



Aspyn Acres

Boelter captured, charged

By MPR

Federal authorities on Monday unveiled murder and stalking charges against Vance Boelter, saying he also went to the homes of two other state lawmakers early Saturday morning between shooting state Sen. John Hoffman and killing DFL House leader Melissa Hortman.



Boelter

The indictment lays out chilling details of the attacks against Hoffman, Hortman and their spouses — and the circumstances that kept the other two lawmakers safe.

Acting U.S. Attorney Joseph H. Thompson said Boelter had been planning detailed attacks on politicians for “some time” and went to the homes of the four Minnesota DFL politicians early Saturday with the “intent to kill them.”

He said more than 45 names of Minnesota state and federal politicians were on his target list, all Democrats. “It’s no exaggeration to say this is the stuff of nightmares.”

Boelter appeared in federal court Monday afternoon, wearing an orange jail-issued shirt and pants. Clean shaven and subdued, Boelter stared straight ahead and answered questions from the magistrate judge with either “yes” or “yes sir.”

Federal public defender Matthew Deates appeared with Boelter, who indicated he could not afford a private attorney. Deates said he would ask to be appointed to represent Boelter. The next hearing is set for June 27 at 11 a.m.

Boelter was in the custody of U.S. marshals on Monday morning after spending Sunday night in the Hennepin County Jail.

Boelter allegedly began the violent spree early Saturday at Hoffman’s home in Champlin.

Thompson said Boelter was dressed like a police officer and wearing a “hyper-realistic” silicone mask when he pounded on Hoffman’s door shouting “police.” When Hoffman answered, Boelter shined the light in his face and allegedly said he was responding to reports of a shooting in the house. When Boelter lowered the light, Hoffman realized he wasn’t an officer, Thompson said. Boelter then allegedly shouted, “This is a robbery” and forced his way into the home. When Hoffman tried to push him out, Boelter shot Hoffman and his wife repeatedly.

Thompson said Boelter then drove to Maple Grove and the house of a Minnesota House member. He rang the bell there, again wearing the silicone mask, but no one was home. The state representative and their family were on vacation. Thompson didn’t name the representative.



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State champs JWP track girls win it all

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The storybook 2025 season had one final chapter for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School girls’ track and field team: the state meet.

The Bulldogs, with Gopher Conference, sub-section and section championships already under their belts - along with an appearance in the True Team state meet - saved their absolute best for last, winning the Class A state championship last Wednesday at St. Michael-Albertville High School.

The Bulldogs, who claimed gold in the 800-meter run and took second in two relays, topped the statewide field with 41 points, comfortably ahead of second-place Minnewaska Area, which totaled 33. St. Cloud Cathedral was third with 32.

“I’m really proud of every athlete that was a part of this team, from the beginning of the year to the

“Finally the job is finished.”

— JWP coach
Sam Schruin

end,” said Bulldogs head coach Sam Schruin. “Every JWP track and field athlete has a hand in all the success we’ve had this season.”

Schruin offered a special thank you to his coaching staff: John Kaplan, Liz Kvebak, Andrea Kronbach, Emily Olson, Katie Cahill and volunteers Tim Johnson, Mike Cahill and Brandon Goebel.

“Without them we wouldn’t have the culture that we do,” he said. “Also a shoutout to administration, staff, teachers, and the community of JWP for all the support and helping shape these young athletes into great people. It really was a beautiful day to be a track and field athlete and now, finally the job is finished.”



THEY WON IT ALL - Members of the JWP girls’ track and field team pose with the Class A state championship trophy they claimed at St. Michael-Albertville High School last Wednesday. Front from left: Makaela Westphal and Ashlynn Wolff. Back: Katie Olson, Nevaeh Weimert, Onikia Herme, Brielle Bure and Lilly Strauss. Read about it on the sports page.

Refinery 507 closes restaurant, redefines space

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

“When we first bought this building, the intention was never to run a restaurant,” Sarah Kay Hoffman, co-owner of Refinery 507 and Thyme on Main, said.

While running a restaurant wasn’t a part of their original plan, Hoffman and her business partner Makayla Selvik ran restaurant and cocktail bar Refinery 507 at 100 State Street North for four years before they decided to make a change.

The Refinery’s last day as a public restaurant will be Friday, June 27. Starting June 28, the Refinery will exclusively be a private event venue available to book seven days a week. The change also includes having the Refinery cater for events.

“This was just the public facing space where you could come and eat and drink. But the way we’re transitioning it now is that it will no longer be the Refinery 507 as a public restaurant. It is a space like every other one of our spaces,”

Hoffman said.

The transition came from two influences: the growing use of the Refinery as an event space and the women’s families.

According to Hoffman, the space has seen a growth in private events, including business holiday parties and celebration of life milestones. This meant closing the restaurant at times inconvenient to the community.

“One kind of event that we’ve been doing a lot more in here, which is really interesting, is celebration of life. Or like, after the funeral. I know it sounds morbid, but it’s so beautiful. Family and friends can gather here. They can do drinks, they can do food,” Hoffman said.

She mentions that, thanks to the installation of a ramp, the space has become even more versatile and accessible as Thyme on Main, now for sale, has no handicap access.

But a major factor leading to the

Refinery continued on 5



NEW BEGINNINGS- Sarah Kay Hoffman, left, and Makayla Selvik, right, have owned Refinery 507 and Thyme on Main for four years now. Pioneer photo by Amelia Roessler

Janesville Hay Daze dazzles

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Fashion and pageants. Music and tournaments. All that and more were part of this year’s sixty-fifth Janesville Hay Daze celebration, which began June 9 and continued through June 15. Grand Marshall this year was Dave Blasing.

Monday was a fashion show sponsored by Simply Saved Thrift Store of Janesville at the Trinity Lutheran Church Discipling Center. Janesville Bowl had a special edition of Moonlight Colored Pin Bowling on Tuesday evening starting at 6:30 p.m.

The outgoing Miss Janesville, Ariana Aguilar, helped bring in the new Miss Janesville, Chloe Kaiser, with first attendant Kayleigh Donner and second attendant Hudson Miller on Thursday evening; there were seven contestants. Following the Miss Janesville Pageant was Main Street Mayhem, a wrestling event put on by

Minnesota wrestling league Paradise City Wrestling. The “mayhem” took place in the Main Street entertainment area. Mitch Paradise defended his championship in the main event with plenty of matches wrestled throughout the night.

Prairie Ridge Golf Course kicked off the festivities for Friday, June 13, with a golf tournament at 9 a.m. In the evening, it was the start of the first night of carnival rides provided courtesy of Crescent City Amusements. Single session armband passes were for sale at Janesville Hardware, Janesville State Bank, Arnold’s Good Spirits, and Wiste’s Meat Market.

For a dance on Friday evening, Generation Gap, a duo made up of Rod Scheitel and grandson Carter Quast of Janesville, played the first musical act. The group IV Play took the stage at 9 p.m.

On Saturday the Hay Daze



JANESVILLE MATTERS - Wrapping up the festivities was the Hay Daze parade — also known as the Fathers’ Day parade — at 1 p.m.

5k/walk and run had winners Christian Raether in first and Makenzie Westphal in second. The medallion hunt began at 10 a.m., winners were Ed and Sharon Mulcahey. An afternoon family-friendly kickball tournament took place at Lakeview Park. During that action, the turtle races and kiddie carnival took place at Whispering Creek Nursing Home.

An adult bean bag doubles tournament took place in the Chamber tent off of Main Street beginning at 11 a.m. A youth bean bag tournament

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann followed at 2 p.m.

Other activities throughout the afternoon included a dart tournament at the Purple Goose, a game of lighting at the JWP outdoor basketball courts, and face painting, lighted balloon art, and glitter tattoos at the intersection of Main and Second Streets.

Musical entertainment Saturday evening was the Janesville trio Family Tradition featuring Doug

Hay Daze continued on 10



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Waseca Art Center Gallery opening Thursday, June 19

Gallery opening featuring paintings by Carla Hanson [Melander and glass works by Chad Holiday from 5-7 p.m., Thursday, June 19. This exhibit will run until July 25

St. Clair Days from June 19-22

St. Clair is again having their summer festival until June 22. Enjoy adult scavenger hunts, dodgeball, parades, vendors, rides, beer gardens and much more.

Tom Petty Tribute band ‘Fred the Bear’ at Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm June 21

Fred the Bear will be performing at the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm from 5-8 p.m. Saturday, June 21. They cover everything Tom Petty.

Squid City Slingers at Indian Island Winery Saturday, June 21

The Squid City Slingers will be performing at the Indian Island Winery from 5:30-8:30 p.m. June 21. They are a folk/bluegrass/gypsy jazz trio from the Twin Cities.

Swim and Stories at Waseca Water Park Saturday, June 21

Waseca Public Library will lead a special Romp and Rhyme Story Time at the Waseca Water Park at 10 a.m. June 21. Enjoy the water while sharing books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement. Water Park admission free with Romp and Rhyme Story Time participation.

The Great Rainbow Party at Janesville Public Library Monday June 23

This colorful event is full of prisms, pattern building, color mixing, sorting, and crafting at Janesville Public Library at 2:30 p.m. Monday, June 23. For ages 3-6.

Mahjongg at the New Richland Public Library June 23

Learn to play Mahjongg at the New Richland Public Library at 3 p.m. Monday, June 23. Like Rummikub, Mahjongg is a 200 year old Asian tile game. Call Kathy for more information at 507-465-3708.

Feathers and Strings at the JWP High School Tuesday, June 24

Feathers and Strings will be performing at the JWP High School in Janesville at 2 p.m. June 24. An assortment of intricate marionettes are the featured performers in this eclectic hunter Marionettes showcase. All ages welcome.

A word from The Word

Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

Isaiah 40:28



Compostings

by Al Batt

Three lagomorph species in the state

ECHOES FROM THE LOA-FRES' CLUB MEETING

I've got big news for you. Well, I'm glad I'm sitting down. I just painted that chair you're sitting in.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. The sky was as black as blue and as blue as black. Then, a beautiful day shouldered its way in. I stood beside my father's grave on what some might call a windswept prairie, regretting those things I had left unsaid, and my questions that went unasked. I thought there'd be more time. Then, I heard a western meadowlark call from a pasture-land near the cemetery. It brought precious memories of my wonderful father, the farmer, and of our many talks. I know the bird was proclaiming territory, but sometimes, a bird sings when I need to hear it.

THE CAFE CHRONICLES

"Close the door before you let the flies out," said the friendly waitress at the Eat Around It Cafe. A place to find common ground.

I closed the door and sat down next to a friend who wears suspenders because he claims to have worked his rear end off and is fond of saying, "If you can't find the needle, buy the haystack."

"How's the special today?" I asked the waitress.

"How nice of you to ask. It's feeling much better, thank you," she said with a smile.

I'VE LEARNED

Traditions are often peer pressure from people you didn't know. I visited Big Tom in Frazee, Minnesota. The 20- to 22-foot-tall, 5,000-pound symbol of the "Turkey Capital of the World" is a monument to the world's largest turkey. Maybe they shouldn't put "Wet floor" signs in a men's restroom.

You're getting old if you write the wrong century on a check.

I saw a guy in Starbucks who wasn't using a phone, tablet or computer. He was just drinking coffee. It takes all kinds.

It should be against the law for a pedestrian to cross a street while looking at a cellphone.

I visited the Congress Avenue Bridge spanning the Lady Bird Lake in Austin, Texas. Austin is home to 979,882 people, 53,082 University of Texas students and 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats that hang out at that bridge in the summer and fall, forming billowing clouds at dusk when they head out to feed.

I ran a jackhammer for a step company one summer. It broke

new ground for me.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

A snake walked into a bar. "How did you do that?" said the bartender.

Barbers can't cut hair any longer.

If you have three cats, two dogs, a pet chicken and a hamster, how many legs do you have? Two.

My neighbor is doing lunges to stay in shape. That's a big step forward.

My cousin got fired from his job at the ice cream shop because he refused to work on sundaes.

IN LOCAL NEWS

Happy 100th birthday to Doris Beckmann of New Richland. Her party was a fabulously festive occasion.

NATURE NOTES

There are three lagomorph species in the state. One rabbit and two hares. Hares are born well-furred with eyes open, and move around shortly after birth, whereas rabbit babies are born blind, hairless and helpless. The eastern cottontail is the rabbit we commonly see. The white-tailed jackrabbit is a hare with exceptionally long ears and 2 feet long and weighing 6 to 10 pounds. When surprised, it bounds off like a kangaroo. When frightened, it speeds away at up to 40 mph. It can leap 10 feet at a time. The snowshoe hare is slightly larger than the cottontail rabbit and can reach speeds of 30 mph and jump 12 feet in a single bound. Its coat is brown in summer and white in the winter, earning it the nickname varying hare. Snowshoe hares live in the upper half of the state, where they're typically found in young forests, dense woodlands, thickets, and forest bogs and swamps. They're about 20 inches long and weigh 3 pounds. The snowshoe hare's food changes with the seasons. In summer, it feeds on grasses, berries, wildflowers, clover and other green vegetation. In winter, it eats bark, twigs and evergreen needles. The snowshoe hare roams a 7- to 17-acre home range. An acre is slightly smaller than a football field.

Black flies, also called buffalo gnats, are encountered along the running water of streams and rivers. The black fly season in Minnesota typically runs from late May through October, with peak activity in late May and June. I've endured their painful bites from the North Shore to the BWCA to the Minnesota River Valley and along the Mississippi River.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The world abounds with kind people. If you can't find one, be one.

Short hair: now a changed woman

I got my hair cut this week.

The reason this may be worth mentioning is that my hair went from a shaggy cape that hung two-thirds of the way to my waist to a perky little cap that doesn't quite reach my shoulders.

I had been growing it for the past three years or so, always with the intention that I would donate the hair. This is the fifth or sixth time I've done it.

My perspective is quite simple. When it comes to the features of our mortal coils, it is as if each of us rolled the dice to determine the characteristics of a participant in a role-playing game.

Perhaps you're familiar with the process. For many of the games, an individual gets a card listing various attributes; common examples are "strength," "agility," "intelligence," and even "luck." Then dice are rolled for each attribute. The luck of the rolls might determine the resulting character is high in strength, but perhaps not particularly agile or intelligent.

