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WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 39 Vol. III \$2 Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca Thursday, September 26, 2024



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Homecoming

Fitch to leave Chamber at the end of 2024

Waseca, MN – September 18, 2024 – After six years of dedicated service, Ann Fitch will step down as Executive Director of the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce at the end of 2024. Her tenure has been marked by transformative leadership, community advocacy, and unwavering commitment to advancing Waseca’s business and economic landscape. She will be taking another, as yet unnamed, position within the community.



Fitch

“Ann Fitch leaves the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce with a strong foundation for continued success and growth. Her leadership, passion, and dedication will be greatly missed, but her impact on the Waseca community will endure for years to come,” stated Chamber Board President Nick Wobig.

Fitch continued on 2

Waseca High School Choir’s Walking Tacos Friday, Sept. 27

The Waseca High School Choir will be selling walking tacos in the high school commons on Friday, Sept. 27 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Price is \$8 per ticket and will also include a cookie and bottle of water.

Waseca American Legion breakfast fundraiser 8 a.m. to noon Sept. 29

The Waseca Sons of American Legion is hosting a breakfast fundraiser from 8 a.m. till noon on Sunday, Sept. 29 to support the Memorial Day Avenue of Flags. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$8 for kids 12 and under. Unlimited pancakes, eggs, biscuits & gravy, sausage, milk, orange juice, and coffee.

Farmamerica Open Corn Maze every Saturday Night in October from 6 to 9 p.m.

Every Saturday night in October from 6-9 p.m., Farmamerica will host a maze under the stars. Cost is \$5 per person; event includes food trucks, yard games and entertainment. Farmamerica is partnering with local FFA chapters for these nights.

More information is available online at farmamerica.org/event/corn-maze

Briefs continued on 3, 9

A word from The Word

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

John 21:25

Marching Classic



More than 1,000 young musicians, their fans and their families came to Waseca Saturday, Sept. 21, for the Marching Classic. This was year 37 for the event, which featured a parade along State Street at noon and a field competition at the high school football field beginning at 5:30. More photos can be found on Page 16 of this week’s edition.

Pioneer photos by Amelia Roessler, Deb Bently and Ben Revermann

Three-and-a-half decades celebrated

WAF recognized anniversary Thursday

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Despite the rainy weather, the Waseca Area Foundation held its 35-year anniversary at Waseca’s Northeast Park in Waseca the afternoon of Thursday, Sept. 19. Representatives from the Janesville (JAF) and New Richland Area (NRAF) Foundations were there to help out as well. So was the live band Whiskey Whiskers and three separate food trucks, Polly’s Pantry Treats, Kelm’s BBQ and Tacos La Reyna.

The Waseca area Foundation (WAF) states on its website: “Our

mission is to provide an opportunity for groups or individuals to leave a legacy through contributions which build a permanent community fund committed to meeting the changing needs of the Waseca area.”

Rosalie Grams, a representative of the JAF,there to assist, said, “The WAF provides an umbrella for many funds, for example, the Janesville fund and New Richland.” She mentioned upcoming events that support the organizations.

WAF continued on 8



At the Waseca Area Foundation celebration in Waseca's Northeast Park on Sept. 19, diners enjoyed live music from Whiskey Whiskers while choosing among menu items offered by Tacos La Reyna, Kelm's BBQ and Polly's Pantry Treats.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

‘For the birds’

Putnam on display at Waseca Arts Center through November 2

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The Waseca Arts Center’s newest displays include the work of painter/sculptor Charlie Putnam, alongside another feathery exhibit by the Art Center staff and the Wednesday Art Appreciation Group titled, ‘For the Birds’ opened the evening of Thursday, Sept. 18.

Putnam, who has degrees in Studio Art and Art Education from MSU-Mankato, worked as an art teacher at the Le Sueur/Henderson school district for 29 years and also instructed at MSU-Mankato for 28 years. Of his work, he says, “Sometimes my intentions may be obvious, while other times there is no conscious intent, but instead is the result of my sense of visual unity and balance arrived at through creative play.” There is a

Minnesota flavor to every one of his paintings.

Putnam’s work was presented in the Beckman Gallery: When he got up to speak he said, “As a teacher, one of my favorite things was working with kindergarten and first-grade kids right after lunch; my room was their favorite place to be.” Putnam has liked, especially with his current series, the unintentional connections with work he has done in the past, “Which I suppose defines the art and myself as an artist.” He was recently awarded money to explore his craft, said Putnam, “I got a grant to explore the connection between ceramics and relief print making.” An online source said about printmaking, “Relief printing is a family of printing methods where a printing block, plate or matrix, which has had ink



Present for the Sept. 18 opening of the newest displays at the Waseca Art Center were (Back row from left): Penny Vought, Brad Donner, Deanna Bendix, Shirley Baker, Dawn Schwartz, (Front) Christy Easton, Trudi Redman-Fischer, Char Harguth, Mary Shemonek, Charlie Putnam and Mikhail Rostislavovich. For the next few weeks, the multiple artist exhibit “For the Birds” will appear alongside the paintings and pottery of Charlie Putnam.

applied to its non-recessed surface, is brought into contact with paper.”

The “For the Birds” section, on display in the Harguth wing of the Center, was inspired by the actions of

a Waseca Arts Council Board Member and Chief of Police Penny Vought. Vought began collecting bird cages around four years ago, so it was concluded that it would serve as

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann an inventive and fun theme for a display. Everyone embraced the idea

Putnam continued on 8

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County sets 1.5% preliminary budget increase

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

During their Sept. 17 work session and meeting, Waseca County Administrator Michael Johnson presented members of the Waseca County Board of Commissioners a preliminary 2025 budget of \$39,025,972. The number is \$361,500 lower than the 2024 budget amount listed on the county website.

However, as Johnson said during the meeting, “Budget does not equal levy, and it never will.” The numerous other funding sources for the county, including payments from the state, some from the federal government, and some from grants applied for by county departments, provide more than half the money needed to operate county programs.

In 2024, the county levied \$17.8 million in property taxes. In 2025 it is submitting a preliminary levy amount of \$18.1 million: \$267,500 more than in 2024, a levy increase of 1.5 percent.

Like school districts, townships and municipalities, the county is required by state law to determine a preliminary levy amount by the end of September. It then combines its own levy with those of other agencies funded by property taxes and sends out a statement in mid-November to all property owners summarizing what their highest anticipated taxes payable in 2025 will be.

Having submitted a preliminary number, agencies may then continue to refine their expected budgets until December, when they must determine their final tax levy, which may be the same as or lower than the preliminary amount, but cannot be higher. Taxpayers who have questions about their levy are invited to attend a “Truth in Taxation” meeting which the state requires all levy-funded agencies to hold. Waseca County’s is set for 6

County continued on 12



Compostings

by Al Batt

Murmurations of starlings

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
You should come over and see my new dog. It's a rescue.

Ah, you've finally realized I'm a dog whisperer.

No, that's not it. I want to see if the dog bites.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. I went for a stroll. There was no time like the present, as I could see the dust of the day galloping away from me. There were a good number of people scrolling as they walked. I hoped they weren't ruining a good walk by doomsscrolling. I'll admit to yapping on the phone occasionally while walking.

Earlier, I'd been working in the hot sun. Moving one pile to where it used to be and another to where it once had been. It was exciting work, but it was a scorcher. I mumbled to myself, "It must be 100 degrees." I talk to myself because I know I'm listening. It wasn't 100 degrees, but I had to check when the latest day of the year had been when the temperature reached 100 in Minnesota. It was on Sept. 22, 1936, when it hit 100 degrees in Ada in Norman County. I was in Des Moines for work a while back and read that Des Moines had hit 100 degrees on Sept. 11, 1927. I reckon other parts of Iowa, a well-known tropical getaway, likely hit 100 at later dates. On July 20, 1934, it was 118 degrees in Keokuk and on April 20, 1918, Lenox received 24 inches of snow. I needed to tell myself about the snowfall in order to dry the sweat I feared I might drown in.

A family member visited. He lives in Phoenix, along with 1,608,139 other people. He doesn't know them all. I guess it's not a close-knit community. Shade is a hot commodity there, but he likes Phoenix because it has a dry heat. Apparently, you have to tell someone "It's a dry heat" every day or you're forced to leave Phoenix. Phoenix's record-breaking streak of 100-degree days this year ended on Sept. 17 after 113 consecutive days of triple-digit temperatures. It had been as hot as a stolen habanero. How hot was it on Sept. 17? Only 93 degrees. Parka sales at the Phoenix boutiques skyrocketed.

I'VE LEARNED
Eating, sleeping and breathing are words to live by.
To respect my elderberries.
If we were penguins, you'd remind me of everyone I know.
People who tell us to do our own

research have never done their own research. ☹️

Rewards programs are good at saving us money on things we wouldn't buy if we weren't members of a rewards program.

The three stages of life are wanting stuff, accumulating stuff and getting rid of stuff.

ASK AL
"What is a co-signer?" An idiot who can write.

"What football player wears the biggest helmet?" The one with the biggest head.

"What would you do if you had \$1 billion?" Nothing.

NATURE NOTES
Pale green corn rootworm beetles wander away from cornfields in late summer to visit gardens where they feed on flowers and vegetables.

I'm seeing murmurations of starlings, those wondrous shape-shifting flocks. I listened to the hummingbirds—the hum of the wings and their chittering voices. Hummingbirds drop their internal temperature, inducing a temporary state of torpor, and need less energy, and therefore less food, to withstand frigid temperatures. If you spot a motionless hummingbird, don't be alarmed. It's torpor. Young hummers migrate along the same routes and winter in the same places their ancestors have, some making an 18-hour flight across the Gulf of Mexico.

One group of pelicans will drive prey towards another group of pelicans. The American white pelican eats up to three pounds of fish per day. It also eats salamanders, tadpoles and crayfish.

The downy woodpecker makes a whiney call that descends in pitch at the end. The hairy woodpecker's call is similar but doesn't descend in pitch at the end.

Mast is a term used to describe the fruit of trees and shrubs. A mast year is when a particular species produces more fruit than normal. Oaks have cycles of high and low yields. Oak masting happens every 2-5 years. In a mast year, seed-eating animals are unlikely to eat all the seeds produced, leaving the rest to sprout. An abundance of acorns is said to augur a harsh winter, but that's untrue.

In September, monarch butterflies congregate in large numbers and by the end of October, they have left the state in a mass migration to their winter grounds.

MEETING ADJOURNED
To have a kind word and not share it is like stealing.

Ignorance is dangerous

The saying goes that "ignorance is bliss," but this past week I learned a better adage might be "ignorance is dangerous."

Perhaps you saw the piece a couple weeks ago which shared information about the Greater Mankato Area United Way (GMAUW) funding kick-off held at The Mill. Perhaps you remember the organization has a \$2,350,000 goal, and that Waseca Area United Way leader Diane Beckmann mentioned the GMAUW provided more in funding to our area in the past round than our area donated.

In addition to all that, information was distributed about events the GMAUW is sponsoring in the region. One evening session was titled "Opioid and fentanyl crisis awareness." This column shares my personal impressions and reactions after attending.

Simply put, I was shocked and horrified.

When it comes to substances I choose to ingest, I'm a rather conservative individual. I have never allowed myself to get drunk, have never used marijuana, and have no idea what it's like to be high on a substance. When it comes even to legal and authentic pain medication known to be, um, mood-altering, I've never really needed any. I suppose I have to admit to a caffeine "addiction," since I sometimes get a withdrawal headache when I haven't had any in a while.

My life has also not yet been profoundly affected by someone else's addiction. I use the word "yet" because of what I learned September 17 at the United Way event in Mankato.

Law enforcement and health care professionals in Mankato have seen exponential growth in cases involving fentanyl, an unimaginably potent opioid which is available in controlled doses as a pain medication, but is sometimes used in a very calculated way by drug dealers.

My largest "ignorance is dangerous" perception is based on this: an amount of fentanyl equal to three grains of rice is fatal.

Blue Earth County Sheriff Jeff Wersal was among the speakers. He mentioned that, prior to being elected



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

sheriff, he served on the county's drug task force, and so had numerous experiences involving fentanyl. He shared that, whether on purpose or because of accidental cross-contamination, more and more other substances—for example marijuana—are laced with fentanyl. One result is that the theoretically less-addictive substance becomes highly addictive, increasing sales for dealers. Another is that it becomes potentially deadly. Because of its cheapness and potency, fentanyl is also mixed in with other addictive substances including heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine.

Wersal told of one instance where three men had purchased a single pill of fentanyl and divided it among them. One of the men was dead at the scene; the other two were rushed to the hospital where they were intubated.

One speaker, a former addict now working as an advocate, told of some of the side effects of fentanyl withdrawal. One is to become completely incontinent. Some experience psychosis—a disconnection from reality which can include hallucinations and delusions. Those withdrawing from the addiction may do or say outrageous things which they are not likely to remember a day or two later. Addicts in withdrawal must be supervised very closely since they are likely to consider and then attempt suicide.

Among those present that evening were parents of young people who had died because of fentanyl: some of the young people were using the substance for the first time, others were completely unaware they were using it.

I was particularly impressed with a family of advocates whose organization was named the Travis Gustafson Foundation: Forever 21. The family had lost Travis and made it

their goal to try and prevent that same pain from occurring in other families.

Sheriff Wersal and others shared information about the substance Narcan. It was explained that opioid overdoses kill by connecting with certain brain receptors; if too much opioid is present, the brain no longer realizes it needs oxygen and the victim stops breathing.

Naloxone (marketed as Narcan) is a substance which can interfere with the binding process and, if administered very quickly after the overdose, can be lifesaving.

If you go online for information regarding what to do if you come across someone experiencing an overdose, you will likely find information which says to call 911, then advises you to wait for public safety personnel who will administer naloxone if it's needed.

The message at the crisis awareness session was that, well, everyone should carry Narcan with them just in case they come across someone experiencing an overdose. Neither an ambulance nor a law enforcement officer can get to the scene within the 90-second window between when breathing stops and death occurs. Their recommendation was to instruct someone nearby to call 911 while you administer the dose of Narcan.

We were told we are protected by Minnesota's 2023 "Good Samaritan Law," which not only exempts people acting in good faith from civil or criminal prosecution, it protects people from being prosecuted for possessing or using controlled substances in that instance. The idea is apparently to encourage people who are breaking the law to call law enforcement or emergency medical care "anyway," rather than running away in fear and doing nothing.

Furthermore, we were assured

Narcan is not harmful if it's administered under mistaken circumstances.

There were people in the room who were extremely cautious about fentanyl exposure. One woman spoke up saying she makes deliveries in buildings all over Mankato and in all types of neighborhoods. She expressed concern she would come to harm if she accidentally touched or breathed in fentanyl—which is often ingested as a powder.

She was told touching fentanyl is not likely to be dangerous, and that the substance does not "hang in the air" like a deadly cloud.

The example was elaborated upon: a good samaritan trying to help someone experiencing an overdose is also not likely to be affected. It is okay to touch the person, and even to administer mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

The organizations at the crisis awareness event were so serious about their beliefs they were giving Narcan doses away freely. I mentioned I know someone who was likely to want a dosing kit, one was handed to me to deliver, no questions asked. We were informed that, if we walked into a drug store with the intention of buying the doses, we would likely be charged about \$50.

During his time at the front, Sheriff Wersal commented "If you can't find Narcan for free, you're not looking hard enough."

The Minnesota Department of Health has an online "drug overdose dashboard" that provides many statistics—although the most recent are from 2022. That data shows, however, that more than 1,000 Minnesotans died of opioid overdose that year; it also shows a rapidly rising death rate which turned sharply upward in 2018 and has continued to balloon. Data indicated the age group from 25 to 34 years was the most likely to visit an emergency room seeking help for an overdose.

If you've made it this far, perhaps you are currently as shocked and horrified as I was that evening. I learned I had been living in ignorance—and ignorance is clearly and unquestionably NOT bliss.

Another year, another "Classic" weekend

Remember when I said last time I was hoping it would be the last warm week? I think I manifested it. Saturday was warm, but when I walked out of my apartment on Sunday, I was hit with an actual cold breeze. It brought me so much joy. It is officially sweater weather and I am truly happy about it.

