## 96852 35609 ■ Inside:

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LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 20 Vol. II \$2 Office at 103 South State Street Waseca





Tina Hoppe looks out over standing water outside of Trapper's Lanes bowling alley in New Richland. Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

## **Overwhelmed**

By ELI LUTGENS Publisher/Editor

The city of New Richland declared a state of emergency Thursday after more than five inches of rain fell over an eight hour period Thursday morning, May 11.

A press release from the city said that the rain event, coupled with rapid snow melt, saturated the ground.

"Since that time, they have been working non-stop with our county,

emergency management and other partners to ease the impact on the system," read the release.

According to city administrator Anthony Martens, dozens of homes have basements that are flooded. Some, he said, may have sewage

Residents say their morning started off with a surprise.

Flooding continued on 4



New Richland city crews work to alleviate water pressure in Photo by Eli Lutgens munipal water lins along highway 30.

#### **Memorial Day** photos request

The Pioneer intends to run a special section honoring those who served in the armed forces in a special Memorial Day edition of the paper. We are kindly requesting people call, email or write the Pioneer to request who they would like to see pictured in this year's edition.

Email:

news@wasecacountypion-

Phone: 507-837-6767 Mail: P.O. Box 578, Waseca, MN, 56093

In person: 103 S. State St.

#### **Graduation Open** house ads available

Celebrate this year's graduates in the paper with a photo and open house announcement. Cost is \$20 for one week or \$30 for two weeks.

Please email news@wasecacountypioneer.com or call 837-6767

#### Thirty-third annual **FCA Sports Camp** set for Aug. 1-3

The thirty-third annual Waseca Fellowship of Christian Athletes Jr. Sports Camp is set for August 1-3, 2023 for athletes entering grades 3-8. Registration online at www.minnesotafca.org/waseca-jsc.

#### Pat Utz benefit June 24 at Purple Goose

\* \* \*

Pat Utz cancer benefit beginning at noon Saturday, June 24 at Janesville's Purple Goose.

Cash donations can be submitted to GoFundme - Utz Cancer Benefit. Donations also accepted at Elysian Bank - Pat Utz Fundraiser.

#### **Fire Department fish** fry June 24 at 4 p.m.

The Waseca Firefighters' fish fry and fundraiser begins at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 24. Fish served until 7 p.m. or

#### \* \* \* **Spring choir concert** May 22 at PAC

The Waseca High School Spring Choir Concert will be 7 p.m. Monday May, 22 in the performing arts center.

## A word from The Word

No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.

1 John 3:9

## Waseca fixture in new hands

By ELI LUTGENS Publisher

Five seconds of courage, a facebook message, and a lot of crazy were all part of the process for the new owners of one of Waseca's oldest restaurants, Barney's Drive-in.

For 81 years, Barney's has stood the test of time. Over the past couple years, previous owner Troy Bent has been trying to find someone local to purchase the property/business location located on Old Highway 14 across from Clear Lake.

The new owners?

Joe, 43, and Audra, 48, Veroeven. "We wanted to do something," the Veroevens

"We wanted to invest in something and Joe found this on Facebook," Audra explains. "We joked about it at first, and then one thing led to another. We came and looked at it [Barney's] and

then we kind of freaked out and bought it.' "We're still freaking out," Joe says. "But...I think we'll be just fine as long as we don't do

something stupid. "A lot of folks never take their chance," Joe adds. "I like to say it takes five seconds of courage to do something great. Make the phone call, go see that person, or... send a Facebook message.

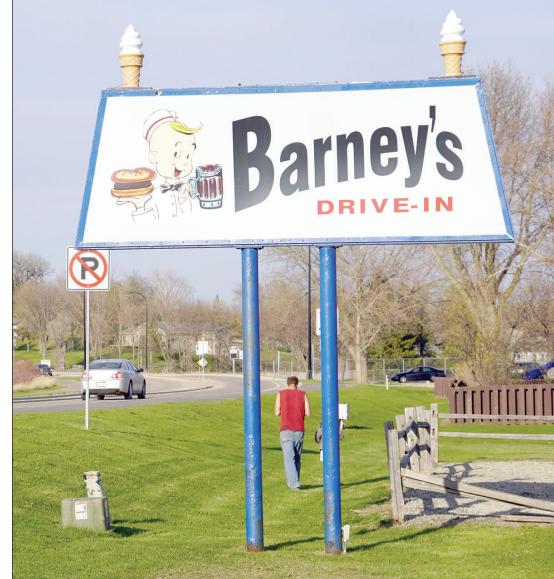
Audra claims that if she had been asked a few weeks ago whether this level of activity was normal, she would have told you it isn't. "Hold your nose and go for it. There's been a lot of that these past few weeks."

Together the Veroevens have six children and three grandchildren.

Their oldest, Veronica, is 26 and hopes to begin working as a manager at the restaurant in the coming weeks. A major influence in the whole family is 2-year-old Arthur.

"He's the real CEO," Audra jokes. "He really dictates all of the decisions."

Veronica is a 2015 graduate of Waseca, followed by: Crystal, a 2019 WHS graduate who lives in North Carolina with her fiance (they plan to get married in August); Jillian, 21, who lives in



Barney's Drive-in has been a piece of local culture since 1942.

Waseca and graduated from WHS in 2020. Matthew, 14, is a freshman at the high school; readers may recognize his name from his recent trip to the state high school wrestling tournament; Delilah is 12, and currently in sixth grade. The Veroevens say she's already taking an interest in helping however she can at the restaurant. The youngest, Arthur, turns 3 in September.

So what about the new owners?

Joe and Audra met in 1995 when things were "a little different."

"It was a time you didn't have to worry," Joe recalls. "I was asked to help someone move-that

Barney's continued on 12



Joe and Audra Veroeven Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

Jeff Yalden, a teen motivational speaker and former teacher of 32 years, spoke to Waseca High School students, staff, and later the general public, about mental health Thursday, May 11. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

## National expert shares mental health insights

By MICHAEL ROY Editor

Mental health is a very tough subject to tackle, especially when it concerns children and teens.

But many organizations in Waseca and beyond banded together to have the conversation at Waseca High School on Thursday, May 11. Jeff Yalden, a former teacher of 32 years and a teen motivator, was the featured speaker. His presentation was organized by Free Flags for Vets with contributions from Waseca County Public Health, Waseca High School, and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon of Owatonna.

The day started with Yalden speaking with Waseca High School students and staff. That was followed by a public event at 7 p.m. that evening.

As far as the turnout for the event, it admittedly wasn't high. Up to forty people arrived to hear the evening talk.

"It takes a community to have this conversation."

— Jeff Yalden

Although Jeremiah Miller, event organizer, was somewhat disappointed, Yalden

explained that he shouldn't be. "Everywhere I go, if you get fifty people, I call that a good turnout," he said. He joked that it was a beautiful day outside, so that may be why people are out. But in a more serious explanation, he said, "This is not a conversation where we get home after a long day and

Yalden continued on 5

## WAF awards grants

Pages 6-8

**Sports** 

The following awards were given out during the Waseca Area Foundation grant awards presentation May 10 at Waseca Intermediate School. The following organizations received the grant for the amount specified, followed by the donator/s:

City of Waseca Heritage Preservation Commission, Collaborative Project Creating \$5000 Videos Local History, Waseca Area Foundation (\$2000) Waseca Area Foundation Project Fund (\$3000)

Big Brothers Big Sisters, Mentoring Support \$4918, Barb Penny Youth Fund (\$2000) Waseca Area Foundation (\$2918)

Waseca County 4-H, Animal Science/Ag Program Enhancements \$1512, Barb Penny Youth Fund (\$1163) Waseca Area

Foundation (\$349) Waseca Public Library, Summer Reading Program \$1500, Barb Penny Youth Fund Waseca Jr/Sr High, Courage Retreat \$2163, Barb Penny

Youth Fund Jr. Achievement, Programming at Sacred Heart/Hartley/Team Academy \$1500, Waseca Area Foundation (\$1500) \*Keen Bank (\$600)

Farm Bureau Foundation,

Safety Day for 5th Graders \$500, Waseca Area Foundation Farmamerica, Spring Field Trips 3-5 Gr. \$1500, Waseca Area Foundation

Waseca County Historical Society, Dehumidifier \$1000, Waseca Area Foundation Waseca County Free Fair, An-

nual Flowers \$1000, City of Waseca Beautification (\$500) Waseca Area Foundation (\$500) Discover Waseca Tourism, Lakefest Support \$2000, John Priebe Community Event Fund Waseca Lakes Association, Lakefest Freedom Run \$1000,

John Priebe Community Event Waseca Waterpark, Special Event Support \$1000, John Priebe Community Event Fund

Waseca Waterpark, Picnic Tables \$2000, Waseca Area Foundation Project Fund City of Waseca, Flowers for

City \$2351, City of Waseca Beautification (\$1351) Tracy Jevning Memorial Fund (\$1000) Woodville Cemetery, Annual

Flowers/Mulch \$350, Waseca Area Foundation

Waseca Sleigh & Cutter, Fireworks, Kite Show, Parade \$3000, John Priebe Community Event Fund

Free Flags for Vets, Mental Health Speaker \$3000, Waseca Area Foundation (\$3000) \*Keen Bank (\$500)

Awards continued on 4

Friday, May 19, 2023 Pioneer



## Compostings

by Al Batt copyright © 2022 by Al Batt

## Each day is a gift

**ECHOES FROM THE** LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

I always get my pizza delivered. Why?

Who wants liver on a pizza? **DRIVING BY BRUCE'S** DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. I put on my understandings (shoes), a comfortable pair to wear while driving north to where I'd be teaching writing classes. The pickup truck ahead of me turned left without employing his turn signal. He wanted it to be a surprise. A Ram moves in mysterious ways.

I'd been staying in hotels with numbers in their names except for one stay at a hotel a rung higher on the amenities scale, where I was awakened by a robot vacuum cleaner, even though I hadn't ordered Roomba service.

Al Jaffee died at the age of 102. One of Mad Magazine's most famous regulars (The Usual Gang of Idiots) and creator of Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions and the magazine's iconic "fold-in," the illustration that ran on the back inside cover of every issue that when folded, revealed a second hidden image. The fold-in was originally designed to mock Playboy centerfolds. Alfred E. Neuman, the fictitious cover boy of Mad, had a motto "What? Me worry?" that became famous. My brother gave me a subscription to Mad Magazine when I was a lad. I loved it. I kept every issue, each with a crease in its back cover. Mad's nonsense made wonderful sense to me.

#### **BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT**

Who was the best-smelling TV cowboy of all time? The Cologne Ranger.

What color is the wind? Blew. What do you call bees with

ears? Bears. What should you do before get-

ting off a bicycle? Get on it. I'VE LEARNED

The smaller the portion of food, the higher the bill.

When a man says he looked everywhere, everywhere is a tiny place.

Put things away in a place where you'd look for them first. A bad shopping cart is a great

All-purpose glue isn't. Three-fourths of the people

make up 75% of the population.

## MOTHER'S DAY

"Step on a crack, break your mother's back." I heard that often when I was a boy, but I didn't believe it. It was nonsense, but I loved my mother and tried not to step on any cracks. Her baked goods were baked greats. Mother taught me that gravy covers a multitude of sins and to never complain about food because you never know what's cooking tomorrow. I learned that each day is a

gift. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't miss her.

#### CINCO DE MAYO

My wife and I enjoyed Cinco de Mayo at the New Richland Liquor Company. I carried cheese in with me in case of emergencheese. A storm knocked the power out, but the company and the tacos were terrific

#### **NATURE NOTES**

Jerry Viktora of Ellendale asked when we'll see the moths that look and act like hummingbirds. The white-lined sphinx moth's rapid wing movement resembles a hummingbird in flight when it hovers over flowers while feeding. It has a 2-3.5-inch wingspan, visits flowers during the day and at dusk, and is active July-September. It uses a long proboscis for nectaring from evening primrose, columbine, jimson weed, lilac, cardinal flower, honeysuckle, hosta, penstemon, petunia, phlox and others without harming the plants. Host plants for the caterpillars include evening primrose, purslane, tomato, apple, four-o'clock, fuchsia and grape. The caterpillars vary in color but are often green with a single pointed horn on the rear.

The Minnesota population of American white pelicans appears to have stabilized at 16,000 to 22,000 nesting pairs breeding at 15 to 17 sites across the western twothirds of the state. Nonbreeding birds are commonly observed throughout the state. The return of pelicans to Minnesota waters could be attributed to the growth and expansion of the Chase Lake colony in North Dakota. Because pelicans don't breed until their third year, nonbreeding adults wander until they reach sexual maturity. Many return to their natal breeding colony, but others may explore other suitable sites to avoid crowding. In the northern Great Plains, colonies are located on flat islands with little or no vegetation found on freshwater lakes, rivers or impoundments. Minnesota's largest colony site, Marsh Lake, is an impounded river floodplain in the upper reaches of the Minnesota River. In the late 1800s, settlers raided pelican nesting colonies because they thought they caused a fish shortage. After that, pelicans weren't seen in Minnesota for about 90 years. Pelicans can't catch the larger, faster and deeper game fish. In Minnesota, pelicans have nesting colonies in the aforementioned Marsh Lake near Ortonville and Appleton, plus Lake of the Woods, Leech Lake and Pelican Lake in Wright County. The state of Iowa has one pelican breeding colony along the Mississippi River in Clinton County.

## MEETING ADJOURNED

Pay no heed to those who profit from promoting anger and hatred.

## Speaking about mental health...

In the past month, I've covered two events that involved the discussion of mental health, specifically depression, anxiety, and suicide.

Both had different perspectives. JWP's speaker, Emma Benoit, talked about her own personal battle against depression, anxiety, and how her attempt to take her own life ended up paralyzing her. Her chief message seemed to be encouraging people going through their own mental battles to talk about it with someone.

Jeff Yalden, the speaker at Waseca, provided the perspective of a former teacher. His end of the conversation was how parents can help their kids discuss their feelings.

I feel like for many years, even when I was in high school, we've been getting Benoit's perspective. How people should reach out and realize people care. But sometimes, the depression is too much. The depressed part of us wants us to think people don't want to care.

So, how do we help others who need the help but don't know how to ask for it?

I think Yalden, as admittedly abrasive as he was, provided a fresh perspective I don't ever remember

copyright © 2022 by Michael Roy getting from other speakers. He tried telling people how to start the conversation and show how we can be there

for people struggling. (It was more in

the perspective of parents, but I, as a

25-year-old, took a lot of points

away.) "Don't ask them right away how they're doing or force the conversation," he said. "Ask them how their

heart is. That hit me.

We definitely need the Benoits of the world to share their story-to encourage those who are struggling to realize there is a light at the end of the tunnel. But I also feel like we need the Yaldens of the world just as much to tell us how we help people.

He shared a statement he says many people have said to him: "I'm tired in the way that sleep can't fix."

That had a powerful impact on me. I think a lot of people, especially

Music to my Ears ♪

by Michael Roy

these days, can relate to that. Sometimes, we overwork ourselves. We forget to enjoy life. We get in a rut and we don't see that light at the end of the tunnel.

And think about all the other things going on in the world. We just got out of Covid. one of the toughest things humanity has gone through. The United States of America could potentially go into default for the first time in its history. Taxes are high. It's hard to make a living.

My mom and others sometimes share this well-known adage with me: "Don't work so hard to make a living that you forget to make a life."

I think the reason why people are depressed is that we have been told to make a living. Hustle culture comes to mind. You have to work 100 hours a day to make your dreams come true. People work two jobs (me, for example) and sometimes it still can be hard to make ends meet. That's just the reality of things right now.

But we can't forget to enjoy life. I think that's why a lot of people are so enraged, anxious, or depressed. It's hard to enjoy life when you're working too hard to make a living.

It's why I'm making it a personal goal to do two things this summer: start a band and participate in theater.

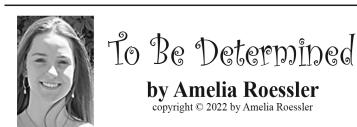
I have covered many bands throughout the summer at fairs, and I've covered two high school musicals this year, two one-act plays, and a regular play. It reminds me of when I did musicals in high school. And I want to get back into that realm somehow.

I think if we all followed my mother's saying, "Don't work so hard to make a living that you forget to make a life," I think the world would be much, much happier. And if you are like me and have no choice but to work for a living, try your best to enjoy the little things. And if the opportunity comes your way to do something you love, go for it.

## Seeking out life's finer moments

People always say that you don't realize you're in the best time of your life until after it's over and you're reflecting back on your life. I, on the other hand, am sorely self aware that I am in the best years of my life.

I don't know if any of you also knew that you were in the best years of your life while experiencing them, but how does one cope with that knowledge? It's like I know that in a couple of years I might not be as happy as I am now. I've heard people say that college years are the best years and although I'm only two years in, I think that they are right. But what happens when college is over? Will I get bored with the repetitive life of the adult working class? Will I be stressed about paying bills and other things that I struggle to find time for my hobbies, for my



mental health, my happiness? No one ever tells you how stressful adult life is, they just throw you in and say, 'good luck!" Not that I'm particularly stressed right now. The overthinker in me is just stressing for my future even though I'm at peace right

I did some reflecting on this while hammocking in the lawn in front of the alumni center this week. It was more peaceful than I had expected it to be, rocking with my friends, watching the sunset, jamming to music and playing lacrosse with my best friend. I realized that I am literally living that "college kid" life that they always show in movies, enjoying the freedoms of being old enough to be independent while not being a full adult yet. Getting to spend my evening on a beautiful day just enjoying the outside and enjoying my life and where I am at. I was

able to watch the school around me change colors in the sunset as the concrete jungle started to die and awaken in the rebirth of night.

The campus in the summer is interesting. While most of the students have gone home, some have stayed for summer classes or for work, so some parts still feel like a regular school year, just without the stress. I'm not complaining, though, it makes the campus and my time still here more enjoyable–especially as I try to appreciate my time as much as I can. Cultivating my hobbies, trying new activities and new foods, working to improve myself. Try to live my best life in the best years of my life.

My Determination: "You have no idea what it is to have one's entire life reduced to a single moment." — Daphne Bridgerton, Bridgerton

## Veterans eligible for PACT Act benefits

From the muddy fields of Vietnam to the sands of Afghanistan and Iraq, our servicemembers and veterans have always answered the call, fighting valiantly for our country at great personal risk. Over time, we have seen the severe and lasting consequences of their sacrifices-and in particular, harm caused by their exposure to toxic substances. Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange experience high levels of hypertension, and those who were exposed to toxic burn pits in the Middle East have gone on to suffer illnesses from asthma and rhinitis to severe cancers. For too long, it's been nearly impossible to get care for those conditions through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

It's always been my belief that when our servicemembers and veterans signed up to serve, there was no waiting line, so when they come home, there shouldn't be a waiting line am focused on making sure that Minto access the benefits they deserve. That is why I spent many years working alongside Minnesota veterans and veteran families to make sure veterans suffering from exposure-related illnesses could get care through the VA. We made a huge stride forward with last year's enactment of the PACT Act, a landmark bill that expands VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to Agent Orange, burn pits and other toxic substances. The legislation included provisions from my bipartisan bill to improve education and training for VA health care personnel.

The PACT Act increases VA health care and benefit eligibility for 3.5 million veterans spanning the Vietnam, Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq wars, including an estimated 294,000 Minnesota veterans. Passing that bill was a hard-won accomplishment, and now I

nesota veterans know how to access the benefits they are finally eligible For Gulf War and post 9/11 vet-

erans, the VA will now presume these diseases and cancers were serviceconnected: brain cancer, gastrointestinal cancer of any type, glioblastoma, head cancer of any type, kidney cancer, lymphoma of any type, melanoma, neck cancer of any type, pancreatic cancer, reproductive cancer of any type, respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type, asthma that was diagnosed after service, chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic rhinitis, chronic sinusitis, constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis, emphysema, granulomatous disease, interstitial lung disease (ILD), pleuritis, pulmonary fibrosis, and sar-

For Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange, the VA will now presume high blood pressure and monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) are service re-

If you believe you or a surviving family member of a veteran may be eligible for health care and benefits, I strongly encourage you to file a claim at VA.gov/PACT or call 1-800-MYVA411. My team also stands ready to assist you. For help, please reach out to my office at 612-727-

When we ask our young men and women to fight for our nation, we make a promise to take care of them when they return home. With the PACT Act, we are showing our veterans and servicemembers that a promise made is a promise kept.

## The pleasures of a good story SERVING THE WHOLE OF WASECA COUNTY

I had the pleasure of interviewing the new owners of Barney's this

They are lovely people. I already knew both of them; Audra sits on the board of a local non-profit, or the start of one, which I am also a board member of.

This was the first feature I've had the pleasure of writing in quite some time as my hands have been recovering from tendonitis. It reminded me how much joy I take in interviewing, crafting questions, and ultimately writing the story.

I've been working hard in the past two months to lighten my load in order to do more writing, and well, more of anything that isn't work. That, my friends, is a topic for another day.

A few updates. I do not expect the Pioneer to be moved into our new location until June. It's just been too

Readers may notice a newly revamped Page 3 in this week's edition. I'm going for a "second front page" look. We simply have too



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens copyright © 2022 by Eli Lutgens

many good stories to limit the front page to a single front page. Thus, the new look on Page 3. It was fun to put together and I look forward to the new style.

On to my week of newsing. Thursday I woke up to five inches of water in my basement. Lovely.

Throughout the rest of the morning I drove around New Richland taking pictures and trying to find anyone who would talk to me. In the end, after the madness had subsided, I was able to talk to folks about how they were affected by all the rain.

Monday afternoon, of course, I met with the Veroevens. Wednesday evening I attended honors night at Waseca High School. I was absolutely blown away by the number of

awards given out and stories shared. Really, the stories part interested me the most. Oh, and seeing children of all the adults I know walk across the stage was pretty cool too.

I was reminded of my senior graduation when we were cautioned that the day wasn't about us, it was about the lives those in the audience watched grow up all those years. Wednesday night reminded me of something like graduation. The awards and scholarships, certainly monetarily, benefit the students, but the stories, well, those are meant to honor those whose memory, or honor, they were given for. I thought it was pretty cool

In other news, we're getting so many requests for stories that I'm

grateful we have Tristan back and Jonah back, and soon-to-be Amelia back, oh and then Deb and Missy, to help write them all!

I do have to chuckle. Lakeshore Nursing home called me to ask us to write about their award. I said of course, I'll give it to a reporter and they'll get hold of you next week.

They said great and I gave it to

The next Tuesday, I arrived in my office in New Richland to a note on my desk. "Story request... Waseca didn't want to do it." (This was the Star Eagle office I stopped at.)

And it was from Lakeshore. I chuckled. No, we did want to write about it. I, unfortunately, can't drop everything to do a phone interview about an award that was still newsworthy four days later.

Please don't stop with the story suggestions, just remember that we can only print one newspaper a

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." - Mahatma Gan-

## **SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

**ELI LUTGENS** 

MICHAEL ROY

**REED WALLER** 

**DEB BENTLY** 

JIM LUTGENS

TRISTAN JENSEN

**MELISSA DUNN** 

JESSICA LUTGENS

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**DEADLINES:** Pioneer: Noon Tuesday

GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

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Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

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Sports Editor/Dad

**Editorial Assistant** 

Editor

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Friday, May 19, 2023 Pioneer



Mindy Jimenez, event coordinator at Starfire Event Center. Pioneer photo by Tristan Jensen

## Brunch at the Starfire

**By TRISTAN JENSEN** Staff Writer

Sunday, May 14 Starfire Event Center celebrated Mother's Day with its first brunch event since 2020.

Prior to 2020, the event center held annual brunches for both Mother's Day and Easter: Event coordinator Mindy Jimenez said she was happy to be bringing them back. "I think everybody always loved our big brunches," she explained, adding that they were regularly requested during the period they were not bing

Despite the requests, Jimenez was well aware that many annual events were seeing decreased attendance when they resumed. In order to "fill the house" Jimenez and Starfire decided to offer a reduced menu which would make it possible to lower the price per person to just \$15 for the all-you-can-eat brunch. Even with the reduction, however, diners could among a breakfast bar, salad bar, taco bar, ham and mashed potatoes, and assorted fresh fruits and des-

Starfire Event Center aims to hold one or two public events each month in addition to the private events it books, Jimenez explained. June's schedule includes another murder mystery party for the public; in July there will be a craft show and country concert. The best place to find up-to-the-minute information on Starfire's public events is the company's Facebook page.

## **JWP NHS** inducts 16

By MICHAEL ROY Editor

On Wednesday, April 26, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton held its induction ceremony for the National Honor Society. Sixteen new members were inducted: Isaiah Berndt, Ethan Born, Luke Cahill, Sophia Coulsey, Eric Daschner, Brielle Dessner, Hope Dimmel, Madyn Holland, Lydia Huelsnitz, Presley James, Ellah Oliver, Lydia Sack, Autumn Thissen, Claire Walz, Paige Walz, and Lauren White.

The National Honor Society awards students for their strong work ethic in academics and in their communities. To join, students must be in grades 10-12 and meet the requirements stated in the society's four pillars of membership: scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Academic requirements are a GPA of 3.0 or above, and students must prove that they volunteered for a specific minimum number of hours for the school, community or both. The students must also show leadership qualities through leading activities and demonstrate good and honest charac-

Each chapter or school involved with the NHS, including JWP, may require evidence that the students have shown the qualities required through the four pillars of membership to be a member.

# Mill grows from chance

#### 'Honey, I bought a factory'

By TRISTAN JENSEN Staff Writer

The Mill Event Center in Waseca celebrated its fifth anniversary the evening of Saturday, May 13. Guests were treated to music by the Blue Ringers, who were the first band to ever perform in the Mill's event space, as well as catering by Blake's BETtor Spread and drink specials at the Mill's bar. Each guest was also offered a can cozy and a ticket for a free glass of champagne.

The Mill is owned by Joe and Deb Hoehn, husband and wife, and is a true family business with most of their children working there at least parttime; their daughter Abby serves as the event coordinator. Prior to its ownership by the Hoehns, the building that became the Mill was the site of a local United Feeds plant where Joe occasionally did general contracting work. He learned from the manager of United Feeds that the plant would be closing - the company is headquartered in Sheridan, Indiana, and customers would be served through facilities in Iowa and Indiana.

Joe asked to be put in touch with someone in Sheridan, and spent the next two months negotiating to buy the building. Once the sale was settled, he says he came home and told Deb they'd just bought United Feeds, "and her jaw hit the floor." Initially, Joe thought to rent warehouse space to Waseca's factories and industrial sites. Deb asked



Joe and Deb Hoehn, owners of The Mill, developed their plan for the business after they had already purchased it. Pioneer photo by Tristan Jensen

to see the space, however, and upon visiting she and their daughters suggested it would be a great place to host weddings. Joe says he remembers thinking, "Have you lost your minds?" The Hoehns had a niece getting married, and after seeing the space she agreed she'd love to have her reception there. Her wedding, the first held at the Mill, was in September 2017. The following Monday, Joe says, they had four calls looking to rent the event space. The interior has since been fully remodeled, including adding restrooms, a stage, a bar, lighting, and climate control. The Hoehns headed all of the remodeling work themselves, and used local contractors.

Displays were set up in the facility's entry outlining the events that have taken place at the Mill in the last five years. In that time they've hosted 108 weddings, the dates of which were listed along with the couples' names on a display board. Another board proclaimed they've hosted three anniversary parties, six baby showers and baptisms, eighteen banquets, seventeen birthday parties, six "Her jaw hit the floor."

— Joe Hoehn

bridal showers, nineteen business meetings, six celebrations of life, sixteen graduations, four class reunions, thirty-seven fundraisers, thirty-four employee parties and chamber events, fifteen school functions and proms, seven sports events, ten vendor shows, and nineteen of their own events. "You get to know so many people here," Joe said of the event center's history.

The Mill's schedule for events is fully booked through 2023, with many weddings and banquets already lined up for 2024 and even a few already scheduled for 2025.

"Waseca and the surrounding communities have been very supportive of us," Joe made sure to say. He, Deb, and everyone else at the Mill are very thankful for that support and looking forward to the future of the Mill.



From left to right: Larry Rosenthal, John Schlack Polly Klampe, Riki Weitzenkamp, Jenna Krassin, and Erin Villwock

## Lakeshore receives national award

By JONAH STAFFORD Staff Writer

Waseca's Lakeshore Assisted Living has been named one of the best assisted living facilities in the United States with an award bestowed upon them by U.S. News & World Report. The winners of this award were selected by an independent organization based on anonymous surveys of

This recognition comes less than a year after Monarch Healthcare Man-

residents and their families.

agement took ownership of the facil- Jenna Krassin, Lakeshore's associate ity, which was originally established by the Madel family. Monarch renamed the former "Latham Place" to

Lakeshore Assisted Living. "The transition from Latham Place to Lakeshore Assisted Living has gone smoothly due to the close working relationship with the previous owner, the retention of core employees, and the deep support Monarch Healthcare Management provides for the building," says administrator.

Krassin says that Lakeshore provides each resident with customized care, giving them the support needed "to stay as independent and safe as possible."

She thanks Lakeshore's residents and their families for making this recognition possible. Krassin adds that "the staff's immense dedication to the facility makes Lakeshore Assisted Living run like a well-oiled

In her closing remarks, Krassin commented that "while the recognition is truly overwhelming, we see this as a start, not an end," adding that the staff at Lakeshore strive to continue improving the care res-

idents receive. She hopes that Lakeshore Assisted Living will receive the same honor and be featured in the Waseca County Pioneer again next year, as a result of continued resident satisfaction.

## Love, and many birds, are in the air

**Bits and Pieces** 

copyright © 2022 by Dave Zika

by Dave Zika

Love is in the air: All of nature's furry critters and birds have paired up and are making preparations to raise their families. I took Sammy out for her early daily double this morning and observed a busy robin building her nest in our front yard tree. Soon the nest will be filled with

beautiful blue-green eggs. I have several birdhouses at our cabin on Lake Tetonka. One of the houses will always entertain a family of Chickadees. It's old, weathered and still always the house of their choice. It has a flip top lid which allows me to enjoy watching the fledglings grow until the day they leave the box and enter their world. I have two houses on the hill down to the dock; tree swallows always take up residence. I have a marten house, but have given up; it's now full of spar-

My favorite to watch is the wren. A male wren will prepare a couple of houses with nests. It's a real hoot to watch him carry twigs much larger than the opening and twist and turn them to get them into the house. He will sit and call for days, a beautiful chatter, calling for his wife to be.

When she arrives, she gets the tour and chooses her favorite house. Together they finish off their dwelling with the final furnishings. For some reason, it seems the female always chooses Katie's Condos, a house I built in honor of our late daughter "JT." Maybe it's because this house

My two wood duck houses have also been occupied by ducks. The one on a tree down by the water's edge has housed mergansers for the past three years. The house on the oak tree next to our deck has been home to beautiful wood ducks. The hen wood duck is very private and mysterious. We seldom see her, since she leaves the box only after dark or in the pre-dawn of the day. Inside the box are cedar shavings and a wire mesh the ducklings can climb when it's time to leave.

has the smallest entry holes.

One morning, Lisa was on the deck for a cup of coffee and called to me, "The mother duck is on the ground peeping." I knew she was calling out her ducklings and grabbed a chair to watch the action. Eleven little balls came tumbling out of the box one by one, then bounced

to their feet on the ground below. Not one of them was injured. Mother gathered them and led her family down the hill to the water. In a flash,

they were gone. I've always been fascinated by the names of baby animals. We all know the household names: a puppy, kitten, calf, or chick. But did you know a foal is a baby horse, with the specific term "filly" referring to a female and "colt" to a male. A baby rabbit is called a bunny. That means the yearly visit from the Easter bunny is a visit from a youngster. A baby owl isn't called a fledgling. It's an owlet, as a baby spider is a spiderlet. A baby swan has a more sophisticated name: a cygnet.

Kangaroos and koalas are marsupials—meaning among other things that they have a pouch. When first born into these protective spaces, the young are the size of a jelly bean, and are called joeys.

Moose, elk, camels, giraffes, ele-

phants, and the hippopotamus all have babies called calves. A baby giraffe is born 6 feet tall, and a baby elephant weighs 220 pounds. Can you imagine giving birth to those newborns?

The majority of our favorite birds all have babies called fledglings. Some are more unique: a young eagle is called an eaglet, a baby turkey a poult, and a baby pigeon a

Don't confuse a baby bat or mole with a young dog. The babies of all three are called pups.

A baby mouse is called a pinkie; I find that delightful. The name of a baby fly is a maggot; I find that repulsive.

Humans can identify with baboons and monkeys, both of which have babies called infants. And oh yes, there's the ape family; their babies are simply called a baby.

Lisa tells me I should close this article with a smile or a laugh, so here are a couple of her favorite animal

What does a buffalo mom say

when her son goes off to school?

What do you call a cow who has spasms? Beef jerky.

Until next time: be nice and say something kind to someone.

**NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL** 

## NR Area Foundation grants awarded

By JESSICA LUTGENS Staff Writer

The New Richland Area Foundation presented grants to various local organizations during the New Richland City Council's first meeting of the month on Monday, May 8. The total amount of funds granted this year came to \$18,500, with additional grants funded by the Curtis Swenson Family Fund and the Waseca Area Foundation, totaling \$6,818.

The following resolutions were approved: 23-08 proclaiming Friday, May 26 as Poppy Day, and 23-09 addressing the city fee schedule.

The ambulance report, submitted in writing, stated that the New Richland Ambulance has had 66 runs this year as of May 3. One new crew member was approved, along with the report.

The fire department report stated that the New Richland Fire Department responded to one rural fire call in April. Special thanks were given to Eric Hendrickson for good communication with the department on issues that affect the department. The report was approved.

The police report stated that the NRPD responded to 84 calls for service in April. The new squad vehicle is now in use, and it was noted that Chief Bruegger attended the MN Chiefs of Police Association annual conference in Duluth as well as the MN Association of Women Police in Alexandria. This year's Farm and City Days celebration will be held July 7-9, and this year's Night to Unite is tentatively scheduled for August 8. The report was approved.

The water/sewer bill addressed at the last meeting was discussed, and a decision on the nome owner's responsibility for payment was made. City Administrator Tony Martens discussed the water treatment cost with Shell Johnson.

"It's impossible to figure out what it actually costs to treat this," Martens said.

He also cautioned the council that if they approved reducing the owner's portion of the cost of the bill, it could set a precedent going forward. In a unanimous vote, the council approved having the owner pay the full balance of the bill.

Compensation for board and commission members was discussed per request from Councilperson Jody Wynnemer.

"I think it would help to recruit and retain members on these various boards if there was some small incentive to have people participate in [them]," Wynnemer said.

The council agreed, and went on to discuss the ongoing vacancies on the care center board that have prevented them from being able to hold a meeting for a few months. Martens said the matter could be included in discussions on next year's budget later this year.

Two fix-up grants approved by the EDA were approved by the council, along with the purchase of a new skid-steer loader from Arnold's with a trade-in of old city equipment. Wages for lifeguards at St. Olaf Lake were discussed, and the council approved \$16/hour for the head guard, \$12/hour for lifeguards with a \$0.25 increase for returning lifeguards, and \$10.75/hour for concession stand only employees. A manhole on Highway 13 that is stopped up completely due to grease buildup was mentioned, and the council approved repairs for up to \$6,500.

The administrator's report was presented and approved before the council went into closed session for a personnel discussion. When the meeting opened, the council approved the satisfactory performance of the city administrator along with a step increase for the administrator. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

## **OBITUARIES**

#### Thomas Stewart

Thomas Arthur Stewart, age 77 of Greenfield, formerly of Waseca, passed away at his home on Sunday, May 14, 2023.

Tom was born in Waseca on February 27, 1946 to William and Frances (Blowers) Stewart. He grew up in the 1950's on his family's Waseca farm. He had a rich childhood and attended country school until the sixth grade and later Waseca public schools in town. Following his high school graduation Tom served in the United States Navy Reserves. He went on to study at Stout University and Dunwoody College. In addition to many years of farming, Tom owned and operated Royalton Heating and Cooling. He enjoyed traveling and had taken many fun trips with family and friends. He was a generous, hardworking man, and his loss will be closely felt by all of his family and friends.

Tom is survived by his wife, Laura Link-Stewart of Greenfield; children Jennifer VonEnde, Laura Stewart, Amy Breazeale, Brady Stewart, and Ryan (Asma) Stewart; sixteen grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, Daniel (Patty) Stewart; sister, Liane (Matt) Keane; sister-in-law, Debbie Cowles; nieces and nephews; and former spouse, Susan Stewart. He was preceded in death by both of his parents, William and Frances Stewart; son, Brent Stewart;



**Thomas Stewart** 

brother, William Stewart; two sisters, Judy Cyr and Nancy Anhorn; mother-in-law, Dolores Link; and grandson, Joshua Stewart-An-

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM on Monday, May 22, 2023 at Faith United Methodist Church in Waseca, with Rev. Carolyn Doering officiating. Visitation will be held for one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca is handling the arrangements. dsofuneral.com

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The Waldorf plant sale on Saturday, May 13, at the Waldorf Community Center featured an assortment of succulents, bulbs, tomatoes, and a plant seed exchange. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

## **Petal Pushers** plant sale

By MICHAEL ROY Editor

Despite a lot of heavy rain and a few claps of thunder, many were rushing into the door for a chance to support the Waldorf Spring Plant Sale the morning of Saturday, May 13 at the Waldorf Community Center.

The plant sale was conducted by the members of the Waldorf Petal Pushers Plant Club.

"We have already served a lot more people than we thought would show up," Julie Tesch said fifteen minutes after the doors opened.

But that statement wasn't because of the rain. "We had quite a few cars parked out front waiting for us to open," Tesch explained. "So we decided to open a little early.'

The plant sale had just about everything one could want, including annuals, tomatoes, succulents, houseplants, bulbs and more. There were also seeds so that people could grow their own plants. Customers were also encouraged to bring extra seeds to swap.



Beverly Janike (standing) visits with a few people at the plant sale.

Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

sale, the club had coffee and rolls for everyone to enjoy before hitting the road.

"It's always a good time," said Doris Waknitz. The proceeds from the plant sale will go right

Once everyone was done shopping at the plant back into the community, says plant club member Patty Gartner. "We will use the money we raise toward projects around town."

> The projects will help beautify Waldorf even more with a variety of flowers and plants.

#### ■ Awards

from Page 1

Neighborhood Service Center, In A Pinch Program Support \$1000 Back Pack Program Support \$2000, Food Shelf Purchases \$2000, Waseca Area Foundation (\$5000) \*Keen Bank (\$1000)

Lutheran Social Services, Food Security for Older Adults \$5000, Waseca Area Foundation

Bethlehem Inn, Replace Flooring & Door \$1000, Waseca Area Foundation Bethlehem Inn, Replace Floor-

ing & Door \$1000, Waseca Area Foundation Santa's Workshop, Program

Support \$450, Waseca Area Foundation

Infants Remembered In Silence, Bereavement Support Packets \$1000, Waseca Area Foundation

JWP Baseball, Turtle Baseball Shell \$2000, John Priebe Education Fund

New Richland Commercial Club, Downtown Light Poles/Banner \$5000, Waseca Area Foundation Project Fund

TEAM Academy, PE Heart Rate Monitors \$500, John Priebe Education Fund

Sacred Heart School, Smart Boards \$4162, Homer & Betty

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McIntire Fund (\$1135) John Priebe Education Fund (\$3027) \*Keen Bank (\$2000)

Hartley Elementary, Flexible Seating- Spec Ed \$2000, John Priebe Education Fund

Hartley Elementary, Author Visit \$1000, Waseca Area Foundation Hartley Elementary, Books Including Diversity \$500, Waseca

Area Foundation WIS Reading Intervention, Desodable Books \$1039, John Priebe **Education Fund** 

Waseca Int School Art Dept, High Quality Ceramic Glaze \$500, John Priebe Education Fund

Waseca Int School PE Dept, Archery Equipment \$1800, Tracy Jevning Memorial Fund (\$1000)

Bluejay Public School Fund (\$800) Waseca Jr Sr High, New Engineering Course \$5000, Bluejay Public Schools Fund (\$1019) John Priebe Education Fund (\$200)

Waseca Area Foundation (\$1981) Waseca Strength & Conditioning Program, Weight Room Equipment

\$1000, Waseca Area Foundation Waseca Schools Band Program, Band Student Support \$4015, Herb Streitz Memorial Band Fund

\*Keen Bank is a local bank who is awarding additional grants to various organizations and has partnered with our granting awards celebration. They are not affiliated with the Waseca Area Foundation Funds.

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from Page 1

"Our baseball diamond is underwater," said Desiree Medrano, who lives nearby a flooded field.

"It came up so fast — it was kind of unexpected," said Alex Wagner, who grew up in the area. He said something like this happens every

Amber Lewer has a small wall of sandbags protecting her business from the rising creek. A small army of community members built it.

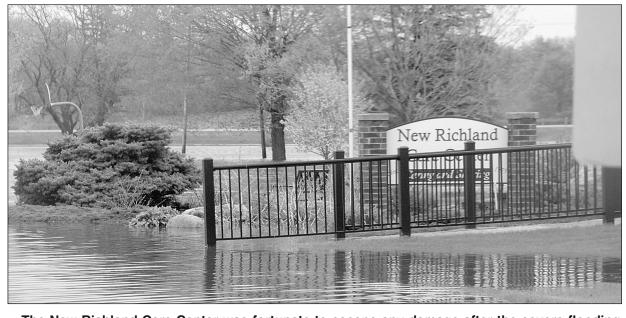
"That's huge to us," said Lewer, who said dozens of high schoolers came to help build the wall.

The "wall" was by the crick, next

to Neighbors Meats. Owners of Neighbors Meats complained at a previous New Richland City Council meeting to voice their concerns about flooding. If the water from the most recent flood had gotten into Neighbors this time, the results could have forced the business to shut down for an unknown period of time.

"If any water had come into the building, we would have had to shut the business down in order to test the facility to make sure it was clean," Dan Lewer said. "Simply put, it could have been catastrophic.

"What's in the past is in the past. What we want to do is look forward to the future to find a solution that



The New Richland Care Center was fortunate to escape any damage after the severe flooding last Thursday. Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

days for the residents. As Admin-

prevents it from happening again. Lewer added that they simply

"have to come up with a solution." Multiple roads were closed down and numerous other businesses were also affected. The cars at Midwest Repairables were all moved to the

avoid the flooded area. Fortunately the local Care Center was unaffected.

parking lot at Budach Implement to

"New Richland Care Center did not suffer any damage after the heavy rains last week," Care Center Administrator Robert Johannsen said. "It did make for great conversations throughout the following few

istrator, I kept in close communication with the City Administrator, Mayor, and Fire Department as they monitored water levels regularly throughout the day and well into the evening."

All home softball and baseball games last week were canceled, rescheduled, or moved to alternative

However, some fun did come out of the situation as the baseball and softball teams released some entertaining comments and videos online.

A response from the baseball team read: "Well, today's game probably

won't be played at Jeff and Carol Reese Field today, but NRHEG is searching for possibilities for our game vs. Kenyon-Wanamingo or maybe paddle boards will be used!"

A video released on social media also showcased NRHEG softball players enjoying the flooded conditions on the field as they participated in a "mock" practice as they played in the water on the softball

Looking forward, city administrator Martens said the city is currently working on clean-up efforts, as well as identifying any damages which may have occurred.



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'Hurry up and wait'

#### ■ Yalden

from Page 1

say, 'You know, I'm going tonight to listen to a speaker talk about teen suicide. I can't wait.' Nobody is excited for this.

"I recognize that those of you who are here...you aren't the ones I need to talk to," he added. "This is not an easy conversation to have. But it takes a community to have this conversation.'

Yalden shared that men are four times more likely to complete the act of suicide, but women are more likely to attempt. "Men are reactionary; women process stuff better," he claimed. "Men are taught to be tough and get over it, and sometimes, they just want it to be over. Women think about it and eventually talk themselves out of

However, the trend is somewhat changing in self-harm-actions like cutting or burning oneself. Although women have historically been the ones to carry it out, males are now more likely to hurt them-

A question Yalden says he has always asked is, "If there's one thing we can give to our young people, what would that be?" Yalden simply said, "Self-esteem."

"I find that we are believing in our young people today more than they believe in themselves," he elaborated. "You can really get burnt out if you fight more than they fight for themselves."

He then posed a question to the audience. "How do we as parents or teachers encourage and support but discipline and implement routines and structure? Where's the balance?

He suggested that parents are the problem. "Parenting is harder than it's ever been. Raising a teenager is harder than it's ever been. Teaching is harder than it's ever been."

But the problem lies in "parenting on the back end" instead of the front end, as he put it. "They have to catch up doing what they should have been doing. But you can't parent them at sixteen. Instead, you can start the conversation and get invested in their lives."

He added that part of the problem is the kids' attitude, and that those behaviors start at home. "I know that our kids are trauma-Yalden said. "Please know I want to be as sensitive as I can. I understand. But that doesn't give

us or our children permission to behave the way they're behaving. And we have to stop minimizing their attitude, their choices, and the disrespect they tend to show.

"Prepare your child for the road ahead, not prepare the road ahead for your child.

Yalden also pointed out that kids are learning that they need to be perfect, and that life itself is perfect. He shared a story about when he asked some of his students why they wouldn't speak up when he asked questions. They were afraid of being wrong and judged for that.

"That hurt my heart," he said. "I would never judge them. I told them that I wanted them to make mistakes. It's my job to teach."

One of the other points Yalden made is that devices are being allowed in schools, and that's part of the problem. "When they go on Instagram or any other social media, individuals may feel like they don't have meaningful relationships," he said. "Our [electronic] device isn't our connection to our world. But young people feel like it is, so they feel alone.

Yalden said it's difficult for parents to connect with their kids and ask them what's wrong. Although teens may get angry when asked, Yalden suggested that the parents shouldn't react to that anger.

Instead, what he suggested was, "Don't ask them if they're okay or tell them that you need to talk to them. It might scare them and make them lie. Instead, ask them, 'Hey...how's your heart?"

It's a question that may throw them off. But Yalden shared that in his personal experience, he was able to talk to many of his students that way and get to the root of the

In the end, mental health will always be something challenging to talk about, especially when it comes to teens, according to Yalden. What really concerns him is the ten- to eleven-year-old age range, where a lot of the suicidal thoughts are beginning. It's affecting younger people.

"One thing that a student told me once after I spoke at their school was, 'Jeff, I'm tired in a way that sleep can't fix."

It's a tough conversation to have, and he thanked the school, the staff, and everyone else for coming out to have it. "I'm proud of the school for accepting this conversation and starting it," he said. "It's important we do our part to normalize the conversation as much as

Part 5 of the Root Brothers history Introduction Between January 1942 and December

He was tough and raring to go. When he graduated high school at 17, he 1972, the Hound Street family of Burfollowed in four of his older brothers'

chard Bailey Root, (born 1889) and Esfootsteps-he joined the Navy. ther (Gehring) Root (born 1900) was Being only 17 placed him in the greatly affected by WWII and the con-'Kiddie program," which meant his flicts which followed. Of the couple's initial service had to be completed seven sons, five served in the US military. before he turned 21. Four other Of the two who did not, one had died people from the New Richland gradshortly after birth; the other sacrificed his uating class also signed up to join the wishes of fighting in Korea to the responsibility of maintaining the home farm dur-Navy, among them his best friends ing a time of family crisis. In order of age, Bill Jones and Russell Battenfield. the brothers are: Vern Russell Root born Their naval association lasted in 1921, US Navy WWII; Marvin "Hans' through the trials of boot camp at "Tiger" Curtis Root, born 1923, US Navy. Great Lakes near Chicago. After that WWII, Korea, Vietnam; William "Bill' they were split up to pursue their sep-Burchard Root, born 1927, US Navy arate assignments. WWII, US Army Occupation of Germany and Vietnam War; Donald Jack Root. born and died 1928; Orville "Buck" Keith Root, 1931 farmer; Gene "Buzz" Harlan

Root born 1933, US Marines, Korean

Conflict; and David Wayne Root born

**David Root** 

Clutching his BB gun on a cold au-

tumn morning in 1945, David Root,

age 7, was hiding behind a tree when

a fox slipped past. He was near his

older brother Hans who was leaning

against a tree holding a shotgun. Just

home from the war in the Pacific,

Hans hadn't participated in family

fox hunts for 4 years. Now here was

his chance to get his first fox in years

and make a little cash on the pelt. But

he didn't move. He didn't raise his

gun. He just stood there motionless.

Huddled in his wool coat, he was fast

asleep. There was no way for David

to arouse him without alarming the

fox, which after a moment of hesita-

tion, slipped back into the brush.

Sleeping on a fox hunt was not Hans.

Before the war in the Pacific, he had

been one of the best hunters and

trappers in the New Richland area.

After four years of service, he may

have been tired and in need of a rest.

David, on the other hand, was young,

untried, and wishing he had been old

David's time would come. First,

he would undergo many formative

events . He would witness Hans and

other brother Bill re-up in the military

and serve during the next two wars—

Hans back to the Navy where he

would see action in Korea, while Bill

switched from Navy to Army and

was sent to Germany for the recon-

struction. After several years of debil-

itation from a stroke, their father

Burchard, the patriarch of the family,

would die in 1950-when David was

only 11 going on 12. Brokenhearted

at the loss, David would also be bur-

dened with helping his older brother

Orville "Buck" Root run the farm. All

the older boys were gone. And now

early in 1951, Gene-the second

youngest of the boys-was joining the

Marines to fight in Korea. Because

Orville and David were the only

boys left on the farm, all the field

work was left to them: The work was

hard. It made him strong. His senior

year of high school, he lost the state

championship final in wrestling by 1

point to a kid who went to a much

larger school at a time when there

was only one high school division.

During his senior year in high school,

David was also co-captain of the

football team and all conference

though he hardly played due to injury.

enough to carry a real gun.

1938, US Navy 1956 to 1959.

David Wayne Root was slated to become a jet mechanic, but his training process was characterized by the old military adage "hurry up and wait." First stop was a naval supply station in New Jersey where he would spend 6 months waiting for a slot to open up in Jet Mechanic school. In New Jersey he worked as an assistant to a civilian secretary. To offset the boredom, he took a civilian job setting pins at a bowling alley. In the 1950s setting bowling pins was an old fashioned manual endeavor which called on the pin setter to crawl under the sweeping gate and set each individual pin. One night he injured

his leg and it later became infected. After New Jersey, he was sent to school in Memphis, Tennessee, for four months of classes on jet engine theory. During off time, David often saw Elvis Presley driving around in a pink Cadillac.

Next stop on his training regimen was Norman, Oklahoma, where he would finally get two months of hands-on experience with jet engines. Here he would also suffer his second injury while in the military. After a joke involving shaving cream, a feather, and a sleeping shipmate went awry, David admits to probably laughing the hardest of the offending sailors. He was forced to defend himself. With his wrestling prowess, David easily subdued the enraged sailor. When he figured the guy had calmed down, he let him go. As the retinue of sailors were exiting the barracks, the offended sailor turned around and, from the step below, threw a sucker punch that broke

David's nose. David's final injury would come much later and be the result of the cumulative effects of working with jet engines. Now in his 80s, David receives disability from the Navy after an arduous application interview process concluded that his work on jet engines had substantially damaged his hearing, leading to hearing loss of more than 30%. The damage likely occurred during his next assignment in California where he would do what he had ultimately been trained to do--work on fighter jets. He was stationed at Miramar Naval Air Station, Alameda Naval Air Station, and in the deserts of El Centro and near Fallon, Nevada, where the Navy conducted gunnery practice and short takeoffs and landings; the purpose was to train pilots for the rigorous demands of being based on aircraft carriers. Finally, he would do his work aboard the USS Ranger.



**Hans Root and David Root** 

Though all the naval jet mechanics worked together, they were each assigned and responsible for two jets. One of David's jets would crash over the desert after the pilot had ejected safely. The problem had been a manufacturer's systems snafu that would come to light when another Demon FJ3 crashed soon after.

"By the time we lost two planes we couldn't use the afterburner," David clarified. "It took some severe modifications done by McDonald Douglas engineers."

Though he and the other sailors were often placed on stand by and high alert because of global issues such as the crisis in Lebanon, David's time in California was not all work and no play. He and his buddy would often hitchhike to Los Angeles on the weekends to chase women and go to clubs. Once, he and a buddy from Florida piqued their fellow sailors' envy when two women showed up at Miramar in a convertible with the intent to take David and his pal to LA for the weekend. On occasion all his sailor buddies tried unsuccessfully to get into Deano's (Dean Martin's Club). Once while he and a friend were hitchhiking, a convertible pulled over. It was Rock Hudson, who said he only had room for one. Both sailors declined. The famed sexual decadence of Hollywood was everywhere. When approached by gay men near Hollywood and Vine, David would reject them with his classic farm boy humor. "Get way from me," he would say, "I'm working this side of the street."

By the time David's service was up in 1959, he had decided not to re-up. He had already started taking a night class. The day he was discharged from the Navy, he started hitchhiking from San Diego to White Sands, New Mexico, where his brother Bill, now in the army, was stationed. Together, they drove north to Denver to meet their brother Gene "Buzz", the second youngest boy. Buzz, who had served as a Marine in the Korean War, was working for a road construction company. From Denver, David would hitchhike alone back to

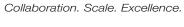


David Wayne Root

Minnesota.

The GI Bill was not in effect at the time, so obtaining a degree and an occupation was a long way off. David married Majel Hintz, my mom, had three kids and moved to Denver to work construction with Buzz. He considered reenlisting when the Vietnam war started, but chose not to because he was already a father to three children. He was working construction at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs when the GI Bill was reinstated. He jumped at the chance, went to college, and obtained a Master's Degree in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling. He is the last surviving son of Esther and Burchard Root. Editorial Note: The girls of the Root

clan were no less patriotic than their brothers and bear mentioning here as their names may be scattered throughout the coming articles: Anita (Root) Jewison born 1922 who quit her job as a beautician to work at a factory making radio equipment for the military during WWII; Barbara (Root) Tolzmann, 1925 who was training to be a teacher at the time of WWII; Nona (Root) Smith, January 1929, who married David Smith a sailor in WWII, and whose son George was wounded in Vietnam; Iola "Odie" (Root) Schroeder Borchert December 1929; Thelma (Root) Yess 1934 who married Orville "Ibb" Yess who served in Korea: Opal (Root) Hofius 1935, who married Charles Hofius, US Army Korea. Opal Hofius, her two sons also served in the military, Donnie Hofius and Chad Hofius.





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## Bluejays rally past Sibley East

Teague delivers big blow as WHS plates winning run in sixth inning

> By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

It was a roller coaster of a game for the Waseca High School base-

But the Bluejays finished on top. While Waseca hit several solid shots in the early innings, the biggest blow came in the sixth, a go-ahead two-run single by Sebastian Teague, set up by a swinging bunt by Max Neaves and a long double by Grant Cox.

It led to a 6-4 triumph over Sibley East Tuesday evening at Tink Larson Community Field in Waseca.

"It was a nice comeback," said Larson, now a WHS assistant coach. "We had a big sixth inning." Sibley East put the first run on the scoreboard in the top of the first

with two solid hits. The Bluejays wasted no time tying it in the bottom of the first as Tyson Reger led off with a walk and scored on a Ryan Krautkremer sin-

Waseca made it 3-1 in the second as Keaton Roeker singled and scored, as did Cox, on a two-out, two-run go-ahead single by Oliver O'Brien.

The visitors retook the lead in the fourth, taking advantage of a Bluejay fielding miscue.

Neaves led off the bottom of the sixth, and Cox promptly doubled. Teague drove in both with a base hit. Reger walked and scored on a single by Payton Garza.

Sophomore right-hander Colton Ruedy started on the mound for the Bluejays, allowing four runs - three earned - on four hits while striking out three and walking three through three innings. Teague was impressive in relief and earned the victory,

"It was a nice comeback."

— Tink Larson





Krautkremer

O'Brien



Reger

giving up no runs on three hits, with three strikeouts and no walks. Reger set the visitors down in order in the top of the seventh.

The Bluejays overcame three fielding errors. Sibley East had one. Cox and Krautkremer led a 10-hit attack by the Bluejays. Cox was 2-

for-3 with two runs, Krautkremer 2for-4. O'Brien, Garza, Kendrick Volkmann, Keaton Roeker, Neaves and Teague had the other hits for Waseca. Cox scored two runs.

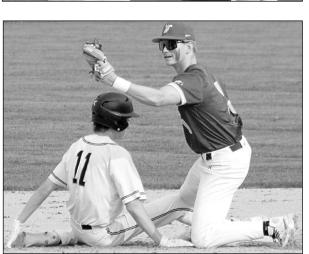
The Bluejays ran their record to 7-5 overall. They're 2-4 in Big South Conference play. They hosted Belle Plaine Thursday, May 18. Section play begins next week.



COMEBACK VICTORY — The WHS baseball team rallied past Sibley East 6-4 Tuesday at Tink Larson Field. Above, Bluejay catcher Payton Garza applies the tag late in a close play at home plate. Below left, Colton Ruedy fields a ground ball from his pitching position. Below right: Keaton Roeker is congratulated by assistant coach xxxxx at first base. Far below right: Oliver O'Brien shows the ball to the umpire to no avail. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens







#### The JWP golfers were glad that they weren't hosting any meets in the latter part of last week. They would have had to make it up otherwise. Instead, they traveled to Kenyon on Friday, May 12 where they faced Kenyon-Wanamingo/Goodhue, Maple

Bulldog

boys win

matches

**Dimmel twice** 

takes medalist

**By MICHAEL ROY** 

Staff Writer

2 of 3 golf

 $N \quad e \quad w$ Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-

River, and

Geneva. It didn't take much JWP's for boys to win place first



even with the absence of top golfer Logan Thell. The team took the title with 163 strokes for nine holes, defeating Maple River who had

194 and NRHEG, who had 259. Junior Steven Dimmel took the mantle for the Bulldogs, firing a 37 and winning medalist

Alex James and Carter Miller tied for third with 41 each, with Ryan Kronbach taking sixth with a 44. Jeffrey Simonson took ninth with a 53. Tyler Nelson, one of the newer golfers, recorded a personal best; his score was not available at the time of print.

It was a tight contest on the girls' side. Hope Dimmel tied with NRHEG's Meela Budach for second place with a 52. Both were one shot away from tying Maple River's Mackenzie Walters.

The JWP golfers went to the NRHEG Invitational at Waseca Lakeside Golf Club Monday, May 15. They took second out of mostly Gopher Conference opponents (St. Peter was also part of the meet), with rival Triton taking the top spot with a score of 325. Eighteen holes were played.

Dimmel led the way again, taking medalist honors by firing a 76. Thell tied for second with Hayfield's Sam Tucker with a 77. Miller took tenth overall with an 83, his personal best in an 18-hole meet. Simonson, firing a 101, and Nelson scoring 131 rounded out the day for the Bulldog boys.

Hope Dimmel took sixth overall in the girls' competition with a 104. Three strokes were the deciding factor between sixth and third, with NRHEG's Grace Wilkenson taking the bronze with 101. Rebecca Walters of Maple River was the medalist while Triton's Tessa Tushaus took second.

NRHEG hosted another meet on Tuesday, May 16, this time at Riverview Golf Course in rural New Richland.

This time, the JWP boys' team tied with United South Central, both firing a 166.

Miller once again hit a personal record, this time on a nine-hole course with a 39. He tied with USC's Kadyn Neubauer and teammate Steven Dimmel for first place.

Simonson earned one of this first top-five finishes in his career, firing a 41 to finish in fifth. Kronbach and James finished 12th and 13th, respectively scoring 49 and 49. Nelson, who shot a 62, rounded out the scoring for JWP. Hope Dimmel fired a 53, fin-

ishing fourth overall. Budach of NRHEG took first with 50 while Emma Heggen of USC and Wilkenson of NRHEG tying for second with 52. Dimmel beat out Ella Farr of Blooming Prairie, who fired a

The JWP golfers returned to Waseca Thursday, May 18 for the Gopher Conference tourna-

## Waseca softball team refuses to fold

By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

If you're a big fan of stellar pitching and defense, last week's Waseca High School softball game against Sibley East was not for

If you prefer a lot of offense and plenty of action on the base paths, that's another story.

The Bluejays hit the ball hard early and often, building a 7-1 cushion that lasted until the sixth inning, when the Sibley East bats

Late-inning runs pave way for 13-8 blowout victory against Sibley East came alive to score seven runs and

take a 8-7 lead. The Jays responded with six unanswered runs to claim a 13-8

victory. "The outcome of this game could have been entirely different had our girls not buckled down and executed in the seventh inning," said Waseca coach Abby Bloomquist. "Our offense really pulled out the

Haylee Sommers led the hit parade, going 4-for-4 while scoring three runs. Riley Ruedy homered and doubled while going 2-for-3 with two runs. Emma Williamson also hit a home run, going 2-for-4 with two runs. Siri Kuhns was 2for-4 and scored twice. Hannah Thursdale, Grace Below, Lauren Grant, Cameron Stagman and Ella Bartelt contributed one hit apiece nament starts next week. for the Bluejays.