So, like the "orcs" or "thieves" or "warriors" in a role-playing game, we have strengths and weaknesses we simply take for granted.

For example, my "roll" was quite unlucky when it comes to eyesight.



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

Without corrective lenses, I would literally live life in a blur. When it was time for me to get new glasses recently, roughly half the people who saw my prescription stated aloud how unusually strong it needed to be.

On the other hand, of course, I have always been unusually tall for a woman. This means many people have to look up to me, at least literally, and that I can reach things on high shelves.

Now back to the subject at hand—my hair. Though it took me a decade or two to appreciate it, I was fortunate in this category. The hairs on my head are coarse (as opposed to fine) and there are a lot of them. They also grow relatively quickly, typically going from above the shoulders to long enough to donate in three years or less.

Somewhere along the way it came to me that I could share this unearned good fortune. I am told recipients of

the resulting wigs are people with hair loss from cancer treatment, a condition called alopecia which affects even children, or from other causes. Why wouldn't I want to help?

The only boundary for prospective donors is that their donation will be useless if the hair has been dyed. So if you ever wondered why I didn't get rid of those greying streaks, you have just acquired the answer.

Thanks to my short stay in a beautician's chair, I am now a changed woman.

Just like any other significant change, my shorter hair will take getting used to. For one, I no longer have to pull 12 inches of hair out of the neckline of my shirts after I have put them on. As a former teacher, I still persistently wear that profession's marker—a neck lanyard which holds my keys. Now, when I put the lanyard over my head, it doesn't pull

my hair.

When I turn my head quickly, the ends of my hair brush across my cheeks. In case you didn't already know, long hair doesn't do that, so I am still being taken by surprise. Even when it's been tied back, long hair doesn't let cool breezes hit your neck. Of course that shouldn't typically be a concern in summer—in fact allowing the breeze to cool your neck is a good reason to have short hair—except this year, when we keep yo-yo-ing between too warm and too cool.

Anyway, I share all this not because I believe you have any abiding interest in my hair, but maybe to give you a few moments to meditate on the circumstances and situations in life that you've gotten used to, and about the way our perspectives are affected by even minor changes.

Or maybe you might give a few moments' thought to the lucky "rolls" you have experienced when it comes to your life circumstances, and the ways you can pass that good fortune along. As for me, even now that it will be another three years before I can donate my hair again, I can still reach things on high shelves. Feel free to ask if we're ever in the same aisle of the store and you need something lifted down.

Father's Day? Try Daughter's Day

Another week in paradise, am I right? Despite the rain and haze, the fact is that it's still summer and I'm enjoying it.

The rain might have washed out the music and people last weekend from Hay Daze in Janesville and Heritage Days in Faribault, but that doesn't mean the fun ended.

Not that I went to either of those. Last Friday, I went to the Cities to watch the NBA game with my roommates and friends because they all started big adult jobs and I never get to see them anymore. We went to a cute little bar in downtown Minneapolis called Cuzzy's. I loved the vibe because it reminded me of the bar I work at in Faribault. We walked in and dollar bills were plastered everywhere. The walls, the bar, the ceiling and even the disco ball. At my bar, we contain the dollar bills behind the bar, but the chaos of Cuzzy's made me smile. It was a dive bar, which I always think is more welcoming and inviting than other classier or upscale gathering places. Give me



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

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small-town vibes, with all ages and close quarters, any day.

But then we walked next door to the Basement Bar, which is what it sounds like—one of those classier dance clubs whose vibes are opposite to Cuzzy's ambiance. You walk downstairs and there is concrete everywhere; the dance floor in the middle by the bar, fancy couches all against the walls, expensive lights, security guards walking around. No sign of any heartwarming small-town energy. Just concrete jungle, although I guess a change of pace is always good.

And then of course, it was Father's Day this past weekend. My father wouldn't want to be men-

tioned at all, but how else am I supposed to publicly, and to all the people who read the Pioneer, tell him that I love him and appreciate everything he does for me, for our family?

But for our celebration of the day, we had him cook breakfast and dinner (we offered both times, he's just really good at it and enjoys doing it). And then we went fishing, which is always fun. Especially since my dad recently got a new boat that is big and sparkly and really nice.

I may be biased as I was on the lake and then drove by the golf course, but do a lot of fathers for their day choose to bring their fam-

ilies to golf or fishing? I know those are stereotypical male hobbies, and I also realize there are a lot of other things to do that fathers and men like doing. I just think it's funny that that was what I noticed the most when driving around on that lovely Sunday.

And on Mother's Day, is the cliché to do work on the garden? Go shopping? I don't know, I tend to make assumptions about things like any other person. And just like any other person's, they could very easily be wrong.

My mom spent Mother's Day at my graduation, so I have nothing to say. I just think it's nice that we get to celebrate the people who mean so much to us in life.

It's a bummer we missed Children's Day on June 8. Though August 11 is set aside for both daughters and sons, in case anyone is curious.

My Determination: "To the stars who listen—and the dreams that are answered."— Sarah J. Maas, A Court of Mist and Fury

Mark delivers devastating news

For the second time in less than a year, my friend Mark delivered devastatingly tragic news to me. The first time came when I was playing games with my friends and he walked over to share the news that President Trump had been shot.

This weekend, I was cooking breakfast for my friends while on vacation, when he came up to me and informed me of the shooting of two Minnesota legislators.

My friend Mark explained that these assailants are full of hate and anger. The groups that radicalize these people offer an outlet for their anger.

There is no place for any of this in the world.

I think people should remember that putting negative energy (mocking, belittling, hate) in the world does not make it a better place.

On Wednesday last week I headed north to Akeley, Minnesota, for a five-day getaway with my friends.

Tuesday I finished up the newspaper, went to a Discover Waseca Tourism board meeting followed by a That One Place Athletics board meeting, picked up my just-repaired car from Tesch Service Center and returned home to pack.

Wednesday morning I departed on my roughly five-hour drive.

I arrived in the early evening where I met Deb Bently and her brother at the cabin. They had just finished their own getaway with friends. (The cabin is



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

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owned by Deb and family.)

The pair showed me how the boat worked, along with the ins and outs of cabin life.

Thursday morning the pair departed. About 45 minutes later, my friends started arriving.

Before my first two friends unpacked, we had the boat out on the water, fishing.

We caught zero fish on our first outing, which was followed by a drive to town for supplies.

After a brief shopping trip, I introduced my two friends (the first of six total visitors to arrive) to the famous Akeley Mall. "Akeley has a mall?" my friend Jarod asked suspiciously. (Akeley has a population in the 400s.)

"And an archery club, community center, thrift store, gym, food shelf, and library—all in one," I answered.

The city's former school building has been converted into a thrift store, etc.

After shopping, we discovered the gym, where we spent two hours playing basketball and briefly, floor hockey.

My friend Madi arrived in the early evening. We all enjoyed another three-hour boat/fishing trip. As the sun went down, I

said, "One more cast," about eight or nine times before we called it an evening. The fish were biting.

As we started the boat to head across the lake, tragedy struck. The propeller wouldn't spin. Thank goodness for the trolling motor, as it saved the day, pulling us home at two mph.

I was worried Deb would be upset, but when I called her to let her know, I could feel her warm response through the tone of her voice. "Gene will touch it and it will work again. Don't worry." She assured me.

S'mores and grilled hot dogs over an open flame were dinner.

The next morning I was awakened early to my friend Javier making pancakes, as well as a message from Madi asking if I wanted fresh brewed, french pressed coffee. I got out of bed to find fresh cakes, and fresh coffee. A beautiful morning.

My friends Mark and Victoria arrived Friday afternoon. A grocery run, and more fishing ensued before our friend Jane arrived late in the night. Tea, good conversation and games were enjoyed Friday evening.

Saturday was spent antiquing. The boys' all took one car and

the three girls, another. We spent the afternoon playing basketball in the Akeley Mall as the girls all antiqued at the three or four antique stores.

Upon returning, we fished, played more games, and grilled steaks over an open fire again. They were excellent. I was grillmaster and was certain the first round of steaks would come out well-done. They all came out medium rare.

The second batch, however, came out closer to rare. Jarod and I enjoyed those and were pleasantly surprised at how tender and tasty they were. Madi supplied the steaks, from her family's home-grown cow. Also enjoyed were "hobo" potatoes cooked in the coals of the fire. Truly, the best potato I've ever had.

Saturday we stayed up late into the evening conversing, enjoying each other's company, and drinking tea.

After a breakfast of pancakes and fruit on Sunday, we all packed up and headed home.

Upon returning home, my dad and I enjoyed Casey's pizza, two games of cribbage and good conversation to celebrate Father's Day. I promptly went to bed very early Sunday evening.

I'm very grateful for my friends, the graciousness of Deb for use of the cabin and the beautiful planet that provided serene and beautiful surroundings.

"I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles." - Anne Frank



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PHONE: 507-837-6767

email: news@wasecacountypioneer.com

Address: Office at 111 Elm Avenue West

Mail: PO Box 578, Waseca MN 56093

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JIM LUTGENS	Sports Editor/Dad
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MELISSA DUNN	Staff Writer
AMELIA ROESSLER	Editorial Assistant

Contributing writers/photographers: Dave Zika, Al Batt

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Create Your Own Shrinky Dinks at New Richland Public Library Tuesday, June 24

Design a bracelet, necklace, or keychain charm to fit your personal style at New Richland Public Library at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 24. This free event is geared for ages 7-18.

Ruby Eye Ruby at the Trowbridge Park in Waseca Tuesday, June 24

Ruby Eye Ruby will be performing at Trowbridge Park at 7 p.m. June 24. This retro roots-rock collective channels the soulful rock sounds of Amy Winehouse and the rhythmic roots of New Orleans.

Diamond Art bookmarks for Teens at Waseca Public Library Tuesday, June 24

Choose from a variety of designs to create your own diamond art bookmark at Waseca Public Library at 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 24. This free event is geared for ages 13-18. Registration required. Register at the library or at wasecalesueurlibraries.com/getregistered

Virtual Author Event: Katherine Applegate Waseca Le Sueur Library System Tuesday, June 24

Award-winning author and summer reading champion Katherine Applegate will talk to viewers about her enthusiastically heartwarming novel in verse, “Odder,” at a virtual Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library System event at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 24. This event will be recorded and people who register will be emailed a link to the recording. Register at the library or at wasecalesueurlibraries.com/getregistered

Community-Wide Educational Session for Caregivers and Aging Adults at Waseca Area Caregiver Facility Thursday, June 26

The Waseca Area Caregiver Facility will host a Community-Wide Educational Session for Caregivers and Aging Adults from 10-11 a.m. Thursday, June 26. 113 2nd St. NE across from the Waseca Post Office. Learn to reduce pain, increase mobility, maximize potential and much more.

Waseca Water Carnival at Trowbridge Park Thursday, June 26

Bring the whole family to Trowbridge Park for a free event, full of water games, backyard games, and lots of fun from 11 a.m. till 1 p.m. Thursday, June 26. Events will include an Inflatable Obstacle Course, a Water Slide, Water Balloon Games, a Dunk Tank, a Water Wall, Face Painting, Art Projects, and more. Plus, enjoy a free lunch at the event! In case of rain on June 26th, the event will be held on Friday, June 27th.

Jake Lieser to represent Minnesota

Waseca exchangite headed to ‘26 Special Olympics

The Waseca Exchange Club is proud to announce that member and Special Olympics athlete Jake Lieser has been selected to represent Team Minnesota at the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games, taking place in late June at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities campus.

Jake will compete in track and field, a sport he’s trained tirelessly in for years. His selection is a milestone not just for Jake, but for the entire Waseca community. Jake has been a participant in Waseca’s Special Olympics programs for over 15 years, finding both camaraderie and challenge in every season.

To help support his upcoming journey to the Games, the Waseca Exchange Club has awarded Jake a \$1,000 gift from its newly established Special Olympics Fund. The fund, along with a dedicated fundraising committee, was formed to further support inclusive athletic opportunities in the community.

“We are bursting with pride over our fellow Exchangite, Jake Lieser, over his selection,” said Waseca Exchange Club President, Mikhail Rostislavovich. “Jake is the embodiment of dedication, whether he’s training for track and field or showing up for our Club events, he brings his full heart and unwavering spirit. His 15



REPRESENT - Left to Right: Exchange Club President Mikhail Rostislavovich, Special Olympics Coach Connie Hoehn, Athlete and Exchangite Jake Lieser, Exchange Club President-Elect Perry Berg

years of involvement in Special Olympics is a testament to his resilience and passion. We believe in Jake, and we know he’ll make Waseca and Minnesota proud.”

Jake humbly shared his enthusiasm, saying, “It means a lot to be chosen for Team Minnesota. I love the challenge and making friends through Special Olympics. I’m going to give it my all, just like always. I am really excited to compete!”

The Special Olympics USA Games is a nationally celebrated

event that highlights the abilities, determination, and sportsmanship of athletes from across the country. The 2026 Games will bring over 4,000 athletes and coaches from all 50 states to Minnesota for a week of spirited competition and unity.

The Waseca Exchange Club invites the community to join them in celebrating Jake’s achievement and to support efforts that foster inclusion, perseverance, and pride through athletics.



MARKTETPLACE COMING SOON - Left to right, row 1: Mark Christiansen, Darren Arndt, Katie Gonzales, Diane Beckamnnann, Tom Sakovitz, Robin Dulas, Chris Kennelly, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Lori Bonin, Tom Sexton, Brad Milbrath, De Malterer, Doug Christopherson. Row 2: Jon Froke, Kevin Clemons, Carl Sonnenberg, Dr. Jay Bulfer, Stacey Schroeder, Ann Staloch, Bernie Gaytko, Brad Krause, and Mark Basara

Marketplace property project moves forward

The Marketplace property, a long-anticipated development site in Waseca, has reached several major milestones and is now officially moving forward under the direction of Rebound Partners, a developer known for revitalizing communities through thoughtful, community-centered projects, along with the Waseca Real Estate Fund. The 36-unit apartment building will be the first new apartment building in Waseca in almost 30 years. The Waseca City Council has formally approved the sale of the property to Rebound Par, signaling a major turning point for the site. In addition, the establishment of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district has been approved, allowing for key infrastructure improvements and financial feasibility. The Waseca Economic Development Authority (EDA) has also unanimously approved a forgivable loan to support the project’s launch and long-term im-

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New medication management program

Taking medicine, the wrong way, can cause serious problems, like bad side effects or even life-threatening issues. Managing your medicine correctly can help prevent these problems, improve how well treatments work, help you feel better, and save money by avoiding extra trips to the emergency room or hospital. Programs like this can also help people remember to take their medicine and give them more con-

trol over their own health.

