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Celebrated

Waseca American Legion Adult Carnival 5 p.m. Jan. 26

An American Legion fundraiser set to begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, will include beer and wine tasting, a “wine wall,” games with prizes, and both a silent and a live auction. Food will include Philly cheesesteak, loaded fries, and more. For more information: 507-833-9935.

Farmamerica Winter Charm on the Farm 11 a.m. January 27 and February 3

Family oriented Winter Charm on the Farm will be at Farmamerica from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Celebrate winter with carriage rides, snowshoeing, s'mores, hot chocolate, snow painting and more. Tickets can be purchased on Farmamerica's website. More information by calling 507-835-2052.

Waseca Area Care-giver Services Fund-raiser 8 a.m. Jan.28

A fundraiser is being held to support veterans and under-served communities is being hosted January 28 at the Waseca VFW by Waseca Area Caregiver Services. The fundraiser will be an All-You-Can-Eat breakfast with a bake sale, and music provided by Kozy. Breakfast is from 8 a.m. to 12 or while supplies last.

Sacred Heart open house Jan. 28, 11 a.m.

Sacred Heart School and Children's House Montessori will host an open house on Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 11:00 am to Noon. Registration will be open for new and returning students for Kindergarten through 4th grade, as well as Pre-K and daycare. 308 West Elm Ave., Waseca. Call 507-835-2780 with any questions, or to arrange a school tour at a different time. All faiths welcome!

Waseca High School talent show February 5 at 7 p.m.

Waseca High School's Annual Talent Show will take place on Monday, February 5 at 7 p.m. in the PAC. Students from grades 9-12 will be showing off their talents! Community members are welcome and encouraged to attend. This event is hosted by the High School Student Council as a part of this year's SNOW WEEK (running February 5 - 9). We are asking for free will donations to help cover the cost of our snow week activities (suggested donation is \$5).

Waseca Junior and Senior high bands performing Feb. 10

Waseca Jr/Sr High Jazz Bands are performing at Farmamerica Saturday, Feb. 10 from 7-9pm. Swing dance lessons will be provided from 7-7:30, with open dancing from 7:30-9. Dance lessons are free with admission. Admission is \$7 adults/\$4 students. Age 5 and under is free. Refreshments available for purchase.

A word from
The Word

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:8

Waseca Sleigh and Cutter Pageant

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

Six candidates were crowned at the Waseca Sleigh and Cutter Pageant at the Owatonna High School on Saturday, Jan. 20.

New 2024 royalty are Miss Waseca Sleigh and Cutter, Jasmin Kotek; Miss Congeniality, Alexis Cran; Miss Congeniality Teen, Paige Johnson; Miss Waseca County Sleigh and Cutter Teen 2024, Aadhavi Natarajan; Miss Southern Minnesota, Morgan Mohler; and Miss South Minnesota's Outstanding Teen, Kylee Gorsha.

Pageant continued on 3

Miss Waseca



Jasmin Kotek (middle) is overcome as the reality sets in that she is the new Miss Waseca Sleigh and Cutter for 2024 and lets her gratitude show to former Miss Southern Minnesota 2023, Kloe Wadd (left) Pioneer photos by Rachael Jaeger

Ghost stories persist Garland has been dead for 105 years

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

“Once in a while things happen in life that you just have no explanation for,” observes Patty Masberg, who has had a nearly lifelong connection with the Waseca County Courthouse because her father was a county recorder and she went on to work as an abstractor. She and other long-term workers in the building have come across quite a list of those “unexplainable” things.

The list begins, in more ways than one, with a mysterious, unexpected death by hanging—declared a suicide—on January 26 of 1919.

According to a variety of sources, including news articles written at the time and research into family histories, Ralph Daniel Garland, not quite 40 years old, happily married and the father of children aged 9 and

11, had been the county's deputy auditor for more than a decade. Only three days before, he had begun a new job with First National Bank and, by all accounts, was delighted to have made a change.

Despite that, on the morning of Sunday, January 26, 1919, he told his family he was going to the courthouse to take care of some bookwork. In addition to other positions in the community, he was the City of Waseca's elected treasurer; he said he would be working on the city books, but expected to be home for the mid-day meal. When he had not returned by 1:30 his wife, Blanche, became concerned and went to look for him.

Once she found someone with

Courthouse continued on 12



Former Waseca County Deputy Auditor Ralph Garland was found dead on this narrow staircase on January 26, 1919. No longer used because it does not meet modern safety standards, the stairs are located inside a fireproof vault in the Waseca County Courthouse. So-called "forever files"—some of them perhaps written by Garland himself—are stored in the two-story space. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County-run cemeteries now under new policy

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

At the suggestion of facilities management director Brian Tomford, Waseca County's board of commissioners recently adopted a policy regarding burials in five cemeteries which, over time, have come under the management of the county.

Tomford mentions that requests for burial in the county-maintained cemeteries are fairly rare, but a few have come in over his 12 years as the county's facility manager.

The most recent request is from lifelong area resident Mike Coy, who submitted a request for burial in Vivian Township's Radloff Cemetery. He states that burial there will be like coming home, since the farmland surrounding the property was owned by his uncle during his childhood. He remembers playing there with his cousins, sisters and brothers. “Maybe it was weird to play in a cemetery,” he says. “But it was a place we could go to get away from the adults and be kids. We just loved to explore.”

Coy's uncle is buried in the cemetery. His cousin still owns the homestead and some of the former farm acreage across the road. So, although Coy will be the first burial on the half-acre site in a very long time, he does not think it will be a lonely place.

The five sites, totaling three acres, are located in Vivian, Freedom and Iosco townships. Graves at some of the locations date from pioneer times, while some grave lots belong to still living persons who purchased them when the property was under the control of an active cemetery board.

The policy states that “Waseca

Cemeteries continued on 4



Pictured is the home located in Otisco township lost to fire.

Otisco home total loss to fire

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

A fire occurred Thursday night at the home of Trent Bramer in Otisco Township. The house is located off County Road 5 and was deemed a total loss. No one was injured. Unofficially the structure fire appears to

have originated in the garage before spreading to the rest of the house.

The following agencies assisted: Waseca Fire Department, along with departments from New Richland, Owatonna, Ellendale, Waldorf, and Janesville; also assisting were the Waseca County Sheriff Office, dis-

patch and the State Fire Marshal office.

“Many hands and tankers were needed in the cold temperatures,” noted a statement from the Waseca fire department.

A GoFundMe campaign was started to support the family.

Bramer, who lost his home and all his belongings, is a single dad with two young daughters. The link can be found:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/29dkzg-help-family-who-lost-their-home>.

Compostings

by Al Batt

The secret to winter is to wear layers

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS’ CLUB MEETING

I think I’ll have my class reunion at my place. I’ll provide all the food, valet parking and a place for everyone to spend the night.

Wow! That will be a great expense for you.

Naw, I was homeschooled.

DRIVING BY BRUCE’S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I walked on a day when shivering counted as exercise and I took on the quixotic undertaking of shoveling snow, hoping the wind would let the snow stay where I put it. Another January day had passed without a single sighting of a polar bear in the neighborhood. Someone called the less-than-perfect weather disrespectful. The weather didn’t care. I needed to get to town. There was a merry throng waiting to ask me if it was cold enough for me.

CORNFIELD MEMORIES ON A WINTER’S DAY

I walked through a cornfield years ago. I didn’t say anything. There were too many ears around. I watched the mail come to our mailbox. I wondered if Harvey Bell, our crackerjack rural carrier who brought us letters, bills and optimistic envelopes declaring I may already be a winner, had a life before he became our rural carrier, but the thought was pre-post-office-erous.

GOING TO TOWN

I stopped at the grocery store with a piece of paper torn from a scratch pad from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital listing the items I needed to get. I like stores without self-checkouts. I watch shoppers using them, with many seeking second opinions. I paused in the cereal aisle to marvel at the variety and listened to the news a friend shared with me. I heard it through the Grape Nuts.

I hauled 325 books to the library bookstore. I counted them. My grandmother on my mother’s side was a teacher, and my grandfather built homes and furniture. One came to this country from Sweden, the other from Germany. Grandma had books galore. When she died, her daughters gave her books away willy-nilly. Later, they learned Grandma had saved emergency or mad money by using paper money as bookmarks. I checked all my books before giving them away and wasn’t surprised to learn no bills were acting as bookmarks.

A KENTUCKY COGITATION

I recall tuning the dial until I heard the legendary Cawood Ledford call the Kentucky Wildcats

basketball game while accompanied by the crackling of the AM radio prone to chronic static. Ledford began by saying, “Hello, everybody, this is Cawood Ledford,” and likely originated the now commonplace description that goes something like this: “The Wildcats will be moving left to right on your radio dial.” The radio was a magical thing filled with information and imagination. It caused me to want to visit the Bluegrass State. It was a Chamber of Commerce Day when I spoke at Kenlake State Resort Park in western Kentucky near the Land Between the Lakes, a 170,000-acre nature paradise. Its Kentucky Lake has the longest shoreline of any manmade lake in the eastern U.S. I enjoyed seeing the elk and bison prairie. Kentucky has the highest elk population of any state east of the Mississippi River, with 11,000 animals.

I’VE LEARNED

The secret to dressing for winter is to come the closest to having too many layers without going over. The book is better.

I have three unwritten rules. They are:

My brain has more room since I don’t have to remember any phone numbers.

That “yletulosba gnihton” spelled backward means absolutely nothing.

When it snows, we no longer grab a shovel. We grab the cell-phone first and post photos of snow on social media.

ASK AL

“What is an example of a low-hanging fruit?” Watermelon.

“What’s the most influential song of all time?” The one played by ice cream trucks.

“Why do people like hot dogs so much?” Hot dogs don’t have legs, which makes them easy to catch.

“What is the element of surprise?” Oh!

NATURE NOTES

I look at the natural world with wonder and I wonder what I’m looking at. I counted goldfinches, pine siskins and house finches at the feeders and hoped for redpolls and purple finches. Birding is a game of finches. I saw a few flocks of snow buntings on roadsides. Snow buntings have an overall white appearance. Dark-eyed juncos often migrate to the same area every winter and stay within 10 to 12 acres. There is a social hierarchy to the winter flocks. Male juncos are dominant over females, and adults are dominant over younger birds. Males tend to winter farther north than females.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Being kind is the applause for others.

Community celebrated

Six outstanding awards delivered



The following groups were recognized with awards Monday evening: Cindy Kolander for the Waseca Area Food Shelf for Community Development Award; Anna Pollock for the Distinguished Young Professional Service Award; Joe Isder for Boss of the Year; Tom Sexton for Exchange Book Club of Golden Deeds, Ann Fitch for Rotary Service Above Self, and, not pictured, Ed Frederick for the Don Eustice Community Service Award.

Pollock, Isder, Sexton, Fitch, Frederick, Waseca Area Food Shelf honored

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

Six community awards recognizing outstanding local accomplishments were presented during a Waseca Area Chamber banquet at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca on January 22. Recipients were: Anna Pollock, Distinguished Young Professional Service Award; Joe Isder as the area Boss of the Year; the Waseca Area Food Shelf earning the Community Development Award. Tom Sexton received the Exchange Club “Book of Golden Deeds.” Ann Fitch was honored with the Rotary “Service Above Self” title, and Ed Frederick received the Don Eustice Community Service Award.

Jim Ferch from the Chamber of Commerce presented a new award called the Dr. Edward Frederick Award to Tiffany Lynch, Ambassador of ICAN. A few years ago, the Chamber of Commerce renamed the “Ambassador of the Year” award to the Dr. Edward Frederick Award. Lynch was acknowledged for the most consistent attendance at chamber meetings and for demonstrating a willingness to help with Chamber of Commerce events.

Ferch noted Lynch has been especially helpful at the golf tournament, considered a huge success.

Amy Potter, a co-president of the Rotary Club, presented Ann Fitch, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, with the Waseca Rotary club’s “Service Above Self” award.

“In her work role, she is in the community often and everywhere, bringing accolades and awareness to our businesses,” Potter said. “Her passion shows in her service to the Rotary club: She is often the one who silently gives out of her own pocket at the last minute to help someone in need.”

“There are many people not here who have contributed to where I stand

today,” Fitch said, after accepting the award. “My parents provided an impeccable foundation of what it means to give your time and talents to others. Their example showed me to raise my hand when someone said they needed help.”

Saying that it is not a choice based on obligation, but on freedom which leads people to help others, Fitch became overwhelmed with emotion as she came up to respond. She mentioned she was wearing the same Rotary pin her father wore when he served. She expressed her gratitude to the community and shared her personal amazement for how much it’s grown.

Secondly, Molly Bryon gave Pollock, who serves at the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, the Distinguished Young Professional Award.

“Anna is a dynamic, passionate individual,” Bryon said about Pollock. “Her dedication to the arts is not evident of her work but also her commitment to foster a supportive environment for students.”

“I stand on the shoulders of encouraging women before me,” Pollock said after thanking the community in the room for the recognition. She listed several women involved in her life who have influenced her and then teared up before she mentioned her mom. “With that, I’m so honored and privileged to take my turn ‘shouldering’ the next generation of artists as well.”

She added how much she enjoyed promoting and commissioning young artists like Hannah Byron who wrote the one-act play called “A Truth Not Universally Acknowledged” for high school students. Pollock also acknowledged Liz O’Brien who painted Pollock’s book cover, For God’s Honor.

Next Ferch presented Joe Isder from Elegant Creations with the Boss of the Year award. “Joe is one who leads by



“(My parents’) example showed me to raise my hand when someone said they need help.”

— Ann Fitch

example,” Ferch said. “He doesn’t expect anything out of the staff that he won’t do himself. He leads thoughtfully and logically. He has built a culture of inclusivity and commission at Elegant Creations by making sure all of the staff have their concerns heard.”

“I have no words,” Isder stated after he stepped onstage to receive his award. “I feel no more deserving than anyone else up here. I was raised where respect is earned, not given, and so I try to lead by example. I appreciate my crew being here and supporting me. It’s been challenging and rewarding.”

After Isder stepped away from the podium, Ferch introduced the community development award for the Waseca Area Food Shelf.

“The Food Shelf addresses a fundamental necessity, ensuring individuals and families have access to food,” Ferch said. “It’s a lifeline for many. It bridges the gap between limited resources and the basic requirements of nourishment; it acts as a catalyst for broader community engagement that thrives on the generosity of donors and local businesses all rallying behind a common cause.”