Last weekend was a busy one for me, though. I'm sure everyone was out watching the Waseca Marching Classic, right? Well even if you weren't, I was, so I'll be happy to fill you in and show you how it is to be a band host, the incredibly important job I was given during this year's Classic. I am exaggerating though; there were many people with much more important jobs that day than mine. Mine was just fun.

My Classic day started off with waking up to pick up my mom at the library as she had dropped her car off there to be ready for after the parade to bring her band's drum majors to their clinic on time. After that, it was just a waiting game until the parade at noon. It was crazy to see how many people al-



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

ready lined the street hours before the parade in order to get a good spot.

I found it endearing how much they looked forward to and cared about the parade.

While I did not have a band to lead or take care of for the parade, I was able to wander around and take pictures of the bands, the parade, the people watching and those involved. It was a lot of fun, since I like taking pictures and I was able to move around at will behind the scenes, and sometimes even walk on the street during the parade. It made me feel very special.

After the parade, I had an hour to kill before my band, Blaine,

showed up, so I helped my mom with the tasks of hosting her assigned band, Luverne. When Blaine did arrive, it was my job to give the director the information packet, tell the group where they needed to go and at what time, and then help with any questions or concerns. My duties also included bringing or leading my band to their clinic and when they had to perform their field show, to the stadium on time. It was a lot of fun and Blaine was a fun band to be around. Looking around, though, it was fun to see how many people I recognized from being in the Waseca Marching Jays or simply from the band community.

What is funny is that I realized

that I might have former teachers read my column, and that is a slightly scary thought. I was talking to a previous teacher in passing about how I was a band host and also taking pictures for the Pioneer and it hit me that some of my teachers might read the paper, and subsequently read my column. I couldn't help thinking about how I really write my columns for my grandparents and the population of Waseca that I do not know (sorry). So it tends to be quite casual, flow-of-consciousness writing. But knowing that some or any of my former teachers read my column is like having them read my mind. It's an odd thought that I'm probably just overthinking and exaggerating. But to my teachers, I'm sorry, I am capable of using better grammar than this, I remember the historical significance of some things, I still love music, I forgot all my Spanish (sorry Senoras) and I can barely do mental math anymore.

My Determination: "You got to embrace the chaos. You have to. That way, life might just astonish you," - Hot Tub Time Machine



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

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Fitch

from Page 1

Since joining the Chamber in September of 2018, Fitch has led numerous initiatives that have had lasting local impact. One of her standout achievements was getting Waseca recognized as a finalist in the nationally renowned Small Business Revolution. This recognition brought significant visibility to Waseca's vibrant business community, showcasing its entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to growth.

During the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Fitch became a beacon of support and information for both businesses and residents.

Under her leadership, the Chamber served as a vital resource, offering timely updates, guidance, and solutions to help local businesses navigate through unprecedented times.

Fitch also plays a crucial role in ensuring the continuity of Waseca's cherished traditions. She was instrumental in securing funding and logistics for Waseca's Independence Day fireworks, a celebration that brings the community together each year. Her efforts ensured this patriotic tradition remained vibrant, even in difficult times.

Her tenure saw the Chamber's energy revitalized, with a renewed focus on education and workforce development. Fitch established the Immersive Career Education Day in collaboration with local schools, giving students hands-on experience in various industries. She also spear-

headed the Career and College Expo, an annual event that connects area students with opportunities to explore their future paths and engage with local employers and higher education institutions.

Throughout her time as executive director, Fitch has been a tireless advocate for Waseca, representing the region at both state and regional levels. Her voice collaborated strongly with other chambers in advocating for policies and initiatives that benefit local businesses, ensuring Waseca's interests are well represented.

Fitch says she is grateful to the members and the community for the support she has routinely received. "There is so much about this position that I will miss. The next executive director will find their time at the Waseca Area Chamber gratifying,"

she stated. Administrative assistant Kristie Biehn will continue to carry forward the familiarity and continuity of the Chamber.

As the Chamber prepares for this shift, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Board Vice President, has been brought in to help manage the transition while Ann remains at the helm until her departure on December 31, 2024. Rostislavovich will assist Biehn in maintaining continuity during this period and help set the stage for the Chamber's future leadership. The Chamber will begin the search for its new executive director in January 2025, taking a thoughtful and deliberate approach to find the right candidate to build on Fitch's legacy.

Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce

Nicolas Wobig, Board President



Curtis and Patti Tesch enjoy bicycle riding on two different levels: Patti is a more casual rider, while Curtis holds national competition championships. Each of them owns and uses an electrically augmented bike, although Patti has only the one and Curtis has a number of bikes in various configurations.

Tesch family rolling along

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

“We’ve always loved bike riding,” observes Russell Tesch. “It’s a great way to be outdoors, see nature, and get some exercise.”

Both 82, he and Marie, who have been married for 63 years, share special memories of their decades-long tradition of visiting the Lanesboro area of southern Minnesota for a week or so each summer and riding a few hundred miles on the trails.

It went beyond that, though. Russell says his love of bicycle riding is lifelong, and one he and Marie have shared for much of their marriage.

In 2008, that tradition was threatened when Marie experienced a stroke. “I couldn’t balance,” she says, remembering the frustration she felt when she tried to mount a bike. Fortunately, though, a solution

presented itself: a side-by-side bicycle. Theirs has four tires, upright seats, and joined handlebars, “so we both steer in the same direction at the same time,” she jokes.

They acquired the side-by-side about 15 years ago; their shared rides and summer trip were again a regular thing.

Time moved on. “The kids must have noticed we were slowing down a bit,” comments Russell, speaking of their three adult children Curtis, Mason and Kathleen and their spouses Patti, Roger and Bob.

For Marie’s birthday this spring, the three couples went together and purchased an after-market modification which includes an electric motor and controls for the side-by-side



Russell and Marie Tesch, both 82, have enjoyed bicycling as a lifelong hobby. The side by side bicycle helped when Marie experienced problems with balance; electric enhancements added this spring have allowed the couple to continue enjoying their frequent bicycle rides.

Pioneer photos by Deb Bently

Tesch continued on 8

**Farmamerica
Agricultural
Exploration Field
Trips, Oct. 1-4 from 9
a.m. till 1:30 p.m.**

Available to students in grades 3-6 and homeschool groups, this immersive journey takes participants from the 1800s Minnesota to the present day, exploring our farming legacy. farmamerica.org/event/field-trips

**Blue Earth County
History Center
October Genealogy
starts Oct. 1**

The Blue Earth County History Center is offering Tuesday night genealogy search courses beginning Oct. 1. Cost is \$10, with a discount for Center members or for registering in advance for all five sessions. Contact the Blue Earth County History Center at 507-345-5566 or check online for more information.

**Free Salmon Dinner
fundraiser 6 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 4 at Real
Life Covenant Church**

The Real Life Covenant Church is offering a free-will salmon dinner fundraiser beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4. The salmon is coming directly from Alaska. Real Life is located at 620 Elm Avenue West in Waseca. More information is available at pastor@reallifecov.com.

**Benefit breakfast for
the family of Kialyn
Quillen from 7:30 a.m.
to 12:30 p.m. at
Waseca American
Legion Sunday,
October 6**

A benefit for the surviving family of Kialyn Quillen will take place at the American Legion from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6. It will be \$10 per plate and will have pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice and coffee.



From left: Mark Griffith, Sarah Sundve and teacher Holly Pederson during the NRHEG mock crash staged near the NRHEG secondary school on Friday, Sept. 20. Ian Riskedahl played the part of a crash victim, but stepped out of character for the sake of the picture.

NRHEG Mock car crash goes off without a hitch

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Students from the NRHEG secondary school took some time away from their classes the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 20 to view a “Mock Car Crash” arranged by staff from the New Richland ambulance and fire departments, the Ellendale ambulance crew, the Waseca County Sheriff’s office and Bonnerup Funeral and Cremation Services.

Students saw two badly damaged vehicles. In and near them were seven “injured” victims—student volunteers with makeup used to simulate injuries.

The point, according to organizers, was to make clear to the young visitors that poor choices can lead to serious consequences. New Richland Ambulance representative Sarah Sundve said the dramatic representation is meant to provide “high impact with low cost. If it saves one life, that makes all this worth it.”

Sundve and other members of the organizing team began planning the event in April. Said NRHEG secondary principal Grant Berg, “We’re hoping this will educate the students,

this is real, whatever damage we can prevent is good.”

A damaged sedan and minivan were provided for the event by Misgen Auto Parts. The scenario represented is that driver Winter Pederson was not only intoxicated, but texting while behind the wheel when her car collided with the minivan. Pederson’s injured passengers were Hazel and Violet Botten. Passenger Ian Riskedahl was lying “dead” on the vehicle’s hood after having been thrown through the windshield.

Driver of the minivan was Orion Rider; in her vehicle were injured passengers Jayden Tonkin, Jade Bauldry, and Laila Schmidt.

As the high school kids began crossing the road to approach the crash scene, the “victims” were already in position, the idea being that the accident had only just occurred. Actors continued their roles as one by one the police arrived, then the

Crash continued on 8



Playing the roles of accident participants in the sedan during last week’s “mock crash” were Ian Riskedahl, Hazel Botten, Violet Botten, driver Winter Pederson. In the van were driver Orion Rider and passengers Jayden Tonkin, Jade Bauldry, and Laila Schmidt.



Waseca sets 5.2% preliminary tax levy increase

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The Waseca City Council approved its preliminary 2025 budget during its regular council meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 17. Two options were presented to the council; one entailed a levy increase 5.2% higher than last year’s, the other reflected an increase of 7.2%.

Council members were in agreement the final levy for taxes payable in 2025—which must be determined by December—will be less than was approved Tuesday evening. The 7.2% option was quickly discarded. City manager Carl Sonnenberg offered: “As an alternative to the proposed 5.2% preliminary levy, the council may consider increasing the preliminary levy if you wish to get a head start on phasing out special assessments.”

In order to phase out special assessments, for example, those used on local street repairs, Sonnenberg explained the city levy would need to be increased approximately \$240,000 to offset the annual assessment income. A phased approach over several years would be an option to ease the corresponding levy increase. In the future if the council decides to phase out special assessments, it would likely consider a 5- to 10% rebate for currently assessed properties.

Council member Jeremy Conrath said phasing out special as-

Council continued on 4

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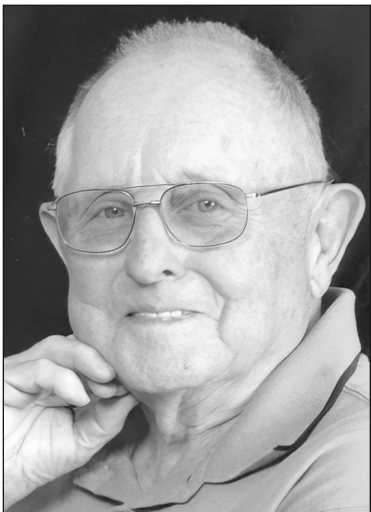
Emery Weber

EMERY WILLIAM WEBER, age 98, of Waseca, passed away on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at Benedictine Living in Owatonna.

Born on May 24, 1926, in Waseca, he was the son of Rudolf and Lydia (Kruetz) Weber. Emery attended rural Waseca Country School until the eighth grade. On December 11, 1944, Emery joined the United States Army and served his country during WWII until his honorable discharge on December 2, 1946. He married Grace Wood at the First Congregational Church of Waseca on September 7, 1957. Together, they operated a dairy farm in rural Waseca, raising two sons, Joel and Harold. In 1983, they transitioned away from dairy farming but continued to live in rural Waseca, where Emery assisted a cousin with his farm. He also worked in building maintenance at Corchrans in Waseca.

Throughout his life, Emery had a deep appreciation for auctions. He loved attending them and often traveled across a five-state area to participate in these events. This lifelong interest eventually led him to work with various auctioneers until a few years before his passing. The friendships he formed at these auctions and stories he collected over the years became a cherished part of his life. Emery enjoyed caring for his properties and socializing with friends at the VFW. He was a cherished member of the First Congregational Church in Waseca and Sweet-Sommers VFW Post 1642.

He is survived by his two sons, Joel (Betty) Weber and Harold (Joan) Weber, both of Waseca; seven grandchildren: Jon (Kris-



Emery Weber

tine) Weber, Melissa Gilmore, Christopher (Kristin) Weber, Megan (James) Flintrop, Alicia (Dustin) Stewart, Nicholas Weber, and Andrew Weber; and great-grandchildren: Bradley, Camdyn, Adelynn, Elijah, Ezekiel, Henry, Emery, Wallace, Grace, Dakota, Emma, Adrian, Eileen, Leo and Joseph; sister-in-law, Arlene Weber; nieces, nephews other relatives and friend.

Emery was preceded in death by his parents; wife; two brothers, Marvin and Melvin; sister-in-law, Janet Weber; and several uncles, aunts, and cousins.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 AM on Friday, September 27, 2024, at the First Congregational Church in Waseca, with Rev. Ken Andrs officiating. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca with military honors provided by the Waseca VFW and American Legion. Visitation will be held for one hour prior to the service at the church.

dsfuneral.com

Marcia Priebe

MARCIA ANN PRIEBE, age 79, of Waseca, passed away following a short illness on Monday, September 16, 2024, at Owatonna Hospital.

Born on September 10, 1945, in Waseca, Marcia was the daughter of Henry and Marie (O'Riley) Paulson. She attended Waseca Public Schools and graduated with the class of 1964. On December 19, 1964, Marcia married John E. Priebe at First Congregational Church in Waseca. They began their married life in Mankato while John continued his education. For the next ten years, they lived in the Twin Cities, where Marcia worked as a record keeper for North Memorial Hospital. In 1976, they returned to Waseca, where they raised their three sons. Marcia later worked at Waseca Memorial Hospital in record keeping before starting her own business, assisting others with their finances. She initially operated this business from their farm home before moving to Otisco Bank and eventually working alongside her husband at the Priebe Financial office in Waseca.

Marcia enjoyed playing cards, especially with the Monday Card Club, traveling, and attending her grandchildren's sporting events. She was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Wilton Township, where she helped with funeral lunches and participated in various church activities. Marcia was always willing to lend a helping hand and will be remembered as a devoted wife, caring mother, and loving grandmother. Blessed be her memory.

Marcia is survived by her sons: Jim (special friend, Laurie Mariner) and Justin, both of Waseca; grandchildren: Jovae Priebe, Jalea (Eric) Spies, Zach Smith, Ben Priebe (special friend, Madi Luebke) and R.P. Priebe (special friend, Grace Baker); great grandchildren: Kyra, Kendrick, and Cal Spies, Kendyl Priebe; daughter-in-law, Jenny Priebe; siblings: IvelLee (Norm) Wolfe, Dorothy Ihrke, Ilene (Bob) Nikoley, Diane Anderson, and Dale (Linda) Paulson;



Marcia Priebe

sisters-in-law, Yvonne Priebe and Norine Paulson; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband of 58 years; son, John P. Priebe, grandchildren in infancy, Noah and Samuel Priebe; brother, Wayne Paulson; brothers-in-law, Gerald Priebe, Dennis Priebe, Dean Ihrke, and Phillip Anderson.

Visitation will be from 2:00 – 5:00 PM on Sunday, September 22, 2024 at the State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca. Visitation will continue for one hour prior to the service at the church on Monday.

Funeral Service will be 11:00 AM on Monday, September 23, 2024 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wilton Township, Waseca County with Rev. Larry Sipe, officiating. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca.

Marcia's family would like to extend a special thank you to the Waseca Police Department and the staff at North Memorial Ambulance, Mayo Clinic Health System in Waseca and Owatonna Hospital for the loving care their mom received.

Memorials are preferred to the Marcia Priebe Family to go towards

Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness. DSOFuneral.com

Service organizations collaborate to raise more than \$5,000

“National Community Week” unites members of Rotary, Exchange, and Lions in a powerful week of collaboration.

For many years, this initiative has shown the incredible impact that can be achieved when local service organizations work together.

Rotary co-president Amy Potter challenged both the Exchange Club and the Lions to help raise dollars for the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center's Back Pack Program.

Potter said, “We are so thankful for the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center and all of the volunteers who coordinate this program that helps provide our students with nutritional food throughout the coming school year.”

