21. On the schedule for the evening are entertainment, food, cancer survivor speakers, dancers and a silent auction. Meals will be provided; a raffle will offer a generous cash prize. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Also on September 21 will be the tenth Annual Daiken Dash which brings in around \$10,000 for the cause.

Born says his decision to support the ACS was made after some investigation into the ways different charity organizations distribute donations. Not wanting to see his charity funds go into the pockets of CEOs and executives, Born says he only gives his time or donations to two charities, both of which he's vetted personally: American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and the Special Olympics. Born mentioned he also helps with fundraising programs "involved with recovery, specifically drugs and alcohol."

With help from Born and two other chairpersons, Mary Betker and Joel Host, the Steele County Relay for Life works with the Waseca County organization to raise between \$70,000 and \$100,000 each year. Having been through personal tragedy himself, Born feels a connection with people who are going through turmoil and need help. He says he recognizes "that look of desperation when people reach out." He's been there and is giving his own time to prove it.

The American Cancer Society has two Minnesota facilities in Rochester and St. Paul called Hope Lodge. Hope Lodge provides housing during active cancer treatments. All free of charge, this program is funded through free will donations.

For those who wish to contribute to a Relay for Life program, individuals can either donate or to become a member you must sign up. You can choose to lead a team or join an existing team in your community, or you can participate solo.

Your second step is to get friends and family to join, more people mean more power to fight cancer.

Third you would send emails and texts, set up a Facebook fundraiser. There are lots of ways to make money for Relay, their website has resources and suggestions.

Lastly you celebrate a get together, virtually or in person at a Relay event. Where survivors can speak and enjoy life and find other like-minded individuals.

Anyone wishing to donate money or their time can do so by going to www.relayforlife.org or visit the American Cancer Society's www.cancer.org. Since 1946, The American Cancer Society has invested more than \$5 billion in research, recognizing and providing the funding for innovative researchers, some of whom went on to win the Nobel Prize for their groundbreaking work.



Tom Sexton

Sexton wins 19B primary

In a statement last week Tom Sexton thanked the voters of House District 19B after receiving his Primary Election Results showing him with a 66.5% vote count over his opponent Michael Ditlevson with 33.5%.

His statement follows:

"Yesterday we participated in a very important step in our democratic process in the Primary election. This was just our first step in the race to earn the privilege of representing the voters of HD19B in St. Paul.

Now we are on to the General Election in November.

There is much more work to be done, and many more people to meet. I want to commend Mr. Ditlevson on his race, he ran a good race, made our campaign stronger, and made us work even harder for the support of the voters.

I also want to thank my partner and

wife Jeanne of 38 years for her unwavering support of my candidacy.

My core campaign team Mikhail Rostislavovich Campaign Director, Mary Jo Knudson my Scheduler, Jay Steffens my Treasure, and Justine Meyer Design and Mail Coordinator along with Representative John Petersburg and his wife Deb for all their guidance,

My key volunteers Rich and Betty Quiring, Jim Foley and many others who did much of the heavy lifting over these past few months to bring our campaign to this point.

But most importantly the voters of HD19B. Who I sincerely enjoyed visiting with as I knocked on your doors, visited with in store parking lots, or after church services. Each of you is the reason I am energized and wanting to serve you in St. Paul, Thank you."

Filings for school board close

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

Area filings for election to city and school elected positions closed last week. Here are who has filed for various school board openings across southern Minnesota per the Minnesota Secretary of State's website. Candidate questionnaires will be sent to the candidates who have filed for the Waseca, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton, and New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva School boards.

Area Filings for School board

Waseca School board - 3

Scott Deml
Anne Harguth
Grant Scheffert

Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton - 3

Monica Erickson
Dave Olson
Laura Seys

Waterville-Elysian-Morris-town - 3

June A. Rezac
Jay Schneide
David Schuster
Jeffrey M. Stangler

NRHEG - 3

Kelly Delacruz
Terri Engel
Loren Schoenrock

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

School phone policy finalized

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

The main issue covered during the Waseca school board's regular meeting on August 15 was a proposed cell phone policy. Minnesota law dictates that all school districts are required to have a cell phone policy in place at the school board level by March of 2025. "Makes sense to do something at the start of the school year," Superintendent Eric Hudspith said.

The statute does not dictate the wording of a district-wide policy, but the administration, staff, and policy committee developed one for each age group; no phones 'bell to bell' in grades K-6, and no phones in class at the 7-12 building. "The only difference in practice is going to be emphasis on consequences, as it is now a school board policy," Hudspith said. "We know there are mechanisms in place to call the office if you need to get hold of your student. We have staff in the office that will get that message to the student. If you need to text your student, do that. At the next break, your student will text you back. Not during class. That's what we are proposing." The board will vote on the proposed policy at the next regular board meeting in September.

Other items on the agenda included approving transportation contracts with Lenz and Palmer bus companies through 2028, approving 2024-2025 food service pricing, and approving the 2024-2025 Superintendent goals. The next work session is September 5; the next regular business meeting is September 19.

OBITUARIES

Ardella Draheim

ARDELLA ROYONA (HECHT) DRAHEIM, age 98, of Owatonna, formerly of Waseca, died Monday, August 12, 2024, at Traditions of Owatonna.

Ardella was born on October 16, 1925, in Faribault. She was the daughter of Roy and Esther (Kanne) Hecht. Ardella attended country school in rural Waseca. She moved in with relatives living in Granite Falls, to attend high school, 9th – 12th grade. Following high school, she attended Mankato State Teachers College, where she earned her teaching certificate. She worked as a teacher at the White Earth Indian Reservation, and in Mantorville and Excelsior. On July 8, 1950, she married Archie Draheim. Together, they raised their four children and farmed in rural Waseca. Ardella continued her education at Mankato State College where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She taught 5th grade in Waseca until her retirement in 1976. During retirement she enjoyed working with friends at a part-time job at Viking Woodcrafts. She was an active member of Faith United Methodist Church. She enjoyed playing cards and board games, sewing, making cinnamon rolls, growing strawberries, fishing, reading, traveling and square dancing.

She is survived by her children, Larry (Jan “Steffan”) Draheim, Paul (Cindy Higgins) Draheim, Daryl (Debbie “Nelson”) Draheim



Ardella Draheim

and Gail Myers; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband and all five of her siblings.

Funeral Service will be held Saturday, August 24, 2024, at 11:00 AM at Faith United Methodist Church in Waseca. Visitation will be held for two hours prior to the service at the church. Private interment will be held at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca. In Lieu of Flowers, please make donations to the Waseca Area Senior Citizens Center in Ardella’s memory. dsoufuneral.com

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Waseca, MN 56093
Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt
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Waseca ~ Waterville ~ Janesville

Veronica McGannon

VERONICA MCGANNON, age 92, of Waseca, died peacefully on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at Oaklawn Rehabilitation Center in Mankato.

Veronica Marie McGannon was born on February 8, 1932, in Adrian, Minnesota, to Peter and Anne (Reiners) Kramer. Veronica attended St. Adrian Catholic School, graduating with the class of 1950. She continued her education at Mankato Commercial College where she studied to be a secretary. She worked for eight years following her education at North Star Concrete in Mankato as a secretary. Veronica was united in marriage to Joseph Raphael McGannon on May 12, 1962, at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in North Mankato. Together they began a family while living on the McGannon Family Farm. Together Veronica and Joe shared 56 years of marriage before Joe passed away on June 10, 2018.

Veronica was a wonderful homemaker and farmwife, always willing to help out wherever she was needed. Later in life she worked at LakeShore Inn Nursing Home in Waseca as well as volunteering at the Waseca Memorial Hospital, as well as delivering meals on wheels. She enjoyed playing cards, especially pfeffer, cooking, knitting, sewing and staying in contact with her family and friends on the computer. She was a devote Catholic and member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Waldorf and Catholic Daughters. Her faith was very important to her, as she never missed Sunday Mass, and she would say the rosary daily. Veronica is remembered as a strong, faithful, caring, and independent woman who cherished her family. Blessed be her memory.



Veronica McGannon

Veronica is survived by her children: Michael McGannon of Waseca, Peter (Angela) McGannon of Waseca, Daniel McGannon of Waldorf, and Mary Jo (Joe) Keltgen of St. Peter; grandchildren: Jack, Thomas, Matthew, and Jenna Keltgen, and Alexia, Jackson, and Jonathan McGannon; sister, Theresa Neigebauer of Owatonna; brother, Vernon Kramer of Adrian; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; one daughter in infancy; sister, Mary Ann (Francis) McGannon; brother, Herman Kramer; brother-in-law, Robert Neigebauer; sisters-in-law: Theresa (Joe) Wengronowitz; niece, Cathleen Agata.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 AM on Friday, August 23, 2024, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Waldorf. Interment will be in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery at St. Mary Township, Waseca County. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday.

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Filings

from Page 1

Special Election for Council member - 1

Jacob Naser
Christina Petsinger
Jody E. Wynnemer
Waldorf Mayor
Rob Wilkening
City Council

Jamie Beckstrand
Cody Schnepf
Kevin Lines
Elysian Mayor

Tom McBroom Sr. (i)
Pat Nusbaum
City Council - 2

Paul Hunter
Derek Westby
Woodville Township Supervisor
Bernard Frederick
Treasurer
Judy Hoffman

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Carter Quast (left) and his grandfather Rod Scheitel comprise the duo Generation Gap, which performed at Club 57 on August 15. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Grandfather, grandson duo

‘Generation Gap’ Scheitel, Quast perform at Club 57

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Musical entertainment calling itself “Generation Gap” played at Club 57 in Waseca the evening of Thursday, August 15.

There are two members of the band, grandfather Rod Scheitel, 74, and grandson Carter Quast, 26. Although not a member of the duo, Quast’s mother, Jessica, 50, takes credit for its name. “I’m the generation gap,” she explains.