Ferch ended the evening by giving

Tom Sexton his award.

Sexton had reached the rank of colonel in the United States Air Force before he retired; he served as a combat rescue and special operations helicopter pilot, staff officer, and professor of military science. He participated in historic operations, missions, and responses which included Operation Gothic Serpent, the attack on the U.S.S. Cole, and U.S. Embassy evacuation in Liberia.

After Sexton settled in Waseca, he immersed himself in the community. He became co-chair of the City of Waseca planning commission and a member of the county planning commission, chair of the Lakefest celebration, member of the Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus, the Waseca American Legion honor guard, and American Legion Post 222, Sweet Sommers VFW Post 1642, and the Waseca Lakes Association.

The award winners took pictures with families and friends who had joined them for the ceremony. Since Ed Frederick was on vacation in Orlando, he received his Don Eustice Community Service award from Roger Ashland virtually on Zoom with the technological help of Ferch and Byron.

■ Pageant

from Page 1

There were three titles for all teen candidates, including for the first time, Miss Owatonna Teen 2024, Amaya Rath; and Miss Owatonna, Anna Brennan, another for all the Waseca Sleigh and Cutter and Miss Southern Minnesota candidates. Cran was voted Miss Congeniality out of all the teens while Natarajan was chosen out of the Sleigh and Cutter South Central candidates.

There were eight candidates vying for three crowns for Miss Waseca Sleigh and Cutter, for Miss South Central, and Miss Congeniality. Seven teens competed for three Teen crowns: Miss Waseca County Sleigh and Cutter Teen 2024, Miss Owatonna Teen 2024, and Miss Southern Minnesota Teen 2024.

The Miss Waseca Sleigh and Cutter, Miss Owatonna, and Miss Southern candidates were: Lindsey Juarez Ramirez, Anna Brennan, Bianna Jones, Jasmin Kotek, Kayla Mabe, Morgan Mohler, Shana Dukes, and Alexis Cran. The teen candidates were Amaya Rath, Aadhavi Natarajan, Mandi Root, Linden

Aarsvold, Paige Johnson, Lilianna Rindel, Kylee Gorsha, and Olivia Johnson.

Many royalty members from around the state took part in the Sleigh and Cutter pageant. Alyssa Rysavy, Miss South Central Teen 2013 and Miss South Central 2016 and 2020, sang the national anthem and helped emcee the event. Other participating guests were departing crown holders Miss Waseca County Sleigh and Cutter Bailie Thom, Miss Waseca County Sleigh and Cutter Teen Olivia Johnson, Miss South Minnesota 2023 Kloe Wadd, Miss Minnesota Outstanding Teen 2023 Natalie Berg, and Miss South Central Teen 2023 Maura Erickson.

The pageant itself was three hours long and packed with entertainment. After the opening number and the introduction, judges and auditors were announced. Judges were Christina Barnett, Rachel Mitchell, Jenna Krassin, Melanie Abraham, and Corrina Swiggum. Amanda Huber and Chantel Medina were this year’s auditors.

The teens started the night with a talent competition which included a combination of dancing and singing. Rath performed “I See the Light” from the musical Rapunzel and Rindel sang a passionate, heartfelt song

called “Rise Up” by Andra Day. Aarsvold played the viola and Natarajan performed an Indian classical dance.

A lifestyle and fitness section from the delegates followed this competition. When they finished, the teens gave an on-stage interview social impact statement. Social statements ranged from sharing their favorite anti-bullying book for elementary kids to sharing what social media platform would be easiest for the elderly to connect with their families. These presentations ended with the teens performing their life and fitness section.

Then, the delegates had their own talent competition with Brennan performing ballet on pointe, Ramirez vocalizing a piece from musical theater, Bianna telling a HERstory, Kotek performing precision jazz, Mohler demonstrating a science experiment, Dukes narrating a written piece, and Cran playing the viola.

Special presentations for the 2023 Miss Titleholders, Miss Minnesota’s Teen 2023, and Southern Minnesota Junior Royalty had their own times onstage.

After a brief intermission, the visiting royalty was asked to gather on stage. Fourteen Waseca County Princesses were then crowned, followed

by a farewell video for former Miss Waseca County Sleigh and Cutter Teen Olivia Johnson and Baile Thom who performed a dance routine with a flag.

The last events of the night were the teens wearing an evening gown and answering a random question from a judge with the 2024 candidates getting a “red carpet” to show off their gowns. The coronation capped off the night.

Along with being crowned, each royalty member received a package which included a scholarship, a week at Miss Minnesota (Outstanding Teen for the teens), a Dale Carnegie Training Package, a photo package from Makayla Rae Photography, hair and makeup from Cassie’s Classic Cuts, the sash and crown with a crown box and crown pin, a 15 percent discount for an evening gown at the Pageant Shop, a “Team Waseca” jacket, and flowers. Scholarships for the Miss candidates were \$1,000 while the teen candidates earned a \$500 scholarship.

Special thanks were given to Jennifer Johnson for ticket sales, Jadyn White and Abbie Victora for the pageant night photos, and Chuck and Anna Pollock for being the sound and light crew for the event.



Waseca Royalty



OBITUARIES

LeAnn Marzinske

LeAnn K. Marzinske, age 82, of rural Janesville, died peacefully on Sunday, January 21, 2024, at her home.

Born on December 7, 1941, in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, she was the daughter of Leo and Frances Sonntag. LeAnn was baptized on December 21, 1941 and confirmed in her faith in April of 1955, both at St. John Lutheran Church in Two Rivers. She attended Dr. Martin Luther High School and furthered her education at Dr. Martin Luther College, both in New Ulm. Following her education, she received her first call to St. John Lutheran Church in Alma City teaching all 8 grades. It was while teaching in Alma City she met her future husband, Robert Marzinske and they were united in marriage on June 7, 1964, at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Two Rivers.

LeAnn lived out her life's calling as a teacher. She taught for a short time in Nicollet before taking a break to raise her family. LeAnn later began working as an interpreter/tutor at Waldorf-Pemberton which later became Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton, touching the lives of many of her students. She finished her formal career as a paraprofessional at Dakota Meadows in Mankato. LeAnn continued to teach as a volunteer for many years at Risen Savior Lutheran School as a teacher's aide. She was an active member of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Alma City where she taught Sunday School, was a member of ladies aide, and directed the church choir and played the organ for many years. Blessed be her memory.



LeAnn Marzinske

LeAnn is survived by her husband of 59 years, Bob Marzinske; children: Wendy (Steve) Hughes of Kronenwetter, WI, Michael (Naomi) of South St. Paul, and Todd (Darci) of Courtland; seven grandchildren; four great grandchildren; brothers: Robert (Darla) of Wisconsin, Richard (Dorothy) of Tennessee, and Lyle (Lois) of Arizona; sister-in-law, Valley Marzinske of Waldorf; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by her parents; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Marlys and Vernon Roemhildt, Louis and Norma Marzinske, and David Marzinske.

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Alma City. Interment followed in the Alma City Cemetery. Visitation began at 9:00 a.m. and continue until the time of the service at the church on Wednesday.

DSOFuneral.com

A honey-good time at club

By TRISTAN GEHRING
Staff Writer

Jason Casey of Sun Honey, LLC, visited the New Richland Garden Club the evening of Monday, January 15, to share his story and general information about beekeeping and honey production. He discussed the life cycle of bees, demonstrated equipment he uses in honey production, and answered questions. Members of the garden club enjoyed the visit and expressed gratitude to Casey for his time.

Casey's beekeeping journey began in 2016 when he ordered two hives each for himself and two of his siblings from a mail-order catalog. Since then he's put hives on local farms and sites at the owners' request and today manages 80 hives. He says he's had to let a few hives go over the years, as he operates Sun Honey alone and doesn't have the time to visit any more hives regularly. "I'm not big enough to hire someone to do it, but I'm too big to do it myself," he explained light-heartedly.

When placing his hives, Casey said he looks for a place where the morning sun will shine on the hive but it will be sheltered during the hottest part of the day, with easy access to both blossoms and water.

Sometimes a location works out, and other times a hive needs to be moved before the bees are satisfied. Proximity to people is less of a concern. "Kids and dogs learn quick, to stay away from bees," he said.

Worker bees, Casey explained, are female. They live six to eight weeks and cycle through various "jobs" in the hive during that time, starting out as caretakers of larvae, becoming pollinators, and eventually protecting the hive before they die. A hive might have anywhere from 20,000 to 80,000 females, but only about 200 "drones." Male drones are "lazy," according to Casey, and live only to eat and fertilize eggs.

Each hive maintains just one queen, who can live three to five years if the hive overwinters successfully. When winter approaches, hives save up honey. Drones are pushed out of the hive to die, and the worker bees form a ball around the queen to protect her from the elements before entering a state of semi-hibernation where all they do is eat. Sometimes the hives overwinter, and sometimes they do not. Casey said he doesn't like it when the bees die prematurely, but he's prepared for it each year. Bees who successfully overwinter will be producing honey in the spring



Jason Casey of Sun Honey

by April, while hives that have to start anew will take until mid-May. In spring, when the hives are ready to awaken ahead of the blossoms the bees will pollinate, Casey feeds them a sugar water syrup.

During their active season, bees will regularly travel three to five miles to pollinate blossoms. Both the individual bees and the types of blossoms they pollinate affect the structure of the honey on a molecular level as well as its color, flavor, and tendency to crystallize. Casey visits each of his hives approximately every two weeks to check on them and harvest the honey as needed, but the bees themselves handle most of their maintenance. The main thing Casey has to do, aside from harvest, is treat pests. Bees are susceptible to a specific type of mite, which is treated with oxalic acid. The treatment has no ill effects on the bees or honey.

A full hive weighs about 75 pounds per box, and often consists of several stacked boxes. Inside each are ten honeycombed inserts. To harvest the honey, Casey replaces a full box with an empty one, then scrapes the wax from each insert and places it into an extractor. The extractor spins rapidly, not dissimilarly to the way a washing machine spins water out of clothes. The honey is extracted into pails, then Casey strains and bottles it. He does not filter or pasteurize his honey. During the process, he uses heated mats to prevent the honey from crystallizing before it is bottled. "All pure honey will crystallize," Casey warned the club. Store bought honey is sometimes diluted with other sugars to prevent crystallization, he explained, but crystallization doesn't mean the honey has gone bad. In fact, pure honey is not known to spoil at all. To liquefy it again, all one has to do is heat it up.



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The Dusbabek cemetery had gone without maintenance work for decades before being taken under county control about six years ago. Photos above and below show how it looked before being cleaned up. At right, a statue of Wilhelm "John" Fratzke, a Civil War veteran who died in 1896, graces the grounds of Freedom Free Cemetery in Waseca County's Freedom Township.

Pioneer photos by Deb Bently



■ Cemeteries

from Page 1

County is dedicated to maintaining a serene and respectful environment" in the cemeteries. Listed goals include ensuring that state law is followed when it comes to burials, and to preserving the sanctity of any already-existing graves which either were never marked or whose markers have been misplaced.

The properties came under the control of the county when the private boards, families or other organizations which founded them disbanded. In some cases, the properties stood for years—possibly decades—before some private individual noticed the overgrown state of the site and contacted authorities with questions.

Tomford explains that, under state law, such "abandoned" sites default

to the county's care.

The Dusbabek cemetery, located in Isosco township, was acquired by the county about six years ago. Tomford remembers receiving a call from an area resident, then driving up to the site, which actually straddles the Waseca/LeSueur county line.

"I couldn't believe it, it was so bad," he says. Most of the headstones were obscured by grass nearly six feet tall. Many were either lying on the ground or leaning against each other. Some were even propped against trees. Sumac was also encroaching.

"We put quite a few hours in cleaning things up," Tomford recalls. "It felt really good to see the improvement." With help from the Waseca County Historical Society, some of the misplaced headstones were returned to their original placement.

Because of its location in two counties, Tomford arranged to have regular mowing and maintenance re-

sponsibilities handled by the district court's "sentenced to serve" program. Individuals from both counties join the work crews.

The five cemeteries receive regular, although not frequent, attention. The newly-established policy lists mowing and shrub removal, filling sunken graves, landscaping, seeding, and the care of roads, fences, trees, and buildings. If landscaping, grading or seeding are needed, the county will take care of those tasks as well.

The policy specifically states that county staff is not responsible for the placement or repair of headstones. Private individuals who make arrangements with the county facilities department can volunteer for such tasks.

Under the policy, anyone wishing to be buried in county maintained cemeteries can apply with the facilities department. Individuals who had already purchased a gravesite simply need to show relevant paperwork. Such persons can follow typi-

cal burial procedures.

Requests from others are accepted: It is a requirement that such applicants show a "familial relationship" with others already buried in the cemetery. In the case of new requests, the newly-implemented policy requires that only cremated remains can be buried, that the burial be no deeper than 18 inches, and that the burial be "manually conducted." A marker is required, but must be flat and level with the ground.

The five county-maintained cemeteries are Dusbabek, .38 acres in Isosco Township; Freedom Free, .76 acres in Freedom Township; Peddlers' Grove, .92 acres in Freedom Township; Prairie Peace, .5 acres in Vivian Township; and Radloff, .43 acres in Vivian Township.

Photos with this story: Some "before" pictures of the Dusbabek cemetery with tall grass obscuring most of the stones. Also, a photo by Deb of a statue located in Freedom Free cemetery.



OPEN HOUSE
AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL
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Sacred Heart School and Children's House Montessori will host an open house on Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 11:00 am to Noon.

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2023 Part 4

In the past year the Waseca County Pioneer has covered many exciting stories worth remembering. Here is a look back at the best highlights from the year that was 2023.

October

• The world became a lesser place when Arron Bartelt, 48, died on September 24. He, his wife Cassie Birr, and three of their children lived in the Waldorf area. Arron’s business, A&B Custom Equipment, served area farmers. Arron was well known for his creative but effective way of repairing mechanical equipment.

He was at least equally well known for his generous nature and his willingness to put his own interests aside for the sake of others. The scope of his influence is perhaps illustrated by the fact that about 350 people attended his funeral.

• NRHEG Homecoming week 2023 is underway. Hallie Schultz was crowned queen and Will Tuttle became king during a coronation on Monday night at the high school gymnasium in New Richland.

• Conagra Brands has paid more than \$8 million for air quality violations at its fruit and vegetable processing plant in Waseca, Minn.