This is just one of the programs local service clubs participate in that addresses key community needs, said Diane Beckman, president of the Waseca Lions Club. “We were proud to join the challenge.”

“With the commitment of all the

clubs' members, we were able to raise \$5,126.00 and collect some food donations this year for the BackPack Program,” Potter said.

Exchange Club leader Mikhail Rostislavovich observed, “By pooling resources and efforts, we as service organizations are able to create lasting, positive changes in our community. This project highlights the power of partnership and community involvement.”

Cindy Kolander, executive director of the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center said, upon receiving the check, “All I can say is WOW! What a great way to start the new school year. With the help of Rotary, Exchange, and Lions, the BackPack Program we will be able to fill over 1,000 backpacks for students who may need extra food over the weekend.

“Thank you, thank you, thank you, for your support of this program. We couldn't do it without all the community support your organizations have given us.”



Leaders of Waseca Area public service organizations collaborated to raise more than \$5,000 for the Waseca Area Food Shelf "Backpack" program, which sends food home each weekend during the school year with children who live in food insecure settings. Pictured are (from left) Amy Potter, Rotary; Beverly Herfindahl, chair of the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (WANSC) board; Diane Beckmann, Lions Club; Mikhail Rostislavovich, Exchange Club; and Cindy Kolander, executive director of WANSC.

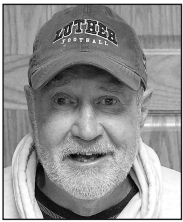
Skoll! Row the boat! Go Bluejays!

The Minnesota Vikings lost their star quarterback to free agency. Captain Kirk opted for the millions of dollars offered to him by Atlanta. Our new hopeful, J.J. McCarthy, went down with a knee injury in a preseason game. We drafted him high out of national champion Michigan and he appeared to be our future QB. All of the football experts and many of the loyal Vikings fans expected the Vikings to have a down-season.

Enter Sam Darnell, a QB who has not done well for NFL teams in the past. Despite that, he's been spectacular leading the Vikings to a couple of early wins and given Viking fans hope; maybe a trip to the playoffs. He delivered a highlight, 97-yard touchdown pass to star receiver J.J. Jefferson in a win over highly regarded San Francisco.

The Minnesota Gophers are off to a good start and are “rowing the boat” to victory. The Big Ten conference has added several new teams, making Gopher football much more interesting. Football has gone from a four-team to a twelve-team playoff to crown a national champion, bringing new excitement for college football fans everywhere.

Our high school football team is also off to a great start. Head coach Brad Wendland puts a super competitive squad on the gridiron every fall season. Ed Hoehn does a tremendous job running the Blue Jay youth football program and develops a great number of young players for Brad



Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika



Wendland's varsity. Brad and staff coach them up, aligning the Blue Jays to be in the conference and play-off hunt every season.

I coached in the varsity Waseca football program for many seasons and was honored and privileged to be the defensive coordinator for head coaches Terry Gilbertson, Keith Kottke, and Joel Tlayford. I worked with Terry for 25 years. Time to share some memorable Bluejay football moments.

Probably the biggest game I was involved in was a win against St Peter. Their team was ranked number one in the state and was loaded with athletes, even some division 1 players. We upset them and won in front of a packed house on our home field. Joe (Rocka) Hoehn rushed for over 200 yards, our players left everything on the field. St Peter went on to easily win the state championship. Pioneer sports writer Jim Lutgens covered the game for our local paper. Jim was a young, rookie, sports writer back then. He wrote a page and a half article with the story, pictures, interviews and did an Emmy Award winning performance covering the game.

Another great moment, we were playing at New Ulm and were behind by a couple of points and had the ball for the last play. We were 60 yards from the end zone, leaving little hope for victory. Lucas Miller caught a short pass and ran right with the entire Eagle defense on his heels. He eluded a couple of tacklers, reversed his run, and scampered down the left sidelines for the winning score. Coach Bill Walter ran down the sidelines, escorting him to the endzone, running over others in his way.

Gilby was a creative sixth-grade teacher and came up with the most creative coaching preparation I've been involved with. St Peter and Fairmont were perennial conference powers. We'd lost a couple of home games and were undefeated on the road. We were playing Fairmont at home for the conference championship. We decided to make it a road game. The late Bill Kemp drove us in a bus around Lake Sakatah in Waterville. We unloaded at our locker room, got dressed, played football, and won a conference championship.

I've also been involved in a couple of unbelievable football coaching bloopers.

We decided to punt on a fourth down. The punt team took the field and prepared for action. The signal caller began barking cadence to the center to snap the ball to the punter. I yelled out “Coach, where's the punter?” the coach yelled back “He's standing next to us.” Before we could call time out, our center snapped the ball to no one. The opponent recovered the bouncing football.

We were having a difficult season winning football games and playing at Jackson. Our opening drive stalled inside the Jackson ten-yard line. We were huddled with the defense on the sidelines delivering a five-up talk. We took a little too long. The referee signaled to start the clock. Jackson was lined up ready to go without a Blue Jay on the field. Their coaches yelled at them to run a play. The Jackson running back ran down the sidelines, uncontested, toward the end zone. The Blue Jay defense ran at an angle onto the field in panicked pursuit, just managing to tackle the Jackson player on our seven-yard line. The stands behind us were silent. I remember someone calling out “What kind of a bleeping football play was that?”

Have fun watching football this fall. You never know which approaching moment will provide you with stories to tell for decades. SKOLL, Row The Boat, and GO BlueJays!! GO Panthers!! Go Bulldogs!!

Council

from Page 3

ssessments is a good idea.

“This is a big deal,” Conrath continued. “I don't think this should be rushed into. It's going to take a lot of council and staff time and lots of public hearings.”

Conrath said this could get started in 2026.

“When we do things quickly, we

get them wrong,” Conrath concluded. “When we do this, I want to get it right.”

Mayor Randy Zimmerman said his biggest concern is the commitment, which he said will take 20 years because it is “a fundamental change in government and how we do things.”

Ultimately the council approved 6-1 the levy increase of 5.2%, with council member John Mansfield voting no. Mansfield, who is not seeking re-election, has frequently expressed his strong dislike for spe-

cial assessments.

Sonnenberg explained increases in this year's budget, which total about \$300,000 more than last year, are based mostly on three factors. Health insurance provided to employees as part of their benefits package will cost \$226,000 more than last year. Adjustments in wages paid to staff will add \$101,000. Cost of living adjustments in wages are expected to be \$157,000.

The total number of anticipated cost increases, Sonnenberg said, would have resulted in a budget up-

tick of 10.9%, but Sonnenberg and the finance director used one-time transfers from state aid funds to help bring the number down to 5.2%.

The final levy, which is scheduled to be adopted by the city council on December 17, cannot be higher than the preliminary levy, but it can be lower. Further discussion regarding the general fund budget and levy will take place after health insurance quotes are received at the end of September.

A budget work session is scheduled for Oct. 15.



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Rachel and Joe Riska played the role of "Dr. and Mrs. Forthright" for the Sept. 17 "Quacks and Cure-alls" trivia contest held by the Waseca County Historical Society.



All the participants in the Quacks and Cure-alls trivia contest enjoyed popcorn, beverages, and equal parts of confusion and humor as they answered questions about bizarre forms of medicine offered during the 1920s and '30s.

Pioneer photos by Deb Bently

‘Quacks and Cure-alls’ contest full of fun, humor

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

About 20 people gathered at the Waseca County Historical Society (WCHS) the evening of Sept. 19 to take part in the Society’s special event built around their current exhibit. On display in the museum are items ranging from elaborately formed stoppered bottles to needles and stethoscopes to a ceramic serving jar designed to infuse water with radioactivity. All are part of the museum’s presentation “Snake Oil: The Dark Side of Early Minnesota Medicine,” which will continue through early November.

Also associated with the display is an Oct. 19 program named “Violet McNeal’s Medicine Show World,” which invites those in attendance to see both “a human snake alive” and a sword swallower. The WCHS fall newsletter tells that Violet McNeal operated a widely popular show in the 1920s which used spectacle and misrepresentation to market “McNeal’s Miracle Elixir,” which she claimed could “cure anything

from rheumatism to a broken heart.” The Oct. 19 event will provide some entertainment imitating McNeal’s techniques.

The Sept. 19 trivia contest featured Mankato area actors Rachel and Joe Riska playing the part of “Dr. and Mrs. Forthwright.” Participants formed teams to take part in “a simple game of trivia” which asked about quack medicine marketed during the 1920s.

Questions asked participants to name the most common ingredients in some of the “elixirs” of the day, learning they were alcohol and mineral water. As the hour of questions continued, participating groups were given time to consult among their members regarding possible answers to questions like, “What was the ‘electromagnetic helmet’ advertised to cure?” (Chronic headaches) and “What toxic substance was widely regarded as having healing properties?” (Mercury).

WCHS continued on 9



In charge of planning and operating the Historical Society's trivia contest were (from left) Historical Society staff member Amy Danielson, volunteer Dale Groskreutz, researching Virginia McCarthy, and Joe and Rachel Riska.



The "Nosy Nurses" took home a hard-won set of prizes after an evening of 1920s and 1930s trivia questions.



Board approves preliminary 2025 levy

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

During the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva (NRHEG) school board’s regular monthly meeting on Sept. 16, district business manager Karla Christopherson summarized briefly that, of the district’s \$13 million annual budget, about \$2.4 million is covered by property taxes levied against land, homes, and structures within the district’s boundaries, which reach into three counties including Waseca, Freeborn, and Steele. The anticipated levy amount reached in preliminary calculations is that, whereas the district levied for \$2,402,000 in 2024, it is likely to levy for \$2,472,000 in 2025, about \$70,000 more, which amounts to less than a one-percent increase.

Based on state law, all publicly-funded agencies must submit a preliminary tax levy to relevant county governments. Counties then send property owners a statement during November letting them know what their anticipated property tax burden from all sources will be during the upcoming year. Taxpayers have the opportunity to attend a “truth in taxation” meeting in December, where they can acquire further information about how

NRHEG continued on 8

JWP approves preliminary levy

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

During the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (JWP) school board meeting on Sept. 16, board members approved the district’s 2025 preliminary levy amount.

Business Manager Wendy Dieker told board members the district saw a big drop in its “adjusted daily membership” (ADM), from 678 to 623. Although not exactly the same as the number of students attending the school, ADM is the figure used by the state to determine some portions of the funding the school will receive.

Dieker told board members the largest factor in the falling number are “post-secondary option” enroll-

ments—an opportunity for qualified students in grades 11 and 12 to begin taking college courses rather than attending classes at JWP.

JWP’s budget for 2023-’24 was \$10.4 million, of which \$2.5 million was levied from local property taxes. Its 2024-’25 revenues are expected to be about \$85,000 higher; the district’s preliminary levy amount is set at about \$8,000 less than in 2024.

Dieker explained to board members that many school districts list the maximum allowable levy in their September preliminary reports since the final number, due in December, can be lower than the one provided at this time but cannot be higher. She further explained if JWP asks for less than the maximum, there’s a chance the district could

JWP SCHOOL BOARD

short itself as further data is collected and numbers are revised.

The school board also approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the JWP School District and the JWP Education Association for the statewide Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act. As part of this recently legislated program, school districts receive supplemental funding for the extra time teachers must spend to become acquainted with the expected materials and protocols, but receipt of the funds is dependent upon reaching an agreement with teachers re-

garding how much time and how much pay they will receive for the training.

JWP has determined at least some teachers will need 87 hours of training and collaboration time to meet the state’s expectations. Superintendent Jeremy Erler told board members roughly 64 of those hours would be within the school calendar, leaving teachers to use about 23 hours of their own time. The MOU specifies the \$24 per hour rate of pay they will receive for those hours, as well as the means they will use to verify completion of the work. Erler anticipates participating teachers will receive about \$480 for the training over the

JWP continued on 12

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

Waseca sets 1.3% preliminary tax levy increase

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

September is the Minnesota School Board Association’s School Board Recognition month, and Superintendent Eric Hudspeth began this month’s regular meeting with a brief video honoring the duties and responsibilities of members.

Community Education (CE) director Nikki Benson presented a report of youth and adult enrichment classes and recreation programming offered to the community during the summer and into this fall as well as upcoming offerings. Benson told the board many of the youth programs were full and additional sections were added, and that her department is in need of a program coordinator to assist with the student enrichment and recreation programs as well as take charge of the gymnastics program. After temporarily using only online resources to share information, the CE department returned to printing a small

Waseca continued on 8



Sandi Prange, owner of Past & Present in Waseca, in the process of changing the decor in her specialty shop from late summer to early fall.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

27 years at Past and Present

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

“Past and Present” is a cozy little shop on the west side of North State Street, just past its intersection with Eleventh Avenue. Upon entering, the visitor is met with the smell of home-baked goods or floral scents, along with the peaceful sound of water fountains at the entry.

Sandi Prange and her husband Randy are the owners of Past & Present. Their experiences seem to show operating a store for 27 years

is no easy feat. The couple acquired the building after it had been in use as a gas station called Dave’s Service and Marine. To set up their retail shop, Sandi says the front counter was relocated, but other than that not much of the building’s layout has changed. The first room to the right has a 1948 Plymouth sitting on the hoist; it’s been there the past 27 years. Adding to the “automotive

Prange continued on 12

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2020 Gabriela Rodriguez & Zander Fitzsimmons
2019 Gus Boyer & Xander Spies
2018 Olivia Wendland & Matt Olsem
2017 Klaire Harris & Brett Attenberger
2016 Jessica Hodge & Tom Donelan
2015 Allison Breck & Hans Baumgarn
2014 Jordyn Berg, Mikayla Rolling & Jared Rudolph
2013 Corinne Dennis & Thomas O'Neil
2012 Loral Barrie & Gunner Johnson
2011 Erica Hall & Kevin Glynn
2010 Crystal VonEndee & Brandon Pederson
2009 Danni Collins & Justin Deling
2008 Stephanie Possehl & Caleb Davis
2007 Taylor Froehle & Ethan Schultz
2006 Abby Neigebauer & Dustin Platte
2005 Katey O'Neil & Kyser Bartelt
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2003 Megan Conway & Zack Walgenbach
2002 Charity Hall & Matt Hines
2001 Katie Bluhm & Ben Janike
2000 Lindsay Wadd & Jeff Mosser
1999 Josie Yess & Levi Kaiser
1998 Molly Arnold & Reid Bartelt
1997 Ann Staloch & Mark Boehme
1996 Angie Dennis & Ryan Krautkremer
1995 Katie Anderson & Jacob Conway
1994 Jane Slama & Tim Steffen
1993 Julie Dey
1992 Angela Harguth
1991 Tanya Jensen
1990 Cristeen Schumacher

WASECA HOMECOMING 2024

The 2024 Waseca Homecoming Court: (front, from left) Kendall Bowers, Lexi Kanewischer, Addison Pfeifer, Sophie Chanra, Lucia Mansfield and Mia Kanewischer. Back, from left: Joseph Mixteco-Perez, Ben Hagen, Damarius Russell, Tauston Rupe, Braydon Hoof and Carson Ohnstad.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

WASECA HOMECOMING 2024

WASECA
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1989 Tricia Hansen
1988 Debbie Born
1987 Deb Gehring
1986 Jodi Mullen
1985 Deb Kuhns
1983 Pam Harter
1982 Julie Gehloff
1981 Anne Pfeifer
1980 Dawn Peterson
1978 Lisa Fuller

1977 Shawn Milbrett
1976 Jody Pfeifer
1975 Elizabeth Welna
1974 Nancy Markus
1973 Penny Felber
1972 Dawn Felber & John Gleason
1971 Mary Welna
1970 Jan Nicolin
1969 Carol Collins

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• 50% of millennial investors choose to invest in real estate.
• The median house price increased by 416% between 1980 & 2020.
• 1 in 4 renters spend 50% of their income on housing.
• U.S. home values have increased 7.2% over the past three years.
• A little over one-third of sellers initially try to sell their homes themselves as a "For Sale by Owner" listing. However, only about 10% of sellers actually get their FSBO listing across the finish line; the rest give up and hire a real estate agent.