"All girls contributed to the offense," said Bloomquist. "But the highlights included a 4-for-4 performance by Haylee Sommers along with home runs by Riley Ruedy and Emma Williamson.

The Bluejays were scheduled to play Thursday at WEM, weather permitting. They travel to JWP Friday, May 19. The section tour-



Ruedy



**Sommers** 







TOURNEY TIME — It's already time for the Section 1A tournament for the WHS boys' tennis team, which dropped a 5-2 decision to Lake City Monday in Waseca. From left: Corbin Conners looks on as his No. 2 doubles partner Jenaro Delgado executes a shot. Otto Schoenrock sets up for a forehand in his No. 4 singles match. Henry Huttemier concentrates on his forehand. .Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

## WHS tennis boys carry losses into section tourney

By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

The Waseca High School boys' tennis team dropped an important match to a Section 1A opponent, but the Bluejays won't have to wait long for a rematch.

Waseca, which drew the No. 6 seed in the section tournament, traveled Thursday to third-seeded Lake City, which beat the Bluejays 5-2 Monday on the WHS courts.

The doubles teams provided victories on Monday, with Jenaro Delgado and Corbin Connors winning 6-4, 6-0 at No. 2. Ahmet Farooq and Armann Bhatti won 6-1, 6-2 at No. 3. Jacari Jellum and Oliver Rohwer lost 4-6, 6-3, 6-5 at No. 2 doubles.

The Tigers took all four singles matches in straight sets, with Tyler

Jellum at No. 1 for the Bluejays, followed by Henry Huttemier, Dominic Grunzke and Otto Schoenrock.

Waseca's junior varsity won 5-1. The Bluejays traveled to St. Peter Thursday, May 11 and lost 6-1. The win was by Huttemier, an 8th-grader, who rallied for a 5-7, 6-2, 10-2 triumph at No. 2 singles. Schoenrock took a tough loss at No.

3 singles, falling 7-6 (2), 3-6, 10-7. Tyler Jellum lost in straight sets at 5-4. No. 1 singles while Bhatti, a 7thgrader, played No. 4 singles and was defeated 6-0, 6-2.

The Saints dominated in doubles, winning all three in straight sets. Jacari Jellum and Rohwer were at No. 1, Delgado and Grunzke No. 2, and Connors and freshman Allen Kopetzki at No. 3.

The Bluejays' junior varsity won

St. Peter won the Big South East Conference title with a 4-0 record. The Bluejays, 7-7 overall, finished 1-2 in Big East South play.

The winner of Thursday's match at Lake City advances to the Section 1A semifinals in Rochester Tuesday, May 23.

## **Baseball Bulldogs** fall short against No. 1 Randolph

Top-ranked Rockets edge JWP 7-5

By MICHAEL ROY Staff Writer

After upsetting the No. 6 ranked Hayfield Vikings at home, the JWP baseball teram was hopeful to do it again against the top team in the Class A rankings, Randolph. The win would add to their conference record.

They almost did it, too, but it wasn't meant to be.

The JWP sluggers to a 7-5 loss to the No. 1 Rockets on Thursday, May 11. The team hoped to play on the Mankato Moondogs' baseball field against Mankato Loyola on Friday, May 12, but the game was canceled due to the weather. The game they were supposed to make up against Triton the next day was once again postponed to the following Monday, where they took another in-conference loss with a 4-3 defeat.

But the tough stretch in conference play throughout the week ended on a good note with a 12-7 comeback victory at Waterville-Elysian-Morristown on Tuesday, May 16.

#### Randolph 7, Bulldogs 5 It looked like the upset tour would

continue for the Bulldogs until the latter innings of.

The Bulldogs were as far ahead as 5-1 when the Rockets figured out how to hit perfectly against them, tying it by the fifth inning. Randolph hit a two-run double to pull ahead in the sixth and took the lead for good.

Despite allowing seven runs in the loss, the Bulldogs played an errorless game on defense.

"They're the top team for a reason," JWP coach Cory Jewison said. "I still think we played pretty well against them. While we didn't win, it was still fun to play them. The boys played hard, and that's all you can ask for."

"The boys played hard, and that's all you can ask for." — JWP coach **Cory Jewison** 

#### Triton 4, Bulldogs 3

The twice-postponed conference matchup between the Bulldogs and Triton's Cobras was well worth the wait when it finally happened on Monday, May 15.

Or it may have been if you were

While JWP was able to upset Hayfield, Triton had a bit of an upset up its sleeve, too. A tough start for the Cobras' pitcher helped senior Kelton Erler get a single while junior Ty Melchior, who was hit by the pitch, got on base as well.

A double by junior lefty Austin Quast helped Erler get home, while an errant pitch that got past the catcher helped Ethan Born to take home for a 2-0 lead.

Another successful run by Nolan Morsching in the third inning gave JWP a 3-0 lead. But that was all they could do against Triton.

After earning one run in the top of the fourth, Triton took advantage of a pitching change in the sixth inning. When Melchior and company allowed two straight hits in the top of the sixth, Coach Jewison switched to Morsching. The Bulldogs got themselves in a basesloaded situation and allowed three runs. Freshman Chase Gerdts relieved Morsching and finished the sixth inning.

After a quiet seventh inning, Triton celebrated a 4-3 victory. Melchior ended the day pitching five and a half innings, striking out



THROWING SMOKE - JWP hurler Ty Melchoir delivers a pitch against Randolph. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

five, walking two, and allowing one

**Bulldogs 12, Buccaneers 7** Don't let the score fool you. It was a tough game at first that required JWP to stage a huge comeback.

The Bulldogs have found itself in many situations where they have to come from behind while also being the team with a big lead for most of the game, only to lose it.

Against the Buccaneers, they found themselves in deep trouble with their rivals taking a 7-1 lead after two innings. But they didn't go down easy, and clawed their way back into it.

In the top of the seventh, the Bulldogs were on the ropes when they were still behind 7-6. They were on their final out when senior Ryan Hanson made a base hit to

right field to allow Melchior to score. With the two assisting the Bulldogs in the comeback, they forced an extra inning at Waterville.

In the top of the eighth, JWP found its rhythm and scored an insurance policy of five runs before shutting down the Bucs.

Hanson earned the team's "king of the game" title for his work on hitting in Melchior for the gametying run in the top of the seventh as well as a 13-strikeout performance on the mound in 5.2 innings. Gerdts was the closing pitcher.

"It was definitely a fun ending to the game," Coach Jewison said.

The team's record is now 10-5 (4-5 in-conference). They continued their season-ending road trip at United South Central on Thursday, May 18, New Ulm Cathedral on Friday, and then Waseca on Saturday.

## JWP girls 2nd in True Team, 1st in conference

By MICHAEL ROY Staff Writer

Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton track teams proved that they were truly among the top of the Section 2A competition at the True Team Meet in Wells Tuesday, May 9. After facing sixteen teams, the girls took second and the boys took fourth.

After a few delays in the schedule due to rain, the girls defended their Gopher Conference championship title at United South Central on Monday, May 16. The boys challenged Maple River for the title, but the Eagles did just enough to defend their spot, forcing the Bulldogs to settle for sec-

#### **True Team Meet, Wells**

A true team meet tests the depth of teams. Instead of only the top athletes scoring in all the events, everyone receives points in a true team meet whether they are first or 32nd. Two athletes from each team participate in an event, testing the team's depth. For example, JWP's Lilly Strauss scored 32 points when taking first in the 200, but Raquel Fischer took 10th for 23 points to total 55. Although River Valley's best runner took second, another runner took fourth meaning that their two athletes did better than JWP's pair.

Despite all that, JWP's girls still took second with 813 points, only being bested by a bigger school in Jackson County Central, who scored 836. Following them were LCWM-Nicollet, 747; Sibley East, 743.5; River Valley, 727.5; NRHEG, 645; Blue Earth with 626; St. Clair-Immanuel Lutheran with 512; USC with 472; Mountain Lake-Comfrey, 463; Loyola-Cleveland, 448.5; Maple River, 443; WEM, 421.5; MCW, 386.5; Minnesota Valley Lutheran, 380; and Madelia-Truman-GHEC- back injury. Martin Luther with 173.

The boys took fourth with 652.5, getting bested by Maple River, who scored 894, Jackson County Central with 736, and LCWM-Nicollet with 731.5. The teams following JWP were River Valley, 576.5; MVL, 585; Sibley East, 577.5; Mt. Lake-Comfrey, 572; Blue Earth, 566; NRHEG, 533.5; Loyola-Cleveland, 523.5; MCW, 503; St. Clair, 485; WEM, 471; M-T-GHEC-ML, 346; and USC, 176.

Strauss had the best day out of all the athletes, taking first in the 100, 200, and long jump while taking sixth in the high jump. The girls' 4x200 relay team of Presley James, Nevaeh Weimert, Katie Olson, and Fischer also took first place, with Firscher scoring a personal second in shot put.

MaKenzie Westphal broke another JWP school record. This time, it was in the 1600. She took second place in the process.

Ryan Kronbach placed second in the high jump and triple jump, while the girls' 4x100 realy team of Katie Olson, P. James, N. Weimert, and R. Fischer also took the silver.

Other relay finishers were the 4x100 boys' team in third (Isaac Gahlon, Isaiah Berndt, Alex James, and Dylan McWaters), the 4x200 boys' relay team in fourth (Berndt, Alex James, Daulton Bauer and Kronbach), the girls' 4x400 (Kayleigh Donner, Madison Kunst, P. James, and Westphal), the 4x800 girls' team (Lauren White, Faith Olson, and Ava and Kwynn Krause).

Other places were Alex James, 4th in long jump; Presley James, 4th in the triple jump; Isaiah Berndt, 3rd in long jump and 7th in the 200; Jack Cahill, 5th in pole vault; and Nevaeh Weimert, 5th in the triple jump and 6th in the 400.

"We had several athletes record personal records, many being them by impressive amounts,' JWP coach Sam Schruin said.

#### **Conference Meet, Wells** The team was excited to return

to Wells for the Gopher Conference championship meet on Saturday, May 13. However, the heavy rain delayed the meet to the following Monday.

The girls had some tough competition with New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva. It at the state meet in June.

took a record-breaking day for one athlete and a lot of personal bests from others to keep them away. JWP's 108-point day was enough for a successful defense of their Gopher Conference title for the second year in a row.

The title capture also marked the fourth consecutive conference championship for the JWP girls' track and field team. Prior to joining the Gopher Conference in the 2021-22 school year, the girls were Valley Conference champions in 2019 and 2021; there was no spring sports season in 2020.

NRHEG settled for second with 106.33, while Kenyon-Wanamingo/Goodhue took third with 90. Medford was fourth with 77, Triton fifth with 69.33, Maple River sixth with 65, Blooming Prairie seventh with 63, Waterville-Elysian-Morristown eighth with 42, United South Central ninth with 39, and Hayfield in last with 36.33.

There was no question that Maple River was the best boys' track team in the conference. They broke the two-hundred mark with a 209-point day. JWP's boys, who were second best, were over 100 behind them with 107.

NRHEG took third with 95, Medford fourth with 93, Blooming Prairie fifth with 72, WEM sixth with 53.5, Triton seventh with 33.5, Hayfield eighth with 21, Kenyon-Wanamingo/Goodhue ninth with thirteen, and USC last with three points.

It was, in Coach Schruin's opinion, a perfect day for track. "It was the perfect temperature with very little wind," he said.

While the girls defended their championship, senior Ashlin Keyes broke her own school record in the high jump with a 5'1" jump on the day. It was her first meet since recovering from a

## **All-Conference Honors**

The girls had one individual and one relay team take all-conference honors. Westphal took all-conference honors in the 1600 and the 2300, while the 4x200 relay team of Olson, Strauss, Nevaeh, and Fischer also earned honors. On the boys' side, junior Kronbach made all-conference in the triple jump and high jump.

## Results

Westphal was the Gopher Conference individual champion in the 3200 while taking second in the 1600. The girls' 4x200 all-conference team also took first. Kronbach took the top spot in the triple jump, second in the high jump, and fourth in the long jump.

Other second-place finishers were Fischer in shot put, Alex Kleve in the 1600 (reportedly getting close to a five-minute mile), and the girls' 4x800 relay team of Ava and Kwynn Krause, Faith Olson, and Lauren White.

Third-place finishers were Alex Klevel in the 800, Alex James in the long jump, Isaac Gahlon in the pole vault, the 4x100 girls' relay team of Fischer, K. Olson, Weimert, and Presley James, Strauss in the long jump, the boys' 4x100 relay team of Gahlon, Isaiah Berndt, A. James and Daulton Bauer, the 4x200 team of Berndt, Kronbach, Bauer, and A. James (who were .21 seconds away from breaking a school record), Luke Cahill in the 3200, and the 4x400 girls' team of Kayleigh Donner, P. James, Madison Kunst, and Westphal.

To say that Schruin is proud of the team is an understatement. "We have a beautiful track team that shows its dedication by working hard at practice and the meets to get the best results," he said. "The support they show each other is amazing. Our track team feels like a family and that makes our team extra special."

It was tough to tell his team after the meet ended that he would be away for a few weeks. As a member of the Army National Guard's 11B (Infantry), he headed to annual training in Europe on Wednesday, May 17 to assist in a multinational training with the 2-135 infantry regiment.

He plans on rejoining the team

## Softball **Bulldogs** rebound from loss

By MICHAEL ROY Staff Writer

Although the JWP softball team has been playing some of its best softball in the past few years, the Bulldogsd are still finding troubles against conference opponents.

That continued throughout the

After losing to Waterville-Elysian-Morristown, they hosted Randolph, the third place Class A team of yesteryear who they defeated for their only win of the 2022 season, on Thursday, May 11. However, another upset against the highly state-ranked conference foe wasn't in the cards. They made up for the loss with a hard-fought 7-6 win against Cleveland on Monday, May 15.

## Randolph 9, Bulldogs 1

If you're only going to win one game, you may as well make it

Last year's Bulldogs ended up embarrassing the Rockets on the road with a 4-3 victory, their only win on the season. It was the fourth and final regular-season loss for the Rockets.

The Rockets came to Janesville and made sure they wouldn't be upset again.

Randolph had nine runs, six of which were batted in and three coming off of JWP errors. The Bulldogs, however, only could scrape one run as Rockets pitcher Carter Raymond pitched all seven innings and struck out 15 Bulldogs players, allowed only two hits, and walked none.

It was another tough game for JWP, which looked like it was building momentum on offense throughout the middle part of the season.

**Bulldogs 7, Cleveland 6** The heavy rain over the weekend



FEW AND FAR BETWEEN — Hits were tough to come by for the JWP softball team against defending Class A state champion Randolph. Here, the Bulldogs' Jessa Westphal lays down a bunt as coach Megan Christopher looks on. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

caused a lot of cancelations, including a tournament that JWP was supposed to host with United South Central, Blue Earth Area, and Cleveland.

Despite the cancelation, JWP still faced Cleveland in a rescheduled matchup on Monday, May 15 at 6 p.m. Since Cleveland had to make up its game against St. Clair that same day, JWP played host for the matchup, which began at 4 p.m.

After a 15-3 beating against the Spartans (who beat the Bulldogs 12-4 early in the season), they were hoping to do the same thing to JWP. And they almost did, too.

When JWP had two outs on the Clippers, Cleveland took advantage of a few miscues to get three runs. Cleveland made quick work of JWP in the bottom of the first inning to hold a 3-0 lead.

It was evident that the Bulldogs came out a bit rusty. Some hesitancy on where to get the out cost JWP another run, making it 4-0 in the top

of the second. Meanwhile, only sophomore Ellah Oliver had a successful at-bat in the bottom of the

there."

JWP's defense tightened up, ending the top of the third within two minutes as Cleveland hit the ball right into the hands of TerBeest once and third baseman Kayle Langford tossed to first baseman Autumn Thissen twice for two outs.

The offense eventually found its way. Senior Isabelle Rider had a single gifted to her as the first baseman couldn't quite hold on to the ball, but was tagged out after trying to make her at-bat count as a double.

But in the following innings, the Bulldogs found their way at-bat, scoring seven runs to Cleveland's

two the rest of the game. What looked like a chance for the Clippers to run away with it was an upset victory for JWP.

Coach Megan Christopher

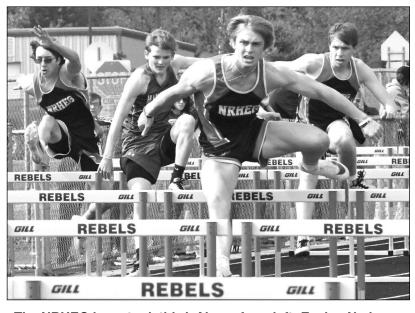
"I'm proud of the team for hanging in

"I'm proud of the team for hanging in there," JWP coach Megan Christopher said. "We knew we could come back if we worked hard for it."

The 1-1 stretch puts JWP's softball team at 6-10 (2-7 in-conference). The team will close out the regular season at home. They faced United South Central on Thursday, May 18 and will host Waseca the following Saturday.







SO CLOSE — The NRHEG girls' track and field team fell short by two points in the Gopher Conference meet Monday at USC in Wells. The NRHEG boys took third. Above from left: Evelyn Nydegger leads the pack on her way to one of two first-place finishes; Quinn VanMaldeghem wears a look of determination at the start of the 800, one of two events she won; Will Tuttle leads the pack in the 110 high hurdles, which he won along with the 300 intermediates. Pioneer photos by Brandon Schlaak

## Oh so close: NHEG girls second in conference meet

By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

The Gopher Conference championship was not in the cards for the 2023 NRHEG girls' track and field team.

But, boy was it close.

The Panthers finished second by an eyelash in Monday's conference meet at USC in Wells, totaling 106.33 points to JWP's 108. Ten schools competed.

"So close," said NRHEG coach Duey Ferber. "We made a run at JWP, but fell less than two points short. It was a total team

Evelyn Nydegger took two firsts, winning the 100-meter high hurdles in 17.04 seconds and the 300 intermediate hurdles in 49.04. Quinn VanMaldeghem was also a double winner, taking the 1600 in 5:32.82 and the 800 with a time of 2:23.25. Nydegger, Keira Lenort, Sierra Misgen and VanMaldedgem won the 4x400 relay in 4:29.29. All four girls earned all-conference honors, as did Lauren Cromwell, who placed second in the discus at 113 feet.

Other NRHEG places: Gabby Schlaak,

3rd, 110 hurdles, 6th, high jump, 6th, 300 hurdles; 4x200, 4th (Chloe Riewer, Misgen, Holly Bartness, Clara Buendorf); 4x100, 4th (Josie Strom, Bartness, Riewer, Paige Johnson); Anika Ladlie, 4th, high jump; Nydegger, 4th, triple jump; Malonna Wilson, 5th, shot put; 4x800, 6th (Winter Pederson, Elise Aronson, Buendorf, Bartness; Cowell, 6th, shot put; VanMaldeghem, 6th, pole vault; Riewer, 7th, long jump; Buendorf, 8th, 800.

The NRHEG boys placed third with 95 points. Maple River ran away with it, piling up 209 points. JWP was second with 107. Not surprising, Will Tuttle led the Panthers. He was first in the 110 high hurdles in 16.04 and first in the 300 intermedi-

ates in 42.69. Lucas Hanna tossed the discus

141-1 for first. Tuttle and Hanna were all-

Hanna was second in the shot put while Jacob Karl took second in the 3200, meeting the qualifying standard for all-conference.

Other places: Levin Kitzer, 3rd, 110 hurdles and 7th, 300 hurdles; Sawyer Prigge, 3rd, high jump; Tuttle, 3rd, triple jump;

4x400, 3rd (Aiden Deyle, Prigge, Harbor Cromwell, Conner Nelson); Parker Bunn, 4th, 300 hurdles and 8th, 110 hurdles; 4x800, 5th (Deyle, Prigge, Tuttle, Cromwell); 4x200, 6th (Bunn, Cromwell, Kitzer, Cohen Riewer); Cromwell, 7th, pole

"It was a great night for our Panther boys," said Ferber. "Our hurdles scored a ton tonight from Tuttle, Bunn and Kitzer. Hanna

had a fantastic night in the throws." The Panthers compete at Waseca Thursday, May 18 at 4 p.m.

## **Baseball Panthers** run record to 9-2

## Thompson, Olson launch home runs

By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

The NRHEG High School baseball team set the tone in the top of the first inning at Maple River Monday, May 15.

It never changed.

The Panthers plated five runs in their first at-bat en route to an 8-1 Gopher Conference victory Mapleton.

Andrew Phillips led off with a walk and, after stealing second and third base, scored on a Daxter Lee infield single. The bats kept rolling from there.

Sam Olson started on the mound and got the victory, allowing only two hits and four walks with four strikeouts.

"He pitched another gem," said NRHEG coach Mark Lee.

Jackson Chrz pitched two innings of hitless relief, striking out three and walking none.

Olson and Alden Dobberstein had two hits apiece, with one each by Daxter Lee and Jace Ihrke. Phillips scored twice. Dobberstein drove in

"Jackson Chrz came in in relief and shut the door," said Coach Lee. The Panthers hosted Triton in a nonconference game Tuesday, May 9 and took a 4-1 victory.

"It was not our best hitting game, but our pitching was awesome," said



Coach Lee. Chrz started and was impressive, throwing 68 pitches in six innings while allowing one run on three hits, with seven strikeouts and a walk. Freshman Jared Lee closed it out in the seventh with 20 pitches.

The Panthers again set the tone early, scoring all four of their runs in the first two innings.

Chrz helped his own cause by going 3-for-3 at the plate. Daxter Lee was 2-for-3 with an RBI. Dobberstein had a hit and drove in a run. Phillips scored twice.

The bats were on fire as the Panthers whitewashed Southland 12-2 at Adams Monday, May 8.

"It was a good night at the plate for the Panthers," said Coach Lee.

Ethan Thompson blasted the Panthers' first home run of the year, a two-run shut. The next inning, Olson hit NRHEG's second homer, a grand slam.

Olson finished 2-for-2 and scored



AND HE'S SAFE — Andrew Phillips (2) beats the throw to first base during the Panthers' victory over Triton Tuesday, May 9 at Jeff and Carol Reese Field in New Richland. Below, NRHEG's Carter Martens dives safely into first base. Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

three times. Daxter Lee was 2-for-4 with two runs. Thompson, Dobberstein, Carter Martens, Chrz and Jared Lee had one hit apiece. Phillips walked three times, as did Dobberstein. Daxter Lee stole four

Olson was very solid in the mound, pitching all seven innings while yielding one earned run on three hits, with six strikeouts and four walks.

The Panthers improved their record to 9-2 and trail only USC in the conference standings. They were scheduled to play Tuesday, May 16 at USC.



## Softball Panthers drop 'home' game at Mapleton

By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

Monday was supposed to be a home game for the NRHEG High School softball team. Instead, thanks to several inches of water covering New Richland's Legion Field, the Panthers traveled to Mapleton, where they

dropped a 7-2 decision to Maple River. "Unfortunately, this was not a well played game on our part," said Panthers coach Wendy Schultz. "Defensively, we were flat. Offensively, we didn't hit well either. We played flat. Hopefully, we can bounce back and get to playing well."

Stadheim Isabel and Camryn VanMaldeghem had two hits apiece, with one each by Hallie Schultz and Addy Stadheim.

Hallie Schultz and Bree Ihrke drove in runs. Faith Nielsen pitched for the Panthers. She gave up four earned runs on eight hits, with 10 strikeouts and two walks.

The Panthers faced Blooming Prairie at the University of Minnesota's softball stadium Tuesday, May 9 and came up short 12-8 in eight innings.

"Unfortunately, we left way too many baserunners in scoring position and couldn't get the key hit when we needed to," said Coach Schultz. "Our baserunning didn't help the situation either. Hats off to Blooming Prairie and Snyder for getting the clutch hits in the bottom of the eighth inning."

Sidney Schultz belted a double and a triple while 3-for-4 with three RBIs. Amanda Howe and Faith Nielsen each had two hits, with one

each from Isabel Stadheim, Addy Stadheim, Paige Nielsen, VanValdeghem, Hallie Schultz and Bree Ihrke. Isabel stadheim stole three

Faith Nielsen took the pitching loss, giving

up nine earned runs on 12 hits. She walked three and fanned three. The Panthers pounded JWP 14-4 in six

innings May 4.

Faith Nielsen was 2-for-4 with a double, two runs and two RBIs. Isabel Stadheim went 2-for-4 with four stolen bases and two runs, Sidney Schultz 2-for-4 with two runs, Hallie Schultz 2-for-4 with two runs. VanMaldeghem, Howe, Ihrke and Faith Nielsen contributed one hit apiece.

Faith Nielsen was the losing pitcher, allowing four earned runs on nine hits, with five strikeouts and two walks.

"It was a good team win," said Coach Schultz. "We came out in the first inning and got nine hits, leading to six runs. Our bats were pretty quiet until the sixth inning, when we scored seven runs. We had some nice defensive plays by Addy Stadheim at catcher, Isabel Stadheim in center field, as well as a double play by Sid Schultz and a diving stop by Hallie Schultz at second base to stop a run from scoring."

Sidney Schultz is Coach Schultz's daughter. Hallie is her niece.

The Panthers, 7-6 overall and 4-4 in the Gopher Conference, faced USC at home Tuesday, May 16. They play Thursday at Medford and host Southland Friday. The section tournament starts next week.

## NRHEG girls' golf team finishes second in Panther Invitational

teams hosted the Panther Invitational Monday, May 15 at Lakeside Golf Club in Waseca.

The girls placed second as a team, led by second-place individual fin-

The NRHEG High School golf isher Grace Wilkenson with 101 strokes for 18 holes. Meela Budach carded a 106, Clara Stenzel 118, Lainee Krohn 118 and Mallory Schlinger 121.

scored 127 while Shan Hansen finished at 137.

The teams competed at Maple River Tuesday, May 9.

The girls finished first as a team,

nine holes. Wilkenson shot 51, Tayla Sandry 58, Krohn 59 and Ciara Stenzel 66.

The NRHEG boys were fourth as a team. Scores: Hansen 66, Schlaak For the boys, Carter Schlaak led by medalist Budach with a 46 for 74, Tyler Kress 79 and Mason

"This was another great outing for the girls," said NRHEG coach Brad Root.

## **NRHEG** sixth, 10th in True Team meet

By JIM LUTGENS Sports Editor

The NRHEG track and field teams competed in the Section True Team meet Tuesday, May 9 at United South Central in Wells.

The girls finished sixth out of 16 schools while the boys were 10th.

Evelyn Nydegger picked up a pair of silvers, taking second in the 100-meter high hurdles in 17.20 seconds and second in the triple jump at 33 feet even. Quinn VanMaldeghem clocked 2:32.31 for second in the 800. Anika Ladlie was second in the high jump at 4-10.

Malonna Wilson was third in the shot put, while the 4x100 relay team of Josie Strom, Holly Bartness, Chloe Riewer and Paige Johnson placed third. Riewer went 15 feet even for fifth in the long jump. Gabby Schlaak went 4-10 and took fifth in the high jump, and Lauren Crowell was sixth in the discus. Sierra Misgen, Bartness,

Riewer and Clara Buendorf combined for seven in the 4x200Jackson County Central took

the girls' team title with 836 points, followed by JWP with 813, LCWM/N 747, Sibley East 743.5, River Valley 727.5, NRHEG 645.5, Blue Earth 626, St. Clair 512, USC/AC 472, Mountain Lake/Comfrey 463, Mankato Loyola 448.5, Maple River 443, WEM 421.5, Martin County West 386.5, Minnesota Valley Lutheran Madelia/Truman/Granada-Huntley-East Chain/Martin Luther 173.

Will Tuttle had a big night for the boys, taking first in the 300 intermediate hurdles in 42.22. He was second in the 110 high hurdles in 15.9.

"Tonight was a good test for Will," said Coach Ferber. "He has solidified himself as a serious contender for the state meet in both hurdle races."

Lucas Hanna tossed the discus 133-10 for third place while Sawyer Prigge found the 6-foot mark again elusive, clearing 5-10 for third. Hanna threw the shot 40-8.5 for fifth.

Aiden Deyle, Prigge, Tuttle and Harbor Cromwell teamed for sixth in the 4x100. Deyle, Prigge, Cromwell and Conner Nelson were seventh in the 4x400. Cromwell was seventh in the pole vault, clearing 10 feet. Levin Kitzer took eighth in the 110 hurdles.

Maple River's boys won with 894 points. Jackson County Central totaled 736.



1973 - Five Janesville High School musicians were named to the 1973 Minnesota All State Band. From left: Lori Adams, Holly Hendricks, Ann Schultz, Helen Jewison, and Colleen Ryan.

## "Granny" retires from JHS

-County Commissioners E. H. Smith and R. J. Ristau Im company with Mr. D. E. Davison, county engineer, came to Janesville Friday afternoon and were joined by County Commissioner Herman Grawunder in an official investigation of the needs and necessities of the new state road to Okaman and Elysian east of the lake. Mr. Smith stated that the contract for grading will be let by the commissioners, probably sometime the latter pact of July. In the meantime, the right of way in rounding corners and straightening the road must be secured and this is the work that they performed while on the trip.

-One of the biggest and best baseball games of the season will be played on the Northside field next Monday afternoon when the high school team takes on the fast American Legion team. The Legion members are taking the kinks out of their system this week and by next Monday ought to be in fine shape. Several former big leaguers are among the Legion members and they may be counted on to give a good account of themselves.

-The date of Saturday, June 9th, has been selected as the date for the next annual Farm Bureau picnic to be held at St. Olaf Lake about four miles east of New Richland. A full programme of races, sports and athletic events will furnish amusement for everybody. J.F. Reed, president of the Farm Bureau Federation of Minnesota, will be one of the speakers on the programme, and the committee is endeavoring to secure Mrs. Ella Richardson of Pella, Iowa, as another speaker.

-The American Legion Auxiliary met on Thursday evening, May 6, at the Odd Fellows Hall with sixteen members present. Plans were made for Poppy Days which will be held on May 14 and 15. Five dollars was donated to the cancer fund.

-While snoopin' around the Old Bug, it has come to the knowledge of the Argus Pencil Pusher: That a teacher asked the class to name all the State. One small urchin responded so quickly and accurately that she commended him for it. "You did very well," she said, "much better than I could have done at your age." "Yes," he replied, "and there were only thirteen states then, too.

-Janesville and St. Clair, members of the Blue Earth Valley League, tangles at St. Clair in a baseball game that resulted in a defeat for Janesville by a score of 8-4. Janesville played minus the services of three of their first stringers. That greatly weakened their hitting power. St. Clair's big inning came in the sixth frame when they sewer up the game with five runs. Errors on the part of our club aided St. Clair in a big way for the win.

-The Janesville School Board approved capital outlay requests in the amount of \$12,468.00 at their monthly meeting Monday night. The money will be spent on new and replacement equipment for different departments within the school system. The largest amounts will go to the music department, sports, and library. All those exceed \$3,000. Included in the Music Department request is a tuba-mirofone at \$1,150 and a \$148 case. The request also included \$889 for 10 private brass



Mrs. Rose Hendricks, 62year-old teacher at Janesville High School known to students as "Granny," decided to retire after the 1972-73 school year.

listeners that enable instructors and students to practice in private in rooms where other people are playing.

-Band Director Leon Haefner was informed this past week that five of his concert band members have been chosen as members of Minnesota's 1973 All State Band. The notification was received from Dr. Richard Papke, vice president of the state's music educators. There were approximately 900 students trying out for the band from around the state. Members are chosen by audition only at the district music contests. Janesville's five All State Band members are Holly Hendricks, Lori Adams and alternates Helen Jewison, Colleen Ryan, and Ann

-"My nickname is 'Granny' around here but I don't mind it as long as they don't call me anything worse!" That's petite Rose Mary McDonald speaking. At 62, she's probably the oldest teacher at JHS, but she says the kids have been keeping her young at heart. "I alwas tell them they'll look at things a lot differently after they have lived over half a century,' she quipped, "And you know, that does make them think a bit."

-Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School Board chairperson Allan Lynch awarded diplomas to 98 seniors before a full house at the JWP High School gymnasium. Bill Hahne, principal, presented the class to Lynch. Dennis Guse, son of Marvin and Kathy Guse of Janesville, was the valedictorian, and David Jewison, son of Bill and MaryLou Jewison of Janesville, was the salutatorian for the JWP Class of 1998.

-Playing school as a child led one elementary teacher down a path of sharing the wonders of leaning with students. "I have always wanted to be a teacher," said Karen Sanderson-Buschow, who is retiring this year from the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School District. Even before she knew she wanted to be a teacher, Sanderson-Buschow said she and her cousin would play school in an old country schoolhouse that was moved into town. Sanderson-Buschow said having really good teachers took her beyond just playing school. "I loved school," she said. "I had some wonderful teachers."

-Sigita Bagdzeviciute of Kaunas, Lithuania, will be a Rotary exchange student here for one year, beginning in mid-August, 1998. She is 16 years od and has studied English for 10 years. Sigita's father is a pediatric surgeon and her mother is an English teacher. She has an older sister, Aiste, who is a university student. Sigita plans to enter the Medical Academy in her hometown after completing high school and become a doctor. Her hobbies include tennis, reading and playing

# **Calling** it quits

Waseca Herald, 1923

-After dilly-dallying with insurance adjusters since the high school building was destroyed by fire on January 29, the school board has taken the first step towards the erection of a new building. Geo. Goodspeed and a crew of men have been employed during the past week to tear down a part of the walls which were left after the fire. The walls were considered dangerous and the board deemed it best to have them pulled down before an accident occurred. It will be recalled that \$74,000 insurance was carried on the building at the time it was burned. This, we are informed, was the amount set by the insurance companies after their representative had inspected their building two years

-With a team of all home players. Waseca defeated the fast "Gold Mine" team of Faribault last Sunday by a score of 4 to 5. The Faribault team had defeated a St. Paul team the previous Sunday by a score of 12 to 1 and expected to have easy picking with Waseca. The opposition they met proved to surprise. Lefty Sturner pitched an air-tight ball for five innings. No one scored and only one man reached third base. Nygard, the Faribault pitcher, was also in fine form and the locals were able to secure only one run off his delivery in the first five frames. It was a pitcher's battle with good support on each side and the fans who were present enjoyed as good an exhibition of ball as they may hope to see in midsummer.

-Miss Thelma Herter will be the valedictorian of the Waseca High School's class of 1923, having secured the highest honors in scholarship in the class. Miss Marguerite Gardner will be salutatorian, having the second highest honors. Forty five young people will receive their diplomas at the Commencement exercises this year, this class having the distinction of being the largest class ever graduating from the high

#### Waseca Herald, 1948

-With the cooperation of local doctors, the immunization program of Waseca school children, which was recently completed, has given immunization to 261, according to Mrs. Robert Wyman, school nurse. The immunization program was for smallpox vaccination and diphtheria and tetanus immunizations. The program, which is an annual event, has brought the percentage of students immunized to 96 percent which is a good average, it is pointed out.

-There will be no strike at the E. F. Johnson Company of Waseca, manufacturers of radio equipment, fol-



CLOSING ITS DOORS — In 1973, the Davis Store in Meriden closed down for good after Lil Davis (bottom left) called it quits after 27 years in the grocery business due to feeling like she was getting too old to run it at 64. It served as a meeting place for Meriden residents for years.

lowing a settlement over the weekend of the issues involved and a union vote on Monday to accept the settlement. Under the settlement an increase of five cents per hour for all production employees in the plant was granted and the question involving seniority rules ironed out. There will be no paid holidays. The pay increase is retroactive to expiration of the old contract which expired on March 31.

-The Tucky shop, a successor to Jerdons, has reopened with a completely new stock, according to Miss Bonnie Bower, manager. She assumed her new duties as manager on Monday, She was formerly employed by Didra Drug and is the daughter of Edw. Bower. A graduate of Sacred Heart, she is well known in the city. The opening of the Tucky shop will be marked with a two-day grand opening on Friday and Saturday. The store will carry a completely new line and stock of feminine apparel for girls, juniors, misses and women, it was announced.

#### Waseca Daily Journal, 1973

-Fred Forrest, executive vice-president and secretary of the Waseca Savings and Loan, announced today the purchase of a site for a new building for that firm. Forrest said the firm purchased from Roy Tyrholm the former Shell Service Station site and building which includes the land on which the Paul Bunyan building is located at the corner of Elm Avenue and 3rd St. S.E.

-A new element of major league sporting activity comes to southern Minnesota this Friday evening with the opening of new Cannon River Speedway at Morristown. The speedway, an expertly constructed 3/8's mile clay oval was built last summer and operated a limited number of 1972 dates. Now, with the bugs out, track promoter Jim Hermel is set to roll, producing weekly Friday night doubleheaders featuring Modified Sportsman and Street



JAZZY - In 1998, Waterville-Elysian-Morristown held its annual pop concert. Clarinet soloist Amanda David was the Louis **Armstrong Jazz Award Winner.** 

Stock divisions, both stock cars and paying a guaranteed purse of over \$1,000 per night.

-Lil Davis, owner and manager of Davis's Store in Meriden, is calling it quits after 27 years in the grocery business. Not because she wants to. but rather because she feels she's getting too old for the rat race. At 64 years old, with the only complaint that she is getting too chubby around the middle, Lil is typing up loose ends around the store and selling the last of her groceries. She plans to close the store down May 29 and join her only son and his family when they move to Arizona.er in Cass County for five years.

Waseca County News. 1998

-For the first time, this year's census will reflect the number of inmates from the Federal Correctional Institute (FCI) in Waseca. This is important because the additional numbers will have an impact on the amount of State Aid or Local Government Aid (LGA) that Waseca will receive.

-A 22-year-old Janesville man who led law enforcement officers on a brief car chase in the early morning hours Friday was charged with multiple offenses in Waseca County District Court. Around 5:16 a.m., Cliffton James Waters allegedly eluded officers in a 1997 Dodge Ram Truck reportedly taken from the Dean Foods vinery shop in St. Mary Township. Waters was charged with theft, attempted theft, fleeing a peace officer, aggravated violation for driving after revocation and driving while under the influence of alcohol. The cumulative maximum penalty for all charges is 17 1/2 years and/or \$36,000 in fines.

-Brown Printing Company, the nation's leading trade and business publication printer, announced today a multi-million dollar commitment to Heidelberg Web Press, Inc. for two new web offset presses and to Heidelberg Finishing Systems, Inc. for two perfect bindery systems. This contract demonstrates Brown's continued commitment to maintaining its leading position in the publication printing industry by reinvesting in its business. The new equipment will be installed at the company's facilities in Waseca, East Greenville, PA, and Woodstock, IL.

# Exciting chase

-Firing 10 shots in an exciting chase through the city of Austin, motorcycle police captured a man giving the name of Grover C. Heller, of St. Paul. In his car was found 18 gallons of alcohol and some whisky. Given the number of the car the police trailed him to the outskirts of the city and when they tried to stop him he attempted to run them down. Heller dropped to his knees at the steering wheel and drove his car for blocks before he was headed off.

-A large crowd attended the dance at the Schoenrock home last Sunday evening. All present reported a fine

-It's a nice little boy who has come to stay with Mr. and Mrs. Gotlieb Brynildson, having arrived Sunday night.

-Ole Anderson has been appointed by the village council as marshal of the village. He has been on night duty during the week, but today will begin the regular schedule.

-Wm. Lechner is the proud owner of a new Ford car which he purchased Saturday

## 1946

-Here is New Richland trailing along in the rear end of the procession while the little town of Bricelyn is having its main street paved. Had New Richland really been progressive it would long ago have had its main street paved and every other street in town blacktopped.

-Mrs. Eldor Tesch and baby son returned home from the Memorial

hospital Sunday afternoon. -Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Janike attended the confirmation services at the New Richland Trinity Lutheran church and also were dinner guests at the George Engel home near Mat-

-Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Neitzel visited at the A. F. Roesler home at Wells Sunday. In the evening they called at the Dallas Jahnke home.

-Mankato-Donna Marie Mans, Mankato, wrote her name on an egg the latter part of February. Late in April came a letter: "A old lady have show me a egg with your address...I can speak and write French, Italian, and German, but to write English is to difficult for me. I have learn it only by my-selve..." It was signed 7 April 1946 by Werner Bisel, in Switzerland, and anyone who thinks his English is funny might try to answer him in French, Italian, or Ger-

-Four New Richland FFA chapter members were awarded with State Farmer degrees at the State convention in St. Paul last week. They are Dale Herbst, Tim Hokanson, Warren Olsen and Terry Winegar.

-Poppy Days in New Richland will be Friday and Saturday, May 18 and 19. according to Mrs. Art Dinneen, poppy chairman for the Auxiliary Unit of the Andrew Borgen Post 75.



1998 — Preschool youngsters enjoyed the sun at a picnic table in downtown New Richland. They visited the fire station with a group of mothers and their instructor, Darlene Dahle, last Wednesday. They are Logan Wenzel, Madison Reed, Adam Wacholz, Kalana Shurson, Jacob Staloch, Katie Manthey, Anna Schlaak, Michaela Hansen and Brandon LeBlanc.

She points out that wearing a poppy on Poppy Days will honor the more than half-million Americans who died and the nearly one million wounded during World Wars I and II, the Korean War and the current Viet Nam conflict.

-The New Richland Cardinal diamondmen won five straight in the past week and a half of play to give them a 11-1 in league play and 12-2 for the season thus far. Their only defeat in conference play was a 2-1 defeat by Ellendale.

-Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Crumb enjoyed evening dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Skelton and Mrs. Earl Nelson at Faribault. 1998

-At the annual NRHEG FFA chapter Banquet Monday evening it was announced that Scott Routh had been selected Honorary FFA chapter Member for 1998.

-Scott and Corrine Schuller of New Richland are the parents of a daughter, Hailey Marie, born May 5, 1998 at Owatonna Hospital.



ThePastor's Column

## Mustard key in BBQ and faith

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

One of the key ingredients in Southern BBQ is something we don't think of too often about. As we are approaching summer and the slow days of grilling out, gathering together after work, and spending time watching the ball games at the field; we will be spending time discussing the things that matter to us. There are some things that we avoid in our discussions, but others that matter deeply that we don't talk about.

Growing up in Minnesota a Bar-B-Que was a meal that, during summer, involved hamburgers and hot dogs. During winter, Bar-B-Ques were more like sloppy joes in my house, but always with homemade sauce, we make them to this day. Minnesota Bar-B-Que required the same ingredients that Southern BBQ needs, just in different proportions.

What is this secret ingredient? What don't we talk about too often in BBQ? What does this have to do with the kingdom of God? Your questions are justified. Most sauces in BBQ have one thing in common, its not tomato sauce, rather it is mustard, and usually it is a yellow mustard.

I heard the children scream, "I don't like mustard!" Maybe you don't either, or you know someone that doesn't like it, but mustard is something that brings flavor and contrast to the sweetness in most sauces. I love a good sauce that caramelizes on the meat and enhances the flavors of slow cooked meat from the smoker.

Have you noticed though; we don't talk much about the mustard. It is not discussed because people don't always like it. We know that it brings flavor and contrast to the sauce, but don't tell people that it

is in everything. My dry rub has mustard as a key ingredient, my sauce as well. The glaze on my meatloaf requires it, and when I make cheeseburger pizza, I use almost as much mustard as ketchup. It is everywhere and in everything.

Jesus even talked about mustard in his ministry, no mention of tomatoes, but mustard is in the Bible. In Matthew 13 Jesus describes the kingdom of God as a mustard seed:

31 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.32 Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

The things we do this summer may seem as just passing the time, but they are not insignificant. The ball games, time on the patio, mowing lawns, and walks in the park all matter in the kingdom of God. These times draw us together in fellowship with one another, allow others to see God's work in us, and gives opportunities for questions to be asked.

Be like Mustard in all things, start small with your faith, but allow it to pervade into everything you do. Soon, as you share the simple things of life with others, questions will be asked about your love, joy, and peace. You can reveal how Christ has worked in your life and with others. In that revelation of Jesus and His kingdom your faith grows and your impact on others, for God's glory grows as well. So take time, talk about your faith, it is important and brings flavor to this life and hope for the next.

## King of the Game



JWP baseball has the tradition of naming a "King of the Game" after every win.

After a 12-7 victory in eight innings at Waterville-Elysian-Morristown on Tuesday, May 16, there was no doubt in the minds of the Bulldogs that senior pitcher Ryan Hanson was the most deserving of the crown and robe.

Hanson helped the team get back into the game after falling behind 7-1 by hitting a single at the top of the seventh inning, which set up junior Ty Melchior to get the game tying run to force an eighth inning.

He did well on the mound, too, striking out thirteen batters in 5.2 innings.

His contributions helped the team improve their record to 10-5 overall and 4-5 in the Gopher Conference.

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& DESIGN



About 40 guests attended the First Lutheran Church Ladies' Luncheon on Wednesday, May 10.

Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

## **Tesch talks** faith journey at luncheon

**By MICHAEL ROY** Staff Writer

The ladies at First Lutheran Church in Waldorf provided a fantastic assortment of salads and desserts at one of its luncheons Tuesday, May 9 at noon. Along with the luncheon was Waldorf native Julie Tesch.

Tesch was invited to speak about her time in Washington D.C. and other parts of the country and how her faith had traveled with her along

Growing up in Waldorf, Tesch remembered her time at First Lutheran Church, including throwing bits of jello up on the ceiling with her friend. "Many people never knew it, but before renovations were made, there were still red spots on the ceiling where we threw the jello," she joked.

After spending most of her time at Waldorf-Pemberton, she ended up being one of the first graduating classes of the newly-formed Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton in 1993. At first, she considered going to a private college in a small town because of her roots in Waldorf. "I never thought that I would attend the University of Minnesota," she said.

But she did go there to study agri-

After spending a few years at a townhouse in Indiana, her adventures brought her to D.C. "I felt like God was calling me to D.C.," she ex-

Tesch said she experienced some culture shock when moving to Wash-

ington D.C. "I wasn't as shocked when visiting foreign countries because I expected things to be different. However, when I went into D.C., everything was different. Their shopping carts are smaller...everything is smaller."

But another difference was her church experience.

She went into detail about how one of her friends in her work circle invited her to a church that took place in a movie theater. "We grabbed a coffee the morning of service at Starbucks. Then I asked her how we were going to finish our coffee before going to church. She said that we could bring the coffee in with us. And we'd be in this movie theater that was showing a film the night before.

"Growing up in the Missouri Synod Lutheran faith, you did so much as look behind you at the piano player and you got smacked," she said. "But in D.C., I couldn't believe it. Everyone was smiling and getting into the service."

Growing up in small-town Waldorf, she was also not used to shaking hands when offering a sign of peace to her fellow congregants during the service. Not only were people shaking hands, but while singing hymnals, they had their hands in their air. "When we got to that part of the service, that's when my friend said that the cup of coffee came in handy," Tesch quipped.

While things looked up for her during her time in D.C., it soon came



Julie Tesch, a Waldorf native, spoke about how her faith and love for agriculture led her on a journey to Washington D.C. and then back to Waldorf. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

crashing down. Tesch was let go from her job, and she suddenly had no idea where to go. "I suddenly went through a lot of depression and anxiety," she shared.

Before she knew it, she was back where she grew up, in rural Waldorf living with her parents in around 2017. She felt like she failed in life.

"I always liked awards," she said. "And I guess I always felt like the more awards I got for doing great things, the less likely it was for bad things to happen to you. But the Bible says no matter what, bad things will happen." She shared some verses that proved her point.

When she came home, she realized that while she had friends, she only had friends in her work circle. "I was missing a real sense of community," she admitted.

Being back in Waldorf brought her closer to God, too. And now her focus is to show everyone the goodness of rural Minnesota.

"If you talk to someone in the Twin Cities, good luck finding someone that can point out Waseca or even Mankato on a map," she said. "In Washington D.C., there are some people that might not be able to point out Minnesota on a map. To them, we're just flyover country.'

Her passion in agriculture or in her faith has not wavered at all. In fact, since being back in Waldorf, she's been more involved in her community than ever, spending a few years mentoring kids in the Waseca County 4-H and sharing her message that rural areas do matter.

"I always ask people what their rural is like," Tesch said. "Some people have different versions of what rural means to them."

And at the same time, she's gotten back to the place that made her: First Lutheran Church. She admitted when her dad passed away and the funeral service was held there, she didn't cry at all. "I didn't know why at first, but then I realized that he got to where he wanted to be," she said. "And I also realized, I got to be with him in his last minutes.'

And it hit her. Sharing a metaphor, she said, "My house crumbled apart, but I had a solid foundation. In the end, everything works out and is good because of that foundation.

"I know most of you in this room," she concluded. "We all have solid foundations here. And sometimes, we lose control of everything. But we just have to trust in God and realize we are exactly where we need to be."

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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

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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

Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Coun-

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesot 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 Brian Mulligan Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass

Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor Sundays: Sunday School 9 a.m., Bible Study 9:20

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a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township

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

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Waldorf, Minnesota

Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship

Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship TRINITY LUTHERAN

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412 N. Main Street, Janesville **Interhim Pastor** Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.

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

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King

Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St, Janesville

Father Brian Mulligan 10 a.m. - Mass \* \* \* FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

300 Owen St., Janesville Pastor Sarah Krolak ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Alma City, Minnesota Vacancy Sunday = 1 p.m. Worship\* \*

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota

Vacancy Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH

404 30 120th St. Waseca Pastor Sarah Krolak 507-234-6463 Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; Second sunday "Young

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\*Waseca Vet Clinic is HIRING!!! Do you have a love for cats and dogs? Are you a selfstarter and able to work independently? Waseca Vet Clinic is looking to fill a few Kennel Assistant Positions. Hours would include evenings, weekends and holidays, some morning shifts once summer arrives. Some duties include but are not limited to Feeding/Watering/Picking up/cleaning up after animals, dishes, and completing daily task lists. Please Stop into the High School Office or stop in to the Waseca Vet Clinic (1400 State St South) for an Application. You can also return the application to the School office or the Waseca Vet Clinic. We encourage anyone who may have applied in the past to reapply!

\*Become a part of our Mc Family! 14-15 y/o starting @ \$10.60/hr, 16-17 y/o starting @ \$12.00/hr, 18 y/o+ starting @ 16.00/hr. We also offer tuition assistance flexible schedule free uniform and free meal program at work Text "MN64" to 38000 to apply TODAY!

\*Mayo Clinic is hiring Environmental Service Technicians- Mayo Clinic invites HS students to start their life changing career at Mayo Clinic. Students will play a vital role by ensuring a safe and clean environment for our patients, visitors, and staff each day by working with our Environmental Services Depart-

https://jobs.mayoclinic.org/job/mankato/en vironmental-services-technician-high-schoolt u d e n t opportunities/33647/33896701712#content

\*Yellow Mushroom is hiring Cooks and Servers for night and weekend hours. Applications are available at Yellow Mushroom,

1208 S. State St. \*ICAN Inc. of Waseca is hiring Part Time Personal Support Staff. Part Time positions can range from 7 – 29 hours a week. This position does include every other weekend. This is a great position if you are looking into the

healthcare field, teaching, coaching, etc. ICAN is a premier residential service provider to individuals with disabilities. We provide training for all aspects of the job. ICAN is currently offering a \$300 hiring bonus after 6 months of employment.

To apply, go to www.icanmn.us or stop in our office, 118 North State Street Waseca. If you have any questions, you can contact us at 507.835.9140.

\* Lakeshore Rehabilitation Center has part-time server positions (16 years or older) for 3 pm-7 pm, part-time evening cook position for 11 am-7 pm (or any afternoon hours the candidate would be able to work, part-time

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(Grade 5-8)

cook for the assisted living facility 9:30 am-1:30 pm. Interested candidates will need to apply on our website, monarchmn.com. On that page, click the header "Careers" and choose "Find a Monarch Career" under the drop down menu. From there, navigate to: "Current Openings>Culinary Services Aide Lakeshore" or "Culinary Services Cook. Lakeshore ALF". The starting pay is \$15.00.

#### SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

**OPPORTUNITIES:** \*Waseca County has an opening for a Weed Harvester position. This is a temporary position which is 40 hours a week (will not work nights or weekends). The job is about 6-8 weeks and starts in early June. The individual needs to be 18. The pay starts at \$20.32 per hour. I have the application attached if you have a student that would be interested please let me know! Here is the link to the job de-

https://www.co.waseca.mn.us/Jobs.aspx?U niqueId=111&From=All&CommunityJobs=F alse&JobID=Aquatic-Weed-Harvesting-Operator-Seasona-165

\*Southern Research and Outreach Center is hiring for grounds and maintenance jobs for any students or others that might be interested? You need to be 16+ years old to work here. Pay is \$15/hr. Typical schedule is 7:30 am to 4 pm for a 40 hour work week. If anyone has questions please

Mobile: 507-461-6899 | Office: 507-837-

E-mail: jstenzel@umn.edu Website: www.sroc.cfans.umn.edu

\*Fun, Summer Job Opportunities at Kiesler's Campground and RV Resort! We are hiring lifeguards, activities coordinators and guest services team members - Learn more at www.kieslers.com/apply.

\*University of MN Southern Research & Outreach Center has positions in Agronomy, Soil Science and Groundskeeping available for this summer. Must be 16 years old. For more information call 507-835-3620. Pick up, complete, and return an application to the SROC main office @ 35838 120th St.

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#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

STATE OF MINNESOTA **COUNTY OF WASECA** 

> PROBATE COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT Probate Court Division Court File No. 81-PR-23-225

In Re: Estate of Marcella Rae Goette, Decedent.

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN UNSUPER-**VISED ADMINISTRATION AND NO-**TICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of June, 2023, at 9:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at 307 North State Street, Waseca, Minnesota by Zoom, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named decedent, dated September 18, 1996, and for the appointment of Cynthia K. Christenson whose address is 308 7th Ave., PO Box 37, Freeborn, MN 56032, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent, in an unsupervised administration. There will be no in person appearances.

Any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as

ordered by the Court and close the estate. Notice is further given that ALL CRED-ITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the

date of this notice or said claims will be

BY THE COURT: /s/Carol M. Hanks Judge of District Court Shannon M. Asselin Court Administrator

PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A. William L. Hoversten (47478) 215 Elm Ave E, PO Box 249 Waseca, MN 56093-0249 Phone: 507-835-5240

(Published in the Waseca Pioneer Friday, May 12 and 19, 2023.)

## **SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642**

## May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6pm BAR Bingo	4 HALL 7pm BINGO	5 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	6
7	8 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting VE DAY	9	10 6pm BAR Bingo	11 HALL 7pm BINGO	12 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	13 ARMED FORCES WEEK
14 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am -Noon Your Host Waseca VFW BASEBALL MOTHERS DAY	15 PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY	16	6pm BAR Bingo	18 HALL 7pm BINGO	19 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	20 ARMED FORCES DAY
21	22	23	6pm BAR Bingo	25 HALL 7pm BINGO	26 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	27
28	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	6pm BAR Bingo	MONTH OF THE MILITARY CARE- GIVER	NATINAL MILI- TARY APPRECIA- TION MONTH	

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**12** Friday, May 19, 2023 Pioneer

## CRAFTY SENIORS







The Waseca area senior center held a spring craft show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 6.

There were many items for sale, from baked goods like scotcheroo bars to hand-stitched portraits of owls by Waseca area resident Jackie Storby.

It was a pretty steady start to the day which brought in many area residents. Each year the senior center expects anywhere from 100 to 200 people. Photos by Michael Roy

## YOUNGEST OFFICER



Dustin Baumgard of Waseca walked along last Sunday afternoon while his 2-and-a-half-year-old son Laidon "drove" his police car several blocks to the Walmart parking lot and back. The Baumgards have had the small car for a little over a year. As the son and grandson of former Morristown chief of police Randy Baumgard, the father and son not only enjoy the fun of the remote-controlled car, they enjoy honoring a Pioneer photo by Deb Bently family legacy.

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The Waseca Music Department presented their annual Pops Concert Friday, May 12, at the Performing Arts Center. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

## Final performance of the year

By MICHAEL ROY Editor

Every year, the Waseca Music Department ends its concert band productions with the Pops Concert under the direction of Devon Law-

On Friday, May 12, the Concert and Symphonic Bands had their last concert of the year.

"It's been great working with these kids all year," Lawrence said. "I'm blessed to get to teach all of them."

The pops concert includes different popular classical and modern pieces with at least one piece selected by the band members themselves. The concert band chose to do "Spiderman: No Way Home" by Michael G. Giacchino, arranged for band by Michael Brown. The symphonic band chose "Avengers: Endgame," composed by Alan Silvestri and again arranged for band by

Lawrence admitted that while he knows the music of the two pieces for the Marvel movies, "I haven't seen them yet. I will make that my goal this summer."

The other pieces the concert band performed were "Fanfare for a New Era" by Pinkzebra, "Flying Away" by Yukiko Nishimura, "Foundry" by John Mackey, and a very special composition "Journey in the Meadow" by Waseca senior Ryan

Lawrence shared a story about Leigh's piece before handing off the baton to him to conduct the band. "One day, Ryan walked up to me after class and asked if the band could perform one of his pieces later in the year. I said sure, thinking that, you know, maybe he'll write something this year, maybe not. If he didn't, it wouldn't be a big deal."

It turned out Leigh was waiting for his moment, as he handed him the composition "Journey in the Meadow" about two weeks later.

The symphonic bands' other pieces were "'The Gum-Suckers' March" by Percy Aldridge Grainger, "Before the Sun" by Julie Giroux, and "Danzon No. 2" by Arturo Marquez and arranged by Oliver Nickel. "Before the Sun" featured senior trumpet player Joe Feldkamp on violin.

Before the conclusion of each concert, Lawrence gave out awards to recipients chosen by their fellow students as the best, most motivated musician in the band. Bass trombonist Andrick Balderas won the award in the concert band and French horn player Lindsey Kopetzki won the award, dubbed the "John Philip Sousa" award, in the symphonic

Lawrence also recognized all the seniors in both bands. He gave a very touching speech before each senior received a flower, a certificate, and a handshake or hug.

"While every grade and every band are special to me, these groups of seniors hold a special place in my heart. They were my first group of freshmen when I came to teach here. They're an awesome group of kids. We went through Covid-19 together, and they completed all their sight reading assignments when I asked them to.

To wrap things up, he thanked the audience for coming. "And a special thanks to the parents who told their kid to pick up the trumpet and encouraged them to grow in their playing," he said.

## **■** Barney's

from Page 1

someone was Audra. The rest is history."

The couple married in 1999 and currently reside in rural Waseca, near the famous "Pink School House."

Audra grew up in rural Waldorf and graduated from JWP in 1994. She remembers the former Waldorf school well and was in school when Waldorf-Pemberton consolidated with Janesville.

Both Joe and Audra intend to continue holding down their regular jobs in addition to taking turns manning the grills at Barney's.

Audra, is a site manager for Palmer Bus Service and Joe, a site manager for Schilling Graphics in Owatonna.

What can customers expect from

the new owners?

"It's the same, but a maybe little better," Joe answers. "Like visiting Grandma and Grandpa's house."

Famous for their root beer, homemade ice cream, broasted chicken, their barbeque and their coney dogs, it's easy to see why Barney's has stood the test of time.

Rest assured, those items will all still be available April 1 through October 1, seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

So what is changing?

100% local beef, state fair hot dogs, and, well, the new owners of

"When you purchase a business like this, that's been here for 81 years, there's more to it than just dollars and cents," Audra says. "You tell yourself, it's going to be okay. We can do this."

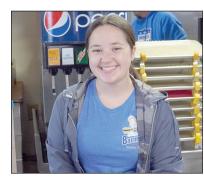
As Joe and Audra told of their plans, they shared numerous experiences they had with customers over their first two weeks.

One individual makes a tradition of coming on opening and closing day every year.

Another, a regular, said he came to Barney's the day of his wedding. He and his wife have made it their annual tradition to come back every year on their anniversary.

"The people are my favorite part,"

"Sitting on the picnic bench at night staring at the lake is pretty cool too," Joe adds.



**Barney's waitress Amerette** Nevalainen.

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901 10th Ave NW, Waseca



116 6TH AVE SE, WASECA Kitchen goods, clothing, large AC unit, & more! Prices Negotiable

## Got news?

507-837-6767



When? May 20th, 2023 at 8 AM till gone 507-835-2980 **Where:** 113 2nd Ave NE, Waseca, MN, 56093

www.wasecamusic.com **Cost?** Free Will donation!

> What? WACS will have clothing for all sizes & ages, furniture, household goods, etc.

> **How** can you help? WACS will be taking donations from people in the community to display & sell at our garage/sidewalk sale.

Please contact the WACS office if you have I some items you would like to donate!

## Buying or Selling - Voted #1 Most Trusted Real Estate Agents in the USA



4 bed, 3 bath, 4,024 sqft, 1.73 acre lot 14497 Bunker Dr, Waseca, MN 56093



2 bed, 1bath, 1,254 sqft, 5,101 sqft lot 614 S State St, Waseca, MN 56093



4 bed, 2 bath, 1,840 sqft, 0.23 acre lot 412 14th Ave NW, Waseca, MN 56093



Always Here To Help! Local & Loyal, Buy and Sell and we know the area! We can show anyone's listing!

MLS E

**BLAIR NELSON** Owner/Realtor (507) 213-1100

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