Public health nurses will give personal support by visiting people at home. They will help organize and check your medicines and prescriptions. Nurses can explain your prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, and daily vitamins or supplements. They can also help you spot side effects, avoid mistakes, and make sure you are taking your medicine the right way. Nurses can

answer your questions and help you understand your treatment plan, all in the comfort of your own home.

“Medication management is going to be very beneficial to our community. It is a huge need without many providers to help. I am excited to be able to provide this service and make a difference in the community” says Waseca County Public Health Nurse, Lacey Cords.

The new Waseca County Public

Health medication management program is open to people of any age with private insurance or Medical Assistance (MA). It is an important step toward healthier lives for all.

For more information or to schedule a visit, contact Waseca County Public Health Nurse, Lacey Cords, BSN, RN, PHN at 507-461-7766 or lacey.cords@wasecacounty.gov

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

City council talks audits, golf carts

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

An audit presentation and a discussion about golf carts were the hot button topics at the regular New Richland city council meeting June 9.

Tom Olinger of the accounting firm Abdo, Eick & Meyers presented an overview of the 2024 audit to the council. His presentation included showing similarities to past budget years; he also reported an issue discovered from last year regarding sales tax remittance was resolved in this year’s finances.

Olinger said the overall general fund budget, which is usually 50%, has increased to 62% this year. “Good to have that continue to grow,” he said.

For revenues, Olinger said the general fund had a net increase of \$173,000. The revenues were over budget, but the expenditures were under budget.

The overall trend in taxes decreased slightly from the previous year and the general fund expenditures were flat from previous years.

The capital improvement fund did have an increase related to contribution and property tax. The net service fund stands at \$225,000.

The water fund saw cash flow in, while the sewer fund saw a negative. Nursing home operations stayed the same and cash has been flowing in Cedar Point, with \$86,000 in that fund.

Olinger said there was an overall increase in cash funds of about \$300,000 in the last year.

Tax rates kept pretty flat, with not a lot of change in market value. Olinger said this is in line with Waseca County. He also said to keep in mind capital needs and to keep investing back into the city.

Citizen Gail Schmidt presented questions and concerns regarding the use of golf carts in town. She said the space along the south side of the waterway has long been used by drivers of small vehicles as a path to Casey’s or The Willows. She went on to say she is confused by a recent announcement from the police department that the space is private property and should not be used by public traffic. Schmidt said she has been using the trail for 20 years and sees no reason why the practice should be changed.

Schmidt presented a document with signatures from all property owners but one, saying they agree to let the path be used. Talk of liability concerns and whether an ordinance or easement would help the situation was raised by council members.

During the meeting, Shan-

Council continued on 5

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OBITUARIES

Catherine “Kate” Mary Hansen

Catherine “Kate” Mary (Seys) Hansen, age 99 of Waterville, passed away on June 15, 2025 at Whispering Creek Nursing Home in Janesville.

Kate was born in St. Clair on August 15, 1925 to parents Hector and Mary Ellen Seys. She attended school in Le Center. She was married to Raymond Hansen on July 6, 1945, and they celebrated 73 years of marriage before Ray passed away in 2018. Catherine and Raymond dedicated their life to taking into their home many family members and foster children in addition to five daughters of their own. Catherine stayed on the family farm after Raymond’s death. She kept busy feeding chickens, cats, and birds. The Hering brothers took over farming the land and checking on Catherine and Sarah after Ray’s passing, and the family would like to offer their thanks for all their help and friendship over the years. They would also like to extend their gratitude to the residents and staff at Whispering Creek Nursing home in Janesville for the devoted care they showed to Catherine.

Catherine is survived by four daughters, Cheryl (Paul) Armendariz of Janesville, Kathleen (Vern) Powell of Waterville, Patricia (Dave) Gertz of Waterville, and Sarah Hansen of Waseca. Other extended family includes sister-in-law, Betty Schaal; Teresa (Gordy) Ferch, Gordon and Dorothy Hinderscheit, Al-



Catherine “Kate” Mary Hansen

fred (Pat) Hinderscheit, Bernie (Bob) Mackey, Rose Hinderscheit, Shelly Radloff, and Kay Radloff. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a daughter, Susan; a granddaughter, Tracy Rae; and all of her siblings.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 20, 2025 at the Waterville Evangelical United Methodist Church, with Rev. Kathy King officiating. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at the church. Interment will be at Sakatah Cemetery in Waterville with a luncheon to follow at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to the Waterville Evangelical Methodist Church. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waterville is handling the arrangements. dsfuneral.com

Sacred Heart launches \$1.5 million campaign

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, a cornerstone of Waseca for 150 years, has launched a \$1.5 million capital campaign titled “Preserving Our Past – Building Our Future.” The campaign seeks to honor the church’s deep history, while ensuring its facilities are efficient to serve future generations.

The three-year campaign will fund several major projects: the restoration of the church’s historic stained-glass windows, updates to restroom facilities, a new sound system for the sanctuary, tuckpointing on numerous buildings, and repairing the school parking lot.

“We are blessed to be stewards of such a rich legacy,” said Father Glenn Frerichs, pastor of Sacred Heart. “This campaign is about more than buildings, it’s about honoring the generations who built this parish, while investing in the future of our church, school, and the Waseca area community.”

Campaign Co-Chair Kevin Walter emphasized the campaign’s early momentum. “I’m thrilled to announce that we just started receiving financial commitments over the last couple of months and have already raised over \$1,000,000 toward our \$1.5 million goal,” Walter said. “It demonstrates the commitment of our parishioners. We’re excited to continue building on that generosity and to begin the building projects once the



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

funds have been raised.”

Andy Miller the other Campaign Co-Chair noted that the parish hopes to partner with local contractors for the planned improvements. “Supporting our community is one of our top priorities,” he said. “We want to enhance our parish community, while contributing to the local economy all at the same time.”

Parishioners and friends of Sacred Heart who wish to contribute to the campaign can do so online at www.sacredheartcampaign.org or by contacting the parish office directly.

“This is a moment of opportunity,” Father Frerichs added. “With faith, generosity, and unity, we can preserve our church facilities and prepare it to serve future generations.

Community Education summer performances

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Waseca Community Education Children’s Summer Theater in conjunction with the Waseca Drama Department proudly presents “Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit,” performed by Waseca’s Little Rascals’, written by Jonathan Rand. Directed by Karen Pfarr Anderson with assistant director, Sadie Schimming, the play opens Friday, June 27 and Saturday June 28.

All the students on stage were dressed in relaxed summer clothes and everyone is still cutting their teeth with their lines. With two weeks before opening night, most are still in the learning process and need assistance with spacing and placement. Director Anderson said, “This week is our tech week, lighting, sound and background. We brought projections into it for the backgrounds, which really makes the scene transitions easier and much smoother not having to build all the sets like in the old days. We even have two moving lights and that adds to it as well. I directed at the central

building in town for 13 years until this auditorium was built and the differences are very noticeable.” Anderson was also very proud of the fact, “We have 18 actors playing 42 different roles in this play, giving all of the kids a lot of acting room to move around in.”

For anyone who’s ever seen the show “Law and Order,” when the show opens what sounds like a hard-nosed cop says, “Law and Order Special Victims Unit, these are their stories.” Anderson noticed one of her students had a pretty good voice for that, Keegan Rodriguez, who’s going into ninth grade was asked into the booth, “They had me up there for about 20 minutes speaking into a microphone.” He was asked who he most wants to see the play and he replied, “I’d really like it if my grandpa can come, but if he can’t my grandma will, and she’ll tell him all about it.” Besides the voiceovers, Rodriguez is also playing the Big Bad Wolf.

Olive Scheffert, future eighth grader who is playing Detective Humpty Dumpty said, “During the



ORDER IN THE COURT - Olive Scheffert (Detective H.D.), Charlie Randall (D.A. Stiltskin), and Sadie Schimming (Assistant Director) are rehearsing for “Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit” at the Waseca High School’s Performing Arts Center on Thursday, June 12, 2025.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

audition we all were handed the same sheet to read from, then Mrs. Anderson cast us accordingly. I think she did a good job with casting and everybody agrees with me.” She added, “Everyone is in a pretty good mood and that makes things so much better, we rehearse Monday through Friday, but we get the weekends off.”

Sophiel Weber, who is playing Little Red Riding Hood and Doc (Seven Dwarves) said, “I couldn’t wait to be

in this, we started rehearsal on June 3, for now we’re working on lines and making our marks. We will have the dress rehearsal on the 23rd and the 24th, then we take pictures on the 25th, I really hope my parents come.” For everyone else, “Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit” opens on Friday, June 27 at 7 p.m., ticket price is \$5 with another showing Saturday, June 28 at 2 p.m.

Children’s Miracle Network fundraisers at Waseca Walmart

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Harley Fell, 8, and his grandmother Theresa Johnson teamed up this past Saturday for the first of three fundraising events to support the Children’s Miracle Network taking place at the Waseca Walmart.

Harley’s role was publicity. “I walk around the store and people ask me questions,” he described. The “questions” he mentions had to do with the inflatable costume he was wearing the afternoon of Saturday, June 14. He gave the appearance of being a young swimmer sitting astride a wide-toothed shark. A sign he wore encouraged people to make donations at a table not far inside the store’s main entry, where Johnson greeted people and invited

them to make a donation in any amount—\$5 or more meant the donor would receive a free plush shark toy.

In front of her were a variety of designs young customers could select among if they wanted their face or arms painted in exchange for any free-will donation amount.

Johnson mentioned this was the third year she has taken part in the fundraiser, and commented she is excited because this year events are taking place on three days—June 14 and 28, as well as July 4. In addition to her face painting—which she says has brought in about \$100 in a few hours during some past events—will be popcorn sales, a children’s carnival, and other excitement. More information, she adds, is or will be



SHARK! - Harley Fell, 8, and his grandmother Theresa Johnson were raising funds for the Children’s Miracle Network indoors at the Waseca Walmart on Saturday, June 14. Harley publicized the event by circling the store in costume; Theresa offered face painting in exchange for a free-will donation.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

available on Facebook.

She says she enjoys the chance to use her talents, and that supporting the Twin Cities’ children’s hospital is her way of giving back, since she has always been grateful for medical treatment given to two of her nieces when they were children.

Measles in the area: what parents need to know

Local public health is urging parents and caregivers to stay informed and act as measles cases continue to rise across the United States with 14 outbreaks and over 1,000 cases reported in 2025. Awareness and prevention are more important than ever, especially for families with young children.

Measles is a serious and highly contagious disease caused by a virus that spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. The virus can linger in the air for up to two hours, making it extremely easy to catch. In fact, 9 out of 10 unvaccinated people exposed to measles will be infected.

Why Measles Is a Concern

Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children. Complications include pneumonia,

brain swelling (encephalitis), and even death.

The disease begins with high fever (up to 104°F), cough, runny nose, and red or watery eyes, followed by a rash that typically appears 3 to 5 days after initial symptoms.

“Prevention and early care are key,” said Leah Frederick, Le Sueur Family Health Supervisor.

“Vaccination remains the best defense, and parents should know the symptoms and act quickly if their child is ill,” said Sam Holicky, Waseca Public Health Supervisor.

How to Protect Your Family

Get vaccinated: The MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine is safe and highly effective.

Check vaccination status: Speak with your healthcare provider if un-

vaccinated or unsure.

Seek care quickly: Get immediate medical attention. Do not wait.

When to Go to the Emergency Department

Difficulty breathing, seizures, unresponsiveness or severe confusion, severe rash or persistent high fever

Early treatment can prevent life-threatening complications and help stop the spread to others. For more information about measles and the MMR vaccine, visit the CDC website.



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Superintendent's Corner

by Eric Hudspith

End of a great school year

As the final bell rings and our classrooms empty out for the summer, there is a deep sense of accomplishment and excitement across our district. We have just closed the chapter on another exceptional school year. It was a year filled with learning, growth, and countless moments of connection between students, staff, and families. From academic milestones to athletic achievements, musical performances to acts of community service, our students reminded us why this work matters so much.

While summer may be a break, it is a different busy season for our school district. This is a time focused on preparation, improvement, and continued support for our students and staff.

Throughout the summer months, we offer a wide range of academic programming to keep students learning and engaged. These include reading and math interventions, enrichment camps, and credit recovery options. These opportunities are designed to provide targeted support while also sparking curiosity and creativity. They are significant as we continue to meet students where they are, helping them grow with confidence before the new school year begins.

Summer is also a vibrant time for athletics and student activities. Whether it is a morning practice on the track, a tournament in the gym, or a fine arts camp, our students continue to represent our district with pride, dedication, and teamwork. Coaches, directors, and advisors invest their time to help students sharpen their skills while reinforcing essential values such as discipline, sportsmanship, and resilience.

Behind the scenes, much of

our work during the summer focuses on preparing for the year ahead. Our custodial and maintenance teams are working hard to clean, repair, and upgrade our facilities. From waxing floors to servicing HVAC systems to preparing classrooms, their work ensures that our learning environments are safe, welcoming, and ready for students to return.

Teachers and instructional leaders are also hard at work, engaged in curriculum writing and professional development. These efforts help ensure that our lessons remain aligned, relevant, and responsive to the needs of our students. Summer workshops cover a range of topics, including new instructional strategies, effective use of technology, and content-specific planning. Our goal is always to equip our educators with the tools they need to succeed in the classroom.

Administrators and district leaders are spending time reviewing data and reflecting on the previous year. By analyzing academic performance, attendance patterns, and family feedback, we can make informed decisions about how to move forward. Strategic planning helps us align our goals, invest in the right resources, and create opportunities for every student to succeed.