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WASECA HOME COMING THEN

WASECA HOMECOMING 1979



Patti Paschall escorted by Tim Warweg, Sara Sandberg escorted by Steve Kohnert, Jackie Johnson escorted by Dave Roesler, Kay Neumann escorted by Eric Henderson, Kelly Mokoff escorted by Jeff Sjoberg, Stevonna Isaacson escorted by Jayson Bezdichek

1958-59



THE QUEEN'S COURT
Queen Sandra Warner and her attendants are pictured here. Seated on the top row from left are the senior class attendants – Barbara Osmundson and Anita Torbert. The junior class representatives – Judy Bartz and Sharon Klinger are seated on the bottom row.

Jr Royalty
2023 Izzy Gilson, Milo DeWees
2022 Ella Marlin, Emmett Byron
2021 Mya Marlin, Peyton Teders & Korbin Collins
2020 No Jr Royalty-Covid
2019 Sydney Langager & Keenan Collins
2018 Abby Gilson & Ashten Benavides
2017 Zoe Popp & Miles Popp
2016 Audrianna Willingham & Ryan DeWees
2015 Ellie Hoehn & David Hodgkins
2014 Avery Madsen & Riley Mitchell
2013 Ella Holub & Alen Kopetzki
2012 Katelynn Hodgkins & Owen Link
2011 Lindsey Kopetzki & Parker Link
2010 Sophie Alinder & Ryan Wendland
2009 Reagan Vilt & Blake Wendland
2008 Kennedy Hodgkins & Marcus Priebe; Courtney Davison & Jonah Jimmerson
2007 Lexi Hodgkins & JP Swanson
2006 Alexa Shafer & Tyler Wendland
2005 Andrew Kaiser & Claire Harris
2004 Ben Weller & Whitney Davison

KING AND QUEEN 2005



Kyser Bartelt and Katherine O'Neil

2003 Konnor Harris & Nathan Draheim
2001 Torren Byrd & Caitlyn Hayford
2000 Kristen Williams & Matt Kaiser
1999 Tim Christopherson & Keari Harris
1998 Kyle Cosens & Mackenzie Koble
1992 Peter Swanson & Elizabeth Hansen
1990 Omni Ayers & Justin Ask
1989 Brittany Feder & Colby Swanson
1988 Katie Zika & John Robert Currie
1986 Lindsey & Brin
1985 Heidi Hammond & Brian Kunz

WASECA HOMECOMING 1971



QUEEN'S COURT: Terry Welander, DeeAnn Nissen, Queen Mary Welna, Kathy Eberline, Laurie Larson, Junior Attendants; Wendy Nelson and Greg Eberline.

1983 Anne Gilbertson & Mark Zika
1982 Hilary Feder & Jared Dufault
1981 Angie Hammond & Chad Gilbertson
1980 Katie Walter & Joel Wessman

1978 Krissy Williams & Tim Beckman
1976 Katie Bendix & Kevin Walter
1974 Eddie Williams & Debbie Williams
1971 Wendy Nelson & Greg Eberline



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Federal assistance deadline extended to October 27

ST. PAUL —Homeowners and renters who suffered damage to their property from the severe storms and floods of June 16 to July 4 have additional time to apply for federal disaster assistance. Although the Waseca Disaster Recovery Center will close at the end of the business day on Sept. 27, applicants have other channels which can be used to submit their information.

FEMA has extended the application deadline to October 27, 2024, for survivors in 21 Minnesota counties.

FEMA assistance may include funds for temporary housing while you are unable to live in your home, such as rental assistance or reimbursement for hotel costs; funds to support the repair or replacement of your primary home, including privately-owned access routes such as driveways, roads, or bridges; and funds for disaster-caused expenses and serious needs, such as repair or replacement of personal property and vehicles, funds for moving and storage, medical, dental, child care, funeral expenses, and other pre-approved miscellaneous items.

Disaster survivors who have not yet applied for FEMA assistance should apply online at DisasterAssistance.gov, use the FEMA App on their phones, visit a Disaster Recovery Center or call 800-621-3362. If you use a relay service such as video relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service when you apply.

For even more information about the disaster recovery operation in Minnesota visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4797.

###

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency, or economic status. Reasonable accommodations, including translation and American Sign Language interpreters via Video Relay Service will be available to ensure effective communication with applicants with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and access and functional needs. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362. If you use video relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service.

■ NRHEG

from Page 5

their money is being distributed. NRHEG’s truth in taxation meeting was set for 6 p.m. Dec. 16 at the district’s secondary site located in New Richland.

Public comment was received from Tracy Smith, who has children in the district. Smith pointed out that, while the nurse’s office at the Ellendale site is manned full time by a licensed practical nurse (LPN), the office at the New Richland site is sometimes not. “Unlicensed staff does not have the training to understand the types of side effects or unexpected outcomes which might be caused by some medicines,” said Smith. Stating that errors made by staff have already put students in danger, she went on, “For everybody’s safety and welfare, the district should have licensed [medical] staff available at all times.”

School board members were presented with certificates of appreciation in observance of “School Board Appreciation Month,” as sponsored by the Minnesota State School Board Association. As he presented the certificates, district superintendent Michael Meihak thanked board members for their dedication to the district’s students and their willingness to contribute their time, experience, and knowledge to keep the district moving forward.

During administrative reports, elementary principal Craig Kopetzki told board members parents have been complimenting the new student drop-off zone which is part of the expanded paved area added during this past summer’s construction projects. Kopetzki explained the new zone has a clearly marked one-way traffic pattern which reduces wait times and congestion.

District community education director Macy Whiteside provided information about preschool education programs. At the Ellendale site, 18 3-year-olds and 23 4- or 5-year-olds are registered; in New Richland, there are 17 3-year-olds and 23 4- or 5-year-olds, for a total of 82 participants.

Secondary principal Grant Berg told board members students seem to be complying with the newly implemented cell phone policy which forbids phones from being visible or in use during class hours. He reported that “Impact Teen Driver” seemed valuable and worthwhile, and that he hopes to schedule it every year from now on. The hour-long presentation, which includes comments and observations from state highway patrol officers and a dramatic video regarding the consequences of poor choices while driving, was presented to NRHEG sophomores on Sept. 4.

Student travel arrangements occupied a significant portion of the evening’s meeting.

Secondary social studies teacher Theresa Buendorf summarized the summer trip to Australia which she supervised this past summer through the student travel company

Education First (EF). Buendorf said a total of 48 travelers from NRHEG spent 10 days in Australia and New Zealand; the group included six parents who paid to accompany one of their children, as well as one adult chaperone for each six student travelers—the EF company’s recommended number.

Buendorf was given approval to organize a 2026 trip to Europe. She told board members the 10-day journey would include London, England; Paris and Versailles, France; Switzerland; Lichtenstein; and Munich, Germany. As has been the case for previous trips, participants would be expected to pay for the trip in advance; EF’s price is \$4,829. Any who cannot pay the cost all at once can arrange to pay monthly installments.

A trip to the 2024 Future Farmers of America (FFA) national convention came within one vote of being disallowed by school board members, all of whom expressed disapproval they were learning in September about the organization’s intent to transport 10 students to Indianapolis for an October 22 to 25 event. Members also expressed discomfort with the request to use a district school bus and driver as transportation, and with the apparent intent to have only one male chaperone even though the trip was scheduled to include participants of both genders. After a motion to disallow the trip failed on a 4 to 3 vote, board members instead came up with a list of criteria which needed to be met before the trip would be allowed. These included either sharing transportation with other FFA groups in the region or finding another means of transport which did not entail a school bus; taking at least two chaperones, one of each gender; and ensuring that criteria for selecting participants were fair and equitable.

After spending roughly 40 minutes of their meeting time on the topic, board members asked Meihak to draft a set of criteria for all future requests which involve student travel.

Before going into a closed session to address the annual evaluation of Superintendent Meihak’s job performance, board members authorized spending up to \$51,000 for new storage cabinets to be installed in the secondary band room. They also authorized spending no more than \$4,000 as a retainer fee to a legal firm whose task is to take care of legal paperwork which will transfer ownership of two parcels of land on the east side of School Street to the school district. Current owners of the property have agreed to donate the land, which Meihak says total to be about the size of two residential lots, to the school, as long as the district takes care of the necessary legal work and fees.

FFA advisor Dan Sorum has since told the Pioneer he is able to comply with the criteria and is going forward with the trip. He observed that his request to take a school bus was to make the trip eligible for a \$500 grant from the Minnesota Corn and Soybean Growers Association; the grant was contingent upon using a vehicle powered by biodiesel fuel.

■ WAF

from Page 1

“We’re sponsoring a comedian named Mary Mack and Trinity Church Ladies-Up from the Basement comedy show. It’s going to be at the St. Ann’s Parish Hall in Janesville and will start at 5 p.m. on Oct 12.” Anyone interested in going, the schedule will be: From 5-6 p.m. is happy hour/food. 6-6:30 p.m. will be the Church Ladies and Mary Mack will perform at 7 p.m. Grams made

assurances that all the comedy is very family friendly, “There is a lot of off-color comedy out there, this isn’t that. You can bring your kids.” Tickets will be \$40 and are also available at Gidgets in Janesville and Janesville Bank.

The celebration at Northeast Park in Waseca was a way for the WAF to say thank you and give back a little to the community and have some fun. Waseca Foundation president Amy Potter, who helped organize Thursday’s event said, “We’ve lasted 35 years because of all the giving from Waseca businesses and community members. From 1985

through 2024, and in that time we’ve helped Waseca county to receive \$5.8 million in donations.” For example, the organization awarded \$83,050 in scholarships. In 2023 there were \$9,950 in grants awarded and so far in 2024 \$20,400 has been given away.

To further understand the WAF and how they work, 16-year-old Abigail Claire Wendland’s life was tragically ended in 2011 in an automobile accident. Abigail’s parents, Brad and Monica Wendland, started the Abigail Claire Wendland Performing Arts Fund to help fund performing arts initiatives in the Waseca

community. Abigail also had a brother and sister named Matthew and Olivia. Because of the hard work and determination from Abigail’s parents and the WAF to acquire funds, students like Anna Burns received an Abigail Claire Wendland Spirit Award in 2012. And Whitney Storvick was a 2013 Scholarship Recipient. Anyone interested in giving to the Abigail Claire Wendland Performing Arts Fund, or to WAF in general, visit, <https://wasecaareafoundation.org/give/>. Leaders also suggest that giving volunteer time is another important way to contribute.

■ Putnam

from Page 1

and ‘For the Birds’ was born.

The first thing Vought said when she got up to speak was to give credit where credit was due, “Shirley Baker was our ringer because she used to be a florist.” But the credit for the bird cages didn’t stop with Baker or

Vought. The Wednesday Art Appreciation group, along with Art Center staff Dawn Schwartz’s bird paintings were on everything from buckets to canvases—including the cartoon feline Sylvester eyeing Tweety Bird. Executive Administrator Brad Donner, Education and Programming Director Christy Easton, Deanna Bendix, Mary Shemonek, Char Harguth, Cherie Jacobson and Trudi Redmund-Fisher all had pieces on display adding to or pertaining to the bird cages. One at the entrance

was titled, “Attempted Murder,” and featured crows surrounding what looked like a birdcage acquired from the Addams Family house.

Vought said she did her best to come by all the bird cages, antique or otherwise, locally. For the gallery show, bird cages are classified by season, so the complementary colors and mood enhance the display. One interesting aspect of the “For the Birds” installation was that Vought simply brought in her bird cages and left: When she saw the display for

the first time, she said, “They did such an outstanding job. I was just amazed when I walked in, and they’ve only had the bird cages since Labor Day.”

As the speakers said thank you and the crowd was dispersed to the Tea Room for sparkling cider and chocolate tier or to appreciate the artwork, Putnam asked everyone, “Please, when you look at my artwork, I’m more interested in what it says to you than to answer what inspired it.”

■ Tesch

from Page 3

bike. Russell and Marie now have their choice: They can pedal the bicycle as before, use the electric motor for assistance on hills or when they grow tired, or simply turn on the motor and head out for a ride, no pedaling needed.

“I didn’t think it was possible,” remembers Marie, “but it sure was a good idea.”

The bike is about 20 pounds heavier than before, the two observe. Though it might be able to go faster, they limit their top speed to about 15 miles per hour. With a fully charged battery, they can ride about 25 miles before it needs recharging.

When asked how it feels to ride the bicycle without pedaling, Marie responds simply, “It feels like we’re enjoying ourselves.”

The two ride almost daily during the warm part of the year, mostly around Waseca. From their home in town, they say they have endless choices. They make use of the city trails and often ride around one or both of Waseca’s lakes. They will also sometimes join up with family or friends. Other favorite places to go riding include Rochester and, as always, the southeast corner of the state.

Russell and Marie speculate that,

without the modification, they might barely be riding their bike at all anymore. “We’re getting so much enjoyment out of it,” says Marie enthusiastically. “I feel like we could go all day.”

Russell and Marie’s son Curtis and his wife Patti are also regular bicycle riders—although they do not typically go riding together. Curtis chooses to ride competitively, and so rides as much as 4,000 miles a year in all types of weather in locations scattered across the country. Patti classifies herself as more of a recreational rider, going for rides up to 10 miles long about five days a week during the warmer parts of the year.

Patti, 60, jokes that Curtis, now 62, “was glad when he turned 50 so he could be in the senior divisions” of competitions. Patti noticed she was slowing down about five years ago when her knees began to bother her, taking so much of the pleasure out of her rides that “I really wasn’t going out much anymore.”

She remembers that, at that time,” electric bikes were not well known, and some of her acquaintances laughed at the idea. Still, bicycles were so much a part of her everyday life, she wanted to give one a try.

Curtis arranged for a trial run and she’s been riding one ever since. Like Russell and Marie, she has the option of pedaling the bike entirely under her own power, using the electric motor for occasional assistance, or simply letting the motor do all the

work. She says she chooses her speed based on conditions. By law, they are not supposed to go faster than 28 miles an hour; faster speeds would classify them as vehicles.

She says her almost-daily rides take her “Wherever I feel like that day; all over Waseca and around the lakes.”

As for Curtis’s rides, “daily” has been an absolute for the past 15 years or more “You just need the right tires and good gloves, and you can ride anytime,” he claims. “Sometimes I have to wait for the snowplow to come, but it’s rare that I don’t get in at least 10 miles.” Curtis says he rides back and forth to work at Tesch Service Center along Elm Avenue every day, purposely choosing a route at least 10 miles long round trip.

He says it all started when, as an in-line skate racer, he decided to use cycles for cross training. He discovered he preferred bicycling, partly because it felt safer and partly because time spent training can also be enjoyable social time. If he’s not traveling for a race or competitive ride, he says he often joins rides sponsored in the Mankato area by the owners of the Nicollet Bike Shop.

He says groups of 6 to 10 people who “like a challenge” will get together and ride 30 to 40 miles on gravel roads with speed as a priority. Among the group, Curtis says, most have traditional bikes, but he is one of three or four using an electric bike.

“It’s really useful when they want to catch up,” he observes. His E-bike weighs 29 pounds; when in use, the motor automatically disengages when the bike reaches 28 m.p.h.—Curtis explains part of the reason is that any two-wheeled vehicle capable of speeds above 28 m.p.h. can no longer be classified as a bicycle.

Curtis owns nine bikes, only one of which has electric enhancements: each is set up for differing uses. One is a “recumbent” cycle, which has the rider much closer to the ground than a typical bike, and which requires a rider to use different muscles.

By traveling to participate in competitive rides, Curtis has been able to qualify for national-level competition: “You have to be among the top four in the state,” he explains, adding that it doesn’t have to be the rider’s home state.

He has three gold medals from the 2023 national competition: two were won in timed events, the third was for being the most accomplished senior cyclist “overall.”

He mentions having taken part in a 200-mile gravel-road race in Kansas which is “among the largest in the world,” and another which takes place in Oklahoma in March. He says he typically attends 8 to 10 competitions a year; his next one will be a mountain bike event in Wisconsin during September.

■ Crash

from Page 3

fire department, then the ambulances, then the hearse. The jaws of life were used to take the top off the car to remove the deceased victim, who was loaded into the hearse and driven away. Winter Pederson was

given a mock sobriety test, which she failed; she was arrested, handcuffed and put in the back of a police car.