Scheitel plays the keyboard; Quast plays the guitar and performs vocals. The two focus on music from the 60s and 70s: Beatles, James Taylor, Bob Dylan, The Birds, Bread and Jim Croce. Surprisingly, it is the younger of the two members of the band who picks the songs, despite Scheitel not

only having lived through the 70s, but having played in a band named “Azby” during the decade. Scheitel was raised in Wisconsin but moved to New Ulm when he was 16. There, he started working at a store called Brown’s Music.

Grandson Quast is a Janesville native who also plays in a second band with his brother; the two have picked up the name “Azby,” which Scheitel says he was happy to pass along.

Audrey Scheitel and Jessica Quast, wife and mother to the two performers, were present August 15. Audrey said she has been attending and recording every one of husband Rod’s performances for “a very long time.” She explained Rod likes to go back and review past performances.

She said she still even has some of them on cassette tape, “I need to get that transferred over now that I think of it,” she mentioned.

Rod has been in multiple bands including “Brown Mountain Boys,” “Fabulous Full Range Band,” and of course “Generation Gap.” Audrey said she spent almost five years working to keep up with bookings for the Fabulous Full Range Band. “They once played at Sibley Park in Mankato. There were people sitting on that famous sledding hill, but it was summer. People were lined up all the way to the top of the hill watching the Fabulous Full Range Band. Coolers of beer and blankets—it was a great show.”

Audrey added, “We own Scheitel’s Music in Mankato, so that helps to

keep him and me in the loop.” There were 11 shows in July between Quast’s two bands, there will be 12 in August, said Audrey, mentioning that the group must sometimes refuse bookings because of the full schedule. Audrey also takes lots of pictures and posts them online. She said she is surprised and proud when she sees her pictures posted on other people’s social media sites. “Even if I don’t know them, they’re turning out for my family and that means a lot to me.”

Anyone wanting to book Generation Gap can call 507-380-1775, or send an email to Carter.Quast@gmail.com. The duo will be performing in Waseca again at The Mill on New Year’s Eve.

Crumb

from Page 1

metal like that could bring out such colors of a photo.”

From windblown desert rocky landscapes to a recreation of a Robert Frost poem, Crumb’s addition to the Waseca Art Center’s Harguth Gallery added much.

In the Beckman Gallery was the

portraiture of Abigail Blythe. Blythe is a 2005 Minneapolis College of Art and Design graduate with a BFA in photography. She’s had shows at Bird Island Historical Society, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and in libraries in Waconia and Watertown. She’s also done group shows with the Arts Consortium of Carver County and presented at Eagan Arts Works.

Blythe has discovered that if an artist limits the number of colors on a palette to three and only uses those, “That limited palette, your paintings, your paintings become so much more

vibrant, just in every single way.” Blythe said her painting of an elephant was her first animal painting using the three colors, all done with blues or mixtures of blue. One painting of a smirking pig could have been Wilbur from “Charlotte’s Web.” As did the many different shades of yellow it took to capture her image of a bee, viewers of this painting were seen repeatedly coming back to it.

Both the photographer and artist took turns speaking before Christy Easton, the Director of Education and Programming, took questions. Guests

were unleashed on the Waseca Art Center’s Tea Room for chocolate tiers and sparkling cider. Others went back to take another glance or two at the photos and paintings. Anyone looking to see Dick Crumb’s photographic work or contact him his website is www.CottonwoodFarm-Photography.com.

Anyone looking for Abigail Blythe can find more information on her website, www.AbigailBlytheArt.com.

Keen

from Page 1

was to use the bank’s local presence to help build public confidence in the community banks.

Following in the footsteps of his father Frank T. Sankovitz, Richard Sankovitz, a 1952 graduate of Sacred Heart High School, led the bank from 1958 to 1997. Among the changes which occurred on his watch were moving the bank to its current location, installing one of the state’s first ATM machines, and acquiring full local ownership of the institu-

tion.

A fascinating historic element is that, when the bank made the final move from the former location to the newly completed one, law enforcement officers closed area streets and stood guard while local teenagers were hired to cart the money across the street.

“It stirred a lot of interest,” comments Gaytko. “People gathered nearby to watch as the money was moved.”

Photographs, news clippings and historic artifacts are now reproduced on a history wall which will be available for viewing beginning with this week’s celebration. The timeline introduces many of the people who

have been integral to the bank’s development while also marking many of its achievements.

“We’re honored to share our extended history,” says Gaytko, noting that the descendants of Frank T. Sankovitz now comprise the organization’s leadership. Frank began the role in the 1940s when, as a Federal Bank examiner, he noted some discrepancies in the bank’s records and was called in to help resolve the problem. The bank president at the time was released from his duties and

bank leaders asked Frank to step into the role.

Visitors to the timeline, which fills an entire wall in the bank’s lower level, will have a chance to visualize some of the history which is truly, as Gaytko phrases it, “interwoven” with that of the Waseca community. The celebration is Thursday, August 22 from 4 to 6 p.m. Scheduled to take place rain or shine, it will be in the parking lot near the bank’s drive-thru.



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Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika



Acorns, coaching seen from 'random abstract' perspective

Back in the day, all teachers in training were required to take a “human relations” course. The object was to understand the values of people from cultures other than our own so we could fathom their values and the reasons they do things the way they do.

One’s personality was a big focus of the different activities we were involved in under the direction of the professor of teaching.

One element of the class was a test to find out how we think and interact with others. My results classified me as “abstract random.” That indicates—try to restrain your surprise—that I am all over the place, creative, and very social. On the opposite end of the spectrum is the “concrete sequential” personality type. Those folks are organized, do things in order, and see things in black and white.

My wife Lisa, on the other hand, is a complete “concrete sequential”—I guess it’s true, opposites do attract. All of the writers of the Pioneer have some concrete sequential traits when they are writing their articles. They listen attentively to whoever they are interviewing, give them plenty of time to tell the story, and write a factual article with few unanswered questions.

When I’m out and about, I run into readers of the Pioneer who compliment me and say they enjoy reading my columns. Some say I may be a bit windy and, at times, all over the place. Maybe that’s my abstract random personality type coming out. I do have to give my column an A+ for matching its title—“Bits and Pieces.”

“Chicken Little” is a well-known fairy tale that shares the story of a panicky chicken who claims “the sky is falling” after an acorn hits him on the head. The sky isn’t falling at our cabin, but the acorns sure are.

Our cabin is surrounded by large, mature oak trees. It’s a banner year for their fruit, acorns. When the wind blows, the acorns fall and bombard our rooftop. The acorns are large and at times sound like an M-80 firecracker exploding on the roof. When it’s really windy, a number of them hit the roof at the same time; their sound resembles an entire package of Black Cats going off.

Acorns come in two parts, the acorn and a crunchy, hard cap. When using the deck, we leave the large-size umbrella up to shield us from the falling acorns.

Sometimes I really believe acorns can move and are alive. They seem to find and fill all the little spaces and cracks on our deck. The rubber mats set outside our entry doors have indentations in them; they are filled every day.

It’s summer and we enjoy going onto our back deck barefoot. Acorns and their caps are very unfriendly to unprotected feet. The

best tool I have at our cabin is the DeWalt brushless leaf blower. I’m blowing acorns away at least three times a day. It could be worse; we could have a walnut tree hanging over the cabin bombarding the rooftop.

The cost of a new vehicle has really risen, reaching a point a person might not be able to afford. As I’m driving, I enjoy looking at new vehicle styles, colors and shapes. I always wonder, did that new hybrid, pickup or SUV cost more than \$70,000? Consumer prices for vehicles now average \$48,000 while a good used one typically costs about \$25,000. People are now driving their vehicles for longer periods of time—seven years or more. Those numbers make it clear we should all schedule our vehicles for regular checkups and maintenance and prolong the life of our transportation.

The cost of owning pets has also risen. Visits to the vet, pet food, and of course the original cost of buying the pet can put a dent in your budget. More pet owners are even buying insurance. Hip surgery or leg surgery are examples. Some pet owners are even writing their animals into their will. As the years go by and owners grow older, what will happen to Gracie? A will may include the name of a caretaker and a trust fund set up for their best friend to help cover the expense of having a pet.

I am completely right-handed and would be in a load of trouble if I ever broke my right wrist. Twelve percent of all Americans are left-handed, so we right-handers are a huge majority.

Coaching tip from a guy who’s had a wealth of experience working with young boys and girls in the game of basketball: We all encourage young players to get to open gyms or shoot on the driveway. Most importantly, anyone who wants to be an above-average player must develop strong left-hand technique. Have learners dribble with their left hands and shoot a ton of left-handed layups. Practice, practice, practice will develop a player who is effective with either hand. For individuals who are naturally left-handed, they should develop strong right-handed technique.

Viking quarterback J.J. McCarthy, the 21-year-old high draft choice from Michigan, had a brilliant preseason game. The future replacement for Captain Kirk threw two beautiful, long touchdown passes. Unfortunately, he tore the miniscus in his right knee and has had a season-ending surgery for repair. Don’t worry, all of you Hoehns and other loyal Viking fans. J.J. will be back next year, a year older, faster and stronger. Here’s a prediction from this abstract random writer: Viking fans will have to bite the bullet this season. SKOL!



Pictured from left: Emma Huelsnitz, Lydia Huelsnitz, Ellie Morsching, Nevaeh Weimert, Sophie Coulsey, Ellah Oliver, Paige Walz, Claire Walz, and Presley James. Photo courtesy of Autumn Acres

JWP NHS completes project at Autumn Acres

JANESVILLE JOURNAL - As summer winds down and transitions into fall, many students are getting ready for their return to the school routine. Businesses like Autumn Acres still have a few projects to get done as they continue to stay busy. So, why not get a group of students together, like JWP’s National Honor Society, to complete a project?