Although the halls may be quieter during these months, the work of education continues with energy and purpose. We celebrate a school year that brought us pride, and we are preparing with care for another one that holds great promise.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a safe and joyful summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the fall for another incredible year of learning.

Council

from Page 3

non Sweeney discussed the competitive sale of general obligation improvement and utility bonds of the city. He said five bids were received, with Northland Security being the low and desirable bid. The resolution to choose Northland was moved and approved.

Reports were given by Sarah Sundve for the ambulance, Shell Johnson for the people service report, the fire department, and Chief of Police Tanyce Bruegger.

Bruegger said there were 137

calls, 32 traffic stops, 29 ordinance violations, 39 directed patrols and lock checks and 16 assists of other agencies during May. She also reminded the council and public that grass should be no more than six inches tall and to not blow clippings into the roadway.

Care Center administrator Bob Johannsen gave the Care Center report and said the center is working to improve in areas related to regulatory changes and quality improvement. The facility experienced an \$18,000 profit in April; Johannsen said the census was good.

City Hall will be closed June 19 for Juneteenth and July 4.

Beckmann, family celebrate century mark

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

Doris Beckmann of New Richland marked birthday number 100 on Saturday during a celebration with family and friends.

Born June 12, 1925, Beckmann grew up in Waseca County and went to school in Freeborn, graduating in 1942. Although she is now 100, Beckmann said she still feels 99.

The trick to living so long?

“The kids would say I eat ice cream a lot.”

Despite her five daughters believing ice cream is the trick to staying young, Beckmann claims her love for plain vanilla ice cream and its frequent consumption only started the last couple of years.

Sitting in front of her birthday banner in a packed garage of family and friends, Beckmann was the light of the party, laughing and smiling as the line of people moved through to wish her happy birthday and talk as old friends.

“They said I can’t move from here,” Beckmann laughed.

Beckmann’s five daughters, Charlene Chevalier, Valerie Giles, Kayla Root, Eileen Borchert and Joleen Oterson and their families were all present to celebrate.

“It’s a blessing,” Giles said, “that she still remembers.”

After high school, Beckmann said she babysat and did other things before being married in 1945 to Herbert Beckmann when she was 19. Two weeks after their marriage, Herbert left to fight in World War II.

When he returned, the couple spent a lot of time farming and helping to build and manage the American Legion in New Richland. Doris and Herbert were together 65 years before he died in 2010 of Alzheimer’s Disease.

“She always worked so hard for us five girls. Out on the farm and gardens, she worked hard all her life,” Giles said.

Beckmann now has 15 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

A few of her grandkids compiled a list for her birthday party titled, “What has Grandma Doris lived through?” Some things on that list include the Great Migration, mass automobile manufacturing, the adoption of the National Anthem, the first federal minimum wage of 25 cents and the creation of the United Nations. She has lived through five British monarchs, nine popes and 17 presidents.

Beckmann’s grandson Ryan Giles



100 YEARS - Doris Beckmann (front) was surrounded by friends and family to celebrate her birthday. In the back, from left to right are Beckmann’s five daughters, Charlene Chevalier, Valerie Giles, Kayla Root, Eileen Borchert and Joleen Oterson. Pioneer photos by Amelia Roessler

named two prominent aspects of Grandma Doris’s character: she will always speak her mind and never forgets a family member’s birthday, no matter who it is.

“She doesn’t forget a birthday. A \$5 bill in the card. I don’t remember my cousins’ birthdays, but she’s got all those down. She never forgets,” Ryan Giles said.

Beckmann now lives in Royal Villa in New Richland; she continues to cook for herself and bake.

“Could never go to her house without treats. She still does her baking,” Ryan Giles said.

Happy Birthday, Doris Beckmann.



YOUNG VETERINARIANS - Kids donned their doctor attire to help their chosen wildlife animal at the Aspy Acres Kids Wildlife Clinic Saturday, June 14 at the Aspy Acres farm. Mr. Fox, top left, joined to assess their work. Pioneer photos by Amelia Roessler



Aspy Acres kid’s wildlife clinic

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

The Aspy Acres Wildlife Rescue and Farm Sanctuary held a practice clinic designed to introduce young learners to the information and techniques needed to take care of sick or injured wildlife. The event took place Saturday, June 14 at the Aspy Acres property just north of Waseca; about 50 children and their accompanying adults were present.

The clinic included having participants dress in medical garb while they learned to assess, wrap and otherwise treat wildlife in distress.

“We do a lot with the farm side, but we wanted to bring an event that kind of focused on the wildlife side,” owner Chasity Haslip said of her facility, which is divided between a farm animal refuge and a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation operation.

According to Haslip, it is important to host events like this for the community to learn conservation education, including how to coexist with wildlife.

“Maybe they’ll spark an interest and want to help animals. Maybe they’ll go into something like this, or they’ll be more apt to, as they grow up, see something, do something type of deal,” Haslip said.

Kids Lanie and Rory Kimbro and Jax Cassiey came to the clinic because they are animal lovers.

“I helped a baby bird from my cat,” Rory Kimbro explained as she took off her doctor scrubs.

Around 50 children and adults had gathered at tables in the farm yard. Kids selected from a variety of stuffed animals, donned their scrubs, and got to work figuring out what was “wrong” with their animal so they could set and wrap the injury. Some stuffed animals sported wrapped legs or torsos, while others had more unfortunate injuries, like one goose and its wrapped neck.

“Our main goal is to care for injured, orphaned, or sick or displaced wildlife,” Haslip explained about Aspy Acres. “On both sides, one of our main focuses is also education towards our youth or offering work experience and education and quality of life to other people with financial or educational barriers. We have a lot.”

Information about Aspy Acres and upcoming events is available at aspynacres.com or on Facebook.

Refinery

from Page 1

transition was the two women’s family circumstances.

According to Selvik, the decision was incredibly hard. She said she feels blessed to be a part of the community, the experiences, the family built around the establishment. But at the end of the day, she said she was still missing time with her kids.

“After four years of missing repeated birthdays, hockey tournaments, get-togethers and simple Saturday nights, the time finally feels right to shift gears,” Selvik said.

Hoffman added that one of Selvik’s children has spent his last four birthdays in the Refinery, saying

their kids are there all the time.

“They’re like, ‘Why can’t you go do X, Y, Z on Friday night? Why can’t you be at my sport on Saturday?’” Hoffman said.

After a while, the two women realized there was not equal excitement anymore. Hoffman said she is looking forward to the predictability of events while Selvik said she is ecstatic to get back one of the most precious gifts — time.

“The Refinery 507 was never failing or falling short. We shifted gears to adjust to the lifestyle we envision ourselves having. Shifting to events allows us a bit more predictability, not to mention less overhead,” Selvik said.

Mentioning they are fully aware there is already a successful event venue in town, the two say their new business model will be something of a complement to The Mill rather than any form of competi-

tion. Hoffman mentions Refinery 507 has a maximum capacity of 40, compared to The Mill’s 500 or so.

In fact, she continues, they have already had customers who used the facilities in both spaces for their respective strengths—Refinery 507 for smaller gatherings such as the groom’s dinner, for the photography studio, or the air bed and breakfast rooms for out-of-town visitors, and then The Mill for the large-scale celebration and dance.

The pair is sad to say goodbye to the “uber-fans” that came to the Refinery; they say they are especially disheartened to have to let their staff go, but they feel the bittersweet move is a step in the right direction.

“We have grown a little family who we will miss seeing on the regular, there are no doubts about that. I will always shout out to the customers who were so loyal to our

little family at the 507. We have built so many amazing relationships,” Selvik said.

Hoffman added that while that is the hard part, “We’ve thought about the community for the last four years and we’ve kind of failed to remember ourselves and our families.”

Looking forward, their goal is to continue having and creating fun events and celebrating with the community and those who come in from out of town, even with the Thyme on Main now being for sale.

“As with every change, we have faith and continue to follow our hearts. There is always excitement on the horizon! We can’t wait to see what this next chapter brings,” Selvik said.

To book an event space or Airbnb with Thyme on Main or Refinery 507, visit their website at <https://members.thymeonmain.com>

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The Pastor's Column

Redemption story

By PASTOR RICK WULF

If you have been attending Christ Community Church, you know that we've been in the Book of Ruth. Ruth is a beautiful story of how God can redeem even the most dismal circumstances to bring about redemption in His time.

If you're not a part of our church family, let me give you a quick summary of the Book of Ruth. Ruth occurs at the time of the Judges, where there was no king and everyone did as they saw fit (Judges 21:25). The Book of Ruth introduces us to a family—Elimelech and Naomi, along with their two sons, Mahlon and Kilion.

Ruth begins revealing that there is a famine in Bethlehem. This famine causes Elimelech and his family to flee Bethlehem for Moab. Now let me stop right there. Bethlehem is in Israel, God's promised land. And we don't know why there is a famine. Perhaps It's divine judgment, since the people of Israel had begun to live their own way. Or maybe the famine was simply a result of normal weather patterns. We don't really know. But what we do know is that they left the safety and security of God's promise and sought out safety and security outside God's promise.

Okay, so we have to ask a question. Have you ever experienced a famine in your life? Not necessarily because of a lack of rain or food, but maybe a time in your life where you felt alone, discouraged, even depressed? A time when you were worried, anxious, or afraid about an upcoming situation? Did you feel you had to figure life out on your own? It's very easy in these times of famine to live in fear.

It was fear that caused Elimelech and Naomi to take matters into her own hands, rather than trust God. They lived in Moab for about 10 years and while there Elimelech, Mahlon, and Kilion died. That left Naomi Ruth and Orpah—Mahlon and Kilion's wives alone. Naomi heard that God was providing for the people of Bethlehem again, so she and Ruth trekked the 50 miles back to Bethlehem, and God worked so that Ruth would be in Boaz's field.

Here's the thing. The author of the book of Ruth uses a literary device to make us think that ending up in Boaz's field was just coincidence. Was it coincidence. No. Now, are there coincidences in this life? I don't know for sure. But what I do know for sure is that God is completely sovereign. God absolutely works behind the scenes of our circumstances to work for our good, if we love Him and are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28). We may not always like what is happening, or what God brings into our life. But God's Word reminds us that we can rejoice in our sufferings (Romans 5:3-5) and count our trials as pure joy, so that we ultimately lack nothing (James 1:2-4).

Please let me ask you a question. Think about the things you are hoping and praying for in your life. Do you see how these things are bringing about the redemption story God is writing? We know the answer should be "yes". But what do you do when you don't see it in the moment?

That's where Ruth is. She has chosen to trust God. She has put her faith in Him. She has left the cultural and religious ways of her people, the Moabites. She is now seeking to honor God in her life, but she still doesn't know how God is going to work.

Maybe you are new in your faith. I am so glad for you! But trusting God can be really hard. And waiting on God may be the hardest thing you ever have to do. But in the middle of your waiting, God is writing. Even if you don't like the chapter that you are in, or you don't like the plotline, God is still writing. And the good news is that the end of your story is redemption! But what do you do while you are in the middle? What do you do when you don't know what the end is going to look like? Keep following Jesus.

Back to the Book or Ruth. The Bible describes Boaz as a man of character and a kinsman-redeemer. Without going into a lot of detail, a kinsman-redeemer was a person, usually a relative, who was commanded by the law to redeem a widow. It was a legal way to keep property and family lines intact, due to short life expectancy and high infant mortality. Boaz was of the clan of a Elimelech, so he could be a kinsman-redeemer. Ruth in a way, proposed to Boaz, and they married, thereby redeeming her.

At the end of the Book, God allows Ruth become pregnant, and they give birth to a son named, Obed. What is so incredible about this is that Obed was actually Naomi's kinsman-redeemer! Not for legal reasons set up in the law, but through the relationship of a grandmother and a grandson.

I am not a grandfather. At least not yet. And there was a time not long ago that I wasn't really looking forward to being a grandpa. But it's slowly growing on me. Maybe it's because I have a daughter in a relationship headed towards marriage. And I am so excited for them and I'm looking forward to being "Papi". Maybe you are a grandparent, and you've experienced the joy of grandkids. They do keep you young!

When Naomi lost her husband and sons, she became bitter. She said that she was full, but then she became empty because of her loss. When the Lord provided a grandson for her, the women around her blessed her and said, this child will renew you. The truth is, God often brings good things and good people into our life to restore what is lost and broken, to redeem what is empty and unfulfilled. This is how God redeems His people.

Maybe you are feeling bitter. The truth is, the things of this life and the circumstances which we have no control over, can make us bitter or better. So, what is it going to be in your life? We need to answer this question. Because ultimately, the book of Ruth ends up the ultimate Redemption Story. Ruth becomes the great grandmother of King David. And if you fast forward to the New Testament, Matthew includes the same lineage as Ruth but continues it past King David to Jesus the Messiah (Matthew 1:3-6, 16).

Here's the bottom line. Jesus is our Redemption Story. He is our promised Messiah. And just as God redeemed His people and provided a king, God redeems His people by providing The King. No matter what you are going through, Jesus is your Redeemer, and He wants to redeem every broken part of your life. Now is the time to turn your life over to Him completely. We would love to walk with you through your redemption story and help you see God's hand in your life.