Mark Griffith, director of South Central Emergency Medical Services, was present making sure his ambulances performed correctly. Said Griffith, “Not only does this give these emergency responders a chance to use tools they might not otherwise be able to use, which equals more training, it also saves

lives. With school starting we have a lot of kids on the road and if they’re going to be out, we want them to make smart choices.”

Griffith estimates it has been about seven years since a mock crash was organized in the area. The majority of the emergency responders were volunteers. There had been a drone in the air but it was not a police one, Waseca Sheriff’s sergeant Joshua Langr said, “Usually officers drone

an area for evidence, so the judge and lawyers get a better understanding of what happened. If criminal charges come up in court, all of that is used.” Extra credit should go to Winter Pederson, who put up a pretty good fight when she was being “arrested.” The entire event started at 1:30 p.m. and was over by 2:30, when the students returned to their classes.

■ Waseca

from Page 5

number of brochures, which are available at various locations around town.

Benson said CE strategic planning includes getting to know the community and learning more about the opportunities its residents would like to see offered. “We’ve been utilizing our Facebook account as well as continuously updating our website, just trying to get our information out there and getting more people registered for our classes,” she said. “Everybody’s got some sort of skill.

If we can find somebody to come in and teach somebody else that...It doesn’t have to be a three-hour class. A few weeks ago an individual came in and taught how to can tomatoes. It was one hour, just ‘this is how you do it.’” Benson said she is always happy to talk to people about things they want to teach or learn about. “We can make anything into a class. We’ll make it fun,” she said.

Superintendent Hudspith gave a start-of-school update beginning with the cell phone policy; he said high school teachers have been reporting students are complying with the policy that phones must be turned off during class. “Everybody’s got them turned off for that hour, so they’re not missing out on anything. Everyone’s in the same boat,” said

Hudspith.

The superintendent also introduced the possibility of a girls’ hockey program collaborating with school districts in Faribault, Waterville, and New Richland. The co-operative could be beneficial, he said, since the Waseca program currently has fewer than 10 players.

He also reported that enrollment numbers are holding at their current levels, requiring a new posting for an intervention teacher at the intermediate school. Interviews for a new business manager took place last Tuesday and Wednesday, with finals taking place Monday.

“I’ve been in the buildings a lot these first few weeks,” Hudspith said as he wrapped up his report, “it feels like a positive vibe. Obviously there

are the beginning of the year hurdles, but it’s as smooth as you’d expect it to be.”

Business manager Matt Moline thanked board members for their support as this meeting was his last. In his report, Moline recommended the board approve the maximum allowed property tax levy and not set a dollar amount, which is what he said 95% of all the districts in the state will be doing. The preliminary 2025 tax levy is approximately 1.3% or a \$70,322.02 increase over 2024.

Finally, the board officially approved the 2024-25 school board goals, updated the three-year governance plan, and officially approved the new student cell phone use policy. The next workshop will be October 3.



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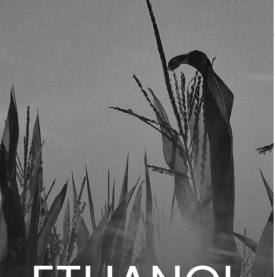
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ETHANOL

Janesville

1924

- The writer and Bibbie are standing on the street near the Studebaker establishment while the expert is testing the car. Something is the matter with the clutch. It don't amount to much but must necessarily be attended to. We step into a corner drug store a moment and from here note the immense traffic on the streets which is hardly less than is noticeable in the big Twin Cities. In the meantime the balance of the party have wended their way to the camp and placed the tent in position. Later the car is brought to the garage and all walk several blocks up the incline until we strike a street car line. A long distance is covered and we are dropped off at the intersection of a street leading up through a forest of poplar, pine and spruce and just where a high bridge crosses the dashing stream of water that flows from the extreme heights above.

- W. R. Cahill returned last week from a trip of over a thousand miles to Prince Albert in Canada. He went from Janesville to Winnipeg and then on to the westward. The trip was undertaken for business purposes mainly but other incidental things transpired to make it interesting. The country has been exceedingly dry in many portions which accounts for the light crop of wheat which is but two hundred and seventy million bushels this year to four hundred and seventy last year. This accounts in a very large measure for the rise in the world's prices in wheat. The country seems to be thriving nevertheless.

- Last week the strict Conference of Southern Minnesota of the angelical Lutheran Missouri Synod met at Janesville. Several papers were read in which doctrinal matters were treated and biblical truths set forth and besides a number of practical questions pertaining to Christian life and church, polity were discussed. The keynote of all the discussion was sounded in the sermon of Rev. Pfotenhauer. He based his remarks on the words of the 19th Psalm: "The statutes of the Lord are right; more to be desired are they than gold; yea, thou much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

1949

- A week ago Sunday more or less excitement was in the air on count of a black cat that had wandered to high places and landed up the roof of St. Ann's Catholic Church. Members of the Janesville Fire partment and a number of citizens had gathered to rescue the feline climber from its perch on high. Neighbors reported that the cat was seen on the roof of the church on Thursday, so it is probable that it had been up there for three days and night, or longer. In the accompanying pictures the black spot on the upper view shows the cat calmly watching the proceedings.

- The benefit baseball game played here at Northside Park Sunday afternoon between the Merchants and Red Sox resulted in a win for the latter by a score of 14-5. Art Cahill and Billie ast, former high school stars, shared honors on the hill for the Merchants with Harry Schroeder behind the bat. Bob Schueneman dished m up for the Red Sox with Joe Finley catching. Some of the players did not show up for the Merchants, but the boys put up a pretty fair article of ball, considering never having played together. Well, that winds up the baseball season for 1949.

1974

- The Golden Bears blanked Morristown 14-0 Friday night, but the win didn't impress the Janesville head coach. "Overall, I was very disappointed," Wiebusch told the Argus. "We had all the opportunities, but every time we got in close, some simple mistake or missed assignment would cost us the touchdown. Luckily for the locals, Morristown was making the same mistakes.

- If 20 singers decided to join the Janesville High School chorus today, rector Nancy Boettcher literally wouldn't know where to put them. With present practice facilities, she would have to hang them from the ceiling or cram them into the trophy case that lines one wall of the practice room. Supt. rwin Lochner would like to see more students participate in chorus, but he doesn't know where a larger group could practice. "The only room available now for chorus practice is the ticket lobby of the old gym," he said. "This area has 280 square feet, about the size of a 14 by 20 living room."

- Immanuel Lutheran Church of Freedom Township is celebrating their Centennial this to s Sunday, September 9. A service of thanksgiving and mission will be observed at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Herbert Mueller, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, officiating. The Rev. Walter Mueller, Austin, Minnesota, will be the guests speaker at the 2 p.m. service. Both of these men are sons of the congregation. Special music by the Sunday School and the band will be provided. The Rev. Stanley Rosenau currently is pastor at Immanuel.

1999

- The Janesville-WaldorfPemberton School strict has successfully started its 19992000 school year. Along with new facilities, JWP has welcomed 10 new staff members including high school principal Bill Bunkers. Joining Bunkers at the high school are Sheryl mlo, vid Peterson, Kersten Peterson, rcy Reed, and Mike Skinner. Joining the JWP Middle School are Pat Jarvis and Kathy Lawson; and joining the JWP ementary School are Cheri Barbknecht and Liz Winters.

- Janesville-WaldorfPemberton High School will celebrate homecoming week Monday, Sept. 27-Friday, Oct. 1. Queen candidates are: Brooke Anumdson, daughter of Blane and Kerry Amundson; Rachel Hahne, daughter of Bill and Paula Hahne; Heidi Johnson, daughter of Ritchie and Cherrie Johnson; Tenia Westphal, daughter of Mark and Maria Westphal, and Lindsay Wolff, daughter of Tim and Sue Wolff. King candidates are: Dan Gerdts, son of ug and Colleen Gerdts; Mike Goettl, son of Mark and Sandra Goettl; Ilon Kruse, son of vid and Rose Kruse; Carstin Nelson, son of Bill and Jody Finnegan; and Mike Singleton, son of Avie and Charlene Singleton. otes for queen and king candidates will be cast later this week. Students in grades 9-12 will vote.

- It took five games, but the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton volleyball team stretched its winning streak to two at Glenville Sept. 14. The Bulldogs won games two, three and five to pull out a 3-2 Gopher Conference victory over Glenville- mons. The two teams split a pair of five-game matches last season. Both teams evened their records at 2-2 for the year. The wgs won their second straight, and picked up their first road victory of the year.

Waseca

25 Years Ago: September 21

-Members of the 1999 Waseca Marching Jays took to the streets Saturday morning as part of the 12TH Annual Marching Classic. Taking home the parade sweepstakes was the band from Grand Rapids which brought a total of 171 students to Waseca.

- "This is a smaller remodeling jo," said Bob Breck, building supervisor, in reference to the interior construction work currently going on in the Human Services building at 123 Third Avenue Northwest. Prior to this project, Breck and his staff were involved in the recent remodeling of the Sheriff's Department.

-John Ross, maintenance foreman for Waseca County, has been working as the agricultural inspector part-time for the county for the past several months. At the County Board of Commissioner meeting recently, Ross said he'd put in thirty-six and a half hours a month in this capacity. He had been able to handle seed sampling, weed inspection and complaints.

50 Years Ago: September 23



-Warm welcome – U OF M PRESIDENT C. Peter Magrath (center) joins hands with UMW student Senate secretary Jen Manthey of Waseca and Provost E.C. Frederick during Magrath's first visit to the University's facilities this morning.

-Waseca's two-year technical college branch of the University of Minnesota will have support from the new U of M president but will apparently have to solve its own student housing problems. "I'm comfortable with the knowledge that there should be a technical college in Waseca, Minnesota," Dr. C. Peter Magrath told newsmen during a press conference kicking off his first visit to Waseca this morning.



-School resumes – UMW FRESHMAN Joel E. Johnson of Hector (right) signs for a visit at the home of a faculty member this morning as students began arriving for the start of fall classes at the University of Minnesota at Waseca. As of noon, 526 students were registered.

75 Years Ago

-MRS. ELIZABETH HEFFELFINGER, prominent woman in Minnesota affairs and observer in DP camps, will speak at Central high school auditorium Thursday, September 29 at 8 p.m. on Displaced Persons. She spent a month this past spring in Germany as a guest of the U.S. Army. This was the first time a woman had gone as an official observer.

-Four persons left Waseca yesterday and another will leave today to join the United States Army. All of them were enlisted by Sgt. Jim Carlin in the county court house. The four who left yesterday are Leroy A. Salsbury of Janesville, Charles Sutlief of New Richland, Arthur J. Cahill of Janesville and Harry L. Schroeder of Janesville. Salsbury enlisted for one year; the other three signed for three years. Cahill and Schoreder will enter the signal corps.

100 Years Ago

-A good way to store seed corn is to make shelves using chicken wire or small mesh woven wire for the bottom of the shelves. This will give free circulation of air. Make these shelves about three feet apart one over the other. An old bed spring may be used for the bottom of the shelf too.

-Characterizing Defense Day as an occasion fully as productive of sentiment for world-peace as it is productive for an understanding of the necessity for national defense, Rev. C.M. Brandon, in his address at the meeting Friday evening, expressed the opinion that persons who failed to participate in the observation missed an opportunity to register their stand for general amity.

-Jesse V. Kreeger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley D. Kreeger, returned last Thursday after four years service in Uncle Sam's navy, most of which the time the young man spent on a revenue cutter, U.S.S. Cygan, on coast guard duty in Alaskan waters. These cutters which are employed in chasing down and intercepting rum runners, poachers and the like, are sturdy little 110-foot boats with a 14-foot beam and develop about 16 knots.

New Richland

25 Years back

● Homecoming 1999 officially got underway on Monday night at New Richland when the Homecoming Royalty was introduced and the new King and Queen were crowned. The gymnasium was decorated in black and gray and white pillars that served as a backdrop on the stage for the royal court. The candidates were all welcomed to the stage area and each of the five couples then took their turn of walking on the runway, which was lit with small white lights that had been laid out on the gymnasium floor.



●Margie Borys with the samples of the new "ELLENDALE" fragrance and cologne.

In June 1999, Margie became an independent Sales Representative for Good Scents Ltd. The business originated in Princeton, Ill. Mary Jo Hetrick started the business in the basement of her home, mixing fragrances and filling mail orders. She now runs a store in Princeton making custom fragrances.

●Micheal Randy Dobberstein, son of Jim and Melanie, was born on September 8, 1999 at 10:08 p.m. weighing 7 pounds. 15 ounces and measuring 22 inches long. Grandparents are Elmer and Mable Dobberstein of Ellendale and Donald and JoAnn Ress of Faribault. Micheal has two big brothers, Brian and Jeff and two big sisters, Michelle and Allyson.

●Cole Brody Thompson, son of Jena and David Thompson, was brought to the Lord in Holy Baptism on Sunday September 19th at the Community Lutheran Church. Brody Richards and Stacey Kubiutowicz proudly served as sponsors for little Cole.

●The Women's Resource Center of Steele County (WRC) will hold the 4th annual Walk For Peace on Thursday, September 30, 1999, from noon to 7 p.m. at Owatonna Central Park. The Walk For Peace is a community awareness event sponsored by the WRC to kick off October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Walk is designed to provide an opportunity for people of all ages from Steele County to show their support for a non-violent community.

50 Years Back



●The Ellendale-Geneva Raiders girls worked themselves into a late holiday present by winning the first Ellendale Holiday Tournament Saturday night January 3rd. In their opening game with Emmons the girls got off to a sluggish start and trailed Emmons, 7-12, at the end of the first quarter. They started to pick up the Tempo in the second quarter and managed a 26-26 tie by the half. Then early in the third quarter, the Raiders defense took over while at the same time the offense ignited and the girls scored 22 points while holding Emmons to just 6 thus, led by 12 at the end of the quarter, 48-36. Each team scored well in the fourth quarter, but Emmons Couldn't overcome the lead and fell to the raiders, 67-57.

●Quilting came from the East long, long ago. Nobody knows who began it, where it began, nor when. Quilting is also an American craft, born out of Womens need to stretch their scarce dollars by using scraps of fabric to make bedspreads and at the same time to tell their families story and socialize with other women.

In Brief

Woodville Cemetery Tour Sunday, Oct. 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."

House of Rep. seat 19B debate 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday October 8

Edel Fernandez and Tom Sexton, both running for open Minnesota House of Representatives seat 19B, will face off in a debate from 7 to 8 p.m. Oct. 8 at the Waseca High

School Performing Arts Center. Sponsored by the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce, this debate is free and open to the public.

Christ the King Baked Potato Bar Friday October 11 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Women of the Word (WOW), will be holding a Baked Potato Bar luncheon with all of the delicious toppings--plus dessert, on Friday, October 11, from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at 309 6th St. NE, in Waseca. Cost is \$8/person. Proceeds will go to Missions. A drawing will be held for a mission quilt that has been donated by the CtK Quilters. Supplemental funds

provided by Thrivent. All are welcome!

Farmamerica Fall Festival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, October 12

Farmamerica's Fall Festival will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, October 12 at the Farmamerica grounds. There will be tram rides to view historic sites, a corn maze, concessions, bounce houses, puppies and farm animals. There is a \$7 entrance fee, members get in free.

Pub & Grub Comedy Tour at Starfire Event Center 7 p.m., Oct. 12

Andrew Wegleitner will be per-

forming 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

Kenneth Brae prison camp survivor at 6 p.m. Oct. 13 at Christ Community Church

Missionary Kenneth Brae was held prisoner in a North Korean prison camp and will share information about his experience beginning at 6 p.m. Oct. 13 at Christ Community Church, 2200 Fourth St. NE, Waseca. Korean snacks will be available. Admission cost is a free will donation.

WCHS

from Page 5

Since neither reason nor logic tended to be helpful in determining the answers, responses tended to consist of guesses, with participants offering some highly humorous possibilities.

The "electric bath," for example, was not advertised to end "life" or "infidelity" as some in the room suggested, but rather rheumatism--soreness in the joints and muscles. Thus, "Dr. Forthwright's" state-

ment at the start of the contest may have been proven true: "Never underestimate the ability of people in groups to know less than an individual."

