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LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY
No. 30 Vol. I \$2 Offices in Waseca, New Richland, and Janesville Friday, July 29, 2022



Sports

FCA junior sports camp Aug 2-4

The Waseca FCA Junior Sports camp for grades 3-8 will be held Aug. 2-4 at Waseca High School. The deadline for submissions is July 28. Athletes will pick one sport each day for three days from the following sports to participate in: football, baseball, wrestling, volleyball, soccer, tennis, track, golf, hockey, softball, basketball, gymnastics. Essentially, if it's a sport, it's an option, for both boys, girls, and some coed events.

A little info: The Waseca FCA Junior Sports Camp is a day camp for young athletes who want to develop their skills in sport and strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ. The coaching staff will include some of the best high school coaches around.

Register online at: minnesotafca.org/waseca-jsc

For more information, please contact camp directors:

John Conway -507-461-4379
JCONWAY@FCA.ORG

How to subscribe to the Pioneer

To subscribe to the *Waseca County Pioneer*, simply stop in our office with your address and \$40 or mail a check to:

Waseca County Pioneer
P.O. Box 578
Waseca, MN, 56093

Our location is at 103 S. State St. Reminder this is the last week to take advantage of the discounted first month special subscription price.

Newsstand locations

Newsstands are located at Casey's and Kwik Trips in Waseca, Janesville, New Richland as well as Wagner's Grocery Store in New Richland and Wiste's Meat Market in Janesville.

Other locations will likely be arranged for and will be listed in upcoming editions of the *Pioneer*.

Library events
Resume Writing Workshop

The Waseca Public Library is hosting a CareerForce resume writing workshop 11 a.m. on Thursday, August 11, in Waseca. The goal of this CareerForce workshop is to provide resume strategies to attract interviews and improve networking opportunities.

CareerForce will cover topics including resume formats, the basic parts of a resume, and how to write accomplishment statements. This workshop is free and open to the public. Registration required. Register at the library or at: wasecaleseur-libraries.com/getregistered.

Romp and Rhyme
Summer Story Time

In August the Waldorf Public Library will hold story times at 3 p.m. on Tuesdays.

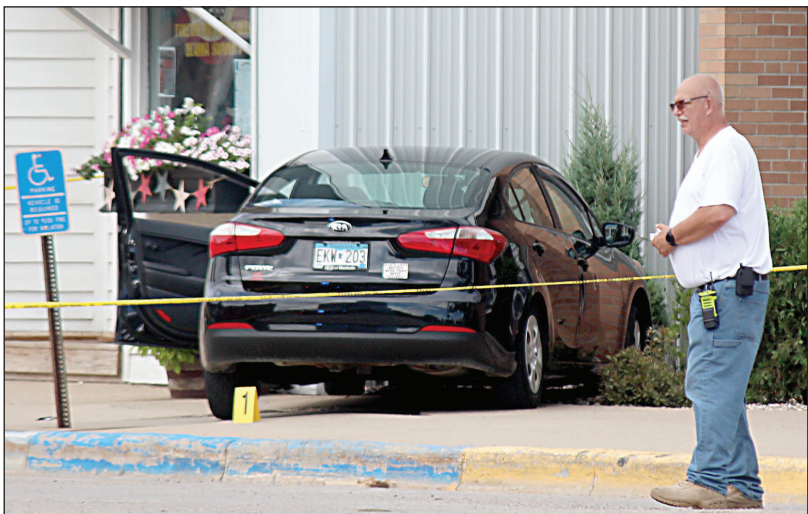
Also in August, the New Richland Public Library will hold story times at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays.

From puppets to pumping music, from bubble machines to banging bands, these are not your average story time.

A word from
The Word

But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

2 Thessalonians
3:3



ON SCENE - Janesville Fire Chief Mike Santo downtown where a black Kia Forte went over the curb and crashed between Gidgets and the post office.
Pioneer Photo by Michael Roy

One injured in Janesville shooting

By PIONEER STAFF

Following a drive-by shooting on Main Street in Janesville about 3 p.m. Tuesday, a man in his 20s is in stable condition after being treated for a gunshot wound to the back. Two men are in custody at the Waseca County Jail awaiting criminal charges, likely for attempted murder and aiding and abetting murder, according to information released by the Janesville Police Department.

Accounts from various witnesses paint a picture of the victim's vehicle being pursued at high speed by the two detainees off of Minnesota Highway 14 and down some area roads into Janesville, where the victim was fired upon and injured along Main Street.

Janesville resident Mike Sheehy describes having been at "a normal

Drive-by continued on 3



Willow Bense

Tragic loss

On Friday, July 22, authorities recovered the body of an eight-year-old girl who went missing while swimming in the Minnesota River. She was identified as Willow Bense of Janesville.

Bense was with her family swimming near Sibley Park in Mankato on Thursday, July 21. According to Blue Earth County Sheriff Captain Paul Barta, she and an eleven-year-old child wore life jackets but took them off when they were by one of the river's sandbars.

"The children started to jump off the sandbar without their life jackets and into deeper water than they anticipated," he stated.

The two children were swept away by the current. Bense's mother tried saving her, but she was also caught up in the water's flow. A bystander helped rescue the other child but was unable to save Bense.

Responders were called at around 6 p.m. The Blue Earth County Sheriff's Department, a Minnesota State Patrol helicopter, several drones, and 11 boats were part of the search effort Thursday evening and spent all night searching.

According to Barta, "Our search efforts on the river continued from the time of the call all the way through the night," he said. "And we did have some staffing reduction due to safety issues that occur overnight. But we stepped up those search efforts again this morning. Right around 8:40 a.m., one of the search boats was able to locate Willow's body probably about 5,000 feet downstream from where she was last seen yesterday."

Members of the Cleveland Fire Department located the body. Barta stated that he was especially thankful for help from local and state agencies throughout the search.

"I say all the time when we have these unfortunate events that the resources and the cooperation among the agencies in the area is impressive," Barta states. "And having this many agencies come out within a matter of [only about] an hour or two [with] that many different boats to help find this child is pretty incredible."

The Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office will perform a full autopsy to determine the official cause of death in the coming days.

"It's a sad day," Barta stated. "We'd like to express our sympathies and condolences to the family again. I spent some time with them this morning. The loss of a child is heartbreaking. It's always heartbreaking and it's nothing short of a tragedy."

Residents of Janesville are working together to rally around the family at this time. There is a Janesville State Bank account where donations are being accepted for the family. To make a donation, call 507-234-5108.

Like Matson, new law beats the odds
Matson Strong

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

With the squeezing of a trigger, Waseca police officer Arik Matson's life was changed forever. As for the person who shot him in January of 2020, the most jail time Waseca County Attorney Rachel Cornelius could foresee was 25 years, despite the fact that he had not only ended Matson's career, but also fired at, without injuring, two other police officers at the scene.

"Sometimes, we don't recognize there's a problem, well, until there's a problem," comments Cornelius, whose job it was to bring criminal charges against Tyler Janovsky, a Waseca resident and repeat criminal offender who was on "conditional release" (also referred to as "parole") that January night.

When she began to consider the approach her office would take in charging Janovsky, she discovered a surprising facet of the laws pertaining to the case.

"The penalty was the same," she says, "whether the perpetrator only attempted to harm the officer, or whether harm was actually done. It also didn't take into account whether an officer was severely injured and unable to return to work."

In the case of the January 6, 2020 shooting of Officer Matson, the law only allowed a maximum of 20 years. Due to laws surrounding conditional release (parole), Janovsky would be out after serving



BUILDING STRENGTH - Among the people who helped make the "Matson Strong" law possible were (from left) Senator Julie Rosen, Brian Peters (MPPOA), Jim Mortenson (LELS), Megan and Arik Matson, Waseca County Attorney Rachel Cornelius, and Senator John Jasinski.

only 2/3 of that time.

Megan Matson, Arik's wife and chief caretaker, recalls being notified of the circumstances. "I was devastated," she says. "I was expecting life, or 50 years. And then to learn the law allowed 10 years of the sentence to be conditional release..."

"Those kinds of policies can be dangerous. After all, Arik wouldn't have been shot if Janovsky had not been out on parole."

"And that's when Megan asked me," recalls Cornelius, "How do we change the law?"

And thus began a year-long journey. Cornelius reached out to two state-wide organizations, the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) and Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS), both of which pay close attention to state legislation affecting their members.

Jim Mortenson, executive director of LELS, observes, "Police officers are victimized daily. We need some teeth in prosecuting these crimes."

Brian Peters, executive director

"This won't allow people to come out of prison time after time and commit these crimes."
— Arik Matson

of MPPOA, recalls, "Rachel [Cornelius] brought this forward, how do we give offenders in cases like this more [jail] time."

Peters and Mortenson worked closely with Cornelius and the Matsons to acquire legislative support for strengthened penalties. "It was a year of Zoom calls, meetings, discussions and testifying," remembers Cornelius. "Turns out, it's not easy to change a law."

Legislative bills were drafted in both the House and the Senate and set for consideration during the 2021 legislative session. The Senate bill passed unanimously. The House bill, however, languished.

"It was the same year that George Floyd died," explains Cornelius. "So there was a political edge to the topic that might not otherwise have been there."

Since a new law must be agreed upon between the House and the

Senate before it can go to the governor to be signed, explains MPPOA director Peters, "The bill was dead."

The 2021 legislative session ended with a long list of unfinished business, and so a special session was called. "When that happens," says Peters, "the decision-making process goes to the leadership. They work out among them what will go to the governor and what won't."

And in the meantime, the Matsons had happened across a powerful ally. "We were at the MPPOA [2021] annual meeting," she remembers. "Arik was receiving the 2020 officer of the year award, and so we were seated next to [Senate majority leader] Paul Gazelka, who was receiving the legislator of the year

Strong continued on 3

New facility

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

"It's going to be...heaven!" comments Waseca Area food shelf manager Garry Huckfeld as he contemplates what it will be like to work in the new facility currently under construction for the food shelf. "We're going to be able to help people so much more efficiently."

The food shelf currently serves clients out of a section of St. John's Lutheran Church at 401 Third Ave NE, having moved a few times over the past few years because of facility needs and availability. Even now, the

space the service is renting is smaller than ideal, with a large share of frozen storage located off site.

Huckfeld tells of having to make runs to transfer frozen food twice a week or more. "That's all right," he comments in his easy way. "We'll go as often as we have to."