Waseca Junior Senior High School Straight A Honor Roll 2024-2025

Seventh Grade Straight A Honor Roll:

Aryana Garza, Keegan Glynn, Olivia Hagen, Ryan Harguth, Alexander Henry, Luke Jeske, Kayla Landrum, Sydney Langager, Joseph LeMieux, Kolby Lindquist, Lillian Muff, Cayden Page, Charles Randall, Shannon Sanchez, Kaia Sartori, Olive Scheffert, Caiden Scheller, Milo Wachal, Carter Walker, Leah Wilson, Autumn Zimprich

Eighth Grade Straight A Honor Roll:

Liah Adams, Rylee Ahlschlager, Avery Barto, Brayden Butler, Keenan Collins, Bryan De Jager, Maurice Lopez, Cruz Lynch, Wyatt Partain, Carson True, Tomas Vasquez-Neigebauer, Aiden Walker, Jenna Yoder, Quinn Yoder

Ninth Grade Straight A Honor Roll:

Allyson Holmseth, Oriana Jewison, Charley Kietzman, Jacob Knutson, Alison Mader, Khloe Nelson, Violet Pat-

terson, Enoch Possin, Patsy Sandoval, Maren Schimming, Asha Sharif, Ryan Yoder, Addison Zimmerman

Tenth Grade Straight A Honor Roll: Madelynn Benzick, Brody Dufault, Lauren Holmseth, Colby Hoof, Violet Rohwer, Aera Zimprich

Eleventh Grade Straight A Honor Roll:

Jolee Larson, Kaylee Lawson, Vivian Mader, Dakotah Marik, Corrick Medina, Pearl Moore, Catherine Olson,

Sadie Schimming, Hannah Teague, Andres Vasquez-Neigebauer, Avery Wetzel

Twelfth Grade Straight A Honor Roll:

Nathanael Andrs, Kendall Bowers, Sophie Chawra, Jack Chen, Collin Dettmer, Eden Eads, Benjamin Hagen, Sierra Krause, Siri Kuhns, Addison Pfeifer, Nevaeh Sampson, Leah Scheffert, Jackson Tesch, Cody Weber, Maxwell Wirtz

Waseca Junior Senior High School A Honor Roll third trimester, 2024-25

Seventh Grade A Honor Roll:

Owen Arndt, Reagann Attenberger, Regan Barr, Wyatt Bartz, Finley Byron, Lincoln Castro, Ella Eaton, Autumn Fritz, Ashley Garcia, Brody Gray, Kylie Grey, Evelyn Griffin, Vaira Guse, Kiyanna Gwiit, Oliver Haekenkamp, Claire Harguth, Jazmyne Johnson, Mya Kath, Ellie Koppischke, Corine Kratzer, Kelsey Lawson, Kesavaanandhan Mahalingam, Liam Malterer, Kinley McMurphy, Taelyn Nowak, Miles Popp, Hailey Proehl, Jany Ramos, Eddie Rice, Tobin Rutt, Jozy Schlaak, Ellie Schleicher, Raya Sieberg, Owen Sommers, Aidan Spotts, Norah Swindle, Mateo Vasquez-Neigebauer, Mal-lory Wetzel

Eighth Grade A Honor Roll: Hector Beltran, Annabelle Benson,

Abigail Berge, Maxwell Deml, Nolan Dufault, Chloe Hagen, David Haley, Ethan Harwood, Dalisaya Howe, Aysia Ingram Bratts, Kennedy Jansen, Abigail Jarrett, Jaiden Johnson, Kooper Lindquist, Ella Linnes, Ahvah Maas, Ava Miller, Kenna Miller, Libby Miller, Braxton Nelson, Nicholas Nelson, Macy Peterson, Gavin Riehm, Gabriel Sanchez, Hannah Sommers, Cadence Stenzel, Enrique Tovar, Ava Trumbull, Connor Vosejka, Ava Young

Ninth Grade A Honor Roll:

Armaan Bhatti, Mailee Gilmore, Brier Hayes, Toby Jeske, Aydan Kath, Kellen Klinger, Carly Kratzer, Ty Krautkremer, Aileen Lindsay-Brothers, Mya Lynch, Landan Mad-sen, Max Malouff, Archer O'Brien, Lillian Petersen, Reese Rodriguez,

Claire Roemhildt, Madalynn Root, Mandi Root, Megan Thursdale, Ava VanDenHemel, Cyrus Wilson

Tenth Grade A Honor Roll:

Grace Chawra, Lucas Danner, Noelle Drake, Zoey Dunn, Isabella Garza, Jacob Harguth, Eryn Harrison, Megan Hudak, Henry Huttemier, Jacey Jensen, Abigail Lapidés, Landon Lewer, Amilya Lynch, Nolan McQuery, Fushen Mei, Belle Miller, Coy Miller, Kaylie Morrissey, Tristan Nelson, Elsie Owens, Savanna Vagts, Katelyn Weber, Alexa Welander, Owen Wieseler

Eleventh Grade A Honor Roll:

Slade Barnett, Andrew Bartelt, Ryan Borneke, Ella Bulfer, Victoria Calderon, Paige Dufault, Lauren Grant, Kody Hess, Hannah Heusinkveld, Ethan Hiller, Sophia Hillsman, Sulli-

van Kasl, Layla Keith, Allen Kopetzki, Blake Langager, Madilyn Larrabee, Jacob Lawrence, Mia Mitchell, Christian Possin, Logan Reger, Chloe Roemhildt, Roman Siler, Jada Thomez, Jasmyn Villafuerte, Caleb Wulf

Twelfth Grade A Honor Roll:

Hunter Anderson, Andrick Balderas, Helin Cruz-Hernandez, Caden Danner, Emma Donnay, MaLanie Engel-Mueller, Isaac Feldkamp, Liam Hagre, Jennifer Hernandez-Verde, Mia Kane-wischer, Izaac Kehler, Jaya Kunkel, Bennett Ludwig, Kennedy Lynch, Elizabeth Manthe, Camila Marquez, Kyle McGuire, Lucas McQuery, Claire Mlenek, Lily Owens, Levi Root, Damarius Russell, Kenzie Sandborg, Jordan Sell, Takara Slattery, Molly Volovsek, Mason Wadd, Henri Wob-schall, Kendra Young.

Waseca Junior Senior High School B Honor Roll third trimester, 2024-25

Seventh Grade B Honor Roll:

Hayden Allen, Lilliana Arkadie, Ethan Babcock, Ayden Baxter, Trey Bohannon, Drake Bubak, Kiara Carlson, Sawyer Collins, Carter Dickson, Brooklyn Frederick, Madison Frederick, Charles Galle, Charlotte Griffith, Colin Guggisberg, Daniel Guritz, Keira Holmgren, Taylor Koch, Brooklyn McColley, Carson Mortensen, Arlo Mullen, Cruz Nesenon, Marjorie Pilatasig, Emely Rivera Perez, Carson Roesler, Jordan Rosenthal, Aubrey Sietsema, Mayson Smith, Andy Spotts, Kinley Thostenson, Lillian Whitesitt, Keera Wolske

Eighth Grade B Honor Roll:

Andrew Barnes, Ava Bishop, Oden Board, Levi Collier, Anna Dobberstein, Shy Driessen, Jack Durisen, Joscelin Ebnet, Gavin Farley, Madalyn Halla, Nicholas Harguth, Abigail Jackson, Jacob Jyrkas, Dominik Mansfield, Kenzie Morrissey, Jordan Neidecker,

Kole Nelson, Michael Petracek, Shakiyah Powell, Corbin Ristau, Jaxson Roemhildt, Riley Rosin, Peyton Ross, Erasmo Sandoval, Jace Selvik, Christopher Spotts, Myles Stenzel, Samantha Sutton, Sophiel Weber, Kyle Welander, Carter Wermimont, Evan Worke

Ninth Grade B Honor Roll:

Onna'ki Abrego, Samuel Allen, Wyatt Arndt, Claire Bartelt, Filiberto Caudillo, Isaiah Dymeck, Olivia Eaton, Ashlynn Eldeen, Kavita Ewest, Ashley Fliflet, Kelly Hernandez-Verde, Andrew Hickman, Ligaya Howe, Calvin Kahnke, StoryJames Kasl, Jack Kelly, Logan Konz, Kaylee Matz, Ryan Nelson, Gavin Reger, Hannah Rugger

Tenth Grade B Honor Roll:

Cory Bartz, Alexander Dickerson, Makya Donovan, Ilamay Drahaim, Isabella Eaton, Ryleigh Ebnet, Chelsia Eneboe, Addison Epper, Melody

Galle, Amber Hagen, Josie Hagre, Corbin Hanna, Berkly Hinna, Elli Hoban, Owen Honstad, Kasey Ibarra, Trey Jenzen, Tatyana Johnson, Reese Ludwig, Cash Lynch, Taylor Marketha Sutton, Sophiel Weber, Kyle Nguyen, Galvin Nowacki, Gavin O'Brien, Stella Omtvedt, Trenna Peterson, Isaac Pfeifer, Gabriel Reynolds, Otto Schoenrock, Avery Selvik, Fynlee Srp, Megan Tegmeier, Tucker Thompsons, Zachary Wilhelmi, Carina Xiong

Eleventh Grade B Honor Roll:

Hunter Barnes, Maximus Bodenweiser, Teagan Collier, Kelsey Draeger, Moritz Eull, Lily Frye Khloe Fuller, Arianna Garcia, Jude Gehring, Destiney Gustafson, Aaliyah Hayes, Wesley Hiniker, Emmalee Jes, Jordan Johnston, Anders Jorgenson, Haley Kahnke, Gabriella Maas, Jayden Mann, Madisyn McClune, Madilynn Meyer, Connor Miller,

Remy Murphy, Deven Parpart, Kaden Peirce, Madison Rasche, Jude Robinson, Jacob Root, Brighton Rugger, Deron Russell, Lillianna Sanchez, Amin Sharif, Kaiya Stagman, Brady Tlougan, Diego Toapanta, El-lery Waldron

Twelfth Grade B Honor Roll:

Reed Anderson, Owen Arnold, Edward Bethke, Alexis Brinkman, Allison Chicos, Elias Crosby, Claire Dieker, KalebFarris, Tristan Godwin, Aiden Groskreutz, Ellen Hagen, David Hodgkins, Ellie Hoehn, Brayden Hoof, Tyler Jellum, Ashton Jenzen, Peyton Kalbow, Maso Matz, Oz Meyman, Kaiden Miller, Gracie Morgan, Carson Ohnstad, Jameson Paulson, Randi Piha, Erik Radke, Tauston Rupe, Takya Schoenrock, John Schulz, Aiden Shoemaker, Ezra Skains, Kylie Snow, Arianna Theobald, Isabella Wikan, Aniyah Williams

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4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH
605 4th St NE, Waseca
507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
Worship Sundays 10 a.m.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 6th St NE, Waseca
507-835-9176
Worship Sundays traditional 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship; 10:45 a.m. contemporary service

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

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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net)
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
111 4th St NW, Waseca
Father Glenn Ferichs
507-835-1222
Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m.

REAL LIFE CHURCH
620 W Elm Ave, Waseca

507-607-8245
Sunday worship 10 a.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca
507-835-4640
Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
1221 8th St SE, Waseca
507-835-2213
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
900 14th Ave SE, Waseca
507-833-1082
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m.

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir; 10:30 a.m. Worship
Monday - 1 p.m. Quilters
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Worship

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Mary Iverson
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee
Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting
Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting

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

VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota

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

VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Brian Schanil Pastor
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesdays: The Shepherd's Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Father Glenn Ferichs
Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays
p.m. Mass
Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m.

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship

ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Waldorf, Minnesota
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
Waldorf, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Wilton Township
Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor
Sunday - 8 a.m. summer worship; 10:45 a.m. Worship starting Sept. 1

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
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
Pastor Jason Wolter
Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:30 a.m. Worship

JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 N. West St., Janesville
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Morristown
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Janesville

1925

- Farmers in Steele County, who for five years have been keeping records of costs, Thursday, May 28, showed to other farmers and to representatives of the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, the beneficial results of keeping tabs on costs and of using sound farming methods. The occasion was the annual farm management tour, arranged by W. L. Cavert and other farm management specialists of the university department of agriculture, under the direct leadership of George A. Pond, one of the university men.

- Heavy damage was caused by a cyclone which struck Alma City and the vicinity Tuesday evening about 7:30 o'clock. Lasting but two minutes the wind attained such a velocity that buildings were wrecked, trees uprooted and a great property loss sustained. It is considered remarkable that there was no accompanying loss of life as the destruction of buildings in several instances was so complete that escape from death is considered miraculous.

1950

- Hey, kids. Would you like to make some easy money? You can if you have a doll buggy or bicycle you want to decorate so you can take part in the Janesville Jubilee Parade on Sunday, June 25. First, second, and third place winners in each of the three divisions will win prizes of \$3, \$2, and \$1 respectively. The doll buggy division is open to girls up to eight years of age. There are two bicycle divisions open to both boys and girls. The first takes in youngsters up to and including nine years of age, while the second is for the 10 to 16 year old fellas and girls. All those wishing to take part in the contest must register before the closing date, June 23. Bicycle entrants will register at the Walther Appliance Store. Doll buggy contestants are to register at Fury's Barber Shop. All contest entries will be judged by judges from out of town.

- In the most impressive commencement ceremonies in Gustavus Adolphus' history, Eugene Dumdei, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Dumdei, Janesville, will receive a Bachelor of Science degree June 4 at 2:30 p.m. Dr. Ralph Bunche, UN mediator to Palestine, will give the address to the 226 students representing Gustavus' largest graduating class. Headlining the list of notables as guests of the college will be Countess Bernadotte, and sons, Bertil and Folke, Jr., for the dedicate of the new Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library and the subsequent United Nations Institute and Seminar which will continue for one week. At that time, an expanded exchange program for foreign students will be inaugurated.

- Early pigs will catch best prices this year, County Agent Cletus Murphy told local hog raisers this week. Hog prices have held up fairly well, he said, probably because producers marketed last year's fall crop at lighter weights. But Minnesota farmers raised six percent more pigs this spring than a year ago. That means more packing sows on the market this summer and more pigs on the market this fall and winter. Pigs ready for late July and early August marketing should get the best price.

1975

- The "good times at Janesville High School will soon be a memory for 59 seniors who will be handed their diplomas at Commencement Exercises here Thursday night. But the memories of the past 12 school years will stay with them forever. Years from now, they'll be bringing their families back to Janesville for reunions of the Class of 1975.

- Bob Griffith, manager of the Janesville Creamery Association, has tendered his resignation to the board. It was accepted as of May 30, 1975. The Argus talked with Griffith Monday morning and he said he had no stones to throw. "I just told the board I am resigning for personal reasons," he said. Griffith, 44, was chosen from among several applicants for the position and he took over at the co-op November 18, 1974. At the time, he was working as a feed specialist for Land-O- Lakes.

- Parishioners at St. Ann's Catholic Church will offer a special Mass Sunday and will hold an open house to honor Father Clayton J. Haberman on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. The Mass will begin at 1 p.m. at St. Ann's with the open house from 2-4 p.m., in the church school.