The "Nosy Nurses" eventually prevailed over their competitors, the "Sassy Sisters," "Spellcasters," and "Hoorahs," to take home the prize: gift certificates to be used for WCHS programs and merchandise.

Along with the Riskas as emcees, the evening's entertainment was overseen by volunteer Dale Groskreutz and WCHS staff members Virginia McCarthy and Amy Danielson.

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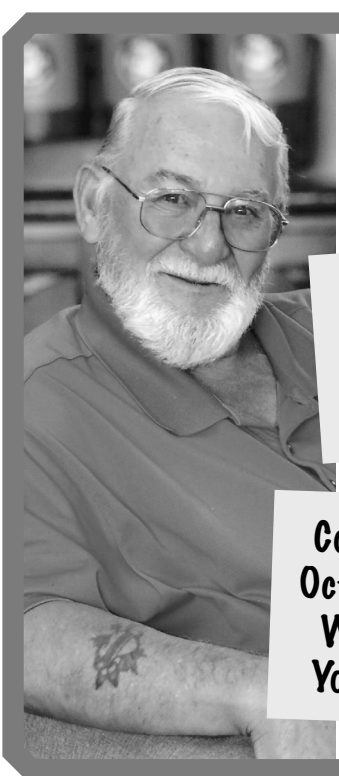
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6	7	8 Burger nite 5-7pm	9 6pm BAR Bingo	10 7pm HALL BINGO	11 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	12
13 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am-Noon Your Host Waseca Fusion Volley Ball	14 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	15 Burger nite 5-7pm	16 6pm BAR Bingo	17 7pm HALL BINGO	18 WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm	19
20	21	22 Burger nite 5-7pm	23 6pm BAR Bingo	24 7pm HALL BINGO	25 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	26
27 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am-Noon Your Host Waseca Chorale	28	29 Burger nite 5-7pm	30 6pm BAR Bingo	31 7pm HALL BINGO		

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Waseca City Council will meet at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 508 South State Street in Waseca to hold a public hearing, consider, and possibly adopt, the proposed final assessments against abutting properties for the 11th Avenue NW Rehabilitation Project (City Project No. 2024-02 – Assessment Roll #285).

The project improvements consisted of asphalt mill and overlay, replacement of deficient sections of concrete curb and gutter, ADA sidewalk ramp upgrades, pavement striping, and other related items of work in the following location:

▪ 11th Avenue NW between State Hwy 13 and 10th Street NW

The proposed assessment roll is on file for public inspection at Waseca City Hall. The total construction, engineering, and administration cost for this project is \$300,982.20. The total amount of the proposed assessments is \$36,423.75. Written or oral objections will be considered at the hearing. Adoption by the City Council of the proposed assessments may occur at the meeting. No appeal regarding the amount of the assessment may be taken unless a signed, written objection is filed with the City Clerk prior to the hearing or presented to the presiding officer at the hearing. The Council may take action to consider any objection to the amount of a proposed individual assessment at a future meeting.

An owner may appeal an assessment to the District Court pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 429.081 by serving notice of the appeal to the City Clerk within thirty (30) days after the adoption of the assessment and filing such notice with the District Court within ten (10) days after service upon the City Clerk. However, no appeal may be made as to the amount of the assessment adopted pursuant to subdivision 2, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 429.061 unless a written objection signed by the affected property owner(s) is filed with the City Clerk prior to the assessment hearing or presented to the presiding officer at the hearing.

Under Minnesota Statutes Sections 435.193 to 435.195, the Council may, in its discretion, defer payment of this special assessment for any homestead property owned by a person 65 years of age or older for whom it would be a hardship to make the payments in accordance with City Policy. Under this deferment, payment of the assessment plus accumulated interest would be delayed until the property is sold or transferred. Any assessed property owner meeting the requirements of this law may contact the City Finance Director for the deferral of payment form and apply for deferment of the special assessment on their property within thirty (30) days of confirmation of the assessment.

Nathan Willey
Director of Engineering

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Thursday September 26, 2024

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Elijah J. Lutgens Waseca County Pioneer Publisher 9/26/24

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF WASECA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No.: 81-PR-24-588 In Re: Estate of RALPHA A. HAGEN Decedent NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of November, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in the above Court at Waseca, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named decedent, dated April 19, 2010, and for the appointment of Larry Hagen whose address is 42390 120th St, Waseca, MN 56093, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and that any

objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper and no objections are filed, a Personal Representative will be appointed to administer the Estate, to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate. Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said Estate are required to present the

same to said Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or said claims will be barred. Dated: September 6, 2024 /s/Carol M. Hanks Judge of District Court /s/Shannon Asselin Deputy Court Administrator

PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A. William L. Hoversten, #47478 215 E Elm Ave, PO Box 249 Waseca, MN 56093 Phn: 507-835-5240

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Sept. 19 and 26, 2024

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The

Pastor's Column

Grace, mercy
and peace to all

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

This past Summer, I was able to reconnect with several friends from High School and College. We had not seen one another in years due to life, kids, work and moving. I was able to see friends from Camp, college, and ministry. It was good to see these friends and renew our relationship with one another.

We spoke of the past, what God had done in our lives from our last meeting, and where God was using us now. We spoke of what mattered to us, as if no time had passed between us. In these meetings and connection points we shared how God was leading and teaching us.

In this sharing and renewal of relationship, we were able to reconcile and encourage one another in our faith and ministry. One of the harder discussions was with a person I had not liked when we were younger, not for any specific reason, but just because I didn't like him. I was able to apologize for my dislike and we were able to reconcile past feelings to one another. I am glad that we were able to mature in life to forgive and renew our friendship.

We live in relationships with one another; we are connected to others, and we are fallible humans who cause harm to others. God desires that we be reconciled to Him and to one another. Paul wrote to us specifically about this in 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

16 From now on, then, we do not know anyone in a purely

human way. Even if we have known Christ in a purely human way, yet now we no longer know Him in this way. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. 18 Everything is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed the message of reconciliation to us.

The early church would have had people who had met Christ in person. They would have known Him in a personal way, but now know Him in a spiritual way. He desires to have us know Him in a spiritual-relational way. Let us renew our relationship with Him on a daily basis to know Him more and to be reconciled to Him through the forgiveness of our sins.

God desires that we be reconciled to Him both in the sense of knowing Him more as well as receiving forgiveness from Him. As followers of Christ, we have been given the ministry of reconciliation; a ministry that requires grace, mercy, and peace to be extended from us to others. In this way we can be reconciled to Christ and one another through the mutual forgiveness and renewal of relationship. God is wanting to use you to forgive and be forgiven in our relationship to God and one another.

■ Prange

from Page 5

ambiance,” the light fixtures from the original service garage are also still in use overhead. And the original tire racks are still hanging on the ceiling as well.

Near the space with the ‘48 Plymouth is a parts rack now serving as a home decor display; it, too, originates from the time of Dave’s Service. Not far from the service rack is an upturned boat; across from that is another display with assorted jams, jellies and dips. An entire bookcase offers candy choices for the kids, perhaps mostly to keep them quiet so the shopping can continue. Offered nearby are small solar lights for use indoors or in the garden, solar-charged candles, and real candles. There are also wind chimes and charming water fountains made from antique milk buckets.

Sandi’s connections to Waseca span generations. Her parents were local as well; she grew up with six siblings—three brothers and three sisters. A lifelong resident of Waseca, Prange has four grown children, her oldest son is the owner of Waseca Glass in town.

Sandi’s business card summarizes the store’s offerings: Vintage furniture, local handmade

barnwood furniture, silk florals, Minnesota souvenirs, candles and accessories, jewelry, local honey, linens, lighting, home décor, garden décor and greeting cards.

She’s recently started turning over her summer décor for the fall and Halloween decorations. With September underway, better to get a head start than to put it off. She pointed to the wall in back and the windows there, “This used to be a large garage door for semis when they fixed them here.” There’s an employee kitchen in the break-room and a warehouse in the very back.

The “DeSoto room” was space to display new vehicles when it was still Dave’s Service and Marine, said Sandi, “The glass windows in front go all the way to the floor so you could see the whole car.” The tour continued past another original parts rack now holding boxed soups, beer bread, dips, cheeseballs, local honey and of course lots of puzzles. Said Sandi, “Puzzles have been very popular lately.”

The kitchen in back also serves as the preparation area for Sandi’s free sample days Friday and Saturday every week. The samples, of course, are of products for sale inside.

Anyone wishing for a cozy little stop where life slows down, find Past & Present at 1101 North State Street. The phone number is 507-835-4000.

■ County

from Page 1

p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Community development coordinator Tina Wilson updated commissioners regarding a number of groups and agencies she is working with to advance financial development within the county. She said she will be “on the road” much of the next two weeks as she meets with various organizations and groups to assist with programs meant to expand the economic profile of various communities. She mentioned upcoming meetings regarding the

business climate in Janesville, an intended “event center” in New Richland, a “Forward” program meant to encourage rural students to seek employment and careers in local settings, continuing efforts toward acquiring grant funding for a “workforce development center” the county would like to establish in the human services building at 1000 W. Elm Avenue in Waseca, and meeting with a group from Germany looking for a “sister region” to partner with on projects having to do with agricultural innovation and energy development.

Wilson said Waseca County has many features which make it suitable for the German partnership, so she intends to meet with them and share information.

The Mill hosts Pinnacle Pro Wrestling

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Pinnacle Pro Wrestling took place at The Mill in Waseca on Saturday, September 21. Food and cocktails were available. Sponsors were Cars-N-Credit, 507 Cards, Ash’s Trainer Stop-tabletop games, Worth Clark Realty and Realtor Jason Sarazine and Cardboard Vault, a card shop that specializes in gaming cards such as “Pokémon” and “Magic.”

It was dark inside The Mill, there was screaming and the announcer was loud. The wrestling ring looked just like those seen on television. The corners of the ring have padded ends, the ropes have some elasticity to help with the show, the lights in the house are aimed only at the stage. The event followed through on all the familiar elements, including engaging the audience on an emotional level, with energetic cheers and gaffs. The house seemed to be at about eighty percent of its capacity.

Wrestlers Miles Mora and redhead ‘Irish’ Aaron Corbin were going at each other and the crowd was eating it up. Mora pulled Irish and flung him against the ropes on the other side of the ring. The crowd expected a body slam, but Irish was able to turn away at the last moment; the unexpected move left Mora open to be picked up and thrown to his back on the floor. The referee in his black-and-white-striped shirt slid over to the two men on the floor where Irish was on top of Mora. The referee began pounding the mat only to have Mora kick his legs. Irish was flung off; the match continued.

In the end, Mora was the winner. The referee grasped his hand and held it high. There was a lot of cheering as both men left the ring—both looking exhausted and shining with sweat. They slowed their exits briefly to give high-fives to fans.

Pinnacle Pro Wrestling is Minnesota’s newest premier pro wrestling promotion, established in 2023. Wrestlers include Miles Mora, Jason Rage,



Aaron Corbin competing on Saturday, Sept. 21 at The Mill in Waseca
Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann
Ghetto Gear Solid, Ethan Everheart, El Bano, and two-man team Caribbean Arrogance, Armando Alvarez, Aaron Arsenal, ‘Irish’ Aaron Corbin, Paul Virk, Petey Brown and The System. They also have on their roster women wrestlers including Malcauly Rose, Leslie Michelle and Kelsey Magnolia.
The next Pinnacle Pro Wrestling event is scheduled for Oct. 5 in Austin. More information is available at <https://pinnacleprowrestling.com/tickets/>.

Alaska salmon fundraiser at Real Life Covenant

By MIKE COGLAN

Real Life Covenant Church of Waseca invites area residents to meet Patty Burchell, General Manager of KICY Christian Radio in Nome, Alaska, during a salmon dinner to be served in the church social hall, 620 Elm Avenue West, Waseca, at 6 p.m. Friday, October 4. The free KICY Salmon Fundraising Dinner will be served by Patty herself; on the menu are freshly caught Alaska salmon and other dishes. After dinner, Patty will

speak about the joys and challenges of leading a frontier Christian ministry. Donations are welcome but not required.

Friday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m. Nome Alaska is a hub for gold prospectors, travelers to and from indigenous villages and mushers in the Iditarod Dogsled Race. It has also been home to the international Christian radio station KICY. Since 1960, in addition to Christian music and teaching, KICY shares world news,

weather reports, public service information, and live local sports coverage, including the Iditarod Dogsled Race. It is a vital connection for more than forty remote indigenous villages. The station also broadcasts across the Bering Sea in the Russian language.

Patty Burchell has a long history of service to KICY and became General Manager in 2016. Besides the programming duties and compliance with the Federal Communications

Commission, Patty is responsible for a long list of tasks. These include fundraising, staffing, strategic planning and spiritual impact. She is also the station archivist, and recently published the pictorial history book, KICY: 60 Years of Memories.

RSVP to Pastor Mike Cogan @ pastor@reallifecov.com;
Real Life Covenant Church, 620 Elm Avenue West, Waseca, MN 56093

■ JWP

from Page 5

course of the current school year.

He further explained that the MOU specifies the schedule under which the district will distribute the additional pay.

The school board altered its employee recognition program to include years of service provided by teachers during their tenure at JWP. The change will allow the district to use school funds to serve a meal for its staff or other employee recognition programs. Under the policy, however, donations remain the primary funding source. As the policy

is currently written, it only recognizes employees after they’ve retired.

“So if you have a year where you have ten people that are going to be recognized, is it an all in one thing or do you do ten different recognitions?” Board member Tim Burke inquired.

Whether it’s a teacher or a paraprofessional, Erler replied, there would be a different recognition for each month, depending on what the state decided should be recognized for that specific month.

In other business, the members unanimously voted to postpone several billing agreements indefinitely as they expressed concern about being overcharged. They planned to revisit the topic at the next meeting

after verifying the numbers of the different amounts.

School board members approved the 2024 Notice of Election; Laura Seyes abstained since she is on the ballot.

Also, after the school board opened up for positive recognition or comments, it was announced Palmer Bus Service, which transports the school’s students, received the Contractor of the Year award through the National School Transportation Association (NTSA). Palmer Bus service also received Top Transportation Teams Honorable mention at the NTSA Expo in Reno, Nevada.

School Board Member Katie Cahill complimented district social studies teacher Sam Schruin for an incident she witnessed having to do

with the school’s new cell phone policy.

JWP National Honors Society members were recognized for helping stain the fence at an area farm.

The Future Farmers of America (FFA) received a two-star chapter award from the National FFA organization and, in October, will be awarded when they travel to Indianapolis. On a similar note, Sabrina Brownstead will also be awarded the American FFA degree at the National FFA Convention.

Ariana Aguilar, Miss Janesville, ran a back-to-school drive during the summer Music in the Park performance on Thursday, Sept. 19. It was told she received an outstanding number of school supplies for students in need.

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CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. 4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH 605 4th St NE, Waseca 507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker) Worship Sundays 10 a.m. FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 801 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-3167 Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m. CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 6th St NE, Waseca 507-835-9176 Worship Sundays traditional 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship: 10:45 a.m. contemporary service ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca 507-833-1703 Sundays 9:00 a.m. ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 314 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-2647 Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-4548 (office email: lcwaseca@hickory-tech.net) Worship Sunday 10 a.m. GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.m. SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 4th St NW, Waseca Father Glenn Ferichs 507-835-1222 Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m. REAL LIFE CHURCH 620 W Elm Ave, Waseca 507-607-8245 Sunday worship 10 a.m.	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS 1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca 507-835-4640 Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m. GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 1221 8th St SE, Waseca 507-835-2213 Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m. CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 900 14th Ave SE, Waseca 507-833-1082 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m. ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir; 10:30 a.m. Worship Monday - 1 p.m. Quilters Wednesday - 7 p.m. Worship ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Mary Iverson Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship	VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Brian Schanil Pastor Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School Tuesdays: The Shepherd's Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Father Glenn Ferichs Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays p.m. Mass Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m. FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Larry Sipe Sundays: Worship 8 a.m.; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and adult bible class IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship TRINITY LUTHERAN Wilton Township Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor Sunday - 8 a.m. summer worship; 10:45 a.m. Worship starting Sept. 1 THE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS Waseca, Minnesota www.ldso.org Sunday — 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School Wednesday — 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18 TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH	412 N. Main Street, Janesville Interim Pastor Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:15 a.m. Worship JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 401 N. West St., Janesville Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter) ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St. Janesville 10 a.m. - Mass FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 Owen St., Janesville Pastor Sarah Krolak ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 404 30 120th St. Waseca Pastor Sarah Krolak 507-234-6463 Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; Second Sunday "Young at heart" Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. confirmation NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.
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MOWING DOWN HAYFIELD — At left, the Bulldogs Aubrey Weedman passes the ball in a 3-0 win over Hayfield last week. At right, the Bulldogs are supported by (mostly) vocal fans.