Still, all the workers and volunteers at the food shelf are looking forward to September, when the new facility—which will be connected directly to the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center—should be up and running. The 34' x 65' addition will feature mostly an open space



Volunteer Terry Lee (left) and employee Angela Motz sort through some fresh produce at the current Waseca Area Food Shelf location.

Pioneer Photo by Deb Bently

with shelves of food organized for easy access. All freezer storage will be located on site.

Another positive element will be access of at least three types. Clients with limited mobility should have no

trouble entering and moving about the one-level structure. Receiving shipments and donations will be sim-

Heaven continued on 3



Looking in the Mirror

by Jonah Stafford
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Comfort zone?

If there's one thing holding me back from reaching my full potential in all facets of my life, it's my tendency to avoid going out of my comfort zone. However, sometimes life presents us with situations which make it impossible to avoid the things that scare us. For example, basically every teacher/professor in the world requires their students to give speeches or presentations in front of the whole class. Through searching around, I learned that roughly 75% of the general population has glossophobia, or fear of public speaking. While I wouldn't say my personal experience has been that extreme, there are times when I have had to fight through the fear and deliver a speech to the best of my ability.

Just last semester I had to navigate three presentations in a short time, creating a nightmare scenario for me, someone who is much more comfortable writing than speaking in front of a group. The first of these three presentations was for my public relations class. I fumbled it hard! It was a slide show based on an essay about what I learned when interviewing a professional in the public relations industry earlier that semester. I thoroughly enjoyed the interview (and learned a lot) and my essay was more than satisfactory, but translating that into an oral presentation when I normally wouldn't even order my own coffee was no small feat! In all honesty, I did not prepare as diligently as I could have. Due to poor planning, I end up relying on my laptop for speaker notes. During those 7 minutes at the front of the classroom, I was on a collision course toward disaster. Of course I got all of my points across, but I was visibly nervous and shaking in my boots. This wasn't really helped by my early placement in the class presentation order. After my trainwreck of a speech went clear off the rails, I got to sit back and watch my classmates do infinitely better. My professor must've not been a harsh grader because everyone, including me, got a 100% grade on those presentations but it felt undeserved in my case. Anyone who talked to me that day after that speech should be entitled to financial compensation because I let that experience completely ruin my mood and I wasn't quiet about it.

With one disaster behind me, I continued on to the next speaking

assignment, a group presentation in my marketing class. This one was a compilation covering a semester-long project to apply marketing concepts to a real product. My group was assigned IKEA's ENEBY bluetooth speaker. What we learned was that IKEA veered too far out of the furniture realm with that product. Launching it without advertising or effective marketing made the speaker a dead weight in its lineup. With the help of a few practices, this presentation was a modest success. Thankfully, I only had to speak during 4 slides and I was comfortably stationed behind the computer, where I clicked through the slides and kept a safe distance from the audience. There was a bit of professor interaction when we got live feedback and questions, but I made it through unscathed.

By the time I hit my final presentation of the semester—my quantitative reasoning group project analyzing the correlation between poor water quality and premature deaths in developing countries, nothing could surprise me anymore. We became so comfortable with our slides that we flew through the presentation without a hitch. As a side note, somehow I glided through my QR class with an A all semester long, despite being infamously awful at anything math or science (and especially statistics) related. I did need a bit of help figuring out how to use Microsoft Excel, but as someone who got Cs in basically every high school science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) class, the growth was evident and I was pretty proud of that.

If there's any lesson hidden in this rambling: if something's scary but necessary (like public speaking or doing math), you just gotta step up to the plate and do it several times. Turn those mixed/negative experiences into learning moments and go out and conquer your fears! Last week's column was all about my aspirations and ambitions, but in order to reach those goals I'm gonna have to take bold steps and get out of my comfort zone a lot more. I feel like all of humanity is united in this way- no one is born 100% comfortable and confident at everything, but through expressing vulnerability and facing our fears, we can always improve.



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler
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A shed shindig

Another week at the office, another week of fun things.

The amount of melted chocolate left over from our fair booth is quite an amount, but we are slowly dwindling it down. Problem is, you can't tell if the squish is melted chocolate or water from the melted ice in the cooler before opening the package. I will say I have gotten lucky in my choices though.

There are things that I never thought I would have to do working as a journalist or being in the office. Such as dog sitting in the office (we later found out that it isn't really allowed) and putting together office chairs and a big desk. Which I accidentally broke, sorry Eli. But it's ok, it's still fully functional. Plus now I got a newer, bigger desk myself, so I'm moving up in the world. Well, besides being the person to do all the little things in the office like mailing, billing, or recording subscriptions, etc.

But it's all good because summer is almost over. Which isn't necessarily good, yet is almost something to look forward to. I am going back to school in the fall (I was surprised at the number of people who asked me whether I am really going to go back to school. Of course I am; a higher education is something of value to

me) so I can't wait to see my school friends and move into my very first apartment.

Going back to journalism though, the amount of people who have told me, "oh, have I got the story for you" and then refuse to tell me what it is, is a growing number that I don't appreciate. How can someone say that and then just not tell me? I don't think it's fair. A teasing game, per se, that I don't like to play because now I want to know what it is. They just sit there and giggle or give me a look and say "oh, you don't want to know, it's bigger than you think." Which I then say "fine" and walk away. No I don't, that's an exaggeration. But still.

Anyway my sister's birthday is Saturday and now that I work here I can do a little shout out to her in the paper (haha loser). She is turning 16 (so old) and is having what she and her friend have coined their "shed shindig" to celebrate with family and such. This is my way of saying happy birthday to her because I didn't get her a present (I'm just kidding of course I did). So Happy Birthday Lizzie!!

Quote of the week: "Never, for the sake of peace and quiet, deny your own experience". Dag Hammarskjöld

With beauty all around me may I walk

ECHOES FROM THE
LOAFER'S CLUB MEETING
I've been doing some naked sunbathing in my yard.

Why on earth are you doing that?
So my neighbors will build a privacy fence for me.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S
DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. My wife and I have a summer home. It's also our fall, winter and spring home. People have told me they have become mosquito bites wearing clothes. I haven't encountered intolerable numbers of those biting insects and I am going to try some wheatgrass as a repellent when I do.

MOONDOGS AND HOT
DOGS

Thanks to a kind invitation from Rod Meyer of Mankato, I got to see the Mankato MoodDogs play baseball. The MoonDogs play in the Northwoods League, a collegiate summer wooden bat league where such MLB stars as Matt Scherzer, Chris Sale, Matt Chapman, Brandon Crawford and Pete Alonso honed their skills. As a trained spectator, I'm good at watching ball games. I spent time in a luxury suite made from shipping containers talking with 1,804 old friends and new friends, and eating a hot dog. I cheered, but not loud enough to fracture a vocal cord. The MoonDogs got loose and defeated the Willmar Stingers. Why is it called a



Compostings

by Al Batt

copyright © 2022 by Al Batt

hot dog? There are many possible reasons. In the mid-1800s, immigrant German butchers sold variations of sausages that were thin and long, like a dachshund. They called these dachshund sausages. Over time, the phrase may have been bastardized into hot dog. An 1895 issue of the Yale Record poked fun at the idea of Germans eating dogs. In 1901, New York Journal cartoonist Tad Dorgan penned a drawing of a dachshund in a bun with the caption "hot dog!" due to his inability to spell the breed's name. The original "Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" was allegedly a reference to a dog gone missing in sausage meat. My hot dog was all hot, no dog and toothsome.

FURTHER NOISE

What are the Seven Dwarfs doing today? Happy is staying off social media. Bashful, nobody knows. He won't say. Sneezzy is a hay-fever consultant. Grumpy could be anyone who disagrees with you. Doc, after his medical license was revoked, is making YouTube videos. Sleepy owns a company that manufactures rock-hard pillows. And Dopey works for a pharmaceutical company.

I WONDER

If everything is possible, why do we need the word "impossible"?

Are buttons as cute as a button?

Why don't things ever spiral into control?

If Earth ever considers doing a little housecleaning by turning off the gravity for a few days?

How did Marco Polo find himself?

Why is the word "abbreviation" so long?

Do gymnasts prefer flip phones?

BAD JOKE DEPARTMENT

What do you call a potato with no feet? A potato.

Does the Popemobile have a Catholic converter?

There was a big brawl at Fin-keeper's Fish House. Battered fish were everywhere.

When a billionaire dies, who inherits his senators?

What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it? Short.

A new law says barbers can't cut hair any longer. What do you get when an elephant sneezes? Out of the way.

Robert De Niro will star in the new movie, "Uber Driver."

NATURE NOTES

A friend, Kim Eckert of Duluth, wrote sagely that the swallows in Minnesota could be divided into three sets of two. The blue ones (purple martins and tree swallows) nest in birdhouses. The brown ones (bank and northern roughed-winged) nest in the ground (sand piles or riverbanks). The ones with dark red throats (barn and cliff swallows) construct mud nests. I find the masonry skills of swallows fascinating. Barn swallows create mugs and cliff swallows construct jugs.

A Navajo prayer is, "With dew about my feet, may I walk. With beauty before me may I walk. With beauty behind me may I walk. With beauty below me may I walk. With beauty above me may I walk. With beauty all around me may I walk." While walking, I saw a river otter. I think his name was Harry Otter.

As a tour leader, I took countless group photos. There are the magic words, those with enough weight to make others smile. I'd say prunes, say cheese, smile, smile you're on Candid Camera, whiskey, lottery winners, cabbageheads, what are you smiling at, and duck snort. A duck snort is a softly hit ball that goes just over the infield and lands in the outfield for a hit. Chicago White Sox announcer Ken "Hawk" Harrelson popularized the term.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Feel free to be kind for no reason whatsoever.

Destressing by making rock music

With the Waseca County Free Fair over, we at the Pioneer office have a little more time on our hands. Not so much that we don't know what to do with ourselves, but just enough that we can breathe and destress a little.

What's my way of doing that? Making rock music.

I learned to like classic rock at a young age. Growing up, my mother would always play Def Leppard. If she was playing any music around the house, 4 times out of 5 it was a Def Leppard song.

My mother always has one memory that will make me jealous of her no matter what. When she was a teenager, she took a weekend trip to Denver for Def Leppard's "In the Round, In Your Face" concert which became a live video album. You can see her in their music video for "Pour Some Sugar on Me."