2000

- The boys' golf team is young and confident, and hopeful that the state tournament is in their future. That's what they were shooting for as they looked forward to yesterday's match in St. James. Since the beginning of the Janesville-Waldorf- Pemberton golf team five years ago, individual players have made it to the section finals. This is the first time the entire boys' team has made it. Lindsay Hines, the only senior on the girls' golf team, is making a repeat trip to the section finals.

- A recommendation to put pull tabs into "Three's Company" in Janesville to raise money for the Sno-birds Snowmobile Club was not approved at last week's city council meeting. The money earned through the sale of the pull tabs would have been used by the club to pay off the balance of a groomer and maintain the county trails, a portion of which pass through the city of Janesville. "I would rather see our pull tab business stay the way it is," said Frank Morrill, Mayor of Janesville. The council agreed, and decided not to act on this proposal at this time.

- Darlene Guse will be sponsored by the Janesville Rotary Club to attend the 24th Annual World Affairs Seminar for high school students at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Sunday-Friday, June 11-16. Gust has a strong interest in international issues, and maintains a high academic standing in her junior class at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School. The World Affairs Seminar is an educational program for high school students to learn about the customs, traditions, aspirations and heritage of people from around the world through personal association with the young people from foreign countries. Students from 50 countries from all parts of the world will participate in the seminar.

Waseca

1925

- A new hog barn 30x100 feet is under construction at the Waseca County Fair Grounds and a high knoll between the present horse barns and the old hog barn has been chosen as the site for the new buildings.

- Rural schools to graduate largest class in history - Eighty some pupils will graduate from the eighth grade of the rural schools of Waseca County and will be presented with their diplomas at the commencement exercises to be held.

- LOST - At Lakeside Club last evening Dufold fountain pen. Reward will be paid for return of same to this office.

1950

- Adlyn Lee's mathematical dog Mac isn't quite as fast as an adding machine, but he is just about as accurate. The eight-year-old black dog of unknown origin can bark out the sum of three numbers faster than many children his same age. The dog came to the Ted Lee farm a half mile east of New Richland about seven years ago.

- Louis Kastner hooked one of the 'granddaddies of 'em all' last Wednesday when he landed a 37 pound, 11 ounce Northern pike in Orient bay on Lake Nipigon Canada. He is having it mounted now.

- University of Minnesota officials showed a great deal of interest and enthusiasm toward the new School of Agriculture for Waseca when they visited this city Thursday. The trip here was made to investigate and view sites for the new school and to confer with Supt. R. E. Hodgson of the Southeast Experimental station. The school will be located somewhere on the experiment station grounds.

- Bonds totalling \$36,000 in value, comprising all of the issue held by Waseca people, will be retired Sept. 1 by the Waseca Canning company.

1975

- Rep. Rod Searle, R-Waseca, sent a letter this morning to Gov. Wendell Anderson calling on the governor and agricultural commissioner Jon Wefald to tour the rural areas of the Minnesota River basin in Waseca, Freeborn and Blue Earth counties where a number of acres of cropland are underwater. The county has received approximately six to seven inches of rain so far this month.

- The Waseca County Planning Commission gave preliminary approval Thursday night to Jim Donahue to develop the Rolling Green Subdivision next to Lakeside Country Club, but tabled a matter concerning fencing for salvage yards.

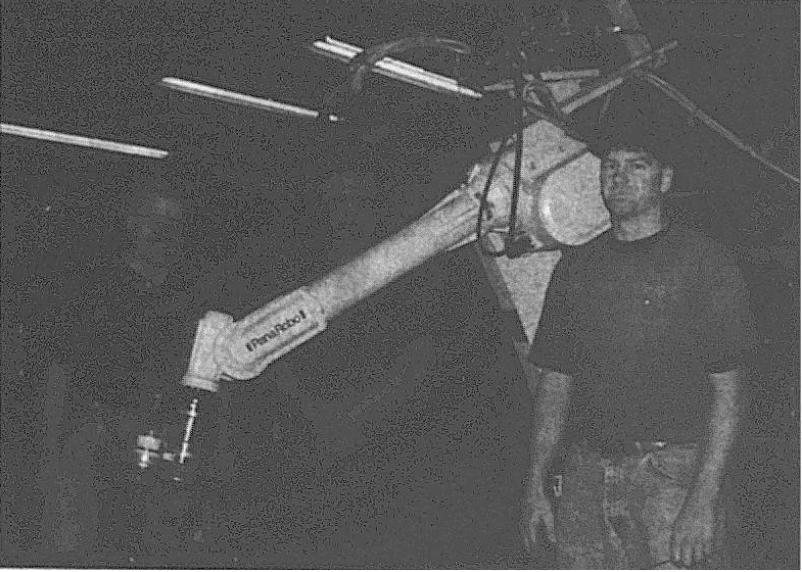
- Minnesota Farmers Union President Cy Carpenter announced today opposition to the General Accounting Office's recommendation to close all fourth class and some third class post offices across the nation.

2000

- The largest marijuana seizure in the history of the Waseca Police Department was made in the early evening of Thursday, June 15.

- Waseca native Heidi Hammond, Miss Hiawatha, was first runner-up in the Miss Minnesota 2000 pageant held Saturday night in St. Cloud.

- Eleven Waseca High School (WHS) students and two teachers, Rob Williams and Barb Fosse, have just reached the halfway point of their German American Partnership Program (GAPP) trip. WHS has had a partnership with a school in Neuhaus, Germany, since 1997



- For two years, Corchran's, Inc. in Waseca has been building for the future. They have installed, for example, a shuttle lazer, a state-of-the-art laserpress and a computerized press brake. At the end of April, a high-tech Robotic Welding system from Productivity Robotics was added to the list of investments.

- The Waseca Braves were able to overcome four errors and 12 stranded base runners to run their undefeated string to 10 games.

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New Richland

25 Years Back



- Conformation services were held at Trinity Lutheran Church, New Richland, Sunday April 30. Two young ladies and two young men were conformed into the Christian faith by Pastor Paul Andree. Pictured here are from the left: Jennifer Harrington, Pastor Paul Andree, Mandy Bokelmann, Matt Groskruetz and Heather Berg.

- Engagement Announcement. Kimberly Paulsen and Micheal Luhring, together with their parents, announce their upcoming marriage. Kimberly is the daughter of Daryl and Kathy Paulsen of Geneva. She is a 1991 graduate of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School and a 1993 graduate of the Albert Lea Technical College. Michael is the son of Leon and Deb Luhring of Waverly, Iowa. He is a 1991 graduate of Plainfield Community High School in Plainfield, Iowa. He is also a 1993 graduate of Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa. A Saturday, June 17, 2000 wedding is planned at the Community Lutheran Church in Geneva.



- Members of the New Richland Care Center Auxiliary responded to the need of a commercial mixer in the dietary department. A KitchenAid heavy duty mixer was donated by funds provided by the auxiliary. Employees in the dietary department are grateful for the special gift. From the left seated are: Shelly Smidt, dietary director; members of the auxiliary, Helen Greenwood, Luella Herbst, and Ingeborg Rudgroden; standing from the left are: Lois Olsen, auxiliary member; Lori bruedner, dietary department, auxiliary members, LeVine Paulson, Lenore Clunis and June Holmen; Pat Brey, dietary department: auxiliary members, Nadine Strange and Ona Meyer.

- Leah Schoenrock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Loren Schoenrock of New Richland and Jarrod Robran, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kent Robran of Hartland has been named to the Spring Semester Dean's List at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato. Both are 1999 graduates of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School.

50 Years Back

- Julie Jessen, right, accepts a check from Mrs. Herb Beckman, past president of the New Richland American Legion unit for her winning poppy poster. Not only did Julie take first in the New Richland poster contest, but also first in the first class, First District contest at Rochester. Her poster will be entered in state competition.

- Randy Kalis, a student at St. Paul Technical School, has received recognition in connection with a N. R. C. billboard project, last month. Randy's designs and drawings were chosen from the class art by the Northside Residents Redevelopment council to be the one that would be used in their billboards in the Minneapolis area.

- Mr. and Mrs. Micheal Thompson of Shakopee are the parents of a son, Scott Micheal born June 4. He weighed in at 8 lbs 1 oz. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Herman Thompson of Hartland and Mr. and Mrs. Royal Thompson of Shakopee. His great grandfather is Alfred Bergerson of Clarks Grove.

75 Years Back

- Rev. and Mrs Kilburn K. Holt, whose hobby of bird-watching provides them with a recreation as inexpensive as it is fascinating; report that the total number of kinds identified in 1950 has now reached the one hundred mark. The most interesting aspect of this "bird census" to them, is that forty-three of these different species have been seen or heard from the personage. Quite appropriately, one of the frequent visitors at the parsonage this summer has been a red-eyed Vireo, commonly known as a "preacher-bird."

- Mr. and Mrs. John Kelleher received the pleasant news of the arrival of their fourth great grandchild, born Saturday to Mr. and Mrs. E. Paul Kelleher at Superior, Wis. They have also, a little girl, Mary Marie.

- Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Ackman announce the engagement of their daughter, Geraldine Mae to Martin Bernard Hoffman of New Richland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Hoffman of Wadena, Minn.

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“Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit” at Waseca Performing Arts Center Friday, June 27 and Saturday June 28

Enjoy the Community Education summer theater production “Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit” at the Waseca Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Friday, June 27, doors open at 6:30 p.m. A second performance will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 28, with doors open at 1:30. Tickets are available for sale at the door, \$5 for a ticket; ages 5 and under are free.

Waseca Art Center Vase Classes June 28 and July 12

The Waseca Art Center will hold classes for adults on handbuilding vases from 2-4 p.m. June 28 and July 12. Cost is \$50 for members/\$55 non-members.

Weber St. John Concert Sunday, June 29.

Piano and violin duo Weber St. John will be performing a concert of hymns at First Lutheran Church in Waldorf at 7 p.m. June 29. The concert is open to the public.

Farmamerica hosting free Kite Festival July 5

Farmamerica, Waseca Sleigh and Cutter, and Great American Kites and Events are thrilled to invite the community to a free, family friendly kite festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 5. “Old Glory,” the world’s largest kite at 600 pounds, will be featured and goes up at noon. Farmamerica is located just 5 miles west of Waseca. Check Facebook for more information.

Textures Watercolor classes at Waseca Art Center starting July 10

Fun with Textures Watercolor series of three on Thursday nights from 5-7 p.m. beginning July 10. \$60 for members/\$65 non-members.

Ice Cream Social at North Waseca Lutheran Church Sunday, July 13

There will be an Ice Cream Social at the North Waseca Lutheran Church from 3-6 p.m. Sunday, July 13. Pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, ice cream and pie with lemonade and coffee. Adults \$10, kids 6-11 \$5, kids 5 and under free.

New Richland Farm and City Days July 18 to 20

The New Richland community will celebrate Farm and City Days from July 18 to 20. Highlights include a parade at 5 p.m. on July 19, followed by a street dance featuring Azby from 8 to 12 p.m. Also featured will be a medallion hunt, craft and vendor show, Kid Zone in the city park, and more. See website for information: farmandcitydays.com

Waseca Lions Club Golf Tournament at Waseca Lakeside Club July 24

Join the Waseca Lions Club for their Golf Tournament at the Waseca Lakeside Club, shotgun start at noon. \$100 gets golf, cart, lunch and apps. Must be registered by July 15. Questions, wasecalionsclub3079@gmail.com

MNVAC Waseca Head Start Preschool 0-5 accepting applications for 2025-2026

The MNVAC Waseca Head Start Preschool is accepting applications for children 0-5 years old for the 2025-2026 school year. Please either call Rachel Grunklee at 507-835-1282 or go to www.mnvac.org to apply. Free Home base and Center Classes, eligibility will be determined upon application.

**Got news?
507-837-6767**



HOLD STILL - Children from all over town were asked to volunteer at the Circus Manduhai event at the Waseca Public Library on Thursday, June 12, 2025.
Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Circus Manduhai dazzles at library

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Circus Manduhai performed at the Waseca Public Library on Thursday, June 12 to the applause of nearly 40 children in attendance and the adults who brought them. Despite the small area, these Mongolian-style performers incorporated juggling, acro-balancing, contortion, unicycling, and hula hooping into a spectacular show for all ages.

Chimgee Haltarhuu, founder of Circus Manduhai told the audience members, “Don’t be afraid to take pictures; that’s what we’re here for.” Halterhuu proceeded to twirl a baton, unroll flags, juggle hula hoops, and even rotate and flip a giant silver cylinder using only her feet. She could also twirl a giant red cloth with her toes.

Up next was unicyclist and master juggler Tamir Bayarsai-

han, who was kind enough to take children up on stage to give them a crash course in juggling. Gabby Gahler, accompanied by her dad Korey, was taken up front and handed soft balls filled with sand. Said Gahler, “I was a little nervous at first, but I think I can juggle now.” Henry Ireland was with his little sister Hanna and his mom Kayla, “I juggled some white balls, I don’t know if I could do it again, but I will try.”

Next to perform was Lana Umbaakhuu, who exhibited remarkable upper and lower body strength by holding herself up on one hand and performing other feats of strength and balance, frequently making the nearly impossible look easy.

Last but certainly not least was the fourth member of the group, Vincent Geruntho, a 28-year-old from the Cities, who mentioned, “I’ve gotten to travel for this, and I absolutely love it.” Unicycling



FOUNDERS FLEX - Founder of Circus Manduhai, Chimgee Haltarhuu(splits), Tamir Bayarsaihan (juggler), Lana Umbaakhuu (upside down), and Vincent Geruntho with the unicycle performed at the Waseca Public Library on June 12, 2025.
Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

in a small space like the library is no easy feat, but Geruntho made it look effortless.

Mission Manduhai is named after the great Mongolian Queen

Manduhai. Manduhai is known for her bravery, intelligence and perseverance. Mission Manduhai was founded in 2010 by circus artist Chimgee Haltarhuu.

Pantheon Computers 100% women-owned

Pantheon Computers, a trusted Managed Service Provider (MSP) serving southern Minnesota is proud to announce an exciting new chapter in its history. Reyna Monson a dedicated team member who has served as President for the past 2 years and contributed 13.5 years of exceptional service, along with Jill Stagman, who has been involved, in some capacity, in the company’s evolution since its beginnings, have officially acquired the business.