Photos by LeAnn Kavitz

Bulldogs trim Hayfield

The JWP High School volleyball team swept Hayfield 3-0 at home last week, winning 25-7, 25-17, 25-23.

Individually: Brielle Bure 16 digs, 1 ace, 2 set assists; Ava Appel 1A 3D; Nevaeh Weimert 13SA, 3 digs; Paige Walz 5 K, 1D; Lilly Strauss 7K, 1A, 3D; Claire Walz 3K 1B, 1SA, 1D; Aubrey Weedman 3A, 100% serving, 16SA, 4K, 8D, 1 block; Ellah Oliver 2A, 100% serving, 6D; Presley James 3A, 9K, 2B, 1SA, 6D; Katie Olson 6K, 7D.

The Bulldogs improved to 2-2 in the Gopher Conference and 6-6 overall while the Vikings fell to 2-2 and 2-7. JWP plays Saturday in the Nicollet Invitational beginning at 8 a.m. They play Tuesday at Kenyon and host NRHEG next Thursday.



ONE FOR ALL — The Bulldogs celebrate a victory over Hayfield. Among those pictured: Alexis Dahlberg (13), Aubrey Weedman (8), Nevaeh Weimert (3) and Isabelle Rider (10).

Karl 4th, Wobbrock 19th in Panther CC Invitational WEM/JWP teams finish fifth, fourth

The NRHEG High School cross country teams hosted several schools for their annual Panther Invitational last Tuesday at Riverview Golf Course near New Richland.

Teams in attendance were Blooming Prairie, Mankato/Loyola, Maple River, Medford, Pacelli, Randolph, Tri-City United, WEM/JWP and NRHEG.

As usual, the Panthers' Jacob Karl had another strong performance., placing fourth with a time of 18.09.

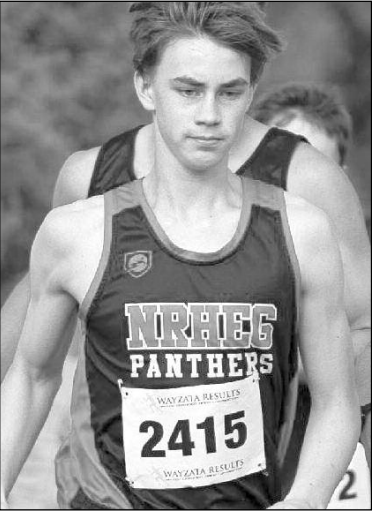
Mankato Loyola showed its strength as a team by taking four of the top 10 spots, winning the event with 24 points.

"Jacob showed that he is one of the stronger runners in this area and I feel that he will be getting below that 18-minute barrier very soon," said NRHEG coach Larry Nydegger.

The WEM/JWP boys finished fifth. Places and times: Mulder, 18th, 20:39.8; Alexander Kleve, 19th, 20:48.2; Auston Holicky, 40th, 23:26.8; Wesley Heinz, 43rd, 23:37.2; Jaxon Hillney, 54th, 26:20.5; Maddox Moreno, 56th, 27:02.8. Soren Kelly of Mankato Loyola/Cleveland won in 16:45.2.

On the girl's side, Pacelli took the team title with 33 points.

Julieann Wobbrock and Ella Jenno were the top two finishers for NRHEG, clocking 24.09 and 24.21 to finish 19th and 21st, respectively. Amelia Duryee (28.54) and Holly Bartness



NRHEG's Jacob Karl

(30.49) finished 44th and 47th, respectively.

"We didn't have a full team to score today," said Nydegger. "Julieann continues to be our top finisher for the girls."

The JWP/WEM girls were fourth. Places and times: MaKenzie Westphal, ninth, 22:43.7; Onikia Hermé, 20th, 24:19.4; Madeline Hoehn, 29th, 25:48.8; Madalyn Miller, 30th, 25:49.1; Emma Huelsnitz, 32nd, 26:14.5; Kwynn Krause, 34th, 26:53.3; Ellie Schlie, 39th, 28:11.1. The winner was Charlotte Meyer, an eighth-grader from Loyola/Cleveland who clocked 18:43.7.

The Panthers run today at 4:30 in the WEM/JWP Invitational and next Thursday at 4 p.m. at Waseca's Lakeside Golf Course.

WHS CC girls edged for first at Albert Lea

The Albert Lea Invitational was the stop for the Waseca High School cross country teams last Tuesday.

Belle Plaine edged the WHS girls for the team title with 27 points to Waseca's 31. Albert Lea was third at 71.

Bluejay places and times: Callie Dufault, second, 21:38; Maren Schimming, third, 21:52.8; Ellie Kopischke, fifth, 22:16.2; Taylor Markeson, 11th, 23:29; Ava VanDenHemel, 12th, 23:35.2; Jenna Yoder, 13th, 23:43.9; Kelsey Draeger, 16th, 23:59.3.

Finishing first was Adrianne Nelson, a Belle Plaine freshman who clocked 20:49.6.

Leah Wilson took second in the girls' junior high race. Camila Staloch was third.

WHS boys places and times: Tristan Godwin, eighth, 19:11.5; Tyler Jellum, ninth, 19:35.4; Tanner

Hanson, 13th, 20:24.3; Wyatt Hager, 15th, 20:31.3; Luke Feldkamp, 22nd, 21:57; Ryan Yoder, 25th, 22:47.2; and Machah Grannis, 28th, 23:55.2.

Belle Plaine junior Kelton Koepf was first in 17:05.7.

The Bluejays are in action today at the WEM/JWP Invitational at 4:30. The Waseca Invitational is Oct. 3 at 4 p.m. at Lakeside Golf Course.



Dufault



Schimming



TOUGH YARDS — At left, the Bulldogs' Chase Gerdt runs the football during last Saturday's game at Waterville. At right, JWPsenior Isaac Gahlon breaks up a pass.



Photos by Jay Schneider, Lake Region Life

JWP football squad falls short at Waterville

The Bulldogs were outgained 367-192 in total yards and had seven first downs to WEM's 20.

JWP fumbled seven times, losing four, and possessed the ball for 15:04 to 32:56 for the Bucs.

On Saturday, the Bulldogs host St. Clair/Mankato Loyola at 1 p.m.

It's almost always a challenge to win a football game at Waterville.

Last Saturday was no different.

The JWP Bulldogs traveled to face Waterville-Elysian-Morristown looking for their first win of the season, but came home with another loss to fall to 0-4.

The Bulldogs managed to keep it close early, trailing 7-0 after one quarter, but the Buccaneers exploded for 28 second-period points, taking on 14 more in the third.

Landon Johnson scored on a 63-yard pass from Daulton Bauer, and Carson Schultz ran 12 yards for a score before Gavin Bauer passed to Seth Dahlberg for the two-point conversion.

Third Quarter

WEM — Dawson Slechta 35 fumble return (Breyer kick)

JWP — Carson Schultz 12 run (Gavin Bauer pass from Seth Dahlberg)

Fourth Quarter

No scoring

	JWP	WEM
Total plays	41	54
First downs	7	20
Rushing	35-96	37-121
Passing	3-7-1	7-15-2
Passing Yds.	96	246
Total Yds.	192	367
Third Down	3-9	2-7
Fourth Down	2-5	1-1
Fumbles lost	7-4	0-0
Turnovers	3	2
Penalties	1-6	2-10
Punts-Avg.	1-39.0	1-28.0
Time of Poss.	15:04	32:56

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — JWP: Chase Gerdt 13-36;

Dahlberg 1-30; Lucas Morsching 3-22; Schultz 1-12; Gavin Bauer 1-11; Gavin Marincko 2-7; Tyson Kronbach 2-3; Born 1-0; Daulton Bauer 1 —5; **WEM:** Murphy 8-94; Atherton 15-83; Taylor 7-38; Breyer 5-25; Zachary Quast 1-1

Passing — JWP: Daulton Bauer 3-7-1, 96; Dahlberg 0-0, 0; **WEM:** Talen Taylor 7-15-2, 121

Receiving — JWP: Johnson 3 96; Gavin Bauer 1-0; Born 1-0; Caleb Quast 2-0; **WEM:** Tarek Tolzman 6-64; Murphy 1-30; Quast 2-22; Atherton 2-5; Brad Holicky 1-0; Jacob Androli 1-0

JWP Defense — Quast 1 assist, 1 int.; Michael Walker 1 assist; Parker Geariey 1 assist; Isaac Gahlon 3 tackles, 1 assist; Johnson 2 tackles, 1 assist; Isaiah Berndt 3 tackles, 1 assist; Schultz 1 assist; Born 5 tackles, 1 assist; Gerdt 3 tackles, 2 assists, 1 int.; Morsching 4 tackles, 7 assists; Avery Fall 2 tackles, 2 assists; Jaxon Miller 1 tackle; Luke Cahill 2 tackles, 2 assists; Aidan Rider 4 assists; **WEM —** Androli 6 tackles, 1 assist; Cole Bartz 5 tackles

SCOREBOARD			
Gopher Conference Volleyball			
	Conf.	Overall	
Bethlehem Academy	4-1	6-6-0	
Kenyon-Wanamingo	3-2	6-6-0	
Waterville-Elysian-M	3-2	11-6-0	
Medford	2-1	7-8-0	
Triton	2-1	10-5-0	
United South Central	2-1	2-7-3-1	
Hayfield	2-2	2-7-0	
Janesville-Waldorf-P	2-2	6-6-0	
NRHEG	2-2	7-6-0	
Randolph	0-4	5-0	
Blooming Prairie	0-5	2-12-2	
Football			
Mid Southeast - West			
Lester Prairie	4-0		
Norwood Young America	4-0		
Cleveland	3-1		
Randolph	3-1		
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	3-1		
Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop	2-2		
NRHEG	2-2		
United South Central	2-2		
St. Clair/Loyola	1-3		
Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton		0-4	
Mayer Lutheran		0-4	
Medford		0-4	
South Central - White			
	Conf.	Overall	
Waseca	1-0	3-1-0	
Jordan	1-0	1-3-0	
Tri-City United	0-0	1-3-0	
Albert Lea	0-1	0-4-0	
Belle Plaine	0-1	1-3-0	
Class 3A Minnesota Football Ratings			
Compiled by Star Tribune			
As of Sept. 16, 2024			
1. Stewartville	3-0		
2. Dassel-Cokato	3-0		
3. Fairmont	3-0		
4. Albany	3-0		
5. Holy Family	3-0		
6. Pequot Lakes	3-0		
7. Pine Island	3-0		
8. Pierz	3-0		
9. Waseca	2-1		
10. Fergus Falls	3-0		

Blowout at Belle Plaine

Football Bluejays roll 35-7, extending win streak to three

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Is the Waseca High School football team ready for Homecoming week?

The Bluejays definitely didn't let it distract them last week.

Making their second long road trip in a row, the Jays asserted themselves early and, after a slow start on the scoreboard, took a 28-0 half-time lead en route to a 35-7 triumph at Belle Plaine last Friday.

The Waseca offense continued to roll, while the defense remained stellar as the Bluejays won their third game in a row.

Especially impressive was senior quarterback Carson Ohnstad, a converted wide receiver. He completed 16 of 28 passes for 244 yards, giving him 200-plus yards for the fourth consecutive game.

Longtime statistician Rob Helms said he couldn't remember another Bluejay passer achieving such a feat through the last 25 years.

"He is using his athletic ability and processing at a high level," said WHS coach Brad Wendland. "It is a credit to him, his receivers and the offensive line."

Helms reported that Ohnstad is 68-for-103 for 956 yards and seven touchdowns through four games.

"That, coupled with his completion rate, is pretty salty if you ask me," said Helms.

Ohnstad has added 159 yards on the ground, scoring four touchdowns.

Damarius Russell was again dazzling at Belle Plaine, scoring on a 14-yard run and a 27-yard pass from Ohnstad. For the game, Russell caught six balls for 77 yards.

Ohnstad was the rushing leader with 80 yards on six carries. Bennett Ludwig continued to run hard, amassing 47 yards in 10 tries. Deven Parpart caught two passes for 55 yards, Deron Russell four for 47.

Included among the key moments was a heads-up play on a second-quarter kickoff, which no player on the Marshall team went near. Max Wirtz gathered it in and the Bluejays had an unintentional on-side kick.

"Wirtz is a tough kid who loves football," said Wendland. "He plays hard. Good things happen to kids who play hard."

For the night, the Bluejays out-gained the Tigers 446-130 in total yards.

Wendland said it was fun to see some new faces on defense provide some flashes, citing the play of Cyrett Long and Parpart.

The bad news coming out of the game for the Bluejays was that Ohnstad was ejected in the second half, meaning the senior is ineligible for this week's Homecoming game.

"We are excited for Homecoming week," said Wendland. "It is a great celebration of our school and community. We're looking forward to playing a good Jordan team."

The Bluejays and Hubmen tee it up Friday at 7 p.m. on the WHS field.



Ohnstad



Da.Russell



Long



Parpart

Waseca 35, Belle Plaine 7					
WAS	0	28	7	0	35
BP	0	0	0	7	7

First Quarter

No scoring

Second Quarter

WAS — Micah Allen-Haas 4 run (Owen Rupe kick)

WAS — Carson Ohnstad 12 run (Rupe kick)

WAS — Damarius Russell 14 run (Rupe kick)

WAS — Da.Russell 27 pass from Ohnstad (Rupe kick)

Third Quarter

WAS — Deron Russell 13 pass from Ohnstad (Rupe kick)

Fourth Quarter

BP — Walker Koepp 20 run (Adrian Grilla kick)

	WAS	BP
First downs	16	8
Rushing	28-202	23-52
Passing	16-28-1	12-25-1
Passing Yds.	244	78
Total Yds.	446	130
Turnovers	1	1
Penalties	4-45	1-10

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — WAS: Ohnstad 6-80; Bennett Ludwig 10-47; Jett Rohl 5-31; Allen-Haas 1-14; Kallen Glynn 1-4; Cyrett Long 1-4; Da.Russell 1 —1; **BP:** Koepp 15-49; Treyden Hiles 3-2; Reed Creighton 1-2; Jacob Fogarty 1-2; Ryan Sutherland 1-2

Passing — WAS: Ohnstad 16-28-1, 244; BP: Creighton 12-25, 78

Receiving — WAS: Da.Russell 6-77; Deven Parpart 2-55; De.Russell 4-47; Rohl 2-43; Ethan Hiller 1-17; Kolyten Quillen 1-5; **BP:** Jack Buerkle 2-25; Joseph Peterson 2-20; Caleb Eppen 2-15; Koepp 3-7; Josh Sparby 2-7; Jenrik Shutes 1-4

Waseca Defense — Long 5 tackles; Da.Russell 2 tackles, 1 int.; Hiller 1 tackle; Quillen 3 tackles, 1 assist; De.Russell 1 assist; Caden Danner 1 assist; Hayden Stencl 1 tackle; Parpart 3 tackles, 1 assist; William Mansfield 1 assist; Allen-Haas 3 tackles; Kyle McGuire 3 assists; Tauston Rupe 4 tackles; Brady McKenna 2 tackles; Lucas Selthun 1 tackle, 1 assist; Kaden Garza 3 tackles; Brandon Jascha 1 tackle, 2 assists, 1 pass deflection; Dylan Hansen 2 tackles; Julius Oviedo 1 tackle; Max Howard 1 tackle; Trey Jenzen 1 tackle; Kamerin Ferch 1 tackle; Malachi Noble 1 pass deflection

Editorial note: There was a lot of time to think during the last two road trips, to Marshall and Belle Plaine, who share the same team nickname in Tigers, the most common mascot among American high schools.