• Apparently the excitement and enthusiasm shown during Waseca’s homecoming week was just right, since it ushered in a dynamic 56-0 win over Tri-City United on Friday evening.

The anticipation kicked off with a pep fest for all fall sports held the Friday before homecoming, September 29. Also leading into the week was the Bluejay Boosters’ breakfast at the American Legion.

“Dress-up” days, activities and games were scheduled all week long.

A major highlight was coronation on Thursday evening, when Jack Anderson, son of Chad and Julie Anderson, and Ava Omtvedt, daughter of Aaron and Carol Omtvedt, were crowned.

• “It’s neat to be standing here, right next to the graves of the people we’re learning about,” commented one teenager.

The teen was among about 160 people who took part in the walking tour of Waseca’s Woodville Cemetery, located along Fifth Avenue Southwest, this past Sunday. In planning since May, the walk was a co-operative venture operated by Dennis Steffel Omtvedt Funeral Services, the Waseca County Historical Society, and Woodville Cemetery.

• Immanuel Lutheran Church of Freedom Township is celebrating its 150th anniversary with four events spread out from Oct. 22 of this year to October 20 of 2024. Every three months between now and then, a special service will memorialize various phases of the church’s history.

• When Waseca resident Sandy Daniel says she believes “everything happens for a reason,” she’s speaking about a list of “everything’s” that nearly defies belief.

Sandy, 76, speaks with nonstop gratitude about the gifts that came into her life 40 years ago when, at the age of 36, she received a kidney from her brother. At the time, her kidneys had been failing gradually for about 14 years, eventually requiring that she visit the Mayo Clinic in Rochester twice a week for dialysis.

• “It’s not just a matter of throwing a blanket over it and putting it away for the winter,” jokes Terry Huber, who recently became the owner of Southside Marine and More in Waseca.

Huber purchased the longstanding business from former owner Neal Schauer, who had operated it for 27 years. “I really appreciated the way the business has always been run,” comments Huber. “Just like Neal, we are going to treat everyone who comes in like family.”

• Rylie Cromwell and pet Nova participated in the Minnesota 4-H State Dog show Sept. 23-24, 2023. In total, 363 youth and 417 dogs from across the state participated in this annual event, held at the 4-H Building on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

• “If Arron were still around, he would have been the first one to sign up for this,” commented one participant at last Friday’s event near Waldorf.

“It was a bountiful harvest,” observed Marcus McDonough, who, together with Collin Gerdt, planned the one-day project last Friday for the family of Arron Bartelt, who died unexpectedly of heart failure on September 24.

The task was to harvest about 220 acres of corn planted by Bartelt, but still standing in his fields.

Just as they had done to arrange the long line of combines for a tribute on the day of Bartelt’s funeral, McDonough and Gerdt got on the phone to contact area farmers. Their



The night before Arron Bartelt’s funeral, Lyndon Gerdt’s harvested a few rows of corn to make room for 27 combines to line up for the funeral held on Saturday in Waldorf.

request: pick the corn and deliver it to area elevators in Pemberton and Matawan so that Bartelt’s wife, Cassie Birr, and children could benefit from his work.

• Although the classic, historic building located near Thompson’s Boat House has been sold, the organization which owned it remains firmly rooted in the community, says local Order of Freemasons leader Kevin Clemons.

“This building is not the Masonry,” says Clemons emphatically. “It’s the place we meet.”

The Masons are a philanthropic organization with many branches. While admitting the group is difficult to define, Clemons mentions one possible way to summarize: “To make good men better.”

• Nathan Frye and Mike Steffens were recognized as the ninety-sixth and ninety-seventh graduates of the Waseca/Steele County Drug Court during a ceremony at the Waseca County Courthouse Thursday, October 21.

November

• The Waseca Art Center’s annual Great Fall Get-Together proved to be a popular event on Saturday evening, Oct. 28 as the upper story of the building filled with visitors.

• Three candidates vying for Waseca County Commissioner in District 3 took to the stage Wednesday afternoon, October 25, at Waseca Junior Senior High School (WJHS).

• Lyndsea and Jay Bulfer, both doctors of chiropractic medicine, have founded “Growing Roots,” a new chiropractic treatment office located at 1800 North State Street in Waseca.

• The Waseca Bluejays secured a Section 3AAA State Tournament berth with a 21-13 overtime-win over the Fairmont Cardinals Friday night, November 3, 2023 in New Ulm. Each of the past two season the Bluejays season ended with losses to the Cardinals in the section championship game. With the win, the Bluejays move on to the state quarterfinals and will play Stewartville Saturday night at 7 p.m. in Hastings.

• The Waseca chapter of the Minnesota Honor Society (MHS) inducted 42 members the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023 in the high school performing arts center.

Waseca High School Principal Dr. Jason Miller welcomed the 200 or more parents, family members and friends of the inductees who attended the ceremony, which began at 7 p.m. Following his introduction, MHS senior members Addison Wieseler and Tricia Cox spoke about leadership, integrity and service.

• In the special primary election held November 7 for the open seat of Waseca County Commissioner District 3, candidates Brad Milbrath and Ann Fitch will move on to the special election set for February 13, 2024. Milbrath received the most votes, 308, followed by Fitch, 104. Larry Johnson, who was also a contender in the preliminary vote, garnered 99 votes.

• Waseca High School is excited to announce Anthony Jackson as its next Head Girls Basketball Coach pending school board approval. Jackson, a 2005 Burnsville High School graduate, played basketball for the Blaze.

• Waseca Junior and Senior High School hosted guest speaker Jeremiah Miller as it honored individuals from all branches of the military during its annual Veterans Day program in the high school gymnasium Friday morning, Nov. 10, 2023.

• The Waseca Area Foundation/EF Johnson Foundation (WAF) held its annual fall grant awards program at the Central Building in Waseca on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 8.

What started as a “\$6,000 pipe dream” in the 80s with a first grant of \$600 has now allowed the organization to distribute well over \$12.5 million—more than \$350,000 of that in 2022 alone.

• For the fourth year in a row, the Waseca Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Business and Indus-

try Celebration at the Mill in Waseca, on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023. Five awards were given out to Waseca Businesses. They were:

People’s Choice, voted on by chamber members.

This year’s people’s choice went to Team Academy which celebrated its 20th anniversary this fall.

The Young Entrepreneur title recognizes a business professional under 40. This year’s award went to Sam Steffel from Dennis Steffel Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service.

The “Social Media Rising Star” Award is given to a business which “knocks it out of the park,” a business known for being up and coming. This year’s rising star award went to a brand new business in town, Small Town Media.

The final award given out is the Legacy award, which goes to a business which has served the area for more than 50 years. This year’s Legacy choice was Kwik Trip.

• A one-hour sightseeing flight over the Waseca area. A diamond and sapphire bracelet, a “Bluejay Sports Fan” reserved parking spot, Superintendent Eric Hudspeth as a teacher’s substitute for a day. The items for sale at the November 18 Bluejay Blast social event were a source of entertainment for their variety, but became doubly interesting as various members of the crowd entered into bidding wars over specific items. The evening “adults only” gathering at the Starfire Event Center was the culmination to a day of activities which raised more than \$55,000 to be shared among Waseca Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO) based at each school site.

About 200 people were in the crowd which bid on 70 or so items offered on the evening’s live auction. An elite ticket package which included food and drinks at a Minnesota Wild game, donated by TraLo, sold for \$1,700. A “favorite things” brunch to be served next spring by a group of Waseca ladies sold for \$1,350. A Ruger Wrangler .22 caliber pistol with custom engraving donated by Prepared Sportsman Jason Lynch sold for \$925.

• The NRHEG chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) inducted juniors Alden Dobberstein, Sierra Misgen and Tayla Sandry during a ceremony held Wednesday, Nov. 15 in the high school gym. All three inductees expressed that they felt honored to be inducted.

Speaker for the event was Duey Ferber, sixth-grade teacher for the district.

December

• Members of Waseca High School’s American Government class were able to see their subject from a whole new angle on Nov. 21.

The State of Minnesota Court of Appeals held a session on the school’s performing arts center stage. The session began just before 10 a.m. and, with the question and answer session which followed, lasted about an hour.

• The Minnesota State Senate Bonding Committee visited Waldorf November 28, to discuss potentially providing nearly \$4 million for various city projects.

• A handful of state representatives joined Senator Sandy Pappas on a 20-community tour across southeastern Minnesota from Nov. 28-30. The Chair of the Senate Capital Investment Committee, Pappas visited these communities to meet with local officials and learn about the 40 different projects the 20 communities have proposed. The information collected will be used in determining which projects will receive state financial support.

• A near-capacity crowd gathered at Sacred Heart Church the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 26 to hear the 48 members of the Waseca Chorale as they presented “Fantasy of Christmas Carols.” While many of the tunes and song titles were familiar, the group followed through on its earlier promise that each song would also contain surprising variations.

The holiday performance was



The Canadian Pacific Kansas City Holiday Train made stops in Janesville and Waseca



SAPPHIRE BRACELET: After buying her choice of three designer purses, this bidder discovered its “secret bonus content” was a sapphire and diamond bracelet.

made possible, in part, by a grant from the E.F. Johnson Foundation. The Chorale also acknowledged Sacred Heart Church, Grace Lutheran Church, the Waseca High School music department and the Waseca County Pioneer for their contributions to the group’s efforts.

• As the Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) Holiday Train rolled into Janesville the evening of December 6, a crowd of 2,000 to 3,000 people were waiting on the plaza near the Veterans’ Memorial.

“Nothing makes me happier,” proclaimed Janesville Mayor Andy Arnoldt. “Janesville is the greatest community in the world.”

Arnoldt said CPKC first contacted him in October about coming to Janesville; the city and the train company collaborated for about three months to arrange the details for the visit, the first since about four years ago, as the mayor recalls. Calling the process “painless,” Arnoldt observed “They couldn’t be any better to work with.”

The colorful 12-car Holiday Train is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary of traveling around the central United States and into Canada. Its sides are elaborately decorated with holiday images which change color and sometimes appear to move. Among the designs are swinging bells, a laughing Santa (Ho! Ho! Ho!) and a CPKC train engine coming through a tunnel.

• Over a five-week period beginning in October, ten area residents who experience neurodiversity took part in a creative writing class led by teacher Jenny Hughes. The participants have varying learning differences and levels of ability, but all were asked to consider the value and meaning of expressing themselves in writing.

The class met weekly in the Waseca Library. Writers were sometimes given prompts to work on during the week, sometimes they used class time for writing. One method they learned, according to Hughes, was to select a page in a book, look at all the words recorded there, and circle the ones they found meaningful.

• Well over 300 children and their accompanying adults—for a crowd of roughly 750—attended “Christmas at the Mill,” a community gathering which, according to Matt Petsinger, whose Matthew R. Petsinger Agency LLC helps organize the event, defies definition.

“It’s really not possible to explain what it is,” he says lightheartedly.

• About 100 friends, family,



King and Queen Jack Anderson and Ava Omtvedt
Pioneer photo by Tristan Gehring



Waseca’s Hartley Elementary School put on a winter concert for first- and second-graders in the Central Building Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Thursday, December 14. Photo by Rachael Jaeger

coaches and football players gathered Monday night as almost two dozen Waseca sixth-graders signed their “letter of intent” to continue their Bluejay football careers.

• Waseca’s Hartley Elementary School winter concert for first- and second-graders was held in the Central Building Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Thursday, December 14. Family members and friends had already filled the auditorium by 6:15.

• “The human experience unavoidably includes grief,” observed therapist Shannon Kuball of Together on Memories (TOM). “We want young people to realize they don’t have to

go through hard times alone.”

Kuball and TOM founder Erin Rossow took the stage briefly during the organization’s December 16 fundraiser at the Mill in Waseca to tell those in attendance about the nonprofit’s history and purpose.

Waldorf’s ‘House of Restoration’

Part two, continued from last week

By **RACHAEL JAEGER**
Staff Writer

Kathy Grinnell recently purchased the former Waldorf school building and moved in last summer with her three children. She has named the building “House of Restoration,” and says that the longer she lives there, the more ideas and plans her head and heart conceive about what she can accomplish for the community.

She says all her ideas and visions revolve around the central concept of health. For the community’s children, she has created spaces for physical activity and creativity. She describes also having arrived at some ideas to help adults stay healthy physically and emotionally while also connecting with their community.

Before moving to Waldorf, Grinnell and her family lived in central Minnesota. “When I was in St. Cloud, God said, ‘They forgot about the children.’ I asked what he meant since there are a lot of children in the world. He revealed to me that this next generation is going to help people wake up and they’re going to take off in such a way that has never been seen before.”

Grinnell mentions having observed that the next generation won’t conform to religion like others in the past have.

“Jesus said that those who believe, I and the Father will come and dwell with them,” she explains. “The Holy Spirit lives in us, so why do we as Christians feel like it’s just us?”

And it’s clear Grinnell gives power to children in the former Waldorf school building.

In one area designed for “hanging out,” Grinnell has placed a long table with canvas for painting on. Bins of brushes, paints, and other supplies line the walls.

“They can make their artwork and leave it or hang it on the walls or take it home,” Grinnell said. “Whatever they want to do.”

She mentioned a future plan to add an art room where kids can make pottery and fire their projects in a kiln.

“So if anyone wants to donate a pottery wheel or a kiln, I’d be so grateful,” Grinnell said, adding that she would also like to have another station where kids can design water immersion paintings.

Grinnell’s 19-year-old daughter Faith manages and runs a tea and shake café called Natural Blessings Herbalife. Not far inside the entry to the building, Grinnell has placed a jug filled with what she calls “wholly water.” Inside is ozone water—H3O rather than H2O—which she says helps purify the body.

“Cancer cannot attach itself to an oxygenated cell,” Grinnell said. “So, a lot of the things we’ve put into our bodies, dehydrate the cells. Our cells, our bodies, are dehydrated most of the time and this is the cure for that.”

In the cafe, either Grinnell or Faith make shakes and blend in flavored powder in a wide array of flavors: banana caramel, orange creamsicle, strawberry cheesecake, and cotton candy, to name only a few. The powder adds not only flavor, but protein and essential nutrients.

Aside from being in charge of the café, Faith continues to create insulated drink containers, jugs, and T-shirts with inspirational quotes from scripture. Grinnell’s son Jake is the acting handyman and the virtual gamer who oversees a gaming room in the space Grinnell calls the Kids’ Lounge.