Several members of the JWP organization crossed off one more project on Thursday, August 8, by staining a fence for the local business. It was not only a great opportunity to get in some volunteer work for the members but also a relief to Autumn Acres owners Chad and Cheryl Bleess. “I can’t express how thankful I am to them for being able to check this job off the list,” Cheryl Bleess said. “Shout-out to their great advisor, Teagan Knoblich. All we did was get them started. After that,

Chad and I were able to go work on other things the rest of the time without any concerns.”

It was another evening spent by the JWP NHS volunteering and more smiles on the faces of those they helped.

■ Tornadoes

from Page 1

perience, and says that when she and her mom came outside and saw the damage, she couldn’t help thinking the storm “could have killed me.”

Steve, who was in Waseca at the time, said that, yes, the damage on

his property was considerable, but “what really matters is that no one was hurt.” One large tree just missed the front of their family home. An exceptionally large maple tree in the front yard lost all its branches; one as large as a typical tree trunk was dropped directly onto a pickup truck. “It was pretty crushed,” he says. Not stopping there, the branch also damaged a section of the roof and wall of the nearby garage.

A neighbor of the Harguths lost “probably dozens of trees” on her property. She remembers being fascinated by the storm. Even though it was still daytime, “I couldn’t even see across the yard because the rain was so thick,” she said. “And it was going sideways.”

Winds that night removed an empty grain bin on the Mark Byron property in St. Mary’s township from its foundation and crumpled it.

According to the National Weather Service website, tornadoes are evaluated based on the damage they produce. The lowest EF rating is zero; highest wind speeds in that category are about 85 mph. The highest rating is eight; storms classified with this rating are estimated to reach speeds of about 200 mph.

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The Pastor's Column

Who invested in the game during the offseason?

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

What matters to you? What do you value? What do you invest your time and energy into? Where does your money go? What do you sacrifice for? Can you tell me why you do that?

I am not trying to be a jerk, but I want to know your motivations. I want to know why you invest in what you do. Now a few of you are asking, "Why does the pastor want to know what we value? Is that what he values?" In part, yes, I do like to learn and grow as an individual, but more than that, I want you to understand and grow.

In understanding our motivations, we understand a little bit more about our relationship to God and His people. How, you may ask, what we hold dear is what we invest in. If we hold our relationship to God as something valuable to us, we spend time reading His word, in prayer, in fellowship, and discussing His word with others. This is not a guilt trip, rather a gentle reminder to invest in what you value.

Paul wrote to Timothy specifically about this value, he wanted Timothy to be aware of the struggles of following Jesus. He wrote in 1 Timothy 4:6-10:

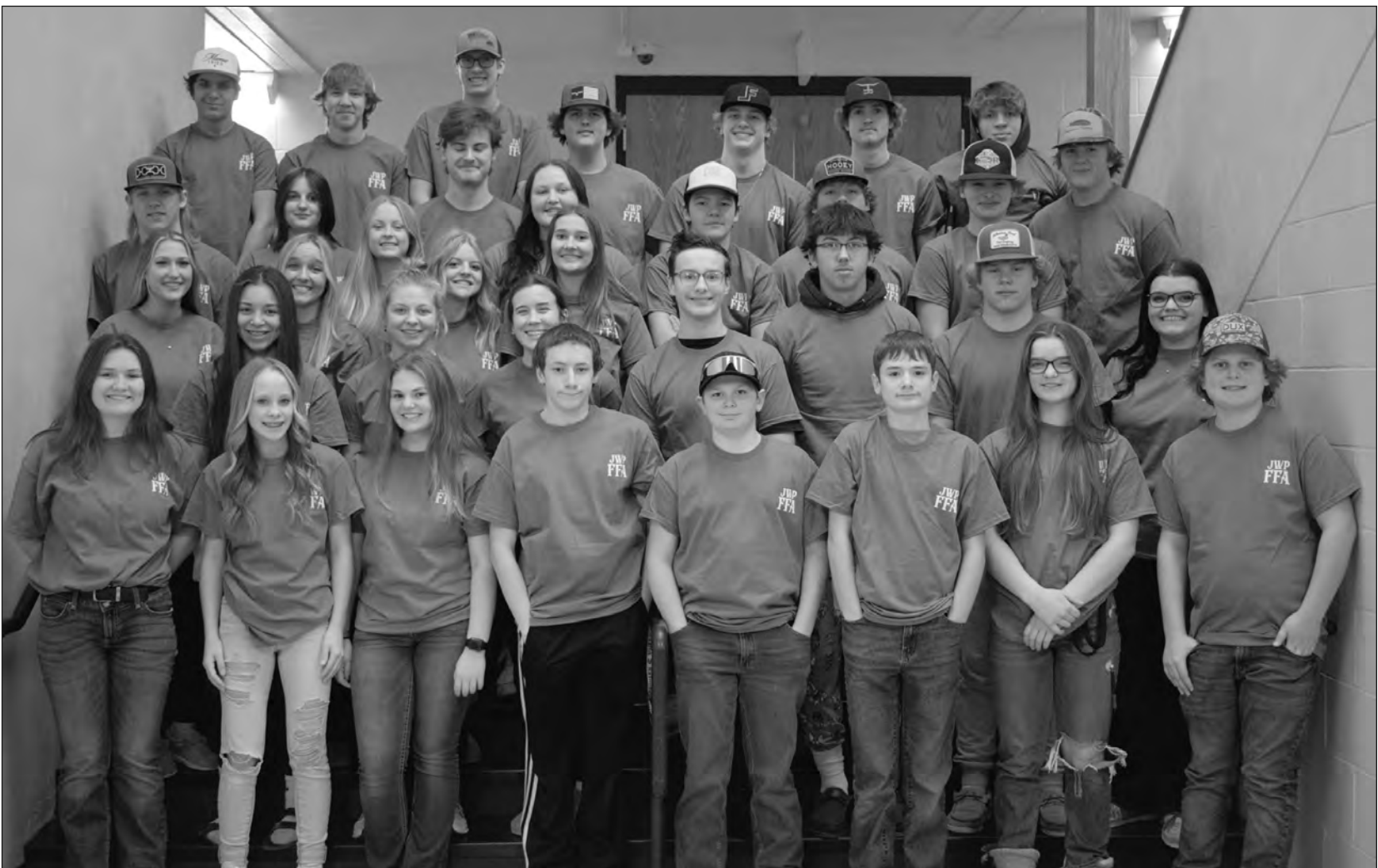
6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, nourished by the words of the faith and the good teaching that you have followed. 7 But have nothing to do with irreverent and silly myths. Rather, train yourself in godliness, 8 for

the training of the body has a limited benefit, but godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. 9 This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance. 10 In fact, we labor and strive for this, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of everyone, especially of those who believe.

Being out on the football field these past few weeks has shown me who has invested in the game during the off-season and who hasn't. We know that training of the body has limits, but is necessary for life, we work out to make the use of our body at any age. This workout has some value, but the most beneficial exercise to us is training in Godliness.

What we value, we invest in. We labor and strive for Godliness in every area of our lives, not because we are commanded to, but because we want to. We want to grow in faith, we want to hold onto the hope of eternal life in Jesus. As followers of Jesus we value our eternal life and the relationship we will have with God, we value God's work in our hearts and the lives of people around us.

I want to invest in the eternal kingdom of God in everything I say and do. I may not be perfect at it, but I am striving to be more like Jesus every day, because that is what I value.



Members of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Future Farmers of America program.

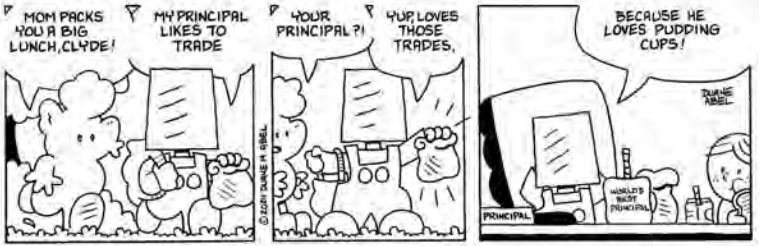


JWP FFA Chapter honored with Two Star rating

INDIANAPOLIS (August, 9th, 2024/National FFA Organization) – The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton FFA Chapter has been recognized in the 2024 National FFA Star Chapter Award Program recognizing outstanding FFA chapters from throughout the country that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. These chapters improve chapter operations using the National Quality FFA Chapter Standards and a program of activities that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership. All activities were conducted during 2023 for the National Chapter Award application.

The JWP FFA Chapter received this national recognition after receiving a gold rating and placing within the top 22 chapters in the state in April. Chapters that received star ratings during judging this summer will be recognized at the 97th National FFA Convention & Expo, Oct 23-26. All star-rated FFA chapters receive honors made possible by corporate sponsor John Deere and New Holland. "New Holland is proud to recognize and celebrate the exemplary FFA chapters that are part of the National Chapter Award Program," said Mark Lowery, Director of Network Development at New Holland. "They are successfully enriching their communities and preparing FFA members to be leaders of the future, which is important work that we are honored to support." The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 1,027,200 student members as part of 9,235 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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Janesville

1924
-Waste oil from the crank case of the automobile makes a good spray for the hen house. Two ounces of strong cruse carbolic acid to about a gallon or kerosene makes a better spray.

1949
-The 70th Annual Waseca County Fair has come and gone with ev-erything who visited the fair satisfied with the 4-H Club displays and performances and the Pageant with its very fine parade. While the weather man was most kind with clear skies, the heat he dished out was too much for many people and the finances of the fair suffered on that account.

-The Janesville Junior Legion baseball team defeated the St. Clair Juniors in a well-played game here Monday by a close count of 7-6. Janesville scored the winning marker in the bottom of the 7th inning when James Koehler doubled, went to third on a passed ball, and scored on Jerry Scheuneman's single. Joe Finley, who has been used at the catching and shortstop positions, hurled for Janesville, with Harry Schroeder doing the receiving. Loeffler, Ward, and B. Riese composed the battery for St. Clair.