After seeing nothing but corn for many, many miles on the way to Marshall, it was thought that the Tigers should probably be called the Cornhuskers. Just makes sense.

The Belle Plaine Tigers might just as well be called the Belle Plaine Outlanders, because I drove on two gravel roads to get to the field, the first time that's been done since a state playoff game in Fredericksburg, Iowa many years ago.



GET THAT OUT OF HERE — The Bluejays' Brandyn Jascha (58) swats away a pass by Belle Plaine quarterback Reed Creighton (12) in the first quarter of last Friday's 35-7 Waseca victory at Belle Plaine. At left is Waseca head coach Brad Wendland.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



NOSE FOR THE GOAL LINE — Damarius Russell (3) dives to the pylon on the Waseca sideline on a second-quarter touchdown at Belle Plaine last Friday. Russell finished the night with six catches for 77 yards, adding a rushing touchdown as the Bluejays won for the third week in a row. At left, Max Wirtz (22) holds up the ball after recovering an unintentional on-side kick.



BREAKAWAY ABILITY — The Bluejays' Deven Parpart (25) is brought down by Belle Plaine defensive back Mason Bungarden (4) after a long gain.

Woodville Cemetery Walking Tour

Sunday, October 6, 2024
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The Woodville Cemetery Walking Tour is returning for its second year. Experience the history of some of Waseca's well known - and lesser known - business leaders.

The bus will leave from the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service and shuttle attendees to and from the cemetery.

The tour is free! Donations will be accepted to benefit the Waseca County Historical Society and Woodville Cemetery

Registration can be done online at dsofuneral.com, by calling the funeral home at 507-835-2190, or using the QR code:

Better-than-expected WHS spikers keep rolling

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

To be fair, first-year Waseca High School head volleyball coach Krissy Plonske warned everyone before the season started, stating the Bluejays would be better than people predicted.

So far, she's been spot on.

The Bluejays are 3-1 in the Big South East and 11-6 overall after last week's victories over Tri-City United and New Ulm and Saturday's showing at the Austin Invitational.

At home against TCU last Tuesday, the Bluejays were edged in a back-and-forth first game, 29-27. They bounced back to win 25-10, 25-21, 25-21 and 25-21.

"We really came together as a team," said Plonske. "We were smiling on the court and off the court. It was a great match."

Siri Kuhns handed out 29 set assists, Aliyah Taylor led with 13 kills, adding 17 digs, while Ellie Hoehn and Ellery Waldron registered nine kills apiece. Kalea Sartori had three solo blocks and four assists. Kendall Bowers had 19 digs, Kuhns 14 and Hoehn 13.

The Bluejays ventured to New Ulm Thursday and again dropped the first game, 25-20, but came back to win 25-9, 25-22 and 25-17.

"Slow start, but we pulled together to pick up the W," said Plonske.

Individually: Taylor 20K, 21D; Sartori 14K; Kuhns 23D; Bowers 16D; Kilmer 13D.

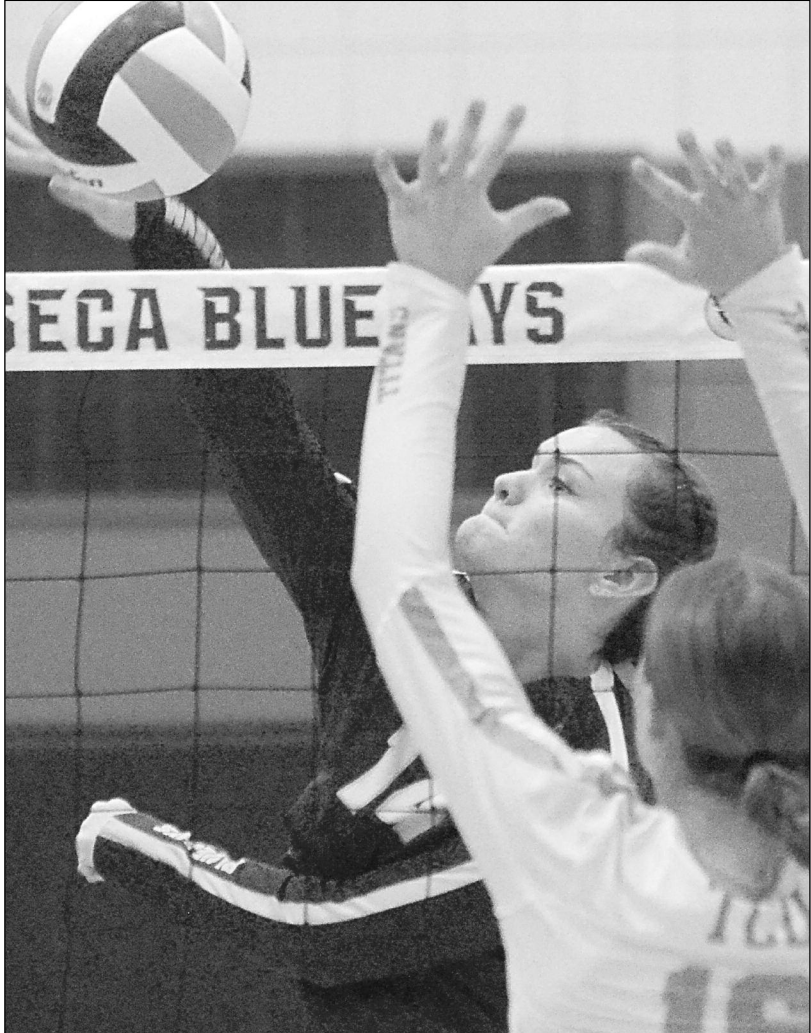
At Austin, the Bluejays fell 2-1 to the host team, 22-25, 25-18 and 16-14, and dropped a 3-1 decision to Red Wing, with game scores of 23-25, 25-21 and 15-9.

The Jays defeated a pair of Big Nine Conference teams, Albert Lea 25-21 and 27-25 and Faribault 25-15, 25-18.

Individually for the tournament: Taylor 49K, 30D; Kuhns 90A, 24D; Hoehn 20K, 27D; Bowers 50D;



SCORING POINTS — At left, Waseca's Alyssa Kilmer spikes against Tri-City United during last's week's 3-1 victory for the Bluejays. At right Kalea Sartori delivers a kill.



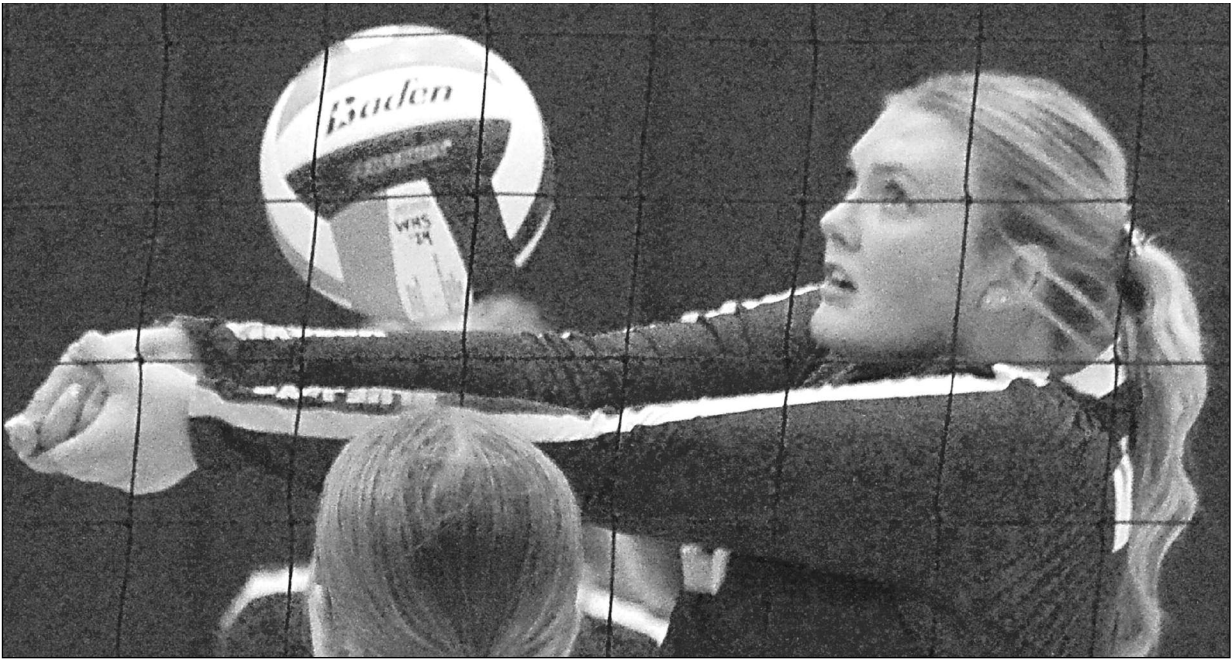
Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

Katy Eldeen 20D.

"I changed the rotation a lot," said Plonske. "I am still trying to see who fits best in what positions. We just have to remember wherever we are at one the court, we succeed and back each other up as a team."

Upcoming: Oct. 1 vs. Jordan, 7:30; Oct. 3 at Blue Earth Areak, 7:15; Oct. 8 at Belle Plaine, 7:15.

Big South East Conference Volleyball Standings		
	Conf.	Ov.
Belle Plaine	3-0	8-4-0
Waseca	3-1	11-6-0
Tri-City United	2-1	4-3-0
St. Peter	1-1	9-5-0
Blue Earth	1-2	3-7-1
New Ulm	1-3	2-14-0
St. James	0-1	1-6-0
Fairmont	0-2	2-9-0



PASSING PLAY — The Bluejays' Ellery Waldron passes the ball during last week's victory over visiting Tri-City United.

Tennis girls close to wrapping up season

The Waseca High School girls' tennis team defeated Tri-City United 6-1 in LeCenter last Thursday. The JV lost 4-3.

Singles:

No. 1 - Ellie Adams def. Takya Schoenrock, Waseca, 6-2, 1-6, 6-4 ;

No. 2 - Vivian Mader, Waseca def. Anne Cooper, 6-2, 6-2

No. 3 - Maddy Benson, Waseca def. Reagan Steffen, 7-6 (4), 6-2

No. 4 - Ava Miller, Waseca def. Destyne Wolff, 6-4, 6-2

Doubles:

No. 1 - Addie Pfeifer and Mia Kanewischer, Waseca, def. Ava Flintrop and Avery Lerfald, 6-0, 6-1

No. 2 - Paige Dufault and Layla Keith, Waseca def. Addison Houn and- Cristina Cruz, 7-5, 6-1

No. 3 - Pearl Moore and Hannah Rugger, Waseca, def. Camryn Holicky, and Hallie Holicky 6-4, 6-3.

A day earlier, the Bluejays traveled to St. James and lost 7-0. The JV fell 6-0.

On Friday, the Jays were edged 4-3 at Blue Earth Area while the JV won 1-0.

Varsity wins were by Benson and Pfeifer at singles, and the doubles team of Dufault-Kanewischer.

The Bluejays, 10-3 overall and 3-2 in the Big South East, begin section team play Oct. 7 after wrapping up the regular season Tuesday.

Big South Conference East Girls' Tennis Standings	
	W-L
St.Peter	6-0
Blue Earth	5-1
Waseca	3-3
Fairmont	3-3
Belle Plaine	3-3
Tri- City United	1-5
New Ulm	0-6

Another blowout for NRHEG Panthers pound St. Clair/Mankato Loyola, 34-0

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

After the first two weeks of the season, it looked like it could be a very big challenge for the NRHEG High School football team to turn things around after sta.

So far, so good.

A week after handling Mayer Lutheran, the Panthers ventured to Mankato Friday to face St. Clair/Loyola and came home with a lop-sided 34-0 victory.

"It was a really great game for the Panthers," said coach Marc Kruger. "We dominated in all areas. We're very proud of the effort. There was a ton of standout performances. The defense pitched a shutout, we blocked a few punts, we were able to move the ball through the air and on the ground. Now, it's time to get ready for Homecoming."

Last Friday, it was obvious the Panthers were only thinking about the task at hand.

The Panthers scored the only points of the first quarter on a safety, forcing the quarterback into intentional grounding in the end zone.

It was 16-0 at halftime as Harbor Cromwell scored on a nine-yard run and Jase Knudson caught a 17-yard pass from Alden Dobberstein. Aaden Hanna caught a pass for a two-point conversion, NRHEG's lone successful PAT of the night.

Owen Bartlett tallied two touch-

"We dominated in all areas. We're really proud of the effort. There was a ton of standout performances."

— NRHEG coach Marc Kruger

downs in the third quarter, on a 1-yard run and a 16-yard pass from Dobberstein.	
Sean Lassahn tacked on a fourth-period score on a 15-yard run.	
Cromwell finished with a team-high 67 yards rushing on 12 attempts. Lassahn ran six times for 50 yards, Ryan Schlaak 39 on eight runs.	
Dobberstein was 4-for-10 passing for 54 yards and two interceptions.	
The Panthers, 2-2, host Medford for Homecoming this Friday at 7 p.m.	
Fourth Quarter NRHEG — Sean Lassahn 15 run (kick failed)	
	NRHEG SC/ML
Total plays	43 43
First downs	12 4
Rushing Yds.	177 33
Passing	4-10-2 6-14-1
Passing Yds.	54 63
Total Yds.	231 96
Third Down	3-6 0-10
Fourth Down	0-1 0-3
Fumbles lost	0 0
Turnovers	2 1
Penalties	5-51 4-20
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Rushing — NRHEG: Cromwell 12-67; Lassahn 6-50; Ryan Schlaak 8-39; Dobberstein 7-17; Gavin Sletten 1-3; Bartlett 1-1; SC: 25-26	
Passing — NRHEG: Dobberstein 4-10-2, 54; SC: 6-14-1, 63	
Receiving — NRHEG: Knudson 2-28; Bartlett 1-16; Aidan Schlaak 1-10; SC: 6-63	
NRHEG Defense — R.Schlaak 6 tackles, 1 assist; Jace Ihrke 4 tackles, 2 assists; J.Brouwers 2 tackles, 1 assist, 1 safety; Carter Martens 2 tackles; Cromwell 1 tackle; J.Fleming 1 tackle, 1 assist; Wyatt Larson 1 tackle; Cole Hutchens 1 tackle; A.Schlaak 1 int.; H.Winkler 1 int.	
First Quarter NRHEG — Safety (intentional grounding in end zone)	
Second Quarter NRHEG — Harbor Cromwell 9 run (kick failed) NRHEG — Jase Knudson 17 pass from Alden Dobberstein (Aaden Hanna pass from Dobberstein)	
Third Quarter NRHEG — Owen Bartlett 1 run (PAT failed) NRHEG — Bartlett 16 pass from	



DOMINANT PERFORMANCE — The NRHEG High School football team won its second game of the season last Friday, 34-0 at St. Clair/Mankato Loyola. At left, the Panther's Aaden Hanna (9) blocks a punt. At right, Jordan Brouwers (54) gets into the face of the quarterback.

Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

WHS soccer boys break into victory column; girls just keep on winning

The Waseca High School boys' soccer team finally broke into the win column.

The WHS girls' squad just kept on winning.

The boys knocked off Wings United 1-0 at home last Tuesday. Two nights later, they fell 4-1 at New Ulm and Friday 7-0 at Austin, running their record to 0-4 in the Big South and 1-9-1 overall.

The girls, meanwhile, defeated Wings United Tuesday and topped New Ulm Thursday, improving to 3-1 in conference play and 7-2-1 overall.

Upcoming for the boys: today at Zumbrota, 4 p.m.; Saturday at Red Wing, noon; Tuesday vs. Tri-City United, 7 p.m.

For the girls: Saturday vs. Red Wing, noon; Monday at Kasson-Mantorville, 7 p.m.; Tuesday at TCU, 7 p.m.

BLUEJAY FOOTBALL

PLAYER of the WEEK

Lucas Selthun

starting guard on offense, LB on defense.

Bluejay Football Player of the Week Sponsored by:

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Waseca Marching Classic • Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024



Pioneer photos by Amelia Roessler, Deb Bently and Ben Revermann

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