“Jake is really great with kids. He helps with activities and also fills in for the shop and cafe area whenever needed,” Grinnell said about him. “Jacqueline, my 9-year-old, is really great at making Herbalife Teas and quite the host. She is very artistic, so she enjoys helping with the arts and crafts and entertaining younger children.”

Grinnell also has a wide area for kids to come and play while they wait for their parents to pick them up, for example when their workday lasts longer than the school day. Originally, those hours ran from seven in the morning until four in the afternoon, but she has lately extended them until six in the evening.



School buses even stop there and drop off students.

Grinnell uses one office space in two ways. One is that she still does some work in St. Cloud area real estate. The other is conducting what she calls “Bio scans.” While simply sitting in a chair, a client can be connected to a specially outfitted computer which assesses certain readings.

Results are available in about ten minutes, then the computer database recommends natural remedies, even providing suggestions as to which ones are best suited to the individual’s needs.

“As a therapy,” Grinnell said, “vibrational medicine is the application of different types of energy for healing, including traditional methods like x-ray and radiation therapy for cancer, electrical nerve stimulation for treating pain, and electromagnetic field stimulators for accelerating the healing of fractured bones. Full spectrum light is even used for treating seasonal depression.”

She believes the scan has the ability to interface with the physical

body and the higher energy control systems. The system is aware of everything going on: It knows about organisms living in the body, functional conditions, and the health level of every cell.

“We only experience our world through energy and the transmission of vibration according to Dr. [Richard] Gerber,” Grinnell said, speaking of the author of the book “A Practical Guide to Vibrational Medicine.” Among Gerber’s theories is that humans are more than flesh and blood, fats and nucleic acid; he called his model the Einsteinian Model of Healing. Grinnell says her computer is set to pick up disturbances in the body’s systems not only after they’ve manifested on the physical level, but even before that, while they’re only “disturbances.”

She mentions that sight, hearing and the sense of smell all hone in on vibrations in energy. “It is pretty amazing how doctors were not able to deny the Holy Spirit that dwells within humans is an energetic force that heals the body,” Grinnell commented, then stressed how vital she believes it is for humans to avoid ge-



Kathy Grinnell with her children Faith, Jake, and Jacqueline in their new home, the former Waldorf School which closed in 2010. Pioneer photos by Rachael Jaeger



netically modified plants and foods.

“What I want to do is help people get that extra little boost from God, knowing that God is their strength,” Grinnell said. “That frequency sent to their brain gives them freedom from addictions they struggle with.”

Since she accepts donations as payments for the Bioscan testing, she encourages people to come back if they feel they need it.

As she has made plans to develop the House of Restoration, Grinnell feels she has been guided by apparent “coincidences.” She discovered two black walnut trees in her front yard. Along with cloves and wormwood, black walnuts are the main ingredients for parasite cleanses, which Grinnell believes are vital.

As she and her family moved in at Waldorf, they found Mullein plants growing in the sand near the volleyball court and swing set. In natural healing, Mullein is believed to detoxify the lungs, either for people who were once smokers or for those who have had a lung infection, including bronchitis, pneumonia or COVID.

To help a neighbor experiencing painful leg cramps, Grinnell learned about magnesium spray. In natural

healing, magnesium helps with sore muscles, sometimes instantly relieving pain. “Magnesium and lavender have a calming effect,” she observes.

In the House of Restoration, Grinnell plans to use the cafeteria kitchen to make and package her natural remedies.

Grinnell believes love and kindness spread naturally. She describes an experience of Jake’s. As an online gamer, Jake formed a personal friendship with a young person in Germany. Bullied at school and feeling uncared about, this person called Jake his “only friend.” At one point, Grinnell grounded Jake from the internet out of fear he was becoming overly dependent on gaming. She ignored his pleas to let him go online until he explained about the friend in Germany, and how he feared the friend would feel abandoned, and might even consider suicide.

“So many people feel unchosen and unloved,” Grinnell said. “They don’t know what unconditional love is because they’ve been taught conditional love their whole lives. But when you realize that God is in you, and loves you, you change. That’s called the sanctification process.”

The Pastor’s Column

People ask the wrong questions

By **PASTOR KEN ANDRS**

People ask the wrong questions all the time. I usually wear an analog watch every day, and people will ask me the time, even when they have their phone out because they want to see my watch. My favorite recently has been the young teenagers that have no clue how to read an analog watch asking the time. I know in their hearts that they want to learn to read the watch, but they don’t ask to learn, rather they complain about how they can’t read the watch I have.

I can see the question forming in their mind, but they have too much pride to admit what they really want to know. They ask the wrong question in hopes of getting the answer to the question they won’t ask. I have the option at this point on how I will respond to their initial question, will I answer the question they asked, or will I give them the answer they are seeking?

People did this with Jesus all the time. Different groups of people would ask questions to either trap Him in His response or to understand why and how He did the things He did. They would ask loaded questions to trap Him, things like, “what is the greatest commandment?” or “if a woman was widowed by seven men, whose wife will she be in eternity?” These questions are traps and Jesus was wise in His response, usually avoiding the question by responding with a question Himself.

In the gospel of John, Jesus had fed the 5000 and needed some time away from the crowds, seeking relationship with God in prayer. The next day the crowds sought out Jesus knowing His disciples has taken the boat as they wanted something more from Jesus. John 6:22-27 reads:

22 The next day the crowd that

had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. 23 Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. 24 Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

25 When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?”

26 Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. 27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.”

The question the crowd really wanted to ask was how did you get here if not in the boat with the disciples and where can we get more food? Jesus answers that question by getting to the heart of the matter. They wanted what Jesus had to offer, eternal life, but primarily right relationship with God the Father. They sought to know God by understanding how the miracles were done, but Jesus taught them about God and the offer of eternal life through Him.

Take time this week to discover what your true questions of God are. Seek Him out and ask Him to teach you what you want to know. You may be surprised that He will answer you as you read the scriptures and pray, or He may give you the answer that you really do need to deepen your faith and trust Him more.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

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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

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401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
Sundays 9:00 a.m.

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

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

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
111 4th St NW, Waseca
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.

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

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

LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting

VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota

Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship

VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Brian Schanil Pastor

Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesdays: The Shepherd’s Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Father 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 - 10:45 a.m. Worship

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
412 N. Main Street, Janesville
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

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Alma City, Minnesota
Pastor Robert Harting
Sunday - 10 a.m. Wgrship

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
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Pastor Sarah Krolak
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Argus Archives

100 years ago

-In the fall of 1877 Waseca County witnessed a very spirited political contest. In those good olden days elections came every year and every year the politicians had rich picking. Towards the close of the campaign the editor of the Argus, C. E. Graham, and the editor of the Radical, J. E. Child, became very personal and very bitter. Child supported Warren Smith for treasurer. Mr. Graham opposed him. It will be remembered by those who were on earth at that time in this particular neck of the woods that Mr. Child was an ardent advocate of temperance and had espoused the cause of the prohibition party. Such being the case, his sincerity in supporting Smith was questioned by Graham. Smith himself was a temperance man and a man above reproach. But he had compromised himself not long previously by becoming a surety for a saloon-keeper on a saloonkeeper's bond. This gave an opening and in the eyes of Mr. Graham was inexcusable from the standpoint of the professions made.

-Through a combination of respective interests, including the village, Alton and Janesville township, the two cemetery boards and the churches, whose contributions cover the cost, the road from Main Street on Finley's corner to the Catholic cemetery is being graveled. E. T. Dieudonne has the contract and is now working it out with trucks and teams. The gravel is secured at Lake Elysian from Roy Keyes and from the Jewison point.

-Cris Dalton brings in the information that on Tuesday night last a large barn on the farm of Martin Convey was burned to the ground. The origin of the fire is a mystery. It was located in Freedom Township. Thirteen cows were destroyed and eight horses. There was an insurance of three thousand dollars, but the amount does not cover the losses.

-Petitions have been circulated among the citizens of the village asking that leniency or parole be given to a local young man who unfortunately side-stepped the narrow path. Some 250 have signed their names to these lists asking that the law be more lenient with the young man. He has been a fine young fellow, hard working and congenial, and this his first offense could be overlooked when we realize that he would not delve into anything shady in the future.

75 years ago

-Outstanding community cooperation, the response to the tuberculosis Christmas Seal Sale, was praised today by Mrs. Fred W. Arnoldt, chairman of Janesville. "Janesville can be proud of the good work in the Christmas Seal Campaign," she continued, "and proud of the generous response of all its citizens." The Seal Sale for Janesville and surrounding community amounted to \$258.24.

-The Golden Bears suffered defeat Friday night at the hands of a tough, undefeated Claremont five, 38-6, before a record-breaking crowd of 400. The Claremont Parrots simply had too much drive and height over the Bears, and led by Theimann and Eggert, they scored almost at will to have the local quint another defeat.

-Rev. O. F. Krause, former pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville, now at Fairmont, has been appointed to the Advisory Committee for planning a statewide "Dr. Martin Luther Memorial Service" to be held in the Twin Cities.

-In spite of sub-zero weather, eleven 4-H club boys and girls braved the cold weather and got through the drafted roads to make the trip to Rochester. These boys and girls received this trip as an award for the special achievement in the 4-H club health activities.

-A report was received this morning from Sheriff R. G. Lowe giving us the information that the Janesville robbers, who hooked \$157 from the Boss Implement Co., a vacuum cleaner and some brushes from Cal Mende and nine gallons of gas and oil from the Kuehn Oil Station, were caught yesterday at LeRoy, Minnesota. Their Janesville job was pulled off in October 29, 1945. It appears that the gang of four thieves, two of them from Le Roy and two from northern Iowa, had been operating quite extensively in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

50 years ago

-How do you solve the problem of kids going all the way through high school - and sometimes college - without having the slightest idea what kind of work they want to do in life? Nobody has all the answers to this complex question, but five area high schools are trying to fill this vocational gap through the establishment of the Waseca County Vocational Center. Norvin R. Rueckert, director of the proposed center, explained the idea to the Janesville Rotary last Thursday and said the purpose of the center will be to provide programs which the individual school districts have not been able to offer individually. "We hope to come up with a program that will make students aware of the jobs available and the actual demand for workers in each of the occupational areas," he said.

-Sixth graders of Janesville Public School tried their hand at copy-writing this past week as they turned out the first in a series of student-prepared advertising messages for Janesville State Bank. The completed advertisements will be judged by bank officials this week and the three top advertisements chosen. Prizes of five, three and two dollars will go to three sixth graders placing advertisements in the top three. Other students will receive honorable mentions for their copywriting abilities.

-Births in the Village of Janesville were down by 13 and deaths increased by 13 during 1972 according to statistics released by Lawrence P. Krause, Clerk of District Court. Twenty three children were born to village residents in 1972, compared to 36 in 1971 and 32 in 1970. Deaths, on the other hand, took a dramatic jump from 12 a year in 1971 to 25 during this past year. From 1968 through 1971 an average of 14 people died per year. This almost doubled during 1972.

-“We lost to a good team” were the words coach Mike Niemczyk used to describe Janesville’s 27-15 loss to Waterville. The defeat, for all practical purposes, put the locals out of the running for the Gopher championship; to have a shot at the title, the Bucs would have to lose to Glenville or Blooming Prairie. That is not likely.

25 years ago

-A 10-point scoring advantage in the second quarter proved to the the difference for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton girls' basketball team. The Lady Bulldogs outscored Waterville-Elysian-Morristown 19-9 in the second stanza, leading them to a 66-57 Gopher Conference victory at Waterville. The victory was the third straight for the Bulldogs, and their sixth in the last nine games.

-Trinity Lutheran School, Janesville, recently received \$5,300 from Lutheran Brotherhood through the Member Matching Gift program. The latest payment matches 53 gifts from Lutheran Brotherhood members made during the fourth quarter of 1997. Lutheran Brotherhood's Primary Partners program matches members' gifts of \$25 to \$100 per year to Lutheran elementary and preschools nationwide. Since the beginning of the Primary Partners gift program in 1987, \$42,359 has been received by Trinity Lutheran School.

Waseca Archives

Waseca Herald, 1923

-On the afternoon of January 30, the School Board has called a special election for the purpose of bonding the district for \$350,000 for the purpose of building a new school or community house. The bond issue is to run for fifteen years as follows: \$350,000 to run for fifteen years at probably 5 percent. After the first five years there is to be paid for the next ten years, \$15,000 each year on account of the principal, after which time the balance of \$200,000 is to be refunded by a new bond issue.

-If Rev. And Mrs. R. P. Wasbotten had any doubt as to the esteem in which they are held by this community, that doubt vanished Thursday evening last when about 100 friends and neighbors from city and country surprised them on the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage. The guests came unannounced to the new family home on Hartley Heights and were cordially welcomed by the hospitable minister and his family, who were taken completely by surprise. After greetings had been extended, the guests were given an opportunity to inspect the new home fro cellar to garret.

-The jury in the Water Stavenau case, referred to in the last issue of the Herald, returned a verdict of guilty last Thursday evening. Their verdict was grand larceny in the second degree. The punishment may be a year or up to five years in the penitentiary. Savenau's attorneys have asked for a stay of sentence pending an appeal for a new trial.

-A fire in Wesley Mahler's chicken house in the east part of town last Sunday afternoon resulted in the loss of about 150 purebred chickens, valued by the owner at over \$300. He had the space under the rafters filled with straw, to absorb the moisture, and Sunday afternoon he placed an oil stove on the floor so that its head would dry out the straw. After watching the stove work for a while he closed the door and windows. About two o'clock neighbors noticed smoke issuing from the house and called the fire department. When the door was opened it was found that the straw in the attic had taken fire and that the smoke and fumes had smothered the chickens, only two out of the entire flock being alive. The interior of the building was only slightly damaged.

Waseca Herald, 1948

-Lavern Rosenthal of Waseca appeared in district court Friday afternoon before Judge Axel B. Anderson and pleaded guilty to the charge of attempting to receive stolen property. Judge Anderson referred the matter to the state parole and probation officer for a pre-sentence investigation. Rosenthal faces a maximum penalty of five years.

-O. R. Cochran, New Richland High School agriculture teacher, has been appointed state supervisor of agricultural education with the vocation position, State Department of Education, according to an announcement by Harry C. Schmid, director. He assumed his new duties on Monday and succeeds Leo Knuti, who resigned to continue graduate work at the University of Illinois. Mr. Cochran was formerly an agricultural instructor at Sleepy Eye and Lancaster, Wis. before accepting a position with the New Richland High School. He also participated in education programs for out-of-school farm youths and evening classes for farm men and women.

-The Sacred Heart basketball team lost Sunday afternoon at the Mankato Armory with a score of 41-26, when it played Loyola in a DeSmet conference game. The game was a hard, competitive four periods of play with Loyola moving out in front in the third quarter to make a nine point lead. The first quarter had Loyola leading 8-6 and the half was 16-11. The third quarter ended with Loyola totaling 26 points to Sacred Heart's 17 and the four was 41-26.

-The March of Dimes drive for funds which supports the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis received an extra push this week with the report that a 14-year-old boy at Ellendale was suffering with polio and is now at the Sister Kenny Institute. He is Ardell Anderson, a freshman in the Ellendale High School. Suffering from what was thought to be the flu, he was taken to the institute when his trouble was diagnosed as polio. The case is unusual since polio does not often strike in the winter months.

Waseca Journal, 1973

-Robert Fowler, Mankato, has accepted the position of Manager at the Big Swede Drive-in, north of Waseca on Highway 13. Fowler has been managing the drive-in for three weeks. He is filling the position left open by former manager Charles Bengston. Bengston managed the drive-in for eight months before accepting a position as the manager of Country Kitchen in Hutchinson.

-The University of Minnesota Technical College-Waseca may have a housing problem for students in the near future. What could be done to solve the problem before it occurs was discussed last night at a special meeting at UMW. Student numbers are coming along faster than projected, Dr. Ed Frederick said, as other college enrollments are going down. He said the enrollments at Waseca and Crookston are rising because they are "practical" colleges. Enrollment has been expanding at the college and projections for the next 10 years show more expansion going from 131 students in the fall of 1971 to an expected 1,000 in 1981.

-The Bluejay wrestling squad had to fight for its life for a come-from-behind 22-18 vin over New Richland Tuesday night on the Jays' home mat. The Bluejays started out like they would run away with the Cardinals at 13-0, but then the Cards took over in the heavier weights and took an 18-16 lead with two matches remaining only to lose both to the Jays.

-Vern Dahl, owner of Waseca Graphics announced the sale of his commercial printing business to a Minneapolis man Wednesday afternoon. William A. Butzler, president of the Barnes Printing Company and his partner, Ronald L. Ruehling, purchased the business Dec. 1. There will be no changes in the business with the exception of five employees instead of three. Dahl will be employed as the manager. Butzler is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and the Dunwoody Industrial Institute. He has a background in various print shops on machinery ranging from small duplicators to large four-color web presses. Butzler, his wife and two children will be moving to Waseca in a few months. Partner and Vice President Ruehling will remain in Minneapolis to manage the Barnes Qwik Print Company.

Waseca County News, 1998

-After 64 years of going to school every day whether it was raining, snowing, or the sun was shining, Milt Clemons has decided to retire. He has not been attending class that long. Clemons and his wife, Winn, have been responsible for getting the students of the Waseca School District to and from school as safely as possible for the last 52 years. The Clemonses have sold their bus business to their son Mike and his wife Beth effective Jan. 1.

-There is a new industry coming to town but it is not going to employ any new Wasecans. The Federal Correctional Institute (FCI) through its UNICOR program will start manufacturing shorts for the military beginning this summer. An 18,000 square foot manufacturing facility is still being built on the grounds. The construction began in June and is expected to be finished in early April. An accompanying 10,000 square foot warehouse built for UNICOR will be finished in mid-February.

-Originally from the Winnebago area, Don Robertson has moved from rural life to being a financial advisor. Robertson began full-time at American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. on Nov. 19. Robertson said American Express is known for its three independent subdivisions; the credit card company, travel services, and financial advising. All three of these areas are nationally recognized said Robertson. "We're doing great nationwide."

Looking Back (New Richland)

100 Years Back - 1924

- Waseca county citizens will have a part in the state-wide popular vote next November in deciding whether Minnesota will adopt a gasoline tax to speed the state highway program and thus join 35 other progressive states which already have the "gas tax."
- The train on the St. Clair line was abandoned last Saturday on account of the severe storm and blocked track. The train made its usual run on Monday again.
- The children of Otisco are taking turns with chicken pox and whooping cough. Two of the L.J. Johnson have just recovered from the chicken pox and the George Hadden and A.J. Anderson children are the latest ones to come down with the whooping cough.
- The Jefferson highway was opened Wednesday from Albert Lea to the Twin Cities when the highway department ran a snow plow over the route. The plow is operated by a caterpillar tractor.
- H.C. Schriners have moved from the Thos. Lee residence in New Richland to the Mrs. C. Gilbertson residence where they are occupying the rooms on the first floor.
- Mr. and Mrs. E.V. Johnson and family of Otisco, Mr. and Mrs. O.B. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. T.R. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. J.V. Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Byersdorff were guests at a dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F.C. Byersdorff Sunday.

77 Years Back - 1947

- Harvey Crumb entertained friends at his home near Matawan Saturday evening to a venison steak fry. Among those present were Kenneth Nelson, Maxon Crumb, Lester Recknor, Jimmie Root, Thornton Crumb, Richard Crumb, Hubert Lust, David Young, Gene Nelson, Stuart Root, Robert Miller, Len Dinneen, Ray Dinneen, Sylvester Kuester, Johnnie Ratigan, Swede Jessen, Dennis Crumb and Everett Putney.
- Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hendrickson and son, Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hendrickson and Corley, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bartness and Clair Blake were dinner and supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Bartness of Hartland Sunday.
- Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Willday and daughters, Florence and Doris, and Mrs. Russell Linders and son, Dale, of Owatonna were dinner and supper guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Johnston.
- George Rotegard accompanied by Jack Romine, Tad Doyle, and Lawrence Simonson left Sunday for the University of Minnesota after spending three weeks' vacation with their parents.
- Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bolduan, Grace, Orville, and Bernard, Miss Agnes Bungarden and Mrs. Maggie Mortensen visited Mrs. E.J. Kelleher of Mercedes, Texas at the John Kelleher home Tuesday afternoon.

50 Years Back - 1974



Troop 219 of the New Richland Girl Scouts are pictured here after visiting the Star office Monday after school. They are: Joanne Solberg, Angel Farvour, Sharon Peterson, Jill Bergner, Teresa Wallace, Mary Nelson, Brenda Battenfeld [back], Cheryl Adams and Lynn Kalbow [back]. Jean Herbst and Ruth Brandvold, aides, are standing in the back. Leader is Mrs. Terry Babcock.

25 Years Back - 1999

- Nikki Werth will represent NRHEG when she competes with 150 other representatives from across the state for the title of Minnesota's Junior Miss and over \$10,000 in college scholarship money.



A special noel visit was made by santa Claus at the Robert Meyer residence in New Richland. A couple of the granddaughters were a little apprehensive of the visitor, but on Santa's lap, Shyann Meyer and Bridgett (the Meyer family dog) had no problem with the friendly old gent. In the protection of their aunt, Kris Schlaak, are (standing) Destinee Meyer and Michelle Meyer.

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GYMNASTS — Performing for the WHS gymnastics team are Layla Keith, above, and Angelice Lopez, below.
Photos by Kennedy Lynch



A stellar show for the folks

Gymnasts win big on Parents Night

The Waseca High School gymnasts hosted Faribault for Parents Night last Tuesday. They made their folks proud, posting a lop-sided victory, 132.6-105.225.

Layla Keith was the top scorer for the Bluejays, winning the all-around competition with 36.375 points. She won the vault with a 9.0, the balance beam at 9.375 and the floor exercise with a 9.55 while taking second on the uneven parallel bars at 8.45.

Bella Wikan garnered Waseca's other first, scoring an 8.7 on the bars.

Hannah Parks was second in all-around at 32.9 points.

Other all-around scores: Katelyn Weber, 30.525; Lindy Caldwell, 23.475; Wikan, 21.275; Elli Hoban, 15.2

Other places and scores, by event:

Vault - Wikan, third, 8.575; Parks, fourth, 8.475; Weber, seventh, 8.225; Caldwell, eighth, 8.150.

Bars - Parks, third, 8.050; Weber, fifth, 7.125; Hoban, seventh, 7.050.

Beam - Parks, second, 8.075; Weber, fourth, 7.225; Caldwell, fifth, 6.95; Wikan, eighth, 4.0.

Floor - Caldwell, second, 8.375; Parks, fourth, 8.3; Hoban, fifth, 8.150; Weber, sixth, 7.95.

The Bluejays ran into some tough competition at the Kasson-Mantorville/Triton Invitational

last Saturday, totaling 131.1 points for fourth among eight schools. Farmington won with 144.75.

Keith finished third in all-around at 34.85. She was third on the bars with an 8.75.

Other all-around scores: Parks 32.65, Weber 31.65, Caldwell 31.25, Hoban 30.55, Avery Carda 30.25, Macy Anderson 18.55, Angelica Lopez, 15.05; Nora Flatness, 13.65; Norah Schimming, 8.25.

Keith scored 8.75 on vault, good for 10th place. Others: Weber 8.5, Parks 8.45, Caldwell 8.35, Carda 8.25, Schimming 8.25, Hoban 8.2, Flatness 8.15.

Keith placed third on bars at 8.75. Others: Parks 7.8, Weber 7.5, Lopez 7.35; Caldwell 7.25, Hoban 6.9, Carda 6.6, Anderson 4.1.

Keith finished 10th on the balance beam at 8.35, followed for Waseca by Parks with 8.3, Caldwell 8.15, Hoban 7.6, Carda 7.5, Weber 7.4, Anderson 7.15, Flatness 5.5

On the floor, Keith scored a 9.0 for seventh place. Others: Weber 8.25, Parks 8.1, Carda 7.9, Hoban 7.85, Lopez 7.7, Caldwell 7.5, Anderson 7.3.

After competing at Fairmont Jan. 23, the Bluejays take on St. Peter Friday, Jan. 26 at Gustavus Adolphus College at 6 p.m. They travel to Blue Earth Area Feb. 1 for a 6 p.m. competition.

WHS boys subdued by St. Peter

Basketball team edged 79-77 after victories over Fairmont, St. Clair

After some close games, the Waseca High School boys' basketball team had an easier time at Fairmont last Friday, cruising to a 60-43 triumph.

"We played great defense," said Bluejays coach Seth Anderson. "And we made some nice hustle plays."

Three Bluejays reached double digits in scoring, led by Carson Ohnstad with 16 points. He was 6-for-10 from the floor, including 4-for-7 on three-point shots. He totaled three assists and two steals.

Deron Russell made five of eight shots, three of four threes, while

scoring 13 points to go with five assists, three rebounds and two steals.

Damarius Russell scored 11 - all in the second half - with five assists, three rebounds and a steal.

Also: Zach Hulscher 9P, 1R, 2S; Andrew Robran 5P, 4R, 1A, 2S; Ethan Hiller 2P, 5R, 2A; Laird Keeton 2P, 2R, 1S; Jacob Thompson 2P, 5R, 2S; Geo VanEnglenburg 1R, 1S; Sebastian Teague 1A.

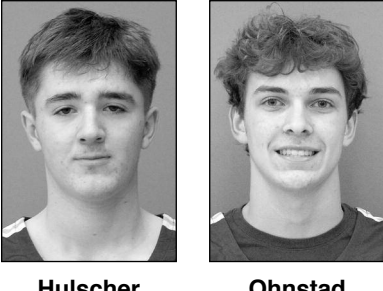
Fairmont fell to 5-10 overall, 0-5 in Big South Conference East.

The Bluejays held on to win 77-64 Saturday in a Coaches vs. Cancer game at St. Clair.

"We played a great first half, but St. Clair really came out and played a solid second half and made us have to hold on in the end," said Anderson. "It was nice to see us finally shoot the ball better from three-point land. The Coaches vs Cancer event in St. Clair was a really neat thing to be a part of."

Ohnstad scored a season-high 25 points. Deron Russell had 21, Damarius Russell 17, Hulscher 12 and Robran 2.

The Bluejays took a tough 79-77 loss at St. Peter Tuesday, falling for the first time in Big South East Conference play.



Hulscher Ohnstad

The Bluejays, 8-7 overall and 3-1 in conference, host Jackson County Central Friday, Jan. 26. They play Monday at Sibley East and host NRHEG Tuesday.

WHS icemen bounce back after loss to Lourdes

Bluejays overpower Windom Area, 9-1

The Waseca High School boys' hockey team won one of two recent games, falling 4-3 to Rochester Lourdes last Thursday and bouncing back to beat Windom Area 9-1 Friday. Both games were at Waseca Community Arena.

The Bluejays skated well with Lourdes, being outshot only 36-31, but they served 16 penalty minutes on four infractions.

Lourdes led 2-1 after one period and 4-3 after two. They outshot the Jays 9-4 in a scoreless third period.

Scoring for Waseca were Griffin Storey, Brayden Hesch-Priem and Hunter Anderson. Storey had three assists, Hesch-Priem and Henry Huttemier one each.

Josiah Schmidtke took the loss in goal, totaling 32 saves.

Lourdes improved its record to 6-10.

The Bluejays overwhelmed Windom Area, holding a 55-10 advantage in shots on goal. Waseca led 5-1 after the first period, 8-1 after two.

Windom Area did not have any power play opportunities.

Storey scored 24 seconds into the game on an assist by Beckett Srp, scoring again at the 3:54 mark on assists by Cash Lynch and Lucas Groll. Otto Schienrock, Anderson and Keaton Roeker added first-period goals, with assists going to Huttemier, Jackson Dahl, Roeker, Anderson and Groll.

Jayden Gehring scored early in the second period, Storey got his hat-trick goal at the 10:22 mark, and Huttemier scored at 16:00. Schoenrock had two assists, Lynch and Srp one apiece.

Srp added Waseca's final goal, unassisted, at 10:03 of the third period.

In the net for the Bluejays was Carter Martens, stopping nine shots.

Windom saw its record slip to 4-14 overall and 3-7 in the Big South Conference.

Waseca, 9-7 and 7-3, play at Minnesota River Tuesday, Jan. 30 and host Fairmont Feb. 1. The opening face-off for both games is at 7 p.m.



HE SHOOTS, HE SCORES! — Waseca freshman Griffin Storey (22) scores the first goal of the game against Windom Area last Friday at Waseca Community Arena as Eagles goalie Adam Dahna (33) attempts a save.
Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



WORKING THE PUCK — Seeking scoring opportunities for the Waseca High School hockey team against Windom Area are Keaton Roeker (9) and Jude Gehring (34). The Bluejays won, 9-1.

NRHEG girls snap two-game losing skid

Camryn VanMaldeghem scores 18 as Panthers win 41-36 at Blooming Prairie

After dropping back-to-back games, the NRHEG High School girls' basketball team faced another challenge at Blooming Prairie last Friday.

The Panthers were up to the task, rallying from a 19-15 halftime deficit to defeat the Awesome Blossoms 41-36.

"It was nice to get a win and bounce back after two losses to Hayfield and JWP," said Panthers coach Onika Peterson.

The difference, according to Peterson, was shooting, with the Panthers much more proficient in the second half, and defense.

"Blooming Prairie always runs a solid 2-3 zone, and we struggled with hitting shots in the first half," said Peterson. "Our defense was

stronger in the second and we were able to go on a bit of a run."

Camryn VanMaldeghem was the lone NRHEG scorer in double figures, with 18 points. She had six rebounds.

Others: Faith Nielsen 8P, 7R, 2 assists; Quinn VanMaldeghem 9P, 11R, 2A; Hallie Schultz 2P, 9R, 3A; Addie Stadheim 1P, 1R, 1B; Presley Nielsen 3P, 2R.

The win improved the Panthers to 13-3 overall and 6-2 in the Gopher Conference.

The Panthers fell 62-50 to a determined JWP team Jan. 16 in New Richland. They trailed 41-26 at halftime.

"Hats off to the Dawgs," said Peterson. "They had a great game. I have scouted them a couple of times

this year. They do a lot of things really well, are quick and scrappy on defense, have some solid shooters, and can rotate anywhere from 8-12 players."

For the Panthers: Faith Nielsen 10P, 3R, 2A, 1 steal; Quinn VanMaldeghem 5P, 9R, 1A, 3S; Izley Boerner 7P, 2R; Schultz 4P, 10R, 4A, 2S, 1 blocked shot; Camryn VanMaldeghem 16P, 5R, 4A, 1S; Stadheim 2P, 2R, 1A; Presley Nielsen 5P, 7R, 2A; Kylie Olson 1P, 3R.

"Unfortunately, tonight wasn't our night," said Peterson. "It's always hard to pick up a loss in a conference and sub-section matchup. On the plus side, there is a lot of season left, but we need to look to bounce back after these



C.VanMaldeghem Q.VanMaldeghem

back-to-back losses. I told the girls these next couple of games are tough for us. We need to rise to the challenge."

The Panthers host Bethlehem Academy Friday and are at Medford Jan. 29.



EYES ON THE PRIZE — The Bluejays’ Addison Weiseler (11) drives as Fairmont’s Rubi Reyes (22) defends Friday, Jan. 19 in Waseca. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



CONTACT — Waseca’s Avery Gaul (31) goes up for a hoop and draws contact from a Fairmont defender.



TRAPPED — Waseca’s Callie Dufault (1) deals with full-court pressure applied by a Fairmont defender.

Waseca girls fall to Fairmont, St. Clair

The Waseca High School girls’ basketball team dropped a pair of games late last week, falling 56-38 to Fairmont at home Friday and dropping a 68-48 decision at St. Clair Saturday.

Bluejay scoring against Fairmont: Callie Dufault 13 points, Addie Weiseler 7, Mia Kanewischer 3, Lily Owens 4, Avery Gaul 9, Grace Guritz 2.

Fairmont improved its record to 4-8 overall and 3-4 in the Big

South Conference.

Saturday’s game was a Coaches vs. Cancer event against a strong St. Clair squad, which improved to 10-5 overall and leads the Valley Conference at 7-1.

The Bluejays, 4-14 overall and 1-3 in the Big South, play Friday, Jan. 26 at Jackson County Central and Monday at home against LCWM. Tip-off for both games is at 7:30.

Draheim, Bluejays shut out Scarlets

Goalie breaks season shutout school record

The Waseca High School girls’ hockey team defeated Mankato West 3-2 Tuesday night at Waseca Community Arena.

Emma Keith scored two goals, Maizee Storey one, with assists by Maddy Benson and Katlyn Schueler.

Bluejay goaltender Ilamay Draheim had 29 saves. It was her sixth shutout of the season, breaking the Waseca High School record of five.

Waseca improved its record to 9-8-3 while the Scarlets fell to 9-12. West is 2-7 in the Big Nine Conference.

The Bluejays traveled to Marshall last Friday and absorbed a 4-2 loss, surrendering three goals in the third period to the Big South leaders. Marshall outshot the Jays 33-19, including 14-3 in the third period.

Emily Gordon scored on an assist from Keith 5:50 into the game and, after Marshall tied it at the 7:23 mark, Benson made it 2-1 with a goal at 13:42.

The second period was scoreless. Draheim made 29 saves.

Marshall improved to 13-8-1 overall, 8-2-1 in the Big South, while the Jays fell to 5-5-1 in conference play.

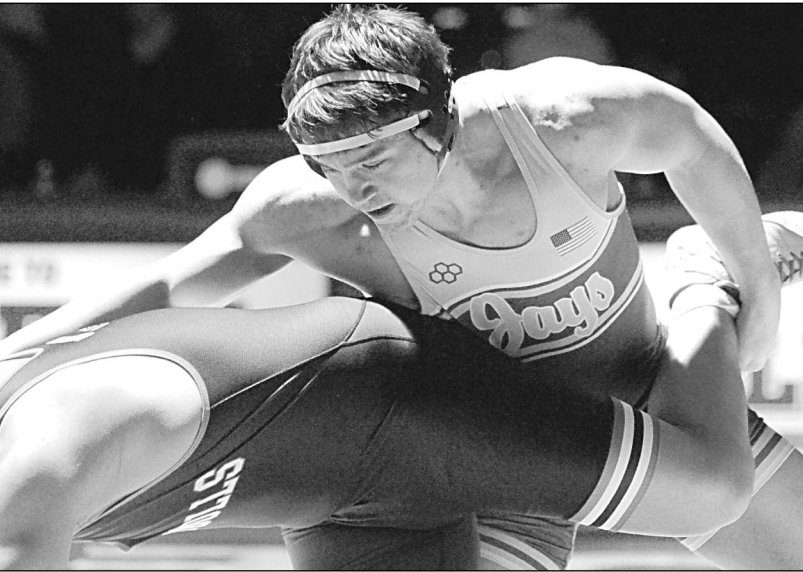
The Bluejays’ next action is Monday at 5:30 at home against Luverne. They face Minnesota River at 7 p.m. Feb. 1 at LeSueur Arena.



SCORING OPPORTUNITY — Emma Keith of Waseca (21) puts the puck on the net as Mankato West goalie Alayna Smith makes the save Tuesday night at Waseca Community Arena. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



REASON TO CELEBRATE — At left, the Bluejays’ Emily Gordon (10, Emma Keith and Izabela Siechta celebrate a goal against Mankato West. At right, Madalyn Benson (5) shoots while Siechta awaits a possible rebound. The Bluejays won, 3-0.



BEARING DOWN — At left, the Bluejays’s Slade Barnett battles Fairmont’s Bear Kosbab Tuesday, Jan. 23 in Waseca. At right, Matthew Veroeven hangs on as Ivan Martin attempts an escape. Below, Waseca eighth-grader Kellen Klinger (right) on his way to an 8-4 decision of Taylor Austin. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

Bluejay matmen 8th at Hutchinson Invitational

Wrestlers drop dual to Fairmont

The Waseca High School wrestling team competed in the Hutchinson Invitational last Saturday.

Matthew Veroeven led the Bluejays, taking first at 215 pounds. He won by fall, by 6-5 decision and, in the finals, a 3-1 decision over Gavin Schaefer of Marshall. He was 4-0 on the day, improving to 16-3 for the season.

Slade Barnett finished third at 152, pinning Isaac Zelaya-Velasquez of Willmar in the third-place bout. He won three of four matches, improving his record to 20-5.

After being pinned in the quarter-finals, Lucas Selthun, 189, battled through the consolation round before falling by injury default in the fifth-place match. He was 3-2 for the tournament, running his record to 10-13.

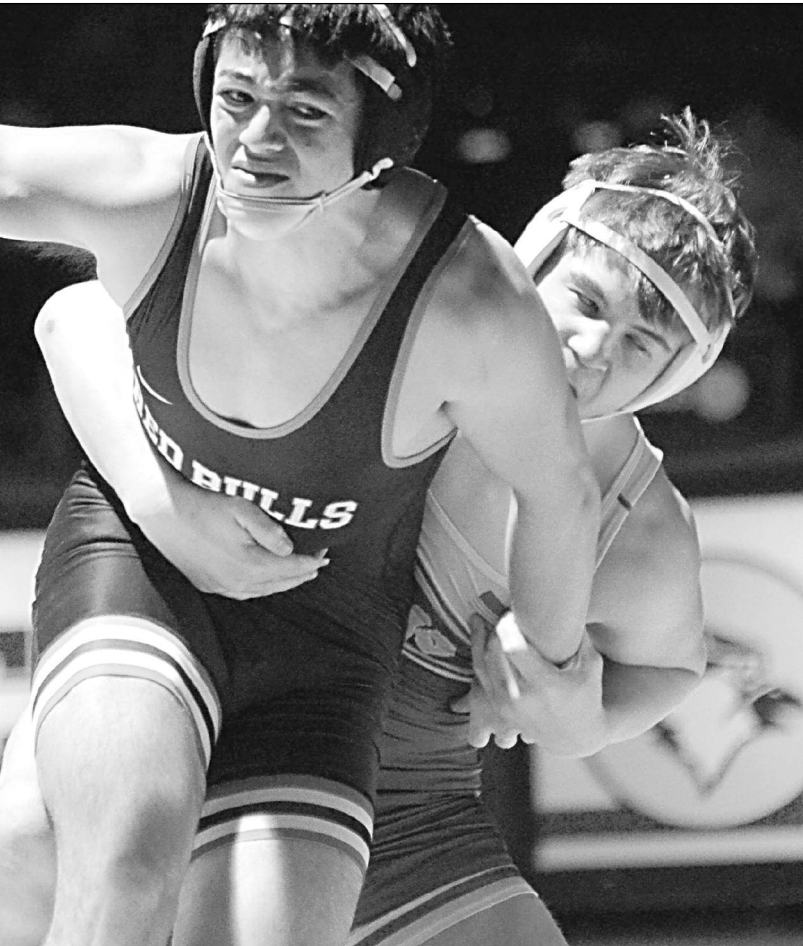
Also wrestling but not placing for Waseca were Jacob Knutson, 121; Oliver Staloch, 133; Peyton Sommers, 139.

Marshall took the team title with 202.5 points, followed by Willmar at 168, Hutchinson 143, Watertown Mayer/Mayer Lutheran 139, Becker 120.5, Anoka 104, Amery, Wis. 97.5, Waseca 49, Superior, Wis. 34 and MAHACA 25.

The Bluejays hosted Fairmont Tuesday, Jan. 23 and lost 52-21.

Barnett and Verhoeven won by fall, eighth-grader Kellen Klinger took an 8-4 decision at 160, and Archer O’Brien won by forfeit at 114. The Bluejays forfeited three matches.

The Bluejays wrestle Friday, Jan. 26 in a triangular at Plainview-Elgin-Millville. They face Goodhue at 5 p.m. and wrestle PEM at 7:30.



NRHEG boys can’t contain unbeaten Blossoms

A 71-45 loss to undefeated Blooming Prairie last Friday capped off a rough week for the NRHEG boys’ basketball team, which saw its record slide to 2-12 overall and 0-3 in the Gopher Conference.

The Panthers were never really in the game, trailing 41-24 at halftime. Greyson Schaefer and Jackson

Chrzh led NRHEG with 10 points apiece. Will Tuttle scored 8, Jack Knudson 6, Dexter Lee 4, Sam Olson 3, Ricky Zapata and Jordan Brouwers 2 apiece.

For the Blossoms, who improved to 14-0 overall and 3-0 in the Gopher Conference, Gabriel Hein scored 24, Brady Kittleson and

Zachary Hein 17 each.

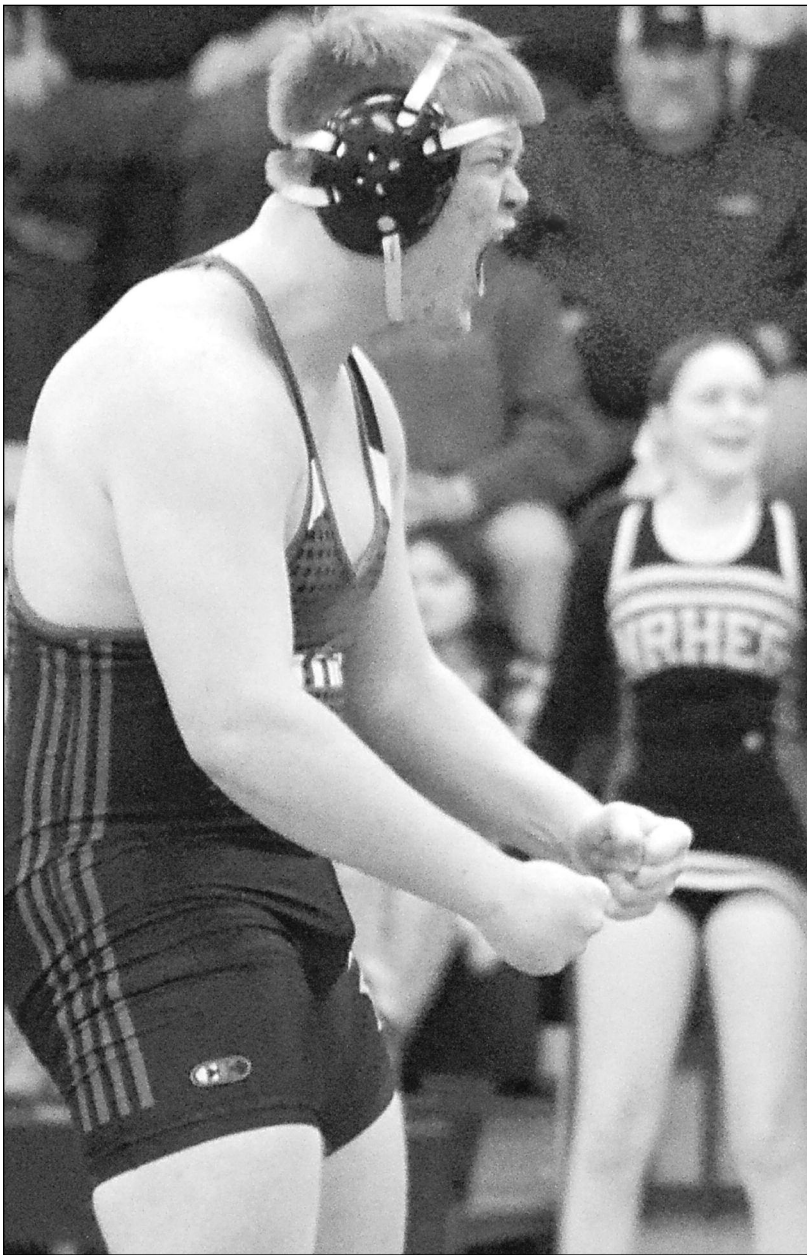
The Panthers fell 66-50 to a strong JWP squad in New Richland last Tuesday. It was 38-21 at halftime. NRHEG totaled 32 turnovers, twice as many as the Bulldogs.

Lee scored 23, Tuttle 9, Olson 6, Chrzh 5, Knudson 3, Schaefer 2 and Jaylin Raab 2 in his long-awaited

return from injury.

Tyler Schlaak made his head coaching debut last week as Dan Schmidt took time off to deal with a death in the family.

The Panthers are back in action Friday, Jan. 16 at Bethlehem Academy. They host Maple River Jan. 29 and play at Waseca Jan. 30.



Ihrke, Panthers rally past Triton

Senior gets first-period fall as NRHEG prevails, 36-35

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Dual-meet victories have been tough to come by this season for the NRHEG High School wrestling team.

Jace Ihrke made sure another one did not slip away.

Ihrke, a senior, dominated his match at 285 pounds, pinning his opponent in the first period as the Panthers came from behind to top Triton 36-35 for their first dual-meet victory of the season last Thursday in New Richland.

"Tonight was a fun match," said NRHEG coach Shawn Larson.

That it was.

The most exciting moments belonged to Ihrke, who was visibly fired up and displayed great determination, pulling his opponent back on the mat as he tried to get out of bounds. He flirted with a fall several times before the referee slapped the mat at the 1:49 mark, sending NRHEG fans - and Ihrke's teammates - into a frenzy.

"It is always nice to win close duals," said Larson.

The Panthers found themselves in a 20-0 hole to start the meet as Charlie Tufte fell 5-2 at 103, Dakota Schlaak was pinned at 112, the Cobras won by forfeit at 121, and Eli Hendrickson dropped a 21-4 technical fall at 127. The extra point not surrendered by Hendrickson, who scrambled several times to avoid getting pinned, would loom large.

Parker Bunn and Deven Parpart won by forfeit at 133 and 139, respectively, but the Cobras pinned Noah Weller at 145 and Reese Routh at 152 to give them a 33-12 advantage.

The Panthers' Harbor Cromwell won by forfeit at 160, and Triton forfeited to Ryan Schlaak at 172, making it 33-24.

Senior George Roesler, the Panthers' most consistent wrestler this season, scored a first-period fall at 189, but Cole Hutchens was decided 7-3 at 215, setting the stage for Ihrke's heroics.

"Bonus points were the key in this competition," said Larson. "We were able to get a few forfeits, but the dual was won because our team was fighting for each point. Roesler's fall at 189 gave us a

"Tonight was a fun match."

— NRHEG coach
Shawn Larson

chance in the last two matches. When Ihrke took the mat, the team was losing by five points. The only way that we were going to come out victorious was for Jace to earn a fall. I am very proud of the way Jace handled the situation; he did not get too worked up about it, he just went to work like any other match, and he found a way to get the pin. The chance for Jace to put us on top is attributed to the wrestlers on our team that did not give up as many bonus points. Tufte and Hutchens each fought hard and lost close matches, keeping the bonus points to a minimum. The effort of the night for us arguably goes to seventh-grader Eli Hendrickson, who was in a difficult situation for us and fought with all he had to save us a team point by not getting pinned. The one point Eli saved us turned out to be very important."

The Panthers wrestled Saturday in the Dave Erickson Dual Tournament in Hayfield, where they were defeated 68-3 by a strong New Prague squad and lost to GMLOS 39-27.

It was 48-0 before Hutchens got the Panthers' lone win against New Prague.

"New Prague is a very good team from top to bottom, and it was fun to test ourselves against their abilities," said Larson. "Even though the team score was lop-sided, there were some fun and competitive individual matches. Cromwell wrestled a good match at 160."

Winners against GMLOS were Tufte, 107; Parpart, 139; Routh, 152; Cromwell, 160; Ryan Schlaak, 172; and Roesler, 189.

Tufte, Routh and Roesler won by fall, but Cromwell had the biggest win, knocking off seventh-ranked Braxten Wiste.

"Harbor has been wrestling well lately and we couldn't be happier for him," said Larson. "That was a very good win, that hopefully Harbor will build off of."



ANOTHER WIN — Above, the Bulldogs' Memphis James (15) dribbles in the lane against Randolph. Below, JWP's Ryan Kronbach (14).
Photos by LeAnn Kavitz



JWP boys extend streak

The JWP High School boys' basketball team made it five straight wins with an 83-75 victory over Randolph at Janesville last Friday. The Bulldogs were up 51-37 at halftime.

Scoring for JWP: Ryan Kronbach 16, Memphis James 15, Cole Schlueter 14, Daulton Bauer 13, Caleb Quast 9, Landon Johnson 8, Gavin Bauer 6, Ethan Born 2.

Randolph's Peyton Barker

scored 34.

The Bulldogs rolled 80-48 at WEM Tuesday.

Scoring: James 20, Daulton Bauer 14, Gavin Bauer 9, Schuster 9, Kronbach 8, Quast 7, Steven Dimmel 5, Johnson 4, Austin Carda 2, Born 2.

JWP, 13-4 overall and 4-0 in the Gopher Conference West, play Friday, Jan. 26 at Kenyon-Wanamingo and Tuesday, Jan. 30 at USC.

Win streak ends for JWP girls

The JWP High School girls' basketball team had an eight-game winning streak snapped 71-63 by WEM Tuesday night at Janesville.

Scoring for the Bulldogs: Katie Olson 25, Nevaeh Weimert 17, Ali Olson 9, Kwynn Krause 4, Presley James 4, Lilly Strauss 3, Lexie Dahlberg 1.

The previous night, the Bulldogs won 62-36 at Mankato Loyola.

Scoring: Mikayla Wheelock 14, Ali Olson 9, Katie Olson 7, Ava Appel 7, Ellie Morsching 6, Weimert 5,

Krause 4, Hope Dimmel 4, Aubrey Adams 2, Onika Herme 2, Strauss 1.

The Bulldogs made a long road trip to Randolph last Friday and prevailed 46-42.

Scoring: Katie Olson 10, Ali Olson 7, Wheelock 6, Weimert 5, Krause 5, James 4, Dahlberg 5, Strauss 2.

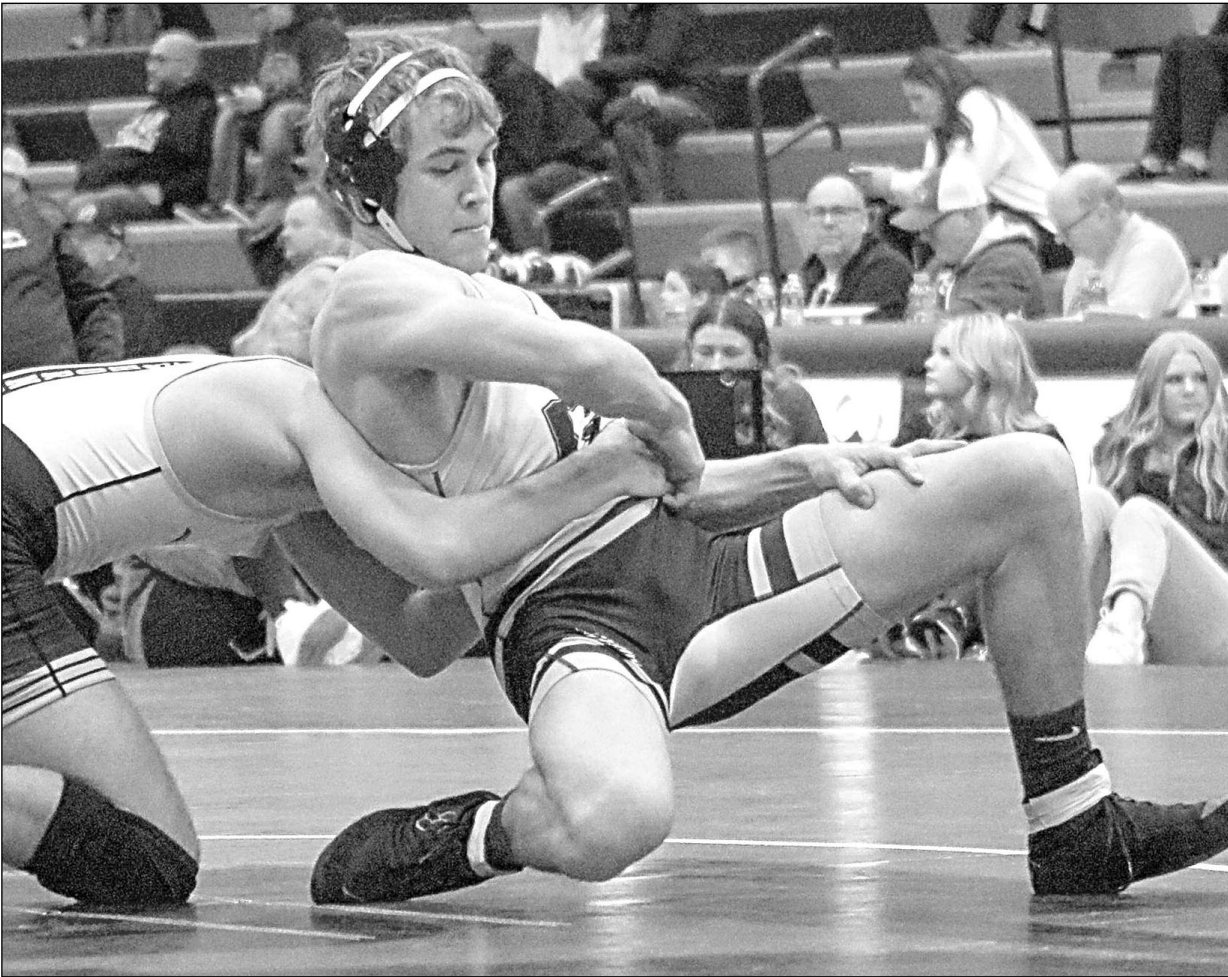
The Bulldogs, 14-5 overall and 3-2 in the Gopher Conference West, host Kenyon-Wanamingo Friday, Jan. 26, face USC at home Tuesday and host Maple River Feb. 1.

Waseca youth wrestlers honored



The Waseca youth wrestling team was honored at the intermission of the University of Minnesota vs. the University of Nebraska wrestling meet Saturday, Jan. 20 in Minneapolis.

Photo by Johnnie Phillips, Steele County Times



PERFECT DAY — Gavin Krause, right, notched three wins in three matches as the WEM/JWP wrestling team hosted Blue Earth Area last week. The Grizzlies defeated BEA and Maple River.

Photo by LeAnn Kavitz

Grizzlies 2-1 in home quadrangular

The WEM-JWP High School wrestling won two of three dual meets in a home triangular last Thursday.

The Grizzlies defeated Blue Earth Area 48-28 behind wins by Brenden Masso, 107 pounds; Parker James, 121; Carson Petry, 127; Carson James, 133; Lucas Morsching, 145;

Gavin Krause, 160; Avery Fall, 215; and Keegan Kuball, 285.

WEM-JWP outpointed Maple River/USC 38-34. Wins were by Masso, Parker James, Petry, Zach Quast, Krause, Fall, Maddox Moreno and Kuball, whose first-period pin lifted the Grizzlies to victory.

The Grizzlies were defeated 54-21 by Scott West. Winning were Morsching, Krause, Moreno and Kuball.

The Grizzlies meet Medford at 6 p.m. Friday at Waterville. They wrestle in the Sibley East Invitational Saturday at 10 a.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE

2024 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Waseca County has designated its website, www.wasecacounty.gov, as the 2024 Official Publication for Transportation Projects, as allowed by MN Statute §331A.12. Waseca County will publish any transportation project advertisements for bids on its website.

Contacts:

Jim Kollar, Public Works Director/County Engineer, (507) 835-0661
Michael Johnson, County Administrator, (507) 835-0631

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WASECA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No.: 81-PR-23-831
In Re: Estate of
MARILYN J. QUIRAM,
Decedent
AMENDED NOTICE AND ORDER OF
HEARING
ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PRO-
BATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
IN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRA-
TION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 31st day of January, 2024, at 10:45 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 November 29, 1989, and the first codicil of the above named decedent dated July 30, 2020, and for the appointment of Pamela K. Quiram whose address is 5929 Fairfax Ave, Edina, Minnesota 55424, 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: 12/15/2023

/s/ Carol Hanks
District Court Judge
/s/ Shannon M. Asselin
Waseca County Court Administrator

PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A.
Hayden J. Roslansky, #402545
215 E Elm Ave, PO Box 249
Waseca, MN 56093
Phn: 507-835-5240

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer
January 26, 2024. This legal was intended to run last week but was not due to a printing error.

Story Idea? • 837-6767

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Waseca City Council will hold a public hearing on **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** in the City Hall Council Chambers, 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093, to consider the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 1111 – Regulating Mobile food vending to include food trucks, vending wagons, food stands & Food Carts

A complete copy of Ordinance No. 1111 is available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk, 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Published in the *Waseca County Pioneer* on Friday, January 26th, 2024, and Friday, February 2, 2024.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

The Waseca County Property & Election Services Office will test the electronic voting machines to be used for vote tabulation in the Special County Commission District 3 Election on February 13, 2024.

The testing will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 8, 2024, in the Conference Room on the main floor of the Courthouse, 307 North State Street, Waseca, MN.

The public is invited to attend.

Tamara J. Spooner, Director of Property & Election Services

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STATE OF MINNESOTA

WASECA COUNTY AUDITOR

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

To the voters In the County of Waseca, State of Minnesota.

Notice is Hereby Given, That a Special Election will be held in the Election Precinct at:

City of Waseca 1A – Christ Community Church, 2200 4th Street NE, Waseca
City of Waseca 2A – Faith United Methodist Church, 801 4th Avenue NE, Waseca

on Tuesday, the Thirteen (13th) day of February 2024, at which the polls will be open from the hours of seven (7) o'clock AM to the hour of eight (8) o'clock PM for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices.

COUNTY OFFICES

One Commissioner in County Commissioner District 3

Dated January 22, 2024

Tamara J. Spooner County Auditor/Treasurer
Waseca County Minnesota

SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642
January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 Burger nite 5-7pm	3 6pm BAR Bingo	4 7pm HALL BINGO	5 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	6
7	8 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	9 Burger nite 5-7pm	10 6pm BAR Bingo	11 7pm HALL BINGO	12 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	13
14 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am--Noon Your Host St. Paul Lutheran Church	15	16 Burger nite 5-7pm	17 6pm BAR Bingo	18 7pm HALL BINGO	19 WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm YOUR HOST Fraternal order of police	20
21	22	23 Burger nite 5-7pm	24 6pm BAR Bingo	25 7pm HALL BINGO	26 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	27
28 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am--Noon Your Host Waseca Care-givers	29	30 Burger nite 5-7pm	31 6pm BAR Bingo			

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



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Store hours: W-T-F: 10 am – 6 pm,
Sat: 9 am – noon

Contact Tina Mittelsteadt
507-351-4608
tina@waseekersonlineauction.com

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Midyear report from WHS

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

“Students, staff, families, and the district, and accomplishing that desired daily experience as they are engages with Waseca Public Schools,” Superintendent Eric Hudspeth began his midyear report of the district’s vision card based on the strategic plan goals that were adopted at the beginning of the school year. Vision card priorities are measured on a scale where a score of 1-1.9=intervention, 2.0-2.9 = high concern, 3.0-3.9 =minimally acceptable, 4.0-4.9 = progressing and 5.0 and greater = vision.

The January Vision Card results indicated the Student score was 3.38, Staff score was 5.0, Families score 4.33 and District was 4.0. Hudspeth reminded the board that in some areas, “we are going to see low numbers on the score because we’re not going to lower our standards and say vision is 60% proficiency. We have some room to grow, but it’s not appropriate for us to say ‘Well, if we get to 60%, we’ll be okay,” because that’s not our goal.”

Business Manager Matthew Moline reported that enrollment has increased somewhat since the fall. “A pleasant surprise. We don’t often tick back up,” he said, referring to the graph given to the board members. Moline also referred to the audit completed last

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

month. “We met all deadlines and requirements as far as timing on that, and I’m glad to have that off my plate and move on.” Moline also referenced the pay equity report, a state requirement for public employees cycling through every three years that ‘tests’ to ensure schools are not unfavorably treating genders with compensation. Moline said Waseca ‘has passed with flying colors’ and results will be sent to the state upon board approval. Both the audit and the pay equity report were approved in the Action Items portion of the meeting.

Board members Grant Scheffert, Julie Anderson, and Dave Dunn attended this year’s Minnesota School Board Association conference and reported on the sessions they attended. “I find it valuable to get new things at the top of your mind, interact with people from other schools and hear what they do,” Scheffert said. Neither of the new board members attended the conference.

The board then moved to a closed session to discuss negotiations. The next work session will be February 1st and the next regular business meeting will be on the 15th.

Monthly meetings reduced to one

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

During their January 8 meeting, members of the Janesville City Council named Andy Ahlman as Mayor Pro Tempore; Mayor Andy Arnoldt was absent from the meeting that night. Government units typically appoint one of their members to serve in the chairperson’s absence during their start-of-year organizational meetings.

The council also voted to hold its meetings once a month, on the second Monday, rather than meeting twice a month as has been its custom for the past several years. It was noted their meetings have typically lasted no more than half an hour, and so group members decided to see how this new approach would go.

During the meeting, the council accepted a \$15,000 bid from Massachusetts area resident Scott Smith who wishes to purchase the city’s 1991 Ford Pumper truck. On December 26, the city officially accepted \$106,644 it received in public safety aid to be put into Fund 203. Using this specified fund will make it easier for the city to track public safety expenditures.

In the police report, Police Chief Steven Johnson recommended accepting Mark Vanderwilt’s application to become a full-time sergeant. After some discussion, council members decided Vanderwilt’s first day would be January 14. They also congratulated Vanderwilt about his new position.

During the meeting, councilmember Ahlman brought up the executive order that President Joe Biden signed last year allowing local governments to acquire equipment no longer being used by the federal government.

“If the city would use some equipment from that, it would be in the form of a grant,” Ahlman

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

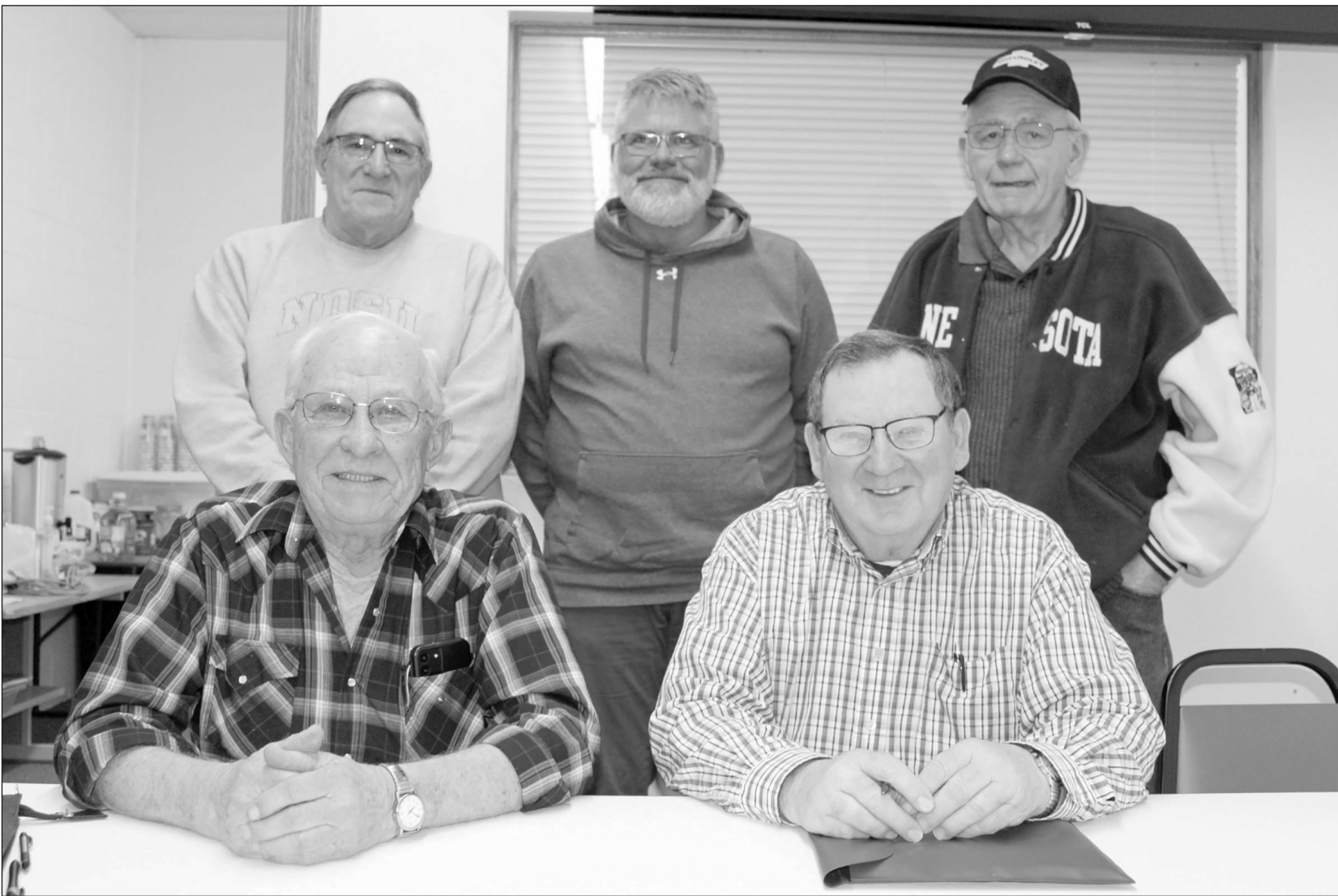
said. “The executive order said we would need to notify the public and also have the city council officially accept this letter.”

He added that the council had approved this motion in 2023 and suggested that it should be continued every year as long as the executive order is in effect.

During his report, City Administrator Clinton Rogers said the city had received a \$5,300 dividend from the police insurance trust. Rogers went on to say that added the amount is lower than in previous years. He also told council members the Janesville Economic Development Authority (EDA) had reported a decrease in the number of building permits requested from 2022 to 2023. Rogers said he hoped more building permit requests would come about because of a new subdivision. He also reported the city has received seven applications for its open deputy clerk position. He said that on January 16, he and the Minnesota Valley Council of Governments would meet and review those applications.

While discussing proposed amendments to the master fee schedule, councilmember Ivan Maas suggested listing the permit residents can apply for to use their golf carts within the city. Maas acknowledged that there is no “fee” either for the permits or for the stickers which show a permit has been acquired, but that he still saw benefit to including it on the list. Rogers agreed to include it.

In other business, council members were appointed to various boards and commissions as part of the start-of-the-year organizational planning.



Waseca County's Township Association officers include secretary/treasurer Lester Kroeger, front left; board chair Bernie Frederick (front right), and (back row, from left) Chuck Schwab, Curt Keyes, Neil Roesler. Not pictured is board member Randy Peterson. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Annual township board meeting

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

About 40 people attended the annual Waseca County Township Association meeting the evening of January 17. The association assists the county’s 12 individual township boards by disseminating information and allowing some tasks to be consolidated.

Toward those ends, the group holds an annual meeting each January and sponsors a yearly banquet for networking and celebration. This year’s banquet, association board chair Bernie Frederick wants township leaders to know, will be April 10 at the Waseca V.F.W. building. Other official business transacted included reinstating two board members; the six-member group again consists of chair Bernie Frederick and treasurer/secretary Lester Kroeger, along with Chuck Schwab, Curt Keyes, Neil Roesler and Randy Peterson.

Sandy Hooker, the regional representative to the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) encouraged township leaders to attend upcoming training events for officers and newly elected township board members. These events, she said, would be arranged in 13 different places across the state during March and April with the intent of making them easily accessible.

She also notified leaders that the statewide MAT conference is planned for Dec. 12-14 this year, and encouraged everyone who could to attend, mentioning that at least 10 percent of members should be present to make any decisions or actions official.

Another item of great importance, she said, was for township leaders to attend “lobby day,” to be scheduled in February. A “lobby day” is a selected date when members of a special interest group travel to the state

capitol and visit with legislators.

Hooker suggested the district might arrange for bus transportation. She cautioned that if only one district-wide bus is arranged, groups would have to travel to some central point to board it: District 2 includes the 141 townships in Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Martin, Waseca and Watonwan counties. Waseca’s township association decided to at least look into the possibility of arranging its own bus.

Hooker also mentioned that township leaders should be aware of “a big push” headed their way to protect Monarch butterfly habitat.

Aside from Hooker’s comments, the majority of the meeting consisted of reports provided by various county officials.

Among those providing updates were county public health nurse Sarah Berry, highway department head Jim Kollar, Waseca fire chief

Jason Forshee, sheriff Jay Dulas, drainage coordinator and ditch inspector Chris Howard, county auditor Tammy Spooner and county commissioners Brian Harguth and DeAnne Malterer.

Spooner mentioned that there will be four elections during 2024 and notified township leaders who act as election judges that they must receive a special training if they wish to be officials for the presidential nomination primary election scheduled for March 5. She also mentioned the township level elections set for March 12, the primary election scheduled on August 13, and of course the national vote on November 5.

Of the meeting, association chair Frederick commented “This annual meeting is a good opportunity to know what everyone is doing to make this county work.”

‘Charm on the Farm’ Jan. 27 and Feb. 3

(Waseca, Minnesota)- Book your tickets for another magical winter experience at Farmamerica! Farmamerica is offering Winter Charm on the Farm, a limited winter series, on January 27 and February 3 from 11:00 AM – 3 PM. Get ready for a day filled with hands-on activities and fun for the entire family.

Check out what’s going on at this event: Carriage Rides: Take a ride around the historic loop and enjoy the beauty of the farm during the winter months. Bird Feeder Craft: This new hands-on, take-home activity is sure to be a fan favorite among the kiddos! Logging Camp Experience: Scott from Rockin’ Circle R Ranch will help you become a lumberjack in no time! Plus, get a fun souvenir to take home. Hot Chocolate and S’mores: Who said s’mores are just for the summer? Warm up with a complimentary cup of hot

chocolate while roasting marshmallows over the fire! Scavenger Hunts: If you haven’t had the opportunity to explore the new Ag Around You Discovery Center, this is your chance! Complete a scavenger hunt to claim your prize. Soup Bar: There will be a light soup bar because what could be better than a bowl of hot soup after spending time in the great outdoors during the winter months? Snowshoeing and Snow Painting: If Mother Nature decides to shower us with some fresh snow before this event, attendees can explore Farmamerica on snowshoes and get creative with snow paint.

Farmamerica staff is excited to be hosting this event again this year. They are excited to add new activities and fun to this annual event. Communications and Engagement Coordinator, Morgan Mudgett said, “Because the weather in Minnesota



Servers at Farmamerica's recent "Farm to Fork" event, "Raise a Toast."

can be so unpredictable, we’re adding some new indoor activities this year as well as new activities and games that don’t require snow! This winter has been more mild than the last few, but the cold weather can still make some of us feel stuck! Winter Charm on the Farm is the perfect family outing to break up these winter days!”

Don’t miss your opportunity for winter fun on the farm. Presale admission is only \$8 for both children and adults. Children 2 and under as well as Farmamerica passholders are free. Prices will increase at the door so purchase your tickets in advance!

Visit farmamerica.org/events to see full event details and to get your tickets today.

Farmamerica is a non-profit agricultural interpretive center that connects people with the evolving story of agriculture through educational hands-on experiences like historic farm tours, day camps, and family-friendly events, partnerships, and community engagement. The 360-acre Farmamerica site is located right off Highway 14 on County Road 2, west of Waseca, MN.

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