1974
-The Janesville School Board voted Monday night to accept the rec-ommendation of the Citizens Committee that a bond issue for a music, wrestling and swimming pool addition be brought before the voters of School District 830. They set the date for the bond issue at Monday, October 21. Commenting on the citizens' proposal, Board Chairman Sib Joyce said he thought the board should go along with their rec-ommendation that the entire complex be voted on in one issue and not with the swimming pool as a separate issue.

1999
-Working for city government is exactly what Janesville's new city administrator wants to be doing. "I do believe our form of government is the best," said Dean Lotter, city administrator. "I'm proud to be part of it." Lotter came aboard as Janesville's new city administrator Mon-day, Aug. 2. He spent last week acquainting himself with the city's fa-cilities, reading through files and reviewing the city's infrastructure management plan. In addition, he spent time visiting businesses and talking with residents. "Janesville is a very welcoming community," he said. "There is a lot of potential for growth if that is indeed what Janes-ville wants."

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Waseca

100 Years Ago
- Golf is becoming more popular every day in Waseca and last Sunday the largest number of golfers that have played any one day this year appeared on the course. Paul Sage and Dan Hartwich equaled the record which has been held for some time by W. A. Zetterberg by turning in cards of 39 each. Dr. Scott turned in his lowest card of 40 and Frank Conway played his best up to date by turning in a card of 43. Jimmie Johnson, the golf professional really established the record on the Lakeside Links by making a score of 36. He did this several times. Since he is a professional his record did not hold as far as the club members are concerned.

- Fred R. Jessen of Austin is the new manager at the Waseca Co-operative store. He took charge last Thursday morning. It will be remembered that the former manager, F. A. Bade, died last June. E. A Maxham has been managing the store until a new manager was selected. Mr. Jessen has had considerable experience in the mercantile business and was connected with the J. C. Penney Company for many years. His son and daughter will graduate from the Austin High School next June so he will not move his family over here until that time.

- Making the largest number of Boy Scouts that have ever left Waseca for an encampment, forty-four scouts will leave tomorrow morning for Cedar Lake for a nine-day outing. They will gather at Trowbridge Park at eight o'clock tomorrow morning and will leave shortly after.

75 Years Ago
- Lorna McColley, a member of the Community Winners 4-H Club, has been selected as Waseca's representative to 4-H Conservation Camp at Itasca State Park which opens September 16. Lorna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant McColley in Otisco township. This trip is awarded each year to a boy or girl who has done the most outstanding work in promoting conservation in his own home and community. Lorna has participated in several phases but chiefly tree planting and bird study. Her keen interest in trees and birds probably began when an older brother who, when in club work developed a great interest in conservation activities and was awarded this same trip.

- Waseca County corn growers were warned today by Edward V. Doyle, chairman of the County Agricultural Conservation Committee to provide now for storage for this year's corn crop. "After discussing the situation with farmers from thirteen adjacent counties in the state, I am convinced that every corn grower will have to do his part if we are going to achieve orderly marketing and avert a big drop in market price," he said. Doyle with Art Zimmerman and Julius H. Boettger, who are also members of the county triple-A committee, attended a district meeting on the storage problem at Sleepy Eye last Thursday.

50 Years Ago
- Three suspects, one of them a Wasecan, who have pleaded guilty to charges brought against them by Le Sueur County authorities, appeared for sentencing before Judge John Fitzgerald this week. Thomas Anderson, 22, of Waseca had previously entered a plea of guilty on a charge of the theft of outboard motors and was placed on probation for five years.

- Waseca Police Department reported two accidents Wednesday at the same corner. Both mishaps occurred at the corner of North State Street and 2nd Ave. Involved in an accident at 4:40 p.m. were cars driven by Walter Maas and Jared Jackson. Involved in an accident at 5 p.m. were cars driven by Mary Evenson and Mary Helget. Officers Loren Gerdts and Rita Behs-mann were at the scene.

Monday evening visitors at the Martin Roeker home to help Mrs. Roeker celebrate her birthday were Mrs. Larry Dumdei and Shelene, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gahler, Mr. and Mrs. Burton Coy, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fox, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Roeker, Pam, Sheila, and Wase and Mr. and Mrs. Orin Roeker.

Champions in the girls softball league is the Super America team consist-ing of Linda Turley, Janet Hermann, Brenda Root, Cindy Sampson, Denise Spies, Gretchen Miller, Lynne Patton, Gail Clemons, Patty Seewald, Debbie Lutgens, Teresa Studnicka, Carol Landkammer and Carrie Rethwill.

Eugene Slama, executive vice-president of the Waseca Chamber of Com-merce, said today that he was informed by Robert Dokken, real estate officer of Northwestern Bell Telephone Co., Minneapolis, that the firm will exercise its option on one acre of land in the Waseca Development Corporation's In-dustrial Park.

25 Years Ago
- To supply the community of Waseca with financial assests to meet its changing needs is the main purpose of the Waseca Area Foundation (WAF). Established with profits generated from the All-School Reunion of 1988, WAF, affiliated with the Minnesota Foundation and the NorAm/Minnegasco Foundation, has worked to provide annual grants and initiatives in the areas of arts and culture, education, health and human services, and facilities and recreation.

- Mat Gulden of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in New Ulm guided Ben Roycraft, 7, (left) of Waseca and Matt Kahnke, 7, of Janesville and about 20 other Waseca County youth through a fish painting exercise as part of the third annual MinnAqua Fishing Clinic held Wednes-day at Clear Lake Park. The event was sponsored by the Waseca County Ex-tension Office and the DNR. Participants in the clinic also learned about the importance of catch and release programs, and keeping lakes clean.

-The Waseca Area Medical Center - Mayo Health System announced Monday the details of its 15,000 square foot, \$4.3 million clinic expansion project. The new clinic building will include physicians' offices, patient exam rooms, and a combined medical records facility. X-ray facilities at the hos-pital will be remodeled and expanded.

Members of the Waseca County Historical Society and many volunteers have been working diligently together for about the last year renovating the P. C. Bailey House to house the historical society's archives, photo collection and genealogy library. Margaret Sinn, executive director of the Waseca County Historical Society, estimates that the project will cost in excess of \$120,000.

Police Log: Thursday, Aug. 6 -- At 3:13 a.m., a theft was reported from a vehicle. A window was broken on the vehicle and a purse was stolen con-taining a checkbook, Visa card, two tickets to an Aerosmith concert and mis-cellaneous cash.

The full-time group of Waseca Community Education summer lifeguards at Clear Lake and the Waseca High School pool this summer include: Sarah Halverson, Ben Severin, Kate Eustice, Josh Johnson, Dawn Pratt, Kris Hup, Anna Stelter and head lifeguard Molly Falenschek.



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New Richland

100 Years Ago
- The local board of education has a problem on its hands and one which may be difficult to solve since sentiment governs a por-tion of the board at least. It seems the belfry on the old building is becoming so rotted that it is dangerous. The board finds that it must be replaced or done away with entirely. That part is easy of solution but what about the old school bell that has been calling pupils to school for so many decades that it has become a aprt of many lives in the village? There are those in the village who have heard the old bell ring during school years ever since the building was erected away back in the '90s. Members of the board reason that if the bell is done away with it will take something out of those lives that cannot be replaces—sentiment that carries with it the recollections of many happy events of the past. Several sug-gestions have been made to the board but so far none has clicked properly.

By the way, the woodwork on the exterior of both the old and the new buildings has been painted a pleasing shade of green, the interior of the gym has been newly painted and exterior repairs have been made.

78 YearsAgo
- The Little People, Marty Bott and Sara Hagen took the grand prize of four silver dollars awarded by the New Richland Drug in the Kiddie Parade during Farm-City Day, Saturday.

Winners in the two-year-old through four-year-old boys' divi-sion were John Clymer, first; Mike Roesler, second and Kade Schember.

Girls winning in the same age group were Sharra Supalla, first; Jill Thompson, second, and Angie Littrell, third.

Top costumes in the age group five years through seven years for the boys were Mike Eckart, first and Todd Rosenmayer, sec-ond. Rhonda Thompson took first for the girls in the same age group, while Karla Roesler was second and Mary Keen, third.

Taking first in the girls group ages eight years through ten was Denise Johanson. Kari Jo Hagen was second and Janice Urban, third. James Krohn, took top honors in the boys group for those ages followed by Brad Mayer in second and Jeff Littrell in third.

- Waseca County's 4-H Fair, for which great preparations were being made, has been called off—or indefinitely postponed. That was the information telephoned to The Star yesterday morning by the secretary, Leon Sexton of Waseca. The epidemic of polio was the reason for the decision of the directors at a meeting held Tues-day night. The decision would seem to be a wise one.

51 Years Ago
- Owatonna Deanery attendees will be treated to an old-fash-ioned afternoon in Owatonna's outstanding Village of Yesteryear on August 22. The old Saco church built in 1876 and preserved intact will initiate the WCCW (Winona Council of Catholic Women) meeting with Mass at 1:00 p.m. A short outdoor meeting will follow. Lemonade and coffee with bars will be served on the village green.

Grounds and building will be open at 12:00 for interested ladies to enjoy the wealth of local heritage attractively preserved and displayed. Guided tours, lasting approximately one hour, will be offered after the business meeting adjourns. A wonderful oppor-tunity to browse and reminisce.

Eleven parishes comprise the Owatonna Deanery and will dis-play new garments, mostly hand sewn to be sent to the Pope's Storehouse. These are dispersed wherever emergencies proclaim a need.

Mrs. Gilbert Mamer, St. Joseph's Women's Society President, is busy preparing a welcome for all area ladies? The Village of Yesteryear is located on the East side of the Steele County Fair-grounds on Austin Road, Owatonna.