This transition marks a seamless continuation of Pantheon Computers’ legacy of delivering unparalleled IT solutions and support. Both Reyna and Jill bring a wealth of experience, dedication, and a shared vision for the future of the company. Having been actively involved in running the business for years, their ownership solidifies their commitment to maintaining the values and

standards that clients and partners have come to expect.

“We are thrilled to take on this new role as owners,” said Reyna Monson, President and Co-Owner of Pantheon Computers. “Our clients, partners, and team can be rest assured that it is business as usual at Pantheon. The same exceptional service, innovative solutions, and dedicated team that you trust will continue to drive our success.”

Under this new ownership structure, Pantheon will remain steadfast in its mission to provide cutting-edge IT support, cybersecurity, cloud solutions, and more to its valued clients. Both Reyna and Jill are committed to fostering innovation, investing in the team, and ensuring the company’s position as a leader in the MSP industry.

Jill, who has contributed to the company in varying capacities for



WOMEN AT THE HELM - Jill Stagman, involved since the beginning, and Reyna Monson, president and co-owner of Pantheon Computers.

over two decades, from installing servers to groundskeeping, most recently taking a sabbatical before returning – shared, “My experience at Pantheon goes back to its early days and I have witnessed its growth into a premier MSP, I am honored to continue this journey in a more active capacity. Our shared vision is rooted in stability, growth, and a deep appreciation for the relationships we have

built over the years.”

This leadership transition represents an exciting opportunity for Pantheon Computers to continue building on its strong foundation while exploring new avenues for growth and innovation. The team’s focus will remain on delivering the highest quality services and cultivating long-term partnerships with clients.

42 kindergartners graduate for JWP Class of 2037

JANESVILLE JOURNAL

It was a great day to be a Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Bulldog on Thursday, May 29, as JWP celebrated the graduation of 42 kindergartners from three classes taught by Kristin Bartelt, Amy Schmitz, and Cory Jewison. The occasion was made extra special as elementary physical education teacher Mary McDonald joined Bartelt in being honored by their fellow elementary staff; the two will retire from teaching at the end of this school year.

The JWP kindergarten graduation featured the usual fare. “A-Tooty-Ta,” a goofy and comical tune by Jack Hartmann, a regular feature at kindergarten graduations, was given an upgrade with the addition of a more hip-hop style. The students also shared how they love to “count, count it.” The “Count It” parody, based on the song “I



Like to Move It” from the movie Madagascar, demonstrated the students’ ability to count to 100.

The ceremony featured a slideshow presentation of all the events and activities the kindergartners enjoyed, from “Fire Safety Day” presented by the Janesville Fire Department to Christmas parties featuring Su-

perintendent Jeremy Erler dressed as the conductor from Polar Express. Afterwards, the students received their diplomas from their teachers. Mrs. Bartelt probably enjoyed the hugs she gave her students, given that these would be the last kindergartners she taught.

It was a fantastic way to celebrate all 42 members of the fu-

ture JWP Class of 2037.

Mrs. Bartelt, Mrs. McDonald, and elementary secretary Joyce Ritchison will surely be missed. It will be a change for the elementary staff to undergo, but they’ve always been able to serve the needs of their students, just as they’ve for these 42 kindergartners.

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Renegotiations with JWP on SRO officer

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

During the Janesville City Council meeting on June 9, the council revisited the topic of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Sheila Jewison and approved her change of schedule so she will be at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (JWP) only two days a week. However, city administrator Clinton Rogers relayed that the structure of the two days may vary, depending on the school’s and city’s needs.

“The SRO program will stay the same throughout this calendar, basically through Christmas break,” Rogers said. “And then, beginning in January, JWP will pay \$20,000 a year for the SRO program.”

Discussion during the meeting revealed the SRO work time could be very flexible, for example four half days rather than two full days. When Jewison is not at the school, she will perform tasks typical for city police personnel, including parking enforcement and responding to calls.

Mayor Andrew Arnoldt extended thanks to Rogers and school superintendent Jeremy Erler for time spent negotiating; he expressed happiness that they found a solution acceptable to both the city and the school.

In other business, the council added a one-page policy to the employee handbook regarding pregnancy and post-natal leave, as recommended by the personnel committee.

The council also tabled a discussion about whether or not the city should continue to provide availability and work within the budget for the cable access channels, given that the city equipment has grown obsolete. The only residents who use it, Rogers said, are Mediacom customers. “It’s next to impossible to find a person that can come and help the city with it,” Rogers added.

Council member Ivan Maas suggested tabling the discussion until after some upcoming meetings with businesses which have expertise in the field. He mentioned that area churches sometimes broadcast their services using the access. Luitjens observed a growing number of those broadcasts are being moved to YouTube or individual websites.

“We don’t have to decide tonight,” Rogers said. “The equipment itself used to be VCR tapes, now it’s DVDs.”

Along with approving and renewing the liquor licenses of existing businesses, the council approved a new license for the Bar Next Door, which will be operated by Kendra and Mark Schultz.

Rogers warned the council the July 14 meeting is likely to run long because of a scheduled audit report.

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EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: none provided

Work Item 1563703900023
Original File Number 1563703900023

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Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on June 12 and 19, 2025

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
The Waseca County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner's Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on Thursday, July 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.to consider the following items:

A. Request for a variance amendment to vary from the front yard setback requirement to have a 10'x12' telecommunication hut closer to the road right of way. Todd M. Stencil requests an amendment to an approved variance to include a variance of 36.5ft to construct a proposed telecommunication hut closer than the required 75ft front yard setback of the property located at 27853 - 70th St., Waseca and in Section 30 T106N R23W in Wilton Township. The initial variance was granted on May 1, 2025. The applicant's parcel, with PID 11.030.0410, is in the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District. The requested proposal is pursuant to the requirements of Section 6.08 of the Waseca County UDC.

B. Request for an after-the-fact variance from the requirements of §6.22(G) (5) (c) to allow existing improvements on a property in Section 13 of New Richland Township. Matthew T. & Erin M. Holland are requesting to vary from the requirements of §6.22(G)(5)(c) to allow an existing improvement on their parcel located at 17674-240th Ave., New Richland (PID: 07.013.3800) in Section 13 T.105 R.22W in New Richland Township. The improvements are within 100ft of the ordinary high-water level and in the bluff impact zone. The property is in the LR Limited Residential Zoning District and Shoreland Overlay of St. Olaf Lake.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
The Waseca County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner's Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on Thursday, July 3, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.to consider the following item:

Request for a Conditional Use Permit to create a pond closer than the required 75ft. Tad Anderson requests for a Conditional Use Permit to create a pond on the property with address 36723 - 30th St., Janesville. The parcel (PID: 01.009.0110) is in the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning district. The requested proposal is pursuant to the requirements of Section 4.13(A)(2)(e)2 of the Waseca County UDC.

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

Tina G. Wilson, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on June 19, 2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Le-Sueur Waseca Community Health Board

The Le Sueur-Waseca Community Health Board has received notice of the award of Infrastructure Grant funds from the Minnesota Department of Health. The Le Sueur-Waseca Community Health Board is soliciting proposals from strategic planning specialists to examine current organizational structure and practices across the two county jurisdiction. Le Sueur-Waseca Community Health Board's RFP includes a description of the services to be provided by the respondents; the minimum content of the responses; and the factors to be used to evaluate the responses. Copies of the detailed request for proposals (RFP) can be obtained by contacting Leah Cameron at Waseca County Public Health, 1000 W Elm Avenue, Waseca, MN 56093 or call 507-835-0655. All responses to the RFP must be submitted by Tuesday, July 15, 2025, by 4:30 PM CST.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on June 19, 2025

CITY OF WASECA
CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Waseca City Council will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS of CITY HALL located at 508 South State Street in Waseca, Minnesota.

The purpose of the public hearing is to gather information regarding the following:

- ORDINANCE NO. 1128: Proposed text amendments and the addition of Section 154.032 URBAN AND RURAL SERVICE DISTRICTS to Chapter 154 of the Municipal Code.

Complete copies of proposed Ordinance No. 1128 are available in the office of the City Clerk located at 508 South State Street in Waseca, Minnesota.

Those interested in commenting may appear in person or by counsel or may submit written comments to the City of Waseca at 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

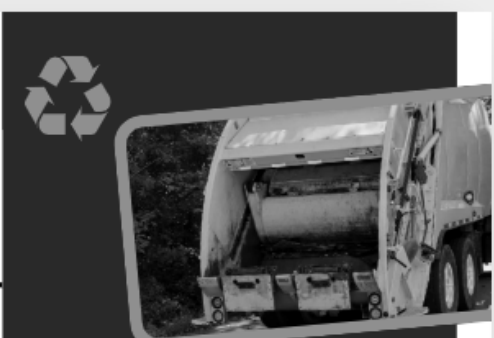
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Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Thursday, June 19, 2025.

Jon M. Froke
City Planner



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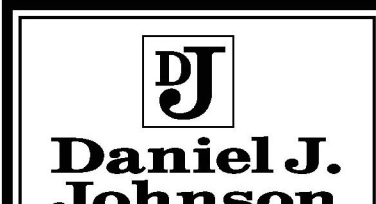
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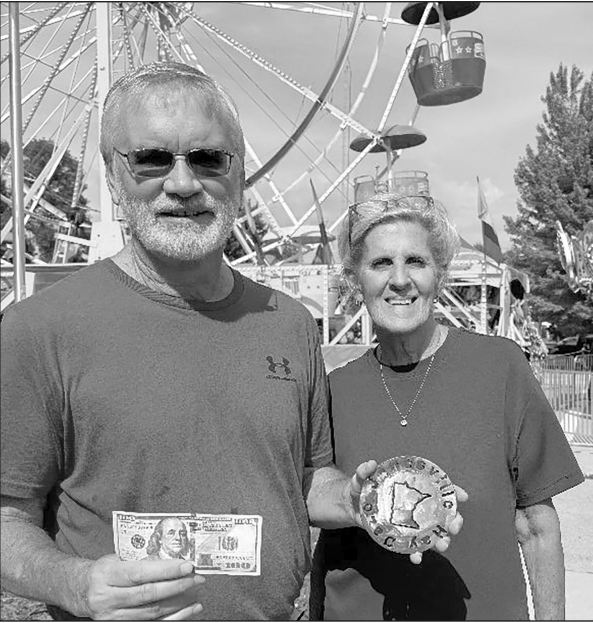
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Janesville Hay Daze 2025



■ Hay Daze from Page 1

Berndt and children Josh Berndt and Alicia Addler at 6:30 p.m. The main act on the Guardian Energy stage was Junk FM at 9 p.m.

Family Tradition shared pre-church-service music at 9:30 a.m. in the Chamber tent. A service sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church followed at 10 a.m. An antique tractor display and Basketball Wagon were on North Main Street starting at 11 a.m. Wrapping up the festivities was the Hay Daze parade — also known as the Fathers' Day parade — at 1 p.m. The carnival stayed open from 1-5 p.m. before shutting down for good, and bingo took place in the Chamber tent from 3 to 5 p.m.

A celebration that's been going for many decades, Hay Daze has been made possible by the Janesville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Hay Daze Committee. All proceeds from this year's Hay Daze will go to future celebrations. The Janesville Chamber would like to thank everyone for helping to "keep the town tradition alive."



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Farmall 450 Diesel, W.F. newer 15.5-38" tires, SN.22010 • Farmall 450 Diesel, N.F. S.N. 1864 (not running) • Minneapolis-Moline Z, N.F. S.N. 01805874 • Baker Forklift, 4 cycle engine • 1997 Ford F350 Power stroke diesel, 7.3 engine, dually, 4x4, Auto, shows 249,185 miles, with service box • 1990 Ford F250, V-8 gas, Ext. cab, 4x4, Auto, shows 35,216 miles, with service box • I.H. 1420 combine (salvage) • 6½' x 12' single axle trailer w/ ramp and 3-ton hoist • Single axle trailer with fuel tanks • M.C. model 12 rotary scythe, 12' • I.H. 3 bottom x 16" Plow, fast hitch • 7½' pickup snowplow • 3 older snow blowers, 8' double augers • Bayman 2100 tire changer • 3 older Sickle mowers • 2 Craftsman tool chests with contents • Eagle upright air compressor, 5HP • Century 80 wire feed welder • 2 bench grinders on stands • Cabinet sand blaster • Skill 10" Band saw • DeWalt Table Saw • 2 Ton cherry picker • OMC Lighted sign • Owatonna memorabilia • Miller Welder • Many Shop benches and cabinet's • 5½" bench vice • 2 Craftsman radial arm saws • Tire bead breaker • Pittsburg Porta Power • Several welding benches with rollers • One half horsepower bench grinder • 5-step ladders of various sizes • 7' blade fast hitch • 250-gallon Poly Tank with frame • Lots of shelving • Miscellaneous welding steel • Solar battery charger • Miscellaneous tractor parts • Homemade air compressor • Miscellaneous lumber • 2 Handy Man Jacks • 4 riding lawn mowers (salvage) • Iron pile

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SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642
JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 6pm BAR Bingo	57pm HALL BINGO	6 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm D-DAY	7
8	9 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	10	11 6pm BAR Bingo	12 7pm HALL BINGO WOMEN VETERANS DAY	13 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	14 ARMY BIRTHDAY U.S. FLAG DAY
15	16	17	18 6pm BAR Bingo	19 7pm HALL BINGO	20 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	21
22	23	24	25 6pm BAR Bingo	26 7pm HALL BINGO	27 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	28
29	30					

HOURS OF OPERATION
SUN.- MON. CLOSED
TUE.- 1pm to 11pm Tue. Is Lady's nite 2 for one-Men Busch light \$2.50 from 4 to 6pm.
WED.- SAT.-1am to 12 pm
POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385



Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

Music & Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman
Music by Special Arrangement with Sony/ATV Publishing
Adapted for Stage by Jeremy Sams

Based on the MGM Motion Picture
Licensed Script Adapted by Ray Roderick

Everyone's favorite flying car comes to life in the musical adaptation of the beloved family film.