I was unsure if I should share that piece of information because to this day, my grandma never knew about it. My mother told her she was sleeping over with a friend for the weekend, and my grandma was none the



Well, like I said...

by Michael Roy

copyright © 2022 by Michael Roy

wiser.

I will always envy my mother for that story alone. I did get to see Def Leppard along with Journey and Cheap Trick in the summer of 2019. But having the chance to see them in their prime? I would have done anything to have that chance.

My brother's musical palette was more eclectic. His playlist ranged from alternative rock bands like Sublime to rappers like Atmosphere and Dr. Dre. But one thing I remembered very well was that he had his trifecta of classic rock to fall back on: Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix, and a lot of Tom Petty.

It was all of that exposure to rock music that shaped my taste. I've be-

come that annoying Generation Z kid who complains about how today's music isn't nearly as good as it was in the 1970s or the '80s.

In reality, I can recognize that there are still great bands. Local bands like the Blue Ringers and Los Tequileros are pretty good. But on average, you don't hear them anymore. Music back in the day was too good to miss. It's probably easy to say that because what we hear from classic rock stations today is all the best stuff from 40 to 50 years ago.

But the music I like to make really has that '80s flare to it. I find it difficult to not want to incorporate that classic saw synthesizer sound into nearly all of my songs. The ones I've

been working on lately have that synth sound almost everywhere. You can't go wrong with heavy and flashy guitars either.

I am hoping with things cooling down both at the Janesville Journal and at the Waseca County Pioneer, I can make more music. I have been wanting to cover songs like "Everybody Wants to Rule the World" for a long time now. But I just haven't had time to record good-quality music.

The big issue is that I'm a perfectionist when it comes to recording things. If it isn't exactly how I envision it, then I have to do things over. Sometimes it takes me 100 takes to get what I want, which annoys others. That's why lately, I've been doing things solo.

Since I've had my Mac, my quest to make great music has been easier. Garageband is a godsend; I have a friend who uses it all the time. All the stuff you need is within the program.

Anyway, I hope to release some music someday. I've been wanting to for years, but I'm not getting any younger.

Sharing the plan with the local rotary

I love what I do. Our many months of work, basically around the clock, necessary to start our newspaper is basically done. So, for the first time in months, my life, and job, feel as if they are returning to something I remember.

I just finished an article which wasn't rushed or forced; it was the first time in months when it was the only article I had to write for the week and it was one of the only things I had to do this Saturday. It was a weird feeling.

But I'm happy.

I interviewed a new business owner in town, someone I'm deeply impressed with, and I get to tell her story. I'm absolutely thrilled.

It reminded me, as writing often does, that this is what I love to do. And, now that the preliminary work for our paper is complete (No that does not mean the work is done; that never stops) I get a "return to normalcy."

The phrase is a throwback to the Coolidge or the Wilson presidency in the early 20th century as the country was returning from either World War I or the Harding presidency (the first Donald Trump). Harding used to throw literal parties in the White House, including gambling and the works. He ultimately died in office of what I believe to be a heart attack. And some people thought Trump was the first Trump-like person to be elected president.

Writing this article has me reminiscing about some of the many stories I've written over the years. It's a responsibility and a privilege to share people's stories. I'm grateful for our readers, the community of



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

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Waseca County and our local businesses who have blessed me and our staff at the Pioneer with this incredible opportunity.

I say all this, because, as I sit here, we have reached what I call the "minimum threshold" of readers necessary to make a newspaper viable. As we worked to start the Pioneer, I told my co-publisher Michael that we would need 500 subscribers within our first year in order to maintain a newspaper. At that number, equivalent to a couple thousand readers, the money paid by subscribers covers the costs of printing and mailing the newspapers. At the same time, the number of readers makes it inviting for local businesses to advertise. I am excited to report that we reached our "one-year" goal in less than three weeks.

I've said, and I'll say again (likely many times) that I'm incredibly grateful.

Early last week Michael and I were invited to speak at the Rotary Club; it was requested that we tell them about our plan for the newspaper.

I joked, right away, "if they wanted to hear our plan, they should have asked six to nine months ago."

"The plan" was simple in one way: start a successful newspaper. The steps to doing so were not so simple,

entailing a lot of planning and actions, some small and others large. Now, the plan has become to continue providing a good newspaper which gives our readers the news they want while also providing a quality advertising outlet for local businesses which market to our local readers.

So when we were asked to speak about our plan for 15-20 minutes, I adapted that to, "Tell them my plan,

as I did in the previous paragraph, and then share my story... again."

So that's what we did. Deb Bently did a wonderful job sharing my story in the first edition, so it needs little repeating. My story started with my father, who, if not for his friend at the Waseca Journal taking a chance on him to write sports, would never have pursued journalism. And likewise, I wouldn't be here, and neither would this newspaper. Fate, God, call it whatever you like, is an interesting thing.

Tina Mittelstead, the business owner I was referencing earlier, gave thanks to God for this opportunity. Much in the same light, I do the same for my very blessed life and now the life of our new newspaper.



SERVING THE WHOLE OF WASECA COUNTY

PHONE: 507-837-6767

email: news@wasecacitypioneer.com

USPS No. 382-040, Address: 103 S. State Street

Mail: PO Box 578, Waseca MN 56093

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WHAT’S NEXT? – Benya Kraus led the discussion regarding the next steps for members of the BEST group during the second leg of their town tour on Wednesday, July 20.

Second BEST stop in Waseca

Next tour: Janesville, August 10

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

Members of the Business and Entrepreneurial Support Team (known as BEST) of Waseca County have been making the rounds this summer by touring each of the county’s towns. Their first stop was New Richland June 8. Last Wednesday, July 20, they visited Waseca.

BEST is made up of a group of individuals who have a personal vested interest in the growth of Waseca County and the communities within it. These individuals come from different backgrounds such as school administration, city government, and small business ownership. City of Janesville’s Community Development Director Marley Rohwer, Waseca School Superintendent Eric Hudspeth, Lead for America co-founder and Waseca native Benya Kraus, New Richland Councilperson Jason Casey, and Waldorf City Clerk DeAnne Britton are five out of many examples of prominent figures who participated last week.

The point of the tour is to introduce community members to different businesses, letting its owners share their stories, why they chose their respective city to start a business, and then brainstorming how BEST can help grow Waseca County and its communities.

WaSeekers was the first stop of the day. Tina Mittelsteadt explained how she got into the auctioning business and how Otown in Owatonna helped her out.

“They did a lot for me,” she said. “I used the same software as them, bought items from them for years, and I even talked to the owners before the small business development classes started. And they said, ‘We cannot keep up with all the items we get in, so we’d be willing to help you with whatever you need.’”

Mittelsteadt took a ten-week small business development class in Waseca which gave her the know-how she needed to make the right moves for her business. The class included a contest that she admitted she didn’t win. “I got a lot of information from them to write my plan on,” she said. “I was a bit nervous the day we had the competition. But it was quite an experience. And once I had a business plan, I figured I really could do it.”

After Mittelsteadt finished sharing her experience, Zinnias Boutique was the next stop. With the business opening in 2007, Tamie and Tim Collins explained how they bought the building they operate out of now and the renovations needed to restore it.

BEST group member Bob Hoffman praised the Collinses for their work on Zinnias. “When going around southern Minnesota, two things pop up about Waseca – Suburban Furniture and Zinnias. You get quite a name out there right now, and that’s fantastic.”

“We can’t only set goals. We need to be the vehicle of change.”

— **Bob Hoffman**

Tim Collins then talked about an idea of having a real estate investment group to provide opportunities for those interested in doing business in Waseca. According to him, it was the idea of fellow BEST group member Benya Kraus and a few others.

“We’ve been working on this for the past year,” he said. “We knew we were not the experts. And if you’re going to do something and do it right, go to somebody who does it right.”

This investment opportunity would try to achieve the goal of bringing new projects to Waseca. Collins shared that this new group in Waseca has partnered with the city of Northfield to brainstorm investment opportunities. “They have had projects done right there, and that was with a dedicated investment club,” he said. “If someone wants to come to Waseca and open a business but don’t have the funds, means, or connectivity, our group can help supply that whether that’d be business or housing.”

The hope is to have others interested in investing in Waseca as well.

The tour ended at the Bar on Main Street where the members of the BEST group discussed future goals. Before opening up for discussion, member Benya Kraus had two questions for everyone to ponder. “How do we move the momentum forward of what’s taken place in Waseca County and also here in the city? And how can we keep this collaboration alive?”

“We can’t only set goals,” Bob Hoffman stated. “We need to be the vehicle for change. We need to be the ones that make those goals happen.”

DeAnne Britton also threw out that the goals they set should benefit all residents of the county. “Whenever we come up with ideas, I always ask, ‘How does it benefit Waldorf?’ That’s always my primary concern.”

Mayor Rob Wilkening excitedly stated that the city of Waseca had a real opportunity to grow. “For Waldorf, it was a perfect storm of stuff that helped us grow to where we are currently,” he said. “But Waseca shouldn’t wait for that. You have a chance to make this city grow with the right people investing in it.”

The meeting ended with BEST excited to meet on August 8 to discuss plans and how to take action. Their final stop on their county-wide tour is in Janesville on August 10.

Meet your neighbor, Sheryl

Name: Sheryl Osweiler	All Time Favorite Movie: Wall-E
Town: Waseca Age: 58 Family: Michael (Husband), Daughters Emily and Tana, Sons Avery, Merrick, Dustin and Luke, and six grandchildren	Favorite Sports Team: MN United
Occupation: Teacher	Favorite musical artists: Matthew West
Hobbies: Watching sports	My favorite activities when I was growing up: Playing outside
My dream vacation would be: Visit European soccer fields	My biggest pet peeve: Bad grammar
The best thing about small town living is: No traffic	The best advice I’ve ever received: Worrying doesn’t help anything
Last Good Book I Read: Anything in the Elephant and Piggie series	If I could have lunch with any one person, living or dead: Martin Luther King Jr.
Favorite TV show: Good Bones	Something about me that would surprise people: I have lived in eight different states and three countries
Favorite Food: Tacos	



Sheryl Osweiler was originally born in Bossier City, L.A. She grew up in a military family and moved often throughout her childhood. She’s lived in eight states and three different countries.

■ Heaven

from Page 1

plified because the facility will have some large delivery doors. Because the food shelf will again be connected to its sister facility—the Neighborhood Service Center—workers will no longer be divided across various locations.

“It will be a real benefit,” says Service Center director Denise Tipton, “to get everything back together again.” In addition to all the other improvements, she notes, keeping track of inventory will be much simpler when all the supplies are located in one place.

Still, in talking with Tipton and Huckfeld, it does not seem to be so much the new facility which excites them, but rather the enhanced ability to serve.

According to Tipton, the food shelf assists about 150 families monthly. “And those numbers are going up.”

“We all know times have changed,” says Huckfeld. “The shifts in the economy have had a real impact. People’s budgets are being strained and they just don’t know what to do—there’s no money left

and they’re hungry.

“That’s when we want them to come to us. Anyone who’s hungry, we don’t care who they are, what they have, how much they make: We want them to come get food,” he says.

“We don’t ask for I.D. We don’t report who’s used our services,” says Tipton. “We’re here to serve everyone who’s hungry.”

A major source of support for the food shelf is the thrift shop at the Neighborhood Service Center. Donations of clothing, household goods and furniture are received from the public and offered for sale at bargain prices in the store. “All the money we take in goes right back out into the community,” says Tipton. That is not, however, the only source, especially with the building project now underway.

“We’ve written grant proposals,” says Tipton. “And we’ll be writing more. We’ll keep making appeals until it’s paid for: We’re not going to stop, because this is too important.” She mentions an upcoming United Way fundraiser and donations from ConAgra and the Mayo Health foundation.

According to Huckfeld and Tipton, food for the organization comes from a variety of sources. A large-scale national distributor known as “Channel One” provides many dif-

ferent kinds of food, from canned goods to fresh produce, at a cost of “pennies on the dollar,” Huckfeld explains. He also expresses gratitude to local Wal-Mart and Kwik Trip stores which make significant on-going contributions. Area organizations including the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis and Boxcar Bar have also been persistent supporters, along with many others who have held fundraisers and food drives.

“Waseca is a very giving community,” observes Tipton. “I’ve worked in non-profit organizations for a number of years, and I feel privileged to be in this community working with the generous people who live in the area.” The food shelf welcomes donations large and small from local organizations and individuals, whether of food or money.

“We don’t turn anything down,” says Tipton.

“I don’t want to come across as a beggar,” jokes Huckfeld, “but at least if I do, I’m begging for a good cause. When it comes to kids going hungry, well, I get emotional.”

The need for donations is constant. “We need to be ready, because we never know who’s going to come in the door,” says Huckfeld, who recalls receiving nearly 4,000 pounds of donated food on July 12 and, thanks to visits from a number of families, sending nearly twice that amount out

the door in the next couple days.

“We try to provide enough for 7 to 10 meals when people come. But you know kids—they’re energetic and they’re growing and they kind of want to eat all the time...”

“We tell people if they run out, they should be sure to come back.”

Huckfeld’s sincerity is not only evident in his smile and open, friendly personality: it’s been proven time and again over the past six years as he’s managed the food shelf as a volunteer. He tells of having given out his personal phone number and inviting people to call him on Saturdays. “Heck,” he adds, “I’ve gone out and spent some of my own money on food.”

“It’s a touching situation. We want to help people weather the turmoil that they go through; we all experience tough times, and I’m glad the food shelf can be here to give people a hand.”

Donations to the Waseca Area Food Shelf can be delivered to the current facility at St. John’s Lutheran Church at 401 Third Avenue NE or to the Service Center at 203 Third Avenue NW. Huckfeld suggests that anyone bringing in a large donation of food should contact the Center in advance so that preparations can be made to receive it: 507-833-4022.

■ Strong

from Page 1

award. He asked me how things were going, and I told him how disappointed we were that the bill might not pass.

“I was just making conversation, really, not asking for help. But the next thing I knew, he said something like ‘Let me see what I can do.’”

“That was a Saturday,” she says. “The following Monday we got a phone call, and on Friday, we were up at the capitol signing the bill.”

The “Matson Strong” bill was passed at the end of June 2021 and has been in effect since last September.

“It was Arik’s wish that there would be no early parole for offenders who harm a peace officer,” says Megan. “We’re very grateful that the bill is in place and can make a difference.

“Naming the bill after Arik is an honor and feels like a thank you for all that was accomplished by the many individuals who made the new law possible.”

Arik also states he is grateful the bill became law. “This won’t allow people to come out of prison time after time and commit these crimes,” he says.

Senator Gazelka, whose intervention effectively “resurrected” the bill, comments “The last three years or so, the police have been underappreciated. The large majority of officers who are doing their jobs well and serving the public faithfully are being lumped together with the small group who are not.”

He says he is disappointed the bill could not be more bipartisan, and therefore had to be negotiated during the special session. “More than 3,000 bills are presented every year,” he observes. “And most of them don’t get done.

“But I said this one had to be in the final agreement, and so I made it a priority.” Doing so required Gazelka to let other bills go by the wayside, but he says he has no regrets: “This is a connecting point for wanting to help the police in the difficult, demanding job that they do.”

During the process of getting the bill approved and signed, Gazelka says he has continued to keep current with the Matsons. “These are good people,” he says. “We’re very grateful that Arik is going to continue getting better.”

The increased penalties under “Matson Strong” cannot be brought to bear against Arik’s shooter, who was sentenced in November of 2020 to the maximum jail time allowed under the law in place when the shooting occurred: 20 years for



Waseca County Attorney Rachel Cornelius along with Megan and Arik Matson at the state capitol building.

shooting at Arik and an additional 15 years for shooting at the 2 other officers involved. Janovsky will be eligible for conditional release after 25 years.

The new Matson law went into effect September 15, 2021. Now, someone committing an identical crime would receive a maximum sentence of at least 30 years in prison, and would be required to pay \$40,000 in financial penalties. The law also now does not allow for early release on parole. In addition to law enforcement officers, the Matson law protects prosecutors, judges and correctional officers who are assaulted.

According to figures maintained by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the number of incidents involving assault against police officers increased by more than 200 across the years 2018 to 2020 (the most recent figures available), with 794 officers assaulted in 2020; of those cases, 56 involved either a gun or knife.

“There need to be severe consequences for those who commit these types of crimes,” says MPPOA’s Peters. “Taking the current climate into account, how can anyone not want to support police officers in the difficult work that they do?”

■ Drive-by

from Page 1

day at work” at the Janesville Hardware store when he heard the sounds of squealing tires followed by gunfire— except that it was so rapid Sheehy describes it as having been similar to a large truck gearing down its transmission. Another commenter speculated that the sound seemed similar to a nail gun.

Sheehy and others stepped out into the street where they observed a vehicle driving rapidly eastward on Old Highway 14, and also saw the victim in his car, which was still rolling forward. “He shouted ‘Call 9-1-1!’” says Sheehy. The vehicle, a black Kia Forte, collided with the Janesville Post Office before coming to a stop.

The Janesville Police Department reports numerous emergency calls received at about 3 p.m. Based on witness descriptions of the escaping vehicle and its direction of travel, deputies from the Waseca County

Sheriff’s office and officers from the Waseca Police Department were able to identify and stop the fleeing vehicle without incident. One handgun was recovered.

Sheehy describes the victim’s car as having been riddled with bullet holes, including having a broken windshield and passenger-side window. He and another witness stood near the broken glass to prevent approaching cars from driving across it. “We counted 25 9-millimeter casings,” he says.

As part of an on-going investigation, the Janesville Police Depart-

ment requests that any witnesses who made video of the occurrence make those available to law enforcement. Submissions can be anonymous if desired. At this time, the police department is working with the Waseca County Sheriff’s office and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to investigate the relationship between the occupants of the two vehicles. Assistance was provided at the scene by the Blue Earth County drug task force, the Waseca Police Department, and the Minnesota State Highway Patrol.

OBITUARIES

Anna Rosa Maria Worke

Anna Rosa Maria Worke, age 95, of Waseca, died on Thursday morning, July 21, 2022 at Foxdale Memory Care in Waseca.

Born on August 25, 1926 in Waldorf to Alfred and Elizabeth (Kain) Tesch. She attended Freeborn Public Schools and graduated with the class of 1944. On October 15, 1944, Anna was united in marriage to Harold Worke at First Lutheran Church in Waldorf. Anna and Harold lived in a several communities throughout their life including Waldorf, Virginia, Minnesota where they owned and operated a gas station, Minnesota Lake where they owned and operated Town Talk Café, Wichita, Kansas, Faribault and Waseca. Anna worked at Herter's in Waseca for many years as well as Ben Franklin, Dueber's, and owned and operated the Montgomery Ward store in Waseca. Later in life Anna and Harold moved to Maple Terrace and worked as the caretakers. Together, Anna and Harold shared 55 years of marriage before Harold passed away on September 21, 2000. Later in life, Anna continued to work and help her son's at the Pheasant Café.

Anna was not afraid of hard work as she served in several capacities throughout her life but most importantly as a mother to her seven children. She enjoyed baking, sewing, reading, gardening, and puzzles. Anna's faith was very important to her, and she was



Anna Worke

a faithful member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca.

Anna is survived by her children: Joyce Schulze of San Diego, CA, Gary (Kathy) Worke of Waseca, Nancy Worke of Waseca, Mark (Jean) Worke of New Prague, and Dean (Lorene) Worke of Waseca; daughter-in-law, Barb Worke of Rowlett, TX; 15 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; sister, Rosa Fogal of Owatonna; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends

Preceded in death by her parents, husband, sons: Roger and Glen, and five siblings.

Funeral Service will be 11 a.m. on Monday, August 1, 2022 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca. Burial will be in First Lutheran Cemetery in Waldorf. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service at the church on Monday.

James Mariner

James "Jamie" Mariner, age 58, of Waseca died on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at home with his family by his side.

Born on November 22, 1963, in Worthington to Donald "Lefty" and Evangeline "Jane" (Wendt) Mariner. He received his education at Sacred Heart Catholic School and Waseca Public Schools. On May 6, 1995, Jamie was united in marriage to Laurie Gilster at Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca and together they made their home in the country south of Waseca where they raised their daughter, Chelsea.

At the age of 15, Jamie began working for Brown Printing where he continued to work until Quad Graphics closed in 2018. He spent a short time working for Koda Senior Living in Owatonna before working for Rhino Markers in Waseca until

his health no longer allowed. Jamie could fix anything and enjoyed tinkering with small engines. His many friends would regularly drop off their equipment for him to fix in his spare time. He loved animals and racing go karts alongside his daughter, son-in-law and his best friend, Tim Winter. Jamie's family will always remember his incredible sense of humor that he shared with everyone who knew him. He had a heart of gold and was always willing to help his family and friends. Jamie attended Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waseca. In May of 2021, Jamie was diagnosed with cancer and over the past year he fought a courageous battle up until his last day when God chose to call him home. Although he was not able to physically be present at his daughter's wedding his family knows he was there in spirit and will continue to walk by their side.

Jamie is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Laurie; daughter, Chelsea (Nathan) Lund of Waseca; siblings: Ginny Schroer of Waseca and Michael Mariner of Florida; mother-in-law and father-in-law: Marlys and Norm Meyer; father-in-law: John Gilster; brothers-in-law: Lonnie (Teri) Gilster, Aaron (Jen) Meyer, and Jon (Jane) Meyer; sister-in-law, Brenda Gilster; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Barbara and Lucy; brother, Donny; grandparents; and his beloved dog, Bebe.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. on Friday, July 29, 2022 at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes. Visitation will continue for one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

Funeral Service will be 10:30 a.m.



James Mariner

on Saturday, July 30, 2022 at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waseca.

Sacred Heart Class of 1960



The Sacred Heart Class of 1960 recently gathered at Jonnie Beans to celebrate their 80th birthdays and to celebrate Sister Karen Thein's 60th jubilee. Above, seated, from left: Joe Byron, Sister Karen Thein, Roger Frederick, and Alvin Miller. Standing: David Olson, Jim Benda, Don James, Fred Senn, Leo Nissen, and Rich Josephes.

Waseca Class of 1967



Members of the Waseca High School Class of 1967 held a reunion at the Waseca Senior Center July 16. Front, from left: Judy (Burnett) Ready, Sheila (Matz) Kaiser, Linda (Rollins) Peterson, Roxanne (Raatz) Miller, Mary (Grathwohl) Wahl, Ann Schwarz, and Cathie (Wadd) Bolyard. Second row: Linda (Broughton) Eichorst, Bruce Ferry, Jerry Summer, Jana (Soeldner) Danger, Twyla (Froehlich) Lowman, Donna (Schoenfeld) Kitzinger, and Diana (Schoenfeld) Osterfeld. Third row: Lyle Waldron, Tom Hartman, Larry Johnson, Ron Steffen, Terry Roemhildt, and Norm Wille. Fourth row: Jim Miller and Bill Hundertmark.

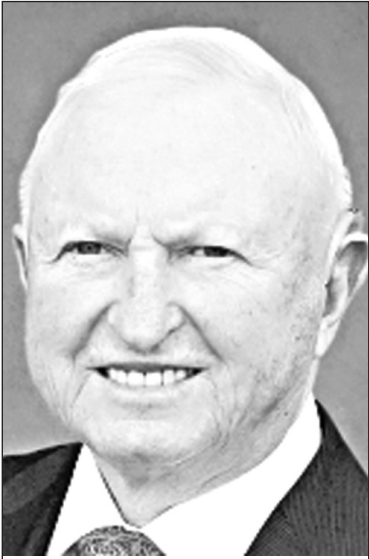
Submitted photo

Wayne Armstrong

Wayne Benjamin Armstrong, age 86 of North Mankato, died on the evening of Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at his home at Oak Terrace in North Mankato.

Born in Waseca on June 17, 1936, Wayne was the son of Benjamin and Agnes (Root) Armstrong. As a child, he served mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church while his mother played piano, and enjoyed ringing the bell. Wayne attended country school before graduating from Waldorf High School, and later continued his education at the Waseca Agriculture School. After serving his country in the Army National Guard he began his career in farming. Wayne knew he'd met his future wife when he heard Lorenza Rodriguez's laugh from across the room at The Kato Ballroom. They were married on April 20, 1963 in Cleveland, MN and laughed together for the next 59 years. He had the mind of a mechanic with the talent to prove it. You would often hear him say, "If it was made by a man, it can be fixed by a man." Wayne was a gifted storyteller who loved entertaining his family and friends, and was active in his community. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, served on the community zoning board, and was a past chairman of the school board. It brought him much joy to present all of his children with their high school diplomas.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Lorenza of North Mankato; five children, Colette (William) Drager of Mankato, Darlette (Joel) Hoppe



Wayne Armstrong

of Mankato, Jolette (Don) Byron of Waseca, Trent (Lisa) Armstrong of Waseca, and Marlette (Scott) Jones of Waseca; thirteen grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one brother, Wendell (Ruth) Armstrong of Waseca. He was preceded in death by both of his parents; one son, Troy Armstrong; one grandson, Alex Armstrong; and one sister, Mavis Wheelock.

Visitation was held from 4-8 p.m. on Friday, July 22, 2022 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Waldorf, with a rosary service to begin at 7:30 p.m. Visitation continued for one hour before the service at the church on Saturday.

Funeral Mass was at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, 2022 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Waldorf, with Father Brian Mulligan officiating. Interment followed at St. Joseph Community Cemetery. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes and Crematory handled the arrangements.

Willow Bense

Willow Bense, age 8, passed away on Friday, July 22, 2022.

Visitation will be from 3– 7 p.m. on Friday, July 29, 2022, at the Janesville Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes. Visitation will continue for one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Janesville with Father Brian Mulligan as Celebrant.

Full obituary at a later date.



Willow Bense



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Clear Lake Park open for play



After lots of work installing the playground equipment and laying down dirt and mulch, the City of Waseca announced on Tuesday, July 26 that Clear Lake Park's playground is officially open for use. The city asks everyone to kindly stay off the dirt areas for now.

A first for Waseca American Legion

By RACHEL LOVERINK
Staff Writer



Shelby Barbknecht of the Waseca American Legion recently got a surprise promotion. In the most recent election, she was voted in as the organization's chaplain, but when the elected post commander decided to move to Florida, the organization was without a leader. Barbknecht was offered the role, and after some consideration consented to take it.

She expresses regret for what might have been: "I was pretty bummed because I was looking forward to working with him as our new commander, but it's okay. Things work out like they're supposed to."

After officially landing the gig at Post 228, her wheels immediately began turning. They won't be stopping anytime soon either; not only does she plan to enrich the post's community connection by hosting meaningful events, she looks forward to the chance to "learn more and grow."

"I also would like to see more members join," she said. "It would be great if we could get some new, younger members who can bring more ideas to benefit the Legion."

Aside from these hopes and dreams, she will continue to appreciate the camaraderie of her fellow veterans. For Barbknecht, moments spent together are priceless.

"It probably sounds kinda silly, but the Legion is like a family," she said. "Everybody kind of takes care of each other."

In fact, it was the level of teamwork shown in the organization which encouraged her to take the new position. Not feeling pressured into accepting the job made a huge difference as well.

"Gary Bohm (the post's adjutant) made it clear that I would have a good support system," she

Annual benefit concert

\$4,500 raised for Chicos family

By ELI LUTGENS and DEB BENTLY
Publisher/Editor, Staff Writer

The NRHEG community threw a party for Owen Chicos Saturday night in New Richland.

Finly's Wings at Work and New Richland Liquor Company cooperated to sponsor and host a benefit concert by the Blue Ringers to raise money for the family of Owen Chicos.

Owen, 5, is the son of Nikki and Dave Chicos, who live west of New Richland. He is grandson to Michael Chicos and the late Karen Gimberline; his step-grandfather is Don Gimberline of Freeborn. His maternal grandparents are Scott and Shelley Baune of Redwood Falls. He has a younger brother, Landon, who is 2. Owen was born with hydrocephalus, also known as "water on the brain." This has left him with a number of health complications, including physically small size and the inability to stand or walk unaided. According to his mother, as Owen grows, various elements of his mobility are becoming more challenging, making it necessary for the family to acquire suitable equipment including an adaptive car seat, a wheelchair, and perhaps in the future a wheelchair van.

Said Nikki of Saturday's concert, "We are truly grateful for the incredible community support, and to Finly's Wings at Work for choosing to assist Owen." She says it was uplifting to see so many people enjoying themselves at the concert, and thanks everyone for waiting out the rain and staying for the music.

A large crowd attended the performance Saturday night. "What do



ANNUAL - Finly's Wings at Work is a nonprofit organization founded in 2018. Every summer the organization holds a golfing fundraiser. Shown above is a balloon release from the event.

"We are truly grateful for the incredible community support..."
— Nikki Owens

you say for people in hard times like this?" Karl Proehl, owner of New Richland Liquor said. "All I can say is that it was a good night."

Finly's Wings is a locally based non-profit organization created in 2018 by Nick and Erin Budach after the loss of their daughter Finly.

"We (Finly's Wings) put on a concert each year as a thank you to the community, our sponsors, and to benefit a family in need," Nick Budach said. "This year we used it to raise money for Owen."

In addition to sponsoring the concert, Finly's Wings hosted its annual golfing fundraiser at Riverview Golf course Saturday afternoon. The festivities included a balloon release and prayer, and drew a crowd of



AT WORK - Beckett and Reed Budach with the Finly's Wings at Work sign at Riverview Golf Course in New Richland, during the group's annual golf fundraiser.

about 250 people, 120 of whom were golfers. "This annual event is to raise money for children and to remember Finly," said Budach. "It was amazing how everybody stuck through the weather. We were able to start right after the rain stopped... And later in the evening, after a 45-minute delay, the band - thank goodness we had a tent - played all the way through."

Despite occurring on the same day, the golf games and concert were two separate events. Saturday afternoon's golfing and balloon release were an annual fundraiser for Finly's Wings, which gives money to selected causes and families as opportunities arise. This year, the organization's annual T-Shirt sales soared to more than 600 total shirts.

Money raised during Saturday night's free-will-donation concert—a total of \$4,500—was specifically designated for the Chicos family.

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MAKING STRIDES— Brett and Barbara “Babs” Miller have been working to make the business their full-time jobs. They have appeared at many fairs throughout the state, and they are pictured above at their booth at the Waseca County Fair.

Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

ETCHing their way to success

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

Seven years ago, when Brett and Barbara “Babs” Miller got married, they wanted a fire-nurse themed wedding. The problem was, there weren’t many businesses open to create designs to fit that theme.

So they did it themselves. “I’ve always been a crazy kind of person,” Barbara Miller says. “I decided to do everything from the flowers and centerpieces to the little tops on the cupcakes. Because of that, we were able to do our themed wedding.”

That was the beginning of a business venture known as ETCHpressions. The Millers officially began in June 2019 with Brett’s father giving them a business loan to give them the start they needed.

At first, Barbara created the designs by hand painting them onto cups, koozies, and other items. They decided to upgrade to sandblasting and using a machine to cut vinyl. “Brett decided it would be a really cool idea to take vinyl and put on tumblers as a template,” Miller states. “We sandblasted it to leave the image on the tumblers.”

Their first major order came on Christmas Eve when they received a request to make 100 tumblers. “We worked all night on those,” Brett says.

One day, someone requested them to sandblast images on Yeti koozies. However, they had some trouble with getting the job done. “Long story short, we destroyed three of them trying to sandblast an image on them,” Barb says.

It was at that time they decided to upgrade from sandblasting to using lasers. “We figured it was the way to go,” Brett states. “It’s less hassle using a machine with a laser.”

Along with that upgrade, the business went from being a hobby to a serious full-time gig. What was something to help make additional money on the side became their main source of income with their first big show at the Waseca County Fair in 2019. They made a push in 2020 when the Covid-19 pandemic shut down most of the world.

“It was during the pandemic that we decided to make a go of this to make it full-time,” Brett states.

ETCHpressions has exploded since then, blooming into a business with a worldwide reach.

“Someone from Virginia looked us up on Facebook,” Barb says. “They found us through Frost Buddy VIP, a Facebook page we are a part of that shares our products occasionally.”

These days, the Millers work full-time on their business while still working part-time at other jobs. Brett works at the Waseca County Sheriff’s Office while Barbara works as a nurse filling shifts when needed.

The most unexpected thing for them about ETCHpressions was how quickly the company grew,

“We have toasts and prayers every night thanking God we have all the customers we have.”

— **Barbara Miller**

going from an eight-foot table full of products at the Waseca County Free Fair in 2019 to having a space three times the size there in 2022.

“We didn’t expect such exponential growth,” Brett claims. “We started this as making money on the side. Now, we’re a full-time business. We didn’t expect this at all. Every night, Barb says, ‘We have our own business, Brett. We have our own business!’”

To add, Barb says, “We have toasts and prayers every night thanking God we have all the customers we have. We don’t want to be boastful. We want to make sure we have that personal touch and stay grounded.”

This business has been a therapy for the both of them, especially Barb. “During the first initial hit of Covid, as a nurse I picked up 8 weeks working with Covid patients. After that stretch, it was so refreshing and renewing to be able to sit down and not focus on the trials I saw people going through.”

One time, she made memory lanterns for Christmas. “When I was working on it, it touched me so much that sometimes I would cry. It was a release for me because I put everything I have into every product.”

The biggest challenge for them at this time is that they are spending most of—but not quite all—their time with the business. “We still have to pull extra hours at the other businesses we work at to make ends meet,” Brett states.

Barb adds, “It’s also challenging to finish everything. We’ve had to create cutoff times to make sure we can have the best turnaround possible.”

The two make a great team. Barb conceives and creates the designs while Brett takes care of the technical and physical tasks. “When we combine our creative minds,” Brett says, “we can accomplish quite a lot.”

And that is what advice they would give to those wishing to start their own business. “If you don’t communicate with those you work with, you’re not going to succeed,” Barb states. “Also, you can’t go into it with your heart. You have to go into it with your mind.”

“Have fun with it, too,” Brett says. “You’re going to have ups and downs. Take those downs as lessons and roll with it. Make sure it’s something you want to be doing. If it’s something you like half-heartedly, it’s going to be really difficult to make it succeed.”

Vacation Bible School



Nineteen kids from preschool age through eighth took part in Vacation Bible School led by Pastor Michael Mathews at First Lutheran Church in Waldorf over the course of five nights in July. In charge of snacks were Lacey and Chris Bartsch, Beth Weimert and Haley VanWinkle. Bible story leaders were Sarah Beenken and Leon Schoenrock. Bible Challenge leader was Missy Sorbo. In charge of games were Leon and Benjamin Schoenrock and Cierra Ingalls. Running crafts were Betsy and Beth Schoenrock, Stacy Blumh, DeAnne Britton, Neveah Weimert, Alyssa Bochie, Haley VanWinkle, Cierra Ingalls, Benjamin Schoenrock.

Janesville Area Foundation 10th Anniversary



Janesville Area Foundation members (from left) Arlene Pooley, Kelly Eustice, Bridget Gehring, Claudia Roesler, Sam Steffel, Mike Finley, Joe Burke, and Dave Pope pose in *Yellowstone* themed costumes alongside cardboard cutouts from the series.

Pioneer photo by Jonah Stafford

Celebrating 10 years of giving

Janesville Area Foundation throws *Yellowstone* themed party

By **JONAH STAFFORD**
Staff Writer

The Janesville Area Foundation’s 10th anniversary celebration delighted attendees gathered at the St. Ann Catholic Church’s Parish Center Saturday night.

The local non-profit, which exists under the Waseca Area Foundation umbrella, was founded on July 24, 2012. “We raise funds to grant back to the Janesville area,” said JAF chair Mike Finley, who has been with the foundation since its inception.

Janesville’s schools, churches, library, the Big Brothers and Sisters, and other important organizations in the community receive grants from the JAF’s endowment fund towards projects and programs.

The party was themed after the hit television series *Yellowstone*; guests were encouraged to come dressed in Western attire.

Across the social hour, dinner, auctions, trivia, and other festivities, JAF members and community supporters had a wildly good time.

Adding to the celebration of all things local, Janesville’s own Brew’d Awakenings’ Bistro sold drinks at a bar station throughout the evening.

Guests, who were seated at reserved tables, were treated to a three-course meal which featured cheesecake for dessert.

Joe Burke served as the MC for the evening, offering charming banter and contagious energy as he auctioned off items and led the crowd through trivia games.

“What are we here for tonight but a big celebration?” asked Waseca Area Foundation director Amy Potter in a speech that highlighted JAF’s

growth over the past decade.

After raising \$70,000 in its first year, the JAF’s balance is now sitting at \$370,353. Over \$10,000 of the fund’s principal interest was granted back to the community last year.

The desserts auctioned off during the dinner included two strawberry rhubarb pies, a SKOR cake, French silk pie, and cherry cheesecake.

There was a “battle of the pies,” between Arlene Pooley and Joe Burke, who each baked a strawberry rhubarb confection. With audience

urging, this reporter was chosen to be an impartial juror and after a taste test declared Pooley’s pie as the winner.

After prize drawings, which granted some in attendance free dinner, more items were auctioned off, including a leaf blower, Minnesota Twins tickets, a painting by a local artist, a diamond ring, and multiple dinner experiences.

The most expensive item sold was a \$2,500 rib dinner for 10, prepared by Fr. Brian Mulligan.

The closing entertainment for the event was a three-round trivia game, though many opted to stay indoors due to the tumultuous weather outside.

After a fun-filled evening of games and prizes, the real winner Saturday night was the city of Janesville.

Though Finley said the night was more of a celebration than a fundraiser, the giving spirits of those who attended the party were impossible to miss.

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Matthew Petsinger, Agent
Matthew R. Petsinger Agency, LLC
101 State St S, Waseca
MRPAgencyLLC.com
mpetsing@amfam.com



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Dr. John Flor, Legion Commander Dennis Dinneen, and Winston Evenson. Photo by Jim Lutgens

Borgen donates patch collection

American Legion Andrew Borgen Post #75 is donating their WWII US Army shoulder insignia patch collection to the Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum. Their new facility is located on the intersection of Hwy 115 West and 371 North, Camp Ripley in Little Falls, MN.

The WWII US Army shoulder sleeve insignia (abbreviated SSI) is an embroidered patch worn on the sleeve of some uniforms of the US Army. The US Army is unique among the US Armed Forces in that all soldiers are required to wear the patch of their headquarters as part of their military uniforms. Shoulder sleeve insignias received their names from the fact that they most worn on the upper left sleeve of the Army Combat uniform (ACU) and Army Green Uniform. Shoulder sleeve insignias worn on the upper right sleeve of the Army uniforms denote former wartime service.

By WWII, all Army groups, Field Army's, Corps and Divisions, as well as all major Army commands, had a unique SSI. These SSI would often be created with symbolism alluding to the Units formations.

This WWII insignia patch collection is currently the property of the American Legion Andrew Borgen Post #75, New Richland, MN. This collection is unique and very complete, and it was a task completed by

Albert G. Flor, DDS, formerly a Captain in the US Army Dental Corp. Dr. Albert and his wife, Lois, were stationed at the Army and Navy Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas from early 1943 through post-war 1946. Dr. Albert Flor found satisfaction and a sense of purpose constructing this collection. He believed that this collection should be shared with other serviceman veterans and the general public. He donated the entire collection to the Andrew Borgen Post #75 for display in their facility for the past 50 plus years. Upon his death and status change of the American Legion Andrew Borgen Post #75, Timothy J. Flor, DDS, retired Lieutenant Colonel of the Minnesota National Guard, approached Doug Thompson, Curator of the Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum, Camp Ripley, Little Falls, MN, to solicit interest in this collection. Doug expressed enthusiasm for this collection and suggested that the entire collection be donated to the museum for display. He and other supporters felt that this collection could find a permanent home at the museum.

The American Legion Andrew Borgen Post #75 members and the Flor family agreed that the Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum is an appropriate final home for this US Army Insignia Collection.

Child’s History of Waseca

Shortly after their arrival at Sutlief’s place, Messrs. Barrett, Sutlief and S. P. Child started for Mankato with a portion of Sutlief’s cattle in order to get them kept there until spring, as the hay was running short. Mr. Sutlief returned within a few days, leaving S. P. Child at Van Brunt’s sawmill to get in logs for lumber.

Mr. Barrett had a claim of his own near South Bend and remained there. Van Brunt’s mill was on the Le Sueur River, about five miles east of Mankato. Owing to some misunderstanding, S. P. Child, after remaining at the mill a few days started to return to Sutlief’s claim, intending to stop on the way, over about four miles south of what was soon after known as Winnebago Agency. Mr. Child found no one about the home and the door was locked; he therefore concluded to push through to Sutlief’s that day.

This was a most unwise decision, for he had nearly twenty-five miles to travel before he would reach the Sutlief place. There was no road, and half the forenoon was already spent. He should have forced open the door and remained overnight. But he was young, strong, and impetuous, and, thinking he could get through in good time, he started on.

The snow was deep, especially in low place and in ravines, often taking him in waist deep. It was also covered with crust, strong enough to hold him up in some places, while in other places it would break through. During the middle of the day the weather was mild, and some of the snow that worked into his boots melted, making his socks and boots quite wet.

Toward evening the weather became much colder and, despite all his efforts, his feet began to freeze soon after dark. There was no track he could follow, no land mark he could see, and he was enabled to keep his course only by a star which he selected as his guide. One can, perhaps, better imagine than describe the feelings and emotions of one so young thus toiling on with frozen feet, nerved by the hope of reaching shelter and by the prospect of perishing with cold and fatigue on an uninhabited prairie with only prairie wolves to gather at his death-bed.

Hour after hour wore away; his feet to his ankles were frozen hard; drowsiness came over him; the prairie wolves howled in the distance; yet no sign of the shanty could be discovered. Though much exhausted and discouraged, he struggled on. He had passed the shanty to the south. Death was certain if he went forward.

Fortunately for him the inmates of the cabin were at work much later than usual that evening, by mere chance he discovered the light, and to the great astonishment of all present came in about eleven o’clock more dead than alive. His boots and socks were frozen tight to his feet and ankles, and some time and much labor were required to remove them.

The suffering he endured for many weeks can not be described. No medical aid could be obtained, and the flesh on his feet literally rotted away, leaving the blackened bones of his toes exposed. Many weeks of pain passed before he could step on his feet and it was months before he could walk without the aid of crutches. Most of the discolored bones of his toes were taken off by his brother who used a razor in the work of amputation.

In the latter part of the following April, he was conveyed to Mankato where surgical aid was obtained and the other injured bones were removed. By July following he had so far recovered the use of his feet that he took the position of government cook at the Winnebago Agency, among the Winnebago Indians. These Indians had been brought to their reservation during the month of June of that year – Gen. Fletcher being the agent at that time.

Chapter V, 1855

About two weeks after the arrival of Mr. Sutlief and his company, as detailed in chapter three, MR. Christopher Scott and family, accompanied by a man called “Pat,” came over from Straight River, where they had been staying since the previous fall. They, too, were from Wisconsin, near Fox Lake. This family stayed, or “hung up,” in the Sutlief cabin, which, on their arrival, was pretty well filled; at least, it contained twelve persons, although it was only 14x16 feet with no chamber room.

Jungle in the park

By JONAH STAFFORD
Staff Writer

It truly was a jungle out there in New Richland as Taylor Swanson from Sustainable Safari, an interactive zoo based in Maplewood, brought a spectacular assortment of animals to the city park Thursday, July 7. The event was hosted by the New Richland Public Library and was followed by a large variety of games and activities for folks of all ages.

Recent NRHEG graduate Sophie Stork, who attended the event with a few kids she was nannying, said she “might be more excited than the kids” to see Sustainable Safari’s animals.

According to Swanson, Sustainable Safari has found itself home to over 200 animals from all corners of the world in its less than three years of operation.

Capybaras, bearcats, lemurs, sloths, and monkeys are just some of the critters to be found at the zoo’s Maplewood Mall location.

After describing and taking questions about each of the five animals she brought with her, Swanson invited guests young and old to pet the animals.

The first animal Swanson introduced to the crowd was Peaches, the bearded dragon.

Between the animal facts, Swanson offered a bit of humorous banter as she likened the appearance of the bearded dragon’s skin flap to “double chin lizards.”

Bearded dragons, which are the most common type of domesticated lizard, originated in the deserts of Australia, where their tan coloration allows them the ability to blend into their surroundings.

Swanson’s second animal was Chandler, a 1-year-old alligator. In



It truly was a “jungle” in New Richland as Taylor Swanson from Sustainable Safari, an interactive zoo based in Maplewood, brought a spectacular assortment of animals to the city park Thursday, July 7. The event was hosted by the New Richland Public Library and was followed by a large variety of games and activities for folks of all ages. Pioneer photo by Jonah Stafford

Maplewood, Sustainable Safari has other alligators named after the rest of the main characters from the show Friends.

One fun fact about alligators, shared by Swanson, is that turtles tend to lay their eggs in alligator nests because female alligators tend to be protective mothers. That relationship is reversed in adulthood, when alligator’s jaws are strong enough to crush a turtle’s shell to eat.

Chandler was small enough to be held by Swanson today, but when he is fully grown at 20-40 years old, he could be over 10 feet long and weigh over 1,000 pounds.

The third animal friend to greet the crowd was Einstein the chinchilla.

The exceptionally soft rodent species, which is related to mice and rabbits, is currently endangered in its South American mountain habitat. Only 10,000 chinchillas remain in the wild due to the illegal fur trade, capturing for domestication, and mining.

“This is a Pokemon,” joked Swanson as she introduced Fiona, the fennec fox.

Fennec foxes are the smallest kind of foxes, weighing 2 to 4 pounds. They hail from the African Sahara desert and have huge ears and sandy colored fur, features well adapted to their environment.

Swanson said that a fennec fox can survive its whole life without drinking water, as it gets enough from eating the plants that make up a portion of its omnivorous diet.

The last critter from the Sustainable Safari was Winnie the Roo, a baby kangaroo. The Australian marsupial was an unusual site in rural Minnesota, but in their home country, Swanson said that they are as common as white tailed deer.

Once fully grown at about 10 years old, kangaroos can jump over 6 feet and their muscular legs make their kicks potentially fatal to humans.

After an hour of interactive wildlife experiences, the Sustainable Safari event came to an end. For those in attendance, the party wasn’t over, however, as a plentiful assortment of outdoor games were set up and freezies were being given away by the Friends of the Library.

Doing whatever it takes

Meihak reflects on successful rookie “season” at NRHEG

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Since taking office as NRHEG’s superintendent of schools July 1 of 2021, Michael Meihak has proven himself to be a versatile individual. Students and staff have seen him not only welcoming the community to open houses and school board meetings in a suit and tie, but also in more casual wear mopping up tracked snow, placing food on lunch trays, assembling furniture, and watering flowers.

“It’s nothing other people aren’t doing as well,” he says. “Everybody pitches in. We see something that needs to be done, and we do it.”

Meihak’s humble reply overlooks the fact that few other superintendents are seen performing humble tasks of this type, but it is definitely in keeping with his “see-a-problem, fix-a-problem” approach to managing the schools.

During his first year as superintendent, the bleachers in the high school gym have been replaced; the somewhat dilapidated high school media center has been rejuvenated, complete with new furniture; a “Wall of Honor” has been added acknowledging those associated with the school district who serve in the military; new signs and a new, more secure entry have been added at the elementary site, and a new electronic sign is in place outside the secondary school.

Not that Meihak claims credit for all that. “It needs to be part of our everyday mindset,” he says. “If something needs improving, let’s improve it.”

School board member Loren Schoenrock, who was part of the committee which interviewed candidates for the superintendent position in the spring of 2021 and recommended selecting Meihak above other candidates, admits that the selection process is filled with uncertainties. “A person has to ask themselves, is this person what he seems to be, or is he just good at interviews,” says Schoenrock. “But in this case, every time I talk to Mr. Meihak it confirms my belief that he chose the right person. I think he’s done a fantastic job.”

Principal Nick Jurrens says that staff members at the elementary school in Ellendale expressed gratitude for the persistent presence Meihak showed at their site, again, in contrast to past office holders. “He came to concerts and to our in-school events,” says Jurrens. “He has been a visible presence, and our staff and students appreciated that.”

Secondary school principal David Bunn shares similar impressions, referring to Meihak’s hands-on style as “a breath of fresh air.”

Praise aside, though, Meihak comments that, as one serving his first term in the office of superintendent,



SUPER - In his first year as Superintendent, Michael Meihak has overseen the completion of multiple projects, including a mural and new bleachers, all while NRHEG maintains the lowest tax rate per resident as compared to nearly every neighboring district. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

he feels he has learned a great deal, and will be continuing to learn for some time to come. Still, as for the nature of the job itself, he happily reports that there were “no major surprises.”

He explains that, having been a principal at JWP High School for 12 years, at Yellow Medicine East for 2, and at Faribault Intermediate School for 7, he has had the opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with superintendents there as they performed the necessary tasks, and so became reasonably well acquainted with the expectations of the job. A 1-year stint with the Hawaii Department of Education provided a different set of insights.

“I know that there is some risk when hiring a rookie superintendent,” reflects Meihak. “And so I’m very appreciative to the school board and the other decision makers that they decided to give me a chance. I’m very happy with my first year.”

The job description for a superintendent can seem rather overwhelming. Tasks include overseeing the continuing operation of the schools and assuring that the necessary facilities, supplies, policies, and staff are in place. Also part of the job is overseeing the budget, planning and preparing for future projects and expenditures, and facilitating smooth communication with state agencies which impose various requirements—and expect reports.

Meihak, however, has a simpler definition. “It’s helping look out for the welfare of our students, and doing whatever it takes to keep them learning and growing.”

Looking to the future, Meihak observes that he has laid some strong foundations during this first year, but he is setting his sights on persistent improvement, both for the district and for his skill as a leader. “There are some tasks and processes that you have to do a few times to become good at,” he says. “Well, I’ve done them once. I’ll be better next time. And even better the time after that.”



Janesville Argus columnist and D.C. correspondent John Hottinger shakes hands with Senator George McGovern who was the Democratic presidential nominee in 1972.

Argus archives

100 years ago (1922)

A truck load of Watermelons stood on the street Thursday fronting the Argus office. Suddenly four kids darted from nowhere, from different directions, Each helped himself to the largest melloon he could carry. Before the owner put in an appearance they had skurried around the corner and were hiding behind the building.

Marshal Cris Grams resumed his duties as marshal early last week, after being off about a month. He dropped the work for a time owing to the ill health of Mrs. Grams. It is pleasing to learn of her fully recovery, which justifies his resumption of the active duties of the office.

No births have been reported to the office since the 11th of February and we feel confident that the matter of reporting births to the Recorder is being neglected. We have a record of two births only this year.

W. A. Graham lodges a complaint with the editor alleging that there are many and unsightly noises in the immediate neighborhood where he resides. These noises occur regularly every morning beginning shortly before daylight and continuing long after the sun has reached its zenith in the horizon.

The Waseca County Fair, Waseca, August 28-30, will emphasize all the progress which has been made in the livestock raising, home making, agriculture and children's work in this territory this past year.

The Princess Theatre announces James Oliver Curwood's romance of snow drifts, with special Northwest prologue and misical setting, Friday and Saturday July 28 and 29, Special music with this program.

75 years ago (1947)

The local branch of the Minneapolis Knitting Works has made arrangements for an Open House to be held on Thursday evening, August 7th, from 6:30 until 10:00 o'clock this evening. This occasion will give residents of Janesville and the surrounding community a good chance to see how the machines work and how the remodeled Town Hall looks and see exhibits of the company's merchandise.

At a meeting of the soil conservation commition held on July 18, the committee took favorable action on the petition for establishment of a soil conservation district in Waseca County.

Work on the installation of two blocks of new sidewalk on both sides of Main Street began the first of the week and is going forward speedily and with what appears to be workman-like efficiency.

4-H livestock exhibitors are looking forward to the annual 4-H club sale which will be held this year following the county fair. The sale will held on Monday evening August 11.

With an enrollment of 10,695 including 7,287 veterans of World War II, the second term summer session at the University of Minnesota got underway Tuesday and will continue through August 29.

After suffering for two weeks with a blood clot in the brain, Anthony Munz was called to his last reward Tuesday morning. When the attack was developed he was taken to Memorial hospital in Waseca where he passed away.

50 years ago (1972)

Arhur Koentopp, longtime area farmer, was found dead at his home in Iosco Township, Thursday by a neighbor, Alvis Williams, Koentopp was 70.

Harry J. Lillesve, 38, an Industrial Arts and Drivers Education Instructor at New-Richland-Hartland Public Schools has filed for the State Senate from District 30.

Mrs. Earl Gens and Nancy and grandchildchild, Tommy Steinborn of St. PEter visited Mrs. Ann Sieberg on Friday. Norma Kischke became the bride of Jim Fury on June 10 at 5 p.m. They were married at a double ring ceremony at Trinity Lutheran Church, Janesville.

"Bring your garage sale up town." That's the theme Janesville merchants have given their Second Annual Flea Market set for Saturday, August 12.

If you've got some junk around your places that's too big for your garage hauler, or too heavy for you to handle alone, the Janesville Rotary Club will haul it away for you.

Janesville's two All State Band members, Becky Schultz and Colleen Jewison, will be leaving this week for Bemidji State College where they will be joining musicians from all over the state to form the all state band.

Mrs. John (Lynnell) Pemble, a graduate of the Univeristy of Minnesota in home economics and nursery school education, will be opening a nursery school in St. Clair in mid-September.

25 years ago (1997)

JWP Fest is returning for its second year. The district talent festival will be held Saturday, July 26, from 1 to 9 p.m. at Sharon and Leo Keyes' lake home, Janesville.

Prarie Ridge Golf Course and Clubhouse is celebrating its grand opening this weekend, Saturday-Sunday, July 26-27. Special golf rates,a hole-in-one contest, drawings, free tees and ball mark repair tools, and live vocal performances are just some of the features of this two-day celebration. Everyone is welcome to check out the golf course, driving range, and the new clubhouse.

The Janesville Farmers' Market will open Thursday, July 24, from 5-7 p.m. across from the city park.

Loras College has announced the receiptps of Matin B. Corrigan Scholarships. Jeffrey Guse, a senior, son of Marvin and Kathleen Guse of Janesville will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to be used for the fall 1997 semester.

The Waseca Art Center was awarded a \$2,500 Professional Opportunity Program (POP) Grant, from the Minnesota Center for Arts Education, with funds provided through the Minnesota State Legislature to develop a curriculum for a fundamental art knowledge that will focus on the elements and principles of design.

Waseca archives

100 Years Ago – August 11, 1922

-Horses owned by A. F. Sievert, formerly of New Richland, and Chas. Spillane of Waseca take first and second money in races in Wahpeton and Grand Forks, and the Fargo fair.

-Inability to control pegs cost New Richland to lose the game to Albert Lea Sunday by a 8 to 6 score. The ragged contest was all New Richland's after the seventh inning when the Champs had scored fire earned runs for a total count of six. The big lead was tied in the same frame by Albert Lea on two hits and three errors. Albert Lea scored the winning runs in the eighth on three singles.

-The strike of the railroad shop men which began on July 1st is beginning to have its effect. The number of cars and locomotives out of repair is gradually increasing and if this thing continues for any considerable length of time the public will be made to suffer sorely. The difficulty to be settled in this strike, as we understand it, is not one between the strikers and the railway companies, but a difficulty between the strikers and the United States Government. The strike followed the decision of the United States Labor Board in the matter of reducing wages and settlement must come, if at all, through an agreement reached by these two bodies.

-Active steps to obtain legislation increasing the loan limit of Federal Land banks from \$10,000 to \$25,000 were taken last week by J. F. Reed, president of the Minnesota farm bureau federation. In 300 letters to presidents, secretaries of county farm bureau associations, and county directors of the state federation, he urged that Minnesota Senators and Representatives be asked to support amendments to Land Bank laws now pending in Congress.

-Production of table sirups of high quality and value from sweet corn stalks, now a waste on 20,000 acres of Minnesota farms supplying commercial canneries, is predicted in the second year of operation of a newly equipped special investigational laboratory now operating at a canning company near Wells, under the direction of the division of agricultural biochemistry of University Farm, St. Paul.

75 Years Ago – August 7, 1947

-Egg prices received by Waseca county farmers are likely to hit their highest price in 27 years, according to reports received by County Agent C. F. Murphy. This increase, however, will be partly offset by higher costs. There are two important reasons for prices holding up on eggs, says W. H. Dankers, extension economist at University Farm. First, meat prices will stay high prompting many consumers to substitute eggs for meat. Second, consumer buying power is expected to stay high.

-The opening date for the school year 1947-48 has been set for Tuesday, Sept. 2. The instructors of both the elementary grades and the high school will use Monday, Labor Day, for teachers' meetings and preparation for the opening of school on Tuesday. The teaching staff for next year is still incomplete but it is expected that the vacancies now unfilled will be filled within a very short time.

-August Wellner, who last spring resigned as high school principal of the New Richland schools, has reconsidered and will continue his duties which include teaching mathematics and band.

-Progress is slow in building the new Northern States Power Co. plant. The building is at that point in its progress where a lot of work doesn't make much of a showing. In all a force of 25 men is employed at present. Forms are being prepared to complete the foundation for the building proper and it will be several days at least before more concrete is poured.

50 Years ago – August 10, 1972

-Eighteen year old Luis Fernando Laverde, American Field Service student from Medellin, Colombia, South America, arrived Wednesday evening to spend the next school year as a member of the Dean Knutson family of rural Hartland. Medellin is a city of 1,200,000 people which is situated in the province of Antioquia in the country of Colombia.

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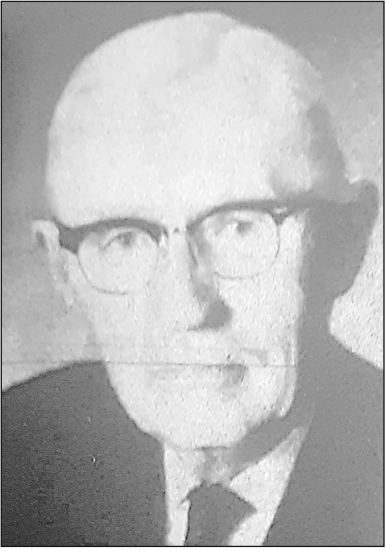
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-Progress is slow in building the new Northern States Power Co. plant. The building is at that point in its progress where a lot of work doesn't make much of a showing. In all a force of 25 men is employed at present. Forms are being prepared to complete the foundation for the building proper and it will be several days at least before more concrete is poured.

50 Years ago – August 10, 1972

-Eighteen year old Luis Fernando Laverde, American Field Service student from Medellin, Colombia, South America, arrived Wednesday evening to spend the next school year as a member of the Dean Knutson family of rural Hartland. Medellin is a city of 1,200,000 people which is situated in the province of Antioquia in the country of Colombia.



IN 1972 – Minnesota Supreme Court Associate Justice Frank T. Gallagher celebrated his 85th birthday while Dr. D. Allan Rieck was reelected as Waseca School Board chairman.



bia.

-The annual Horticultural Day sponsored jointly by the Southern Experiment Station and the University of Minnesota Technical college – Waseca will feature programs at both sites. The event will be held on Sunday, August 20 from 1 to 5 p.m. During the day three demonstrations will be held twice. Dutch Elm disease is destroying increasingly large numbers of elm trees in Minnesota. Dr. David French, University of Minnesota, invites you to bring suspected infected material to the Dutch Elm disease clinic.

-Troop 219 of the New Richland Girl scouts spend Monday morning cleaning up the village park. The troop volunteered their services following the Farm-City Day celebration, Saturday.

-Stuart Miller, formerly of Hartland and a graduate of New Richland-Hartland high school, here, was named director of the Waseca County Day Activity Center in Waseca recently. He replaces Jon Fenelon, who resigned.

25 Years Ago – July 31 1997

-Four rabid skunks have been discovered in various parts of Waseca County in the past three months. According to Dr. Jim Rundquist of Waseca, this is a cause for concern for everyone. Area veterinarians are warning all residents to have their pets vaccinated.

-A group of eight parents in the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva School District decided this spring, with the changing times from

the traditional father and mother households, it is time for a Parent Teach Association in this area.

-The new Richland Area Sportsmen's Club is conducting a fund raiser to replace the siding and re-shingle their clubhouse located on the east side of Highway 30 across from Legion field in New Richland. The clubhouse was purchased from the school in the spring of 1990 about the time the construction of the new high school began. It was erected behind the school in 1969 and served as Gary Nordlie's classroom for 20 years. According to Loren Schoenrock, president of the club, the members repaired the exterior, scraping and repainting in 1993. Club members estimate that if they provide the labor, they will be able to complete the overhaul for a little over \$2,000. They believe it will not only look very nice, but will last for a lifetime – almost!

-David Bryan Nelson, 5, son of Bryan and Joyce (Peterson) Nelson of rural St. James, died Wednesday, July 23, 1997, from injuries sustained in a bicycle-motor vehicle accident.

-After forfeiting the first game to the American Legion Sub-District D baseball tournament, the Jazz came back in the loser's bracket to defeat Lyle 4-1, Thursday night. But on Friday night, Glenville-