- The Hartland fifth- and sixth-grade little league team is unde-feated in eight games this season, behind the pitching of Nicky Johannsen. In compiling the 8-0 record, Nicky has pitched three no-hitters and allowed only ten hits for the season.

The Harland team scored 70 runs to their opponents' four. Op-ponents were teams from Clarks Grove, Freeborn, Ellendale, New Richland and Geneva.

The team will enter a 16-team little league tournament at Albert Lea this weekend. Hartland's first game will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at J. M. Snyder field. Other teams playing in the tournament will be from Albert Lea, Austin, Geneva and Ellendale.

Leading hitters for the Hartland team this year have been Mike Somage, Barry Schroader, Jeff Hansen, Jay Benson and Nicky Johannsen.

According to Coach Gary Hansen, the line-up has been: Mike Somage, catcher; Nicky Johannsen, pitcher; Brad Supalla, first base; Barry Schroader, second base; Jaff Hansen, short stop; Ron Johnson, third base; Keith Batt, right field; Jay Benson, center field and Neal Batt, left field. Reserves are Nicky Weydert, Jeff Pederson and Brad Spooner; Barry Schroader pitches in relief.

26 Years Ago
- Highly popular and entertaining Barn Tours will return for the 1998 Great Minnesota Get-Together. The free guided tours of the State Fair's livestock complex will be offered every day of the '98 fair, August 27 through Labor Day September 7.

Livestock professionals from throughout the United State serve as Barn Tour guides, providing a wealth of information. Through the tours, fair visits will get an up-close look at farm animals, learning important facts about animal care along with and abun-dance of interesting trivia.

Barn Tours will be offered every 10 minutes from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily during the fair. American Sign Language interpreters will be on hand for the 10:45 a.m. tour. The tours originate at the east side of the Sheep and Poultry Barn and proceed through the Horse, Swine and Cattle Barns.

Barn Tours and sponsored by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association, Minnesota Farm Bureau, Minnesota Pork Producers, Minnesota Beef Council, American Dairy Association of Minne-sota and Minnesota Farmers Union.

- Nathaniel Possehl of Hartland has been awarded a \$2,000 Honor Scholarship for the 1998-99 academic year at Mankato University. Possehl is a 1998 graduate of NRHEG High School. His parents are Rex and Susan Possehl of Hartland.

- Army National Guard Pvt. Katie Sikel has entered basic mi-litary training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the eight weeks of training, the soldier will study the Army mission and will receive instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, Army history and traditions and special training in human relations. Sikel is the daughter of Peg and John Sikel of Waldorf.



Mark Indrelie of Mankato-based construction company APX, is overseeing the construction of the new hangar at the Waseca Municipal Airport. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

New Hangar expands options at Waseca Municipal Airport

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The first airport in this area was south of Waseca, privately owned and built in the 1930s. That has since closed, leaving the Waseca Municipal Airport, which started operations in 1974 two miles west of town. According to airport director of engineering Nate Willey, the airport currently serves as home base for 26 single engine aircraft. The airport handles up to 12,500 aircraft arrivals and departures each year. Because the airport isn't privately owned, the governing body is a board consisting of five members. Four are from the general public, one is also a city council member.

APX Construction Group is headquartered in Mankato. After submitting the successful bid last spring, APX began working on a new hangar out at the Waseca Municipal Airport. Mark Indrelie has been with APX for the last year and a half. Construction was originally begun in April, but

with all the spring rain, the expected completion date has been delayed from mid-September to "the latter half of October."

Director of engineering Willey has been with the airport for the past three and a half years. Willey said, "This construction project has been in the works for a long time. The new hangar has been funded by 95 percent entitlement grants and 5 percent by the airport." Willey says he is very pleased the hangar construction is underway; the new building's stalls will be 45 feet by 55 feet, and will add options for aircraft owners looking for spaces to store their planes.

Frustrated with the rain, superintendent Indrelie had difficulties especially in the spring, "We have a set schedule to follow, so we only have so many days to build it." This week he was waiting for paint. In the next few weeks, he'll be waiting for steel to arrive. Proud of his company, Indrelie said, "At APX we like to hire local when we can." Which helps

Waseca residents looking for work. Indrelie likes Waseca so much he sometimes "forgets" his lunch so he can dine in town.

Area plane owners are already expressing interest in the new hangar bays. Said Willey, "Of the four new spots, two might already be spoken for—but there are others available." When asked about up and coming projects, Willey says the plan is to update some of the runway lights next year. He hopes that project, too, might be at least partially funded with grants. But with 12,500 yearly operations out at the Waseca Municipal Airport, Willey could be busy for a while. He says the intent is to build other hangars in the future, but that no date has been set for those projects.

Anyone looking for hangar space to rent is invited to reach out to Willey at 507-835-9716.

Celebrating National Breastfeeding Month

By WASECA PUBLIC HEALTH

August is National Breastfeeding Month, together with our community we would like to celebrate the parents who choose and are able to provide for their babies in this way. Whether that be a few drops or two years' worth of milk, you are giving your baby something special.

There are many benefits to breastfeeding (also called chestfeeding) for both mother and baby. Some benefits for baby include rich nutrients and antibodies to fight off viruses and bacteria creating stronger immune systems. Breastfeeding parents have a decrease in the risks of postpartum depression and a decrease in the risk of breast and ovarian

cancer, diabetes, and high blood pressure. Additionally, breastfeeding creates a unique bonding experience for mom and baby.

Our goal in public health is to promote, protect, and advocate for breastfeeding and chestfeeding families! When speaking to local families their advice for those starting their breastfeeding journey includes: "Ask for advice before giving up."

"This is the hardest thing you will ever love doing."

"Stop worrying about your milk supply. If your baby is growing, you have the perfect amount of milk for them."

Waseca County Public Health and WIC office have three Registered Nurses with extensive knowledge of

breastfeeding. Our nurses also have many hours of training to help each family be successful in their journey. If you are currently providing your baby with breastmilk or if you are pregnant and planning on breastfeeding, we would like to show our support and encouragement by giving you a care package with a few items that will help your family experience success. Stop by our office and pick yours up today.

The Public Health Office is located in the Community Services Building at 1000 Elm Ave W, Waseca. We can be reached by phone at 507-835-0685.

Submitted by Tiffany Stenzel RN, Taylor Merges RN and Kirston Janike RN

New laws effective August 1

The following is a list of select new laws passed during the 2024 legislative session, and one from 2023, that take effect Aug. 1, 2024. The asterisk following the bill number denotes language that became law. Summaries of laws passed by the 2024 Legislature are available online from nonpartisan House Public Information Services at house.mn.gov/newlaws/search/2024.

BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

Uniform Commercial Code modified

The Uniform Commercial Code is a way for all 50 states to adopt similar statutes to simplify, clarify, and modernize laws governing commercial transactions across the United States.

A new law will adopt in state statute amendments to accommodate emerging technologies, including electronic signatures of documents, electronic promissory notes, and "controllable digital assets" such as cryptocurrencies and non-fungible assets.

The law also specifies how these digital assets and other controllable electronic records are securely traded and how they can be used in other financial transactions.

Rep. Brion Curran (DFL-White Bear Lake) and Sen. Michael Kreun (R-Blaine) are the sponsors. HF3868*/SF4691/CH93

Commerce law changes

Portions of the commerce law that take effect Aug. 1, 2024, address marketing to minors, regulations affecting virtual currency kiosks, student loan protections, and homeowner's insurance renewals.

Rep. Zack Stephenson (DFL-Coon Rapids) and Sen. Matt Klein (DFL-Mendota Heights) sponsor the law. Among the changes, the law:

- prohibits deceptive marketing related to vapor products, including selling products imitating a food or brand of food commonly marketed to minors; school supplies commonly used by minors; and a character, personality, or symbol known to appeal to minors;
- prohibits the purchase, possession, importation, manufacturing, selling, holding for sale, or distributing a cellular telephone case, stand, or cover that is a likeness of, or reasonably appears to be, a firearm;
- strengthens protections for stu-

dents taking out student loans, including that servicers must make several disclosures to borrowers on income-driven repayment programs;- prohibits tree trimmers and restoration and mitigation services from charging excessive prices following severe weather;
- modifies a consumer protection law requiring that repair shops provide a written estimate for work that will cost more than \$100;
- prohibits unfair real estate service agreements, such as those that are overly restrictive or deceptive;
- modifies the types of personal property exempt from court-ordered seizure, bankruptcy, garnishment, or sale; and
- protects an independent contractor from being discharged or otherwise disciplined by an employer for having wages garnished.

An insurer can, effective Aug. 1, 2024, refuse to renew a homeowner's insurance policy if the insured had three or more covered losses each over \$10,000 resulting from lightning, wind, rain, or hail during a five-year period immediately preceding the refusal to renew.

The law also creates several requirements for financial institutions related to safeguarding customer information, including that it must develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive information security program. HF4077/SF4097*/CH114

CIVIL LAW

Protections clarified in Minnesota Human Rights Act

Effective Aug. 1, 2024, a new law clarifies protections within the Minnesota Human Rights Act, including:

- ensuring people with episodic disabilities are covered by disability protections;
- allowing parties to a claim of discrimination filed with the Department of Human Rights to use alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, to try and resolve the matter;
- extend — from six months to one year — how long the department has to rule on a discrimination claim;
- extending credit discrimination protections to include familial status;
- clarifying exemptions for religious organizations; and

- requiring district courts hearing discrimination lawsuits brought by the department to order a civil penalty against a party guilty of discrimination and require them to pay a party who has suffered from the discrimination damages.

Rep. Luke Frederick (DFL-Mankato) and Sen. Bonnie Westlin (DFL-Plymouth) are the sponsors. HF4109*/SF4201/CH105

Rights for parents with disabilities

Effective Aug. 1, 2024, a court cannot deny a prospective adoptive parent the ability to proceed with an adoption due to the prospective parent's disability; nor can a petition be filed alleging that a child needs protection or services based on a parent's disability.

Additionally, a court cannot deny parenting time with their children because a parent has a disability unless the parent has specific behaviors that would endanger the health or safety of the child. The court is required to give parents an opportunity to use supportive services to alleviate concerns.

The provisions are included in the education supplemental budget law sponsored by Rep. Cheryl Youakim (DFL-Hopkins) and Sen. Mary Kunesh (DFL-New Brighton). HF5237*/SF5252/CH115

ELECTIONS

Major party status, election official safety

The election policy law modifies the standard for a political party seeking to be recognized as a major political party in Minnesota to provide that the party must have received votes from at least 8% of the total number of voters in an election for a statewide office. It strikes the 5% threshold that applied to general elections held on or before Nov. 8, 2022, and strikes a reference to the 8% threshold applying at general elections held on or after Nov. 7, 2024.

Current law prohibits someone from making personal information about an election official or their family or household member publicly available without consent if the information's availability poses an imminent and serious threat to the safety of the official, their family or household member and the person making the in-

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Donation



The Waseca County Corn and Soybean Growers donated \$4,000 to Farmamerica to be used for an ethanol educational display. From left: Craig Baxter, chair (Waseca County Corn and Soybean Growers), Jessica Rollins, Executive Director at Farmamerica and Scott Singlestad, treasurer of the corn and soybean growers.



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SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm HALL BINGO	2 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	3
4	5	6	7 6pm BAR Bingo	8 7pm HALL BINGO	9 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	10
11	12 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	13	14 6pm BAR Bingo	15 7pm HALL BINGO	16 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	17
18	19	20	21 6pm BAR Bingo	22 7pm HALL BINGO	23 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	24
25	26	27	28 6pm BAR Bingo	29 7pm HALL BINGO	30 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	31

HOURS OF OPERATION
SUN.- MON. CLOSED
TUE.- WED.-3pm to 11pm Tue. Is Lady's nite 2 for one-Men Busch light \$2.50 from 4 to 6pm.
THUR.—1pm to 11pm
FRI.—SAT.-11am to 1 am
POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

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formation available knows of any imminent or serious threat. Effective Aug. 1, 2024, the definition of “personal information” is expanded to include the official’s home telephone number, cell phone number, personal email address, minor children’s names, and pictures of the official’s minor children.

Rep. Mike Freiberg (DFL-Golden Valley) and Sen. Jim Carlson (DFL-Eagan) sponsor the law. HF4772*/SF4729/CH112

EMPLOYMENT

Tip payments, drug and alcohol testing

Effective Aug. 1, 2024, and as part of the labor and industry policy law, gratuities received by an employee through a debit, charge, credit card, or electronic payment must be credited to the pay period in which they are received by the employee and paid out in the next scheduled pay period.

Additionally, the law will permit an employer to use oral fluid testing procedures as an alternative way to test when drug and alcohol or cannabis testing is requested for employees and job applicants.

An employer must continue group insurance and health care benefits for the employee and any dependents while on pregnancy or parental leave. The length of pregnancy and parental leave cannot be reduced by any period of paid or unpaid leave taken for prenatal care medical appointments.

Rep. Michael Nelson (DFL-Brooklyn Park) and Sen. Jennifer McEwen (DFL-Duluth) sponsor the law. HF3947/SF3582*/CH110

Certificate renewal reminder mandated

Included in the jobs and economic development law is a provision that will, effective Aug. 1, 2024, require the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design to send a notice by email to each license or certificate holder, no later than 30 days prior to expiration of their license or certificate, that the license or certificate is about to expire. Renewal information must be included.

The board will be required to collect email addresses from license and certificate applicants for this purpose. If the board does not have an email address on record, the notice must be sent by standard mail.

Rep. Hodan Hassan (DFL-Mpls) and Senate President Bobby Joe Champion (DFL-Mpls) sponsor the law. HF5205/SF5289*/CH120

ENVIRONMENT

Environment, natural resources policy law protects native rough fish

A new law impacting the Department of Natural Resources and the Board of Water and Soil Resources helps protect native fish and updates the process for protecting state waterways.

Sponsored by Rep. Rick Hansen (DFL-South St. Paul) and Sen. Fong Hawj (DFL-St. Paul), the law takes effect Aug. 1, 2024.

It provides additional protections for native rough fish similar to more popular game fish like walleye.

Additionally, the law distinguishes native rough fish from common carp, listing the species of native rough fish as: “Amiidae (bowfin), Catostomidae (bighorn, smallmouth, and black buffalo; white, blue, spotted, and longnose sucker; northern hog sucker; quillback; river and highfin carp sucker; and black, river, shorthead, golden, silver, and greater redbreast), Hiodontidae (goldeye and mooneye), Ictaluridae (black, brown, and yellow bullhead), Lepisosteidae (long-

nose and shortnose gar), and Sciaenidae (freshwater drum).”

In addition to moving many Reinvest in Minnesota processes from rules to statute, the law updates the watershed law to better reflect current conditions, and:

- authorizes soil and water conservation districts to implement practices on any public land, not just state land, in cooperation with the agency in authority;
- requires a public hearing before a soil and water conservation district adopts a comprehensive plan;
- changes some procedures for modifying the boundaries of a watershed district;
- increases the payment rate for native prairie bank easements;
- creates the Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee out of two separate oversight committees;
- defines domestic hogs, feral swine and release; and
- requires a person who applies manure in a level drinking water supply management area (one with higher nitrogen/nitrate levels) to follow a manure management plan, which must include best practices as recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

HF2774/SF2904*/CH90

FAMILY

Custody and parenting time, spousal maintenance modifications

A new law taking effect Aug. 1, 2024, updates statutes related to custody and parenting time along with spousal maintenance.

Provisions include that a family law court considering temporary custody and parenting time regarding minor children must consider the parenting time prior to an action and to determine custody and parenting time with an opportunity to develop a relationship with each parent.

While a proceeding for temporary relief is pending, the court must give priority to scheduling and holding an expedited hearing when a party credibly alleges they have been denied parenting time with a child for at least 14 consecutive days, or the party has been unreasonably denied access to necessary financial resources or support during a pending marital dissolution.

A court must consider credible allegations of domestic abuse, substance abuse, maltreatment findings, or neglect as a reasonable basis for a party who has denied parenting time to the other party. The mental health and safety of the child is added to the list of considerations for the court when determining parenting time.

In determining custody, the court must consider the best interests of the child and must not prefer one parent over the other solely based on the parent’s gender.

A court must order compensatory parenting time when a child is intentionally kept from visits by the other party and impose a fine of up to \$500 on a parent who repeatedly and intentionally denies or interferes with parenting time.

In considering a spousal maintenance order, also known as alimony, the court must consider the earnings, seniority, benefits, and other employment opportunities forgone by the spouse seeking maintenance to support the other spouse or children. Also to be considered is the need and ability of each spouse to prepare for retirement and the anticipated time of retirement.

The law specifies a maintenance order may be transitional or indefinite, determined by the length of marriage. If less than five years, the courts must rebuttably presume no maintenance should be awarded. For marriages of at least five years and less than 20 years, it is rebuttably presumed that transitional maintenance should be awarded

Laws continued on 10

Statewide pilot program

Local paralegal from Patton, Hoversten & Berg one of 33 Rachel Mitchell joined PHB in 2018

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Rachel Mitchell, 38, is grateful the state is not only planning to continue its pilot program for paralegals, but expand it. “I think it’s benefitted the clients,” she observes. “And I’ve been glad I can be of help.”

Mitchell, a paralegal with the Patton, Hoversten and Berg law office in Waseca, is one of 33 paralegals statewide who was selected for a pilot program which allows paralegals to provide representation to clients in the areas of housing and family law. The program was implemented in late spring of 2021, Mitchell applied and was accepted soon after.

“The problem was, too many people were going to court unrepresented,” Mitchell explains. “This way, they have another, lower cost option for legal representation.”

Mitchell earned an associate’s degree in paralegal studies in 2014, and has been with Patton, Hoversten and Berg (PHB) since 2018. As she became more deeply embedded in the profession, she went on to earn a bachelor’s degree, graduating magna cum laude from a Purdue University program. She explains a paralegal’s role is usually to keep track of information, prepare documents, and generally serve as support doing “whatever the attorney needs” to handle legal matters.

Thanks to both her education and her experience, she qualified for the pilot program which allows her to move forward on her own initiative to act on the clients’ behalf. Another requirement is that she must have a “supervising attorney.” That role has been taken by PHB’s Perry Berg.

Having worked with Mitchell during her tenure at the firm, Berg says he knew he could trust her to do excellent work and to act in the clients’ best interest. His role is to review what Mitchell is doing and confirm it complies with all legal and ethical requirements.



Rachel Mitchell, under the supervision of attorney Perry Berg, is one of 33 paralegals who helped gain approval for a statewide program which makes it easier to get court representation in the areas of housing and family law.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

He and Mitchell say they believe the pilot program has been very beneficial, fulfilling its intended goal of expanding client options. Under it, Mitchell is able to provide legal advice and, in specific instances, speak for clients in court; when cases don’t meet the criteria, Berg is the spokesperson.

According to a report published online, the Minnesota Supreme Court reviewed the program this past January and recommended that it not only be extended past the original August 31, 2024 dead-

line, but be expanded beyond the current housing and family matters to include, among others, petty misdemeanors, consumer and student loan debt up to \$15,000, and certain types of estate administration and probate cases.

Through January, the report states paralegals statewide had resolved 2,300 cases during the trial period, almost 60 percent of them outside of court; only about 8 percent of cases ended up being transferred to the supervising attorney.

‘All sorts of stories’

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Dave Russel grew up hearing stories his Grandpa Harold, born in 1908, would tell about driving Model T cars. “He had all kinds of stories,” Dave remembers. “He would talk about riding in them, driving them. He made it sound somehow special.”

Harold died in 1983, two years before Dave graduated from New Richland-Hartland High School. “The idea of owning a Model T just stuck with me,” he says. Son of local farmers Curtis and Darlene, Dave joined his parents operating the family farm along Hound Street northwest of New Richland. In 2010, his memories of Harold’s stories was still strong enough that “I had the chance to buy a Model T, and I decided I might as well do it.”

Though he admits some might not see the sense in owning a vehicle which must be cranked to start and has a top comfortable speed of between 30 and 35 mph, he says he has never regretted acquiring the vehicle.

For one thing, he admires its engineering. “The simplicity is a connection to another time,” he observes. The Model T’s four-cylinder engine is small compared to a modern vehicle’s. It has headlights, but no tail lights or signals. His particular



New Richland area resident Dave Russell at the wheel of his Model T Ford.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

model, from 1919, has only one door allowing access to the front seat, from the passenger side.

The accelerator is a sliding lever mounted just below the steering wheel. There are three floor pedals—one is the brake, one is reverse, and the other puts the car in low gear when pressed to the floor but becomes high gear when it’s released.

“It’s a bunch of details you can understand right away,” he comments. “But when you’re driving down the road, you have to remind yourself; you get a feel for it.

“Trouble is, the pedals are small, and I’ve got big feet.”

Starting the car requires a crank. “You turn the key, then you turn the crank and hope,” he jokes. “Sometimes it takes a few cranks before it gets going.”

Asked to compare the physical exertion needed to turn the crank, Dave suggests it requires about as much effort as lifting a heavy snow shovel full of snow. Another similarity: one shovel of snow is not exhausting, but it doesn’t take many consecutive scoops before the work is difficult.

The same might be true of turning the crank. Though many might believe the crank can be turned repeatedly, the practice is actually to give it one turn at a time.

Dave says he has never had much training as a mechanic, except that he has lived on a farm his entire life. “Getting old equipment through another season, that teaches you to fix things,” he observes. In the 14 years he’s owned the Model T, he has

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with a duration of no longer than one-half the length of the marriage. For marriages of at least 20 years, it is rebuttably presumed that indefinite maintenance should be awarded.

Rep. Kelly Moller (DFL-Shoreview) and Sen. Bonnie Westlin (DFL-Plymouth) are the sponsors. HF3204*/SF2759/CH101

PUBLIC SAFETY

Straw purchase penalties increase

A straw purchase occurs when an individual buys a firearm for someone ineligible to purchase or possess it. Effective Aug. 1, 2024, the penalty for a straw purchase will increase from a gross misdemeanor to a felony.

An affirmative defense is provided for defendants if they can show by clear and convincing evidence the transfer was made because of “reasonable apprehension ... that refusal would result in the transferee inflicting substantial bodily harm or death on the defendant or a family or household member of the defendant.”

The provision is included in the all-encompassing supplemental budget and tax bill sponsored by Rep. Aisha Gomez (DFL-Mpls) and Sen. Ann Rest (DFL-New Hope). HF5247*/SF5234/CH127

Penalties for threatening public and judicial officials, other changes

The public safety and judiciary supplemental finance and policy law has several provisions that take effect Aug.

- 1, 2024. Among them are:
 - parental consent, a warrant, or a court order will be required to collect DNA from a juvenile;
 - immunity will be provided for individuals acting in good faith who assist someone else to seek medical assistance for a drug-related overdose;
 - using force against another based on a belief about the other person’s sexuality will not constitute an authorized use of force;
 - the charge for making a fictitious emergency call that a serious crime is underway will rise from a gross misdemeanor to a felony when a “swatting” call sends first responders to the home of an elected official, judge, prosecuting attorney, employee of a correctional facility or peace officer;
 - making it a misdemeanor to knowingly publish personal information of a judicial official with the intent to threaten, intimidate, harass, or physically injure. It will be a felony if actions result in bodily harm;
 - a court-appointed guardian will be personally liable for acts or omissions made in a discharge that results in harm to the person subject to guardianship and that constitute reckless or willful misconduct, or gross negligence;
 - clarifying that the exception to the limit on probation length that applies to certain serious offenses also applies to an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of those offenses; and
 - adding aggravated first-degree witness tampering to the list of offenses described as crimes against a person that justify disciplinary action against any unlicensed complementary and alternative health care practitioner.

Rep. Kelly Moller (DFL-Shoreview) and Sen. Ron Latz (DFL-St. Louis Park) sponsor the law. HF5216*/SF5337/CH123

Carbon monoxide detectors in lodging rooms

Included in the 2023 public safety law is a provision that, beginning Aug. 1, 2024, every guest room in a hotel or lodging house must have an approved and operational carbon monoxide alarm installed. The first violation results in a safety warning and subsequent violations are petty misdemeanors.

Rep. Kelly Moller (DFL-Shoreview) and Sen. Ron Latz (DFL-St. Louis Park) sponsor the law. 2023 Session: HF2890/SF2909*/CH52

TRANSPORTATION

‘Michael Gau Memorial Bridge’ honors MnDOT employee killed in work zone incident

Effective Aug. 1, 2024, a bridge in Plymouth will be named in honor of a Department of Transportation employee killed in a 2023 work zone incident.

The bridge over marked U.S. Highway 169 on Rockford Road will be designated as the “Michael Gau Memorial

Bridge,” honoring the long-time MnDOT employee and volunteer firefighter.

Rep. Ginny Klevorn (DFL-Plymouth) and Sen. Bonnie Westlin (DFL-Plymouth) sponsor the law. HF3437*/SF3798/CH84

Child restraint, other transportation-related changes

Among provisions in the transportation policy law that take effect Aug. 1, 2024, are modifications to requirements for child restraints when a child is transported in a motor vehicle.

The new child restraint laws will require:

- a child younger than age 2 to be properly restrained in a rear-facing child passenger restraint system with an internal harness, until the child reaches the weight or height limit of the child passenger restraint system;
- a child who is at least age 2 who exceeds the rear-facing weight or height limit of the child passenger restraint system to be properly restrained in a forward-facing child passenger restraint system with an internal harness, until the child reaches the weight or height limit of the child passenger restraint system;
- a child who is at least age 4 and exceeds the weight or height limit of the forward-facing child passenger restraint system to be properly restrained in a booster seat and secured with a safety belt;
- a child who is at least age 9 or exceeds the weight or height limit of the child passenger restraint system or the booster seat to be secured with a safety belt adjusted and fastened around the child’s body fit correctly; and
- a child younger than age 13 to be transported in the rear seat of a motor vehicle, when available, and must be properly restrained in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat or secured with a safety belt.

A child younger than age 6 or who weighs less than 60 pounds must be transported in a rear seat if the vehicle has a passenger side air bag supplemental restraint system, the system is activated, and a rear seat is available.

Additionally, if the number of children under age 13 exceeds the number of age- or size-appropriate child passenger restraint systems and safety belts available in the motor vehicle, the unrestrained children must be seated in a rear seat, if rear seats are available.

Other changes in the law include:

- adding roadable aircraft — defined as “any aircraft capable of taking off and landing from a suitable airfield and that is also designed to be operated on a public highway as a motor vehicle” — to the definition of motor vehicle in registration statutes. For operations, roadable aircraft are like cars unless they are at an airport, landing area or in flight. Operators may not take off or land on public roads unless it is an emergency, an exception that has been open to other light aircraft;
- prohibiting the towing of vehicles from a space where a meter has expired;
- allowing a motorcycle to be equipped with white ground lighting with certain restrictions;
- allowing oversized trucks to carry sugar beets after harvest on a few roads in East Grand Forks;
- revising mandated reporting to the Department of Public Safety for crashes involving fatalities, injuries, damage to highway fixtures or involving school buses or commercial vehicles;
- excluding recreational vehicles from a provision on license plate display requirements for small trailers; and
- amending requirements on excavation and land survey notices to underground facility owners and operators, including timeline on markings, providing for on-site meets, revised marker requirements, and establishing mandates on the use of geospatial information technology.

Rep. Brad Tabke (DFL-Shakopee) and Sen. D. Scott Dibble (DFL-Mpls) sponsor the law. HF3436*/SF3944/CH104

Trunk highway rumble strips

The final law of the 2024 session includes a transportation provision with safety in mind.

Effective Aug. 1, 2024, for road construction, resurfacing, or reconditioning projects on or after that date, the Department of Transportation must establish in-road rumble strips at each location on the trunk highway system outside of a city where there is a stop sign and a speed limit of at least 55 mph.

Per the law, requirements must be met “at each applicable location by the earlier of Aug. 1, 2034, or the date of substantial completion of any construction, resurfacing, or reconditioning at the location.”

The change does not apply if there is at least one residence within 750 feet of the location.

The all-encompassing supplemental budget and tax law is sponsored by Rep. Aisha Gomez (DFL-Mpls) and Sen.

Rainy Summer interferes with efforts to improve lakes

By **DEB BENTLY**
News Editor

Waseca area water technician George Klug has deep respect for the individual ecosystems all lakes represent. Someday, he hopes he’ll even understand them.

Locally, Klug is recognized as having installed a relatively small piece of equipment—easily of a size that will fit in a pickup bed—along the shore of Loon Lake. Now in place for the third year, that equipment has helped restore the natural balance of water in a way that wiped out the filamentous algae which had not only created a thick coating of weeds on the lake’s surface for many summers, but would then also begin decomposing and produce an obnoxious smell.

Of the transformation, Klug observes Loon Lake is “in a much better spot than it was four years ago, but it still has a long way to go” to have the balance and resilience needed to overcome the many influences which affect it.

Klug has been monitoring three lakes closely since early this summer. Loon Lake is a pet project his company, WQ3D, has taken on without reimbursement. Two others, French Lake northwest of Warsaw, about 9 miles out of Faribault, and Lake Alice, in the center of Fergus Falls, are part of a test project being funded and monitored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Klug jokes the two lakes

have been “under a microscope” given the many pieces of data he has collected regarding their physical and chemical status.

He mentions that the same filamentous algae which had plagued Loon Lake for so long is also a problem on French Lake. But while it took about 10 weeks for Loon Lake’s weeds to disappear three years ago, “it’s been more of a battle” on French Lake.

He blames what he calls the “washwater” from this summer’s excessive rains, explaining that the many chemicals which washed off of nearby streets and lawns not only delayed the effects of the WQ3D process, they did so over and over again. Readings and tests of water quality have been improving, he said, but not at the rate which might have been possible without the many contaminants. Both French and Alice have been showing faster improvement for the past month or so, he observes; French Lake is tested monthly, results on Lake Alice are recorded every two weeks.

The close monitoring not only complies with the MPCA’s requested amount of testing, Klug says, but exceeds it. “We’re using the testing process to validate that our equipment is having a positive effect,” he



Klug



Enjoying some fishing at the Loon Lake pier are (from left) Monty, 13; Alex, 12; and Juniper Revermann, 11. Thanks to improvements over the past few years, water quality technician George Klug predicts there will be some keeper-size walleyes to be caught in the lake this winter.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bentley

explains. “We hope our results will draw more attention, and we’ll be able to get funding to use our process in more lakes.”

Klug can’t help commenting on the number of individuals, agencies and organizations which assert themselves when it comes to projects on lakes. “We spend a lot of time convincing folks to let us improve their water,” he jokes. As was described in a Pioneer article last spring, WQ3D has been working for years to attract state-level attention to its process and was delighted to announce the arrangement it had reached with the MPCA last spring.

“People always want to know ‘When will we see results?’” stated Klug. “Well, the first year is mostly a process of detoxification. The second year is when we start to see some genuine recovery, but it’s an ongoing process. It can’t start until the ice is off the lake in spring, and it has to stop as freeze-up begins late in the fall.”

Along with that, he observes, “Each lake is its own ecosystem. That means results from one location are likely to be very different from results at a different site.”

Although it, too, is now beginning to recover, Loon Lake also succumbed to washwater; algae turned the water a murky green, and there have been a couple days when the water emitted an odor. Still, Klug says, there are perch and sunfish to be caught. He also predicts that, by winter, ice anglers may be able to pull some 14” walleye from the lake. Though there was a winter kill a couple years back, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has persistently stocked the lake. According to Klug, the DNR uses it as a short-term rearing pond for walleye, stocking them as fry and netting many of them out again when they have grown larger. “But they leave a few behind,” he mentions. “So surely some of them are available to be caught.”

■ **Model T**
from Page 9

fixed the fan belt and fan blades, replaced some of the wiring, and repaired some of the wooden spokes in the wheels.

He says it is surprisingly easy to acquire replacement parts. For one thing, the Model T was mass produced from 1908 to 1927. Parts are fairly interchangeable across years. For another, the Ford corporate website reports more than 15 million were made. He also says he enjoys the straightforward nature of the repairs. The simplicity of the machine and the humble engineering make it a pleasant task.

Also pleasant, he says, is an unhurried ride with the top down along a country road.

“You see everything differently that way,” he observes. “You can’t help thinking about the way things used to be.” Another reason to take it easy while driving, Dave observes, is because the vehicle has springs, but no shock absorbers. Bumps, and especially washboards, lead to what Dave jokingly calls “a funny kind of dancing” along the road.

Dave mentions he has been impressed with the longevity of the

Model T, which celebrated its hundredth anniversary in 2019—the same year it won “best in show” at the New Richland Farm and City Days car show, its one scheduled outing each year. He figures the car has many more good years in it.

And though he jokes the car “gets about an hour of driving a year” he mentions some pleasant rides with friends and family members.

“It gets a fair amount of attention when it’s out in public,” he admits. He says people ask questions about how the car starts, how fast it can go, and, of course, how old it is. When he meets other cars while driving, he says, “I never fail to get a wave.”

One last way the car’s simplicity comes into play, perhaps, is the many connections the car provides to Dave’s roots and his farm family. For that reason, even though the Model



New Richland area resident Dave Russell and his Model T Ford. Pioneer photo by Deb Bentley

T would probably bring \$10,000 or so if it were offered for sale, Dave in-

dicates he is “simply” not planning to sell anytime soon.

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FARMERS MACHINERY AUCTION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024, 9:30 A.M.

LOCATION: From Ellendale, MN, 2 miles west of State Hwy. 30, then 1 mile north on Steele Cty. 28 (or SW 72nd Ave.) then 1/2 mile east on SW 138th St. (or 1/2 mi east of Beaver Lake).

Please Note: PARTIAL LISTING. BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR LATE ADDITIONS. Delivery of consignments will be on August 18, 19, 20, 21, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. **NO Consignments on August 22nd and 23rd!** Some items subject to change prior to auction. Loading of items day of auction until 4 p.m.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner's Room)
300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093
Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

A. Request for an After-the-fact Variance to have a septic system zero (0) ft from the property line. Jeffrey Cole request for the variance to have an existing septic system zero (0) ft from the northern property line for the parcel located at 32445-35th St, Janesville (PID: 01.034.0310) and in Section 34 of T107N R.24W. The parcel is in the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District.

B. Request for a Variance of 3ft to have a new covered entry 37ft from the front property line. Matthew and Kristie Biehn request for a variance to have a new covered entry 37ft from the front property line. The UDC requires a setback distance of 40ft from the front property line. The parcel is located at 14839-367th Ave, Waseca (PID: 12.428.0030) and in Section 9 of T107N R.22W. The parcel is in the LR Limited Residential Zoning District and in the 2-mile radius of Waseca.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner's Room)
300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093
Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Waseca County requests an amendment to Section 6.16 of the Unified Development Code to include specific requirements regulating Cannabis Businesses in the County in response Minn. Stat. 342 and 152. Proposed changes can be found under the Zoning Code Amendments tab on the Planning and Zoning Department page. You can also request a copy of the proposed changes from Planning and Zoning during regular business hours.

The staff report on this item will be available at the Waseca County Planning and Zoning Office, 300 N State St., Waseca during regular business hours 8-4:30, and will be on the county website www.wasecacounty.gov at the agenda tab. Oral comments will be accepted at the meeting. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all Waseca County services, programs and activities.

Maame Quarcoo, Sr. Land Use Planner.
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Thursday, August 22, 2024

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Jason Casey of Sun Honey LLC was among the venders offering honey for sale during the event.



Volunteers from the Waseca County Historical Society offered popcorn to visitors.



Terry McDaniels of T McD's Bees in the Twin Cities area is not only a beekeeper, she is a bee activist. She dressed as a queen bee during World Honeybee Day and shared a wealth of information about the insects, their hives, and their habitat.



Above: Jen Selbey is something of an expert in native plants. She represented Edenvale Nursery at Hofmann Apiary. Below: Historic artifacts helped visitors visualize what the Apiary was once like.

Hofmann Apiary observes World Honeybee Day

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

As visitors arrived at the historic Hofmann Apiary site northeast of Janesville, they were greeted by a to-scale queen bee. Glistening in shades of brown and gold, she greeted workers and drones as they arrived. She reminded them bees have every right to their own celebration, since more than one third of the food humans eat is pollinated—made possible—by bees.

About 150 people visited the open house at the apiary in honor of World Honeybee Day on Saturday, August 17. In addition to being greeted by Twin Cities area beekeeper and honeybee advocate Terry McDaniel, they were able to learn about the practices of the large-scale apiary which once operated on the site. They were treated to free popcorn and live music; a food truck was available for lunch or snacks.

Living in the family home located at the site are Larry and Jan Hofman. Larry, 81, is grandson to apiary op-

erators Emil and Clara Hofman. Larry shares family lore which reveals Emil was operating a farm raising Chester White pigs on the site when, one day in 1903, a swarm of bees happened to arrive on the property.

"My grandfather knew enough to realize they were looking for a new home," reveals Larry. "So he fashioned a hive that would meet their needs."

By 1920, Emil had built what the American Bee Journal described as "the largest apiary in Minnesota," and was keeping about 1,000 colonies—a number Larry says was "unheard of" at the time.

Today, the buildings where the various tasks of the operation were carried out are still standing. Displays and artifacts help visitors understand some of the demands of the large-scale business.

One intriguing display shows how to make a "bee beard." By putting a queen bee in a small cage under their chin, the brave at heart will draw in

hundreds of worker bees who will position themselves all around her—across the lower part of their face, down their neck and sometimes onto their chest.

Larry mentions his grandfather made himself a "bee beard" for the centennial celebration held in Janesville in the 1950s. The small cage he used for the queen bee is on display at the apiary, as is a photo of the "beard."

Also celebrating World Honeybee Day were a number of vendors with stands at the site. New Richland beekeeper Jason Casey was offering some of his "Sun Honey" products for sale. He also had a number of squares of honeycombed wax from a hive. As he picked one up to demonstrate it, a bee flew out. "It doesn't mean any harm," Casey said lightly. "It's just sniffing around." Casey revealed he is one two beekeepers who have hives on the apiary property.

Also vending honey was T McD's Bees—the Twin Cities area company



owned by Terry McDaniel, and Strand Honey, a beekeeper located south of Mankato. Along with them was Edenvale Nursery offering native plants for sale.

The 46-acre site at the apiary consists of 10 acres of restored prairie, 5 of restored forest, 20 acres of wetland, and the six-acre building site. More information is available from the organization's website, www.hofmannapiaries.org

Country Estate Farm Machinery & Real Estate Auction

ONLINE ONLY – Auction Location: 21720 State HWY 13, New Richland, MN 56072
(Just 1.5 Miles South Of New Richland On HWY 13, East Side Of Road)
Bidding Opens: Saturday August 31, 2024 at 8:00am
Bidding Starts Closing: Tuesday September 10, 2024 at 10:00am



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Jeff Reese, Trustee



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