Take a fantastic musical adventure with an out-of-this-world car that flies through the air and sails the seas. Based on the beloved 1968 film version of Ian Fleming's children's book, and featuring an unforgettable score by the Sherman Brothers (Mary Poppins), Chitty Chitty Bang Bang is one family-friendly blockbuster that audiences will find "Truly Scrumptious."

An eccentric inventor, Caractacus Potts sets about restoring an old race car from a scrap heap with the help of his children, Jeremy and Jemima. They soon discover the car has magical properties, including the ability to float and take flight. Trouble occurs when the evil Baron Bomburst desires the magic car for himself. The family joins forces with Truly Scrumptious and batty Grandpa Potts to outwit the dastardly Baron and Baroness and their villainous henchman, the Child Catcher.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTL www.mtishows.com.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts & cultural heritage fund.

June

Thursday 19 7:30 PM

Friday 20 7:30 PM

Saturday 21 7:30 PM

Sunday 22 2:00 PM

Thursday 26 7:30 PM

Friday 27 7:30 PM

Saturday 28 7:30 PM

Sunday 29 2:00 PM

Genre: Musical
Director: Shelley Fitzgerald
Technical Director: Brenda Hager
Music Director:
Auditions:



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AMENDMENT



TOP-FLIGHT PERFORMANCES — The Bluejays’ Kalea Sartori, left, throws the shot during last week’s state track and field meet at St. Michael-Albertville High School, where she finished in seventh place. Brooklyn Flatau, right, races to sixth place in the 110-meter hurdles.



Bluejays earn six places at state & field track meet

Flatau places in two events, earning third straight state medal

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The Waseca Bluejays did what a lot of teams fail to do at the state track and field meet last week at St. Michael-Albertville High School. They scored some points.

The Bluejays returned home with six medals.

“It was a great way for four of our seniors to end their careers,” said Waseca head coach David Abel, who was very pleased by the Bluejays’ showing.

“We medaled in six of the 10 events we were entered in,” said Abel. “That is a fantastic result.”

Leading the way was senior Brooklyn Flatau, who finished fifth in the long jump with a leap of 17-6.5 and sixth in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.08 seconds.

“Brooklyn medaled at state three years in a row!” said Abel. “She had a good season but came on strong at the end to really excel.”

Another senior, Kalea Sartori, earned a medal at state for the second year in a row, taking seventh in the shot put with a toss of 38-2.25.

Also saving his best for last was senior Tauston Rupe, who tossed the shot a season-best 52-1.25 for fourth place.

“We medaled in six of the 10 event we were entered in. That is a fantastic result.” — WHS coach David Abel

“Tauston threw his best when it mattered most,” said Abel.

The other senior to place, Bella Wikan, was third in the triple jump at 37-7.75.

“Bella, wow what a season,” said Abel. “Her first year doing the triple jump and she places third at state, just amazing from an athlete who works so hard to be good. I am so proud of her.”

The Bluejays’ lone non-senior medalist at state was junior William Mansfield, who cleared 13-6 for sixth place.

“Will basically jumped his late season consistent height to medal and was not far from placing third in a field that was senior-dominated. The future looks good for him.”

The Bluejays had other state entrants who did not earn a medal but gained valuable experience.

Jordan Johnson, a junior, competed in the 100-meter dash preliminaries, placing 17th.

Two high jumpers, senior Jacob Hadley and sophomore Tovin Grannis, placed 14th and 21st, respectively. They cleared the same height, 6 feet, with Hadley having fewer misses.

Stella Omvedt, a sophomore, was 18th in the 800 preliminaries with a time of 2:21.38.

Ellie Kopschke, Maren Schimming, Callie Dufault and Omvedt placed 17th in the 4x800 relay, clocking 10:02.62.

“To the athletes that didn’t make the medal stand, it was a very valuable learning experience for them,” said Abel. “Getting to the state meet is a big deal. Seeing what it takes to come home with hardware is something that you have to experience to really understand the work it takes. I think Jordan, Stella and the rest of the 4x800 returners learned what they are going to need to do to get ready for next season.”

Chances are, they’ll be ready.



SCENES FROM STATE – Bella Wikan, above, touches down with third place in the triple jump in last week’s state meet. Below, Kalea Sartori had her own personal cheering section.



Braves improve to 7-3 with victories over Wells, Austin

The Waseca Braves amateur baseball team improved its record to 7-3 with a 9-3 victory at Wells Sunday.

The Braves welcomed the return of Tyson Reger, who pitched a complete game.

“We received another fine pitching performance from Tyson Reger, who had not pitched in two weeks,” said Braves coach Tink Larson.

He was backed by excellent defense.

Keaton Roeker led the offense, going 3-for-6 with two RBIs. Payton Garza and Chris Glynn collected two hits apiece, with one each from Kelvin Nelson and Tim Loonan.

“We could have scored a few more runs with a couple of timely hits as we stranded 12 baserunners

in the last five innings,” reported Larson.

Three times the Braves left the bases loaded.

“But it was a nice win against a good team,” said Larson.

The Braves posted an 11-6 victory over Austin Friday night at Larson Field in Waseca.

Again, it was pitching that provided the highlights.

“It was a great relief performance by Eric Maas,” said Larson. He was asked early in the game if he could pitch tonight and he said maybe one inning.”

But he went more.

As it was, he pitched five shutout innings to pick up the win when the Braves scored four times in the sixth inning.

Garza had a big game with three hits, including the one that gave Waseca the lead in the sixth inning. Glynn had two hits, Reger, Roeker, Nelson and Oliver O’Brien one each. Reger, Roeker and Nelson scored three runs apiece.

“A strange stat in the game,” said Larson. “Our top three hitters in the batting order had just three total hits, yet they scored nine runs. Ollie O’Brien continues to play well after not having played for two years. He had six assists and three putouts at shortstop, along with a pair of hits.”

The Braves face Eagle Lake Friday at 7:30 at Larson Field. They host Minnesota Lake Sunday at 2 and have a June 25 7:30 home game against Cleveland.



SHOOTING STRIKES – The Braves’ Eric Maas delivers a pitch. Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

Simonson just misses state golf tournament

Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton’s Jeffrey Simonson narrowly missed qualifying for the state golf tournament.

Simonson, the Bulldogs’ lone golfer to advance to the second round of section play, finished with an 18-hole score of 82, putting him in a tie for seventh place at North Links Golf Course in Mankato June 2.

“Unfortunately, they take the top five to state and the fifth-place scores were 164, so he missed out on a potential play-off to go to state by one stroke,” said JWP coach Tim Burke. “Jeffrey had a good year and I feel with his growth and hunger to get better that he will be back at state next year.”

Season concludes at state meet for NRHEG’s ‘Three Amigos’

The season came to an end for NRHEG High School’s “Three Amigos” last week.

But it came on the biggest possible stage.

Three Panthers participated in the state track and field meet at St. Michael-Albertville High School and, while they did not bring home a

medal, they came home with some very valuable experience.

Junior Gabby Schlaak and sophomore Anika Ladlie were entered in the high jump, with Schlaak clearing 5-2 for 11th place and Ladlie going 5-0 for 21st.

Kylie Olson, a sophomore, finished 11th in the shot put at 35-1.

“Gabby cleared a personal-best height to finish in 11th place among a field of 38 jumpers,” said NRHEG co-head Larry Nydegger. “Anika Ladlie finished in a four-way tie for 21st.”

Like the other throwers, Olson dealt with difficult conditions.

“The conditions of the throwing

events on Wednesday were poor, to say the least,” said Nydegger. “Heavy rain caused some slippery conditions in the thrower’s circle.”

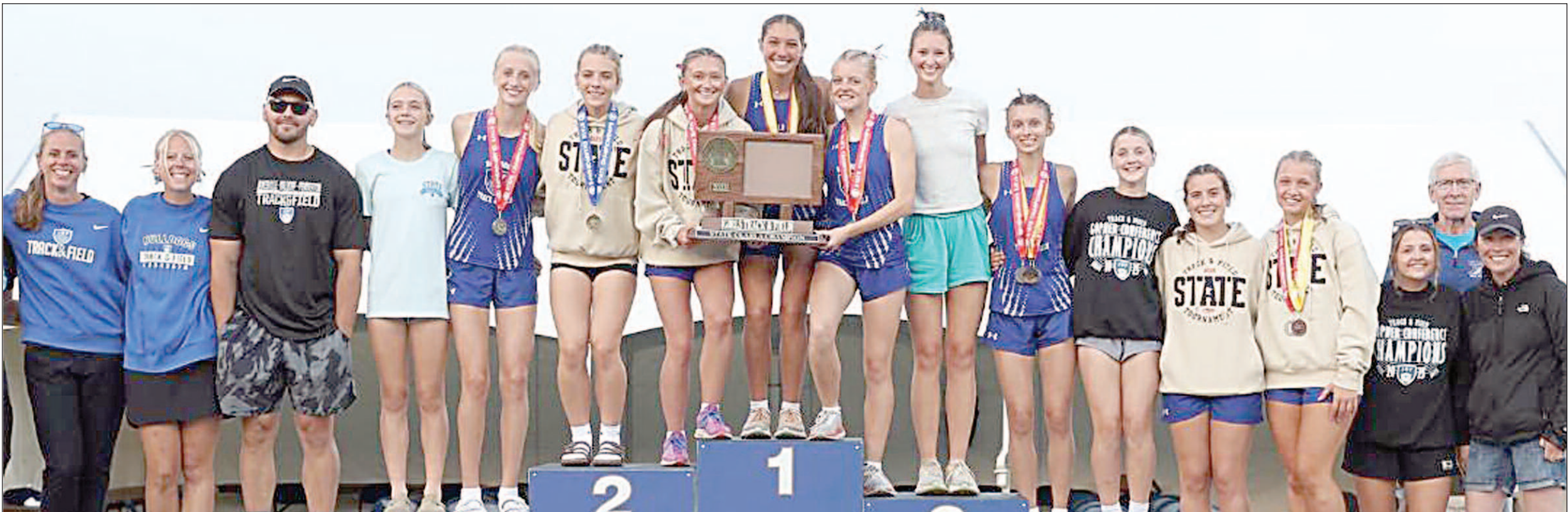
But the coaching staff came home proud.

“We are so proud of these kids!” said Nydegger. “They showed great determination and effort under some

challenging conditions. It isn’t easy getting to the state meet. I’m glad to have them coming back next season to take another shot at getting there again!”

The Panthers were coached by Nydegger and former Panther stand-out Kim Schlaak.

Get your sports in the Pioneer e-mail sports-writer79@yahoo.com



THEY ARE THE CHAMPIONS – The 2025 state champion Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton girls' track and field team and coaches pose with the championship trophy from last week's state track and field meet at St. Michael-Albertville High School.

JWP track and field girls win it all

Saving their best for last, Bulldogs capture Class A state championship

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The storybook 2025 season had one final chapter for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School girls' track and field team: the state meet.

The Bulldogs, with Gopher Conference, sub-section and section championships already under their belts - along with an appearance in the True Team state meet - saved their absolute best for last, winning the Class A state championship last Wednesday at St. Michael-Albertville High School.

The Bulldogs, who claimed gold in the 800-meter run and took second in two relays, topped the state-wide field with 41 points, comfortably ahead of second-place Minnewaska Area, which totaled 33. St. Cloud Cathedral was third with 32.

"I'm really proud of every athlete that was a part of this team, from the beginning of the year to the end," said Bulldogs head coach Sam Schruin. "Every JWP track and field athlete has a hand in all the success we've had this season."

Schruin offered a special thank you to his coaching staff: John Kaplan, Liz Kvebak, Andrea Kronbach, Emily Olson, Katie Cahill and volunteers Tim Johnson, Mike Cahill and Brandon Goebel.

"Without them we wouldn't have the culture that we do," he said. "Also a shoutout to administration, staff, teachers, and the community of JWP for all the support and helping shape these young athletes into great people. It really was a beautiful day to be a track and field athlete and now, finally the job is finished."

Bulldogs freshman MaKenzie Westphal crossed the finish line first in the 800, clocking 2:18.9 while expressing disbelief at her showing while breaking the tape. It was worth 12 points for the Bulldogs.

Onikia Herme, Ashlynn Wolff, Nevaeh Weimert and

"It really was a beautiful day to be a track and field athlete."
— JWP coach Sam Schruin

Lilly Strauss teamed to finish second in the 4x400, setting a new school record while clocking 3:59.63 in the finals. That gave JWP 10 more points.

Ten additional points were earned by the second-place 4x100 relay team of Brielle Bure, Weimert, Katie Olson and Strauss, which clocked 49.69 seconds.

In the 4x200, Herme, Weimert, Olson and Strauss combined to take fourth.

Strauss earned individual all-state honors by placing seventh in the long jump at 17-7.25.

Missing the finals was the Bulldogs' 4x800 relay team of MaKaela Westphal, Kwynn Krause, Wolff and MaKenzie Westphal, who clocked 10:13.03 for 22nd in the preliminaries.

The meet was not complete without medals for the JWP boys, as Isaac Gahlon, Isaiah Berndt, Daulton Bauer and Ethan Born finished eighth in the 4x100 in 43.94 for all-state recognition.

"The last comment is extremely meaningful for the team," said Schruin. "'It's a beautiful day to be a track and field athlete'" is the team motto that I say every day and leading up to state I always say, 'Job's not finished,' a quote from Kobe Bryant. The goal at the beginning of the season was to get on the podium, since the last three years we made it to state but never placed."

This year, the Bulldogs earned a place that will never be forgotten.



I WON? — Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton freshman MaKenzie Westphal reacts with disbelief after winning the Class A 800-meter state championship last Wednesday at St. Michael-Albertville High School.
Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens



STATE RELAYS — Above left, JWP's Brielle Bure awaits the start of the 4x100 in last week's state meet. Above right, Katie Olson, right, takes the handoff from Nevaeh Weimert during the 4x200. Below, Ethan Born, right, awaits the handoff from Daulton Bauer for the anchor leg of the boys' 4x100.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



ANCHOR LEG — JWP's Lilly Strauss, left, takes the handoff from Katie Olson for the anchor leg of the 4x100-meter relay. The team of Brielle Bure, Nevaeh Weimert, Olson and Strauss combined to finish second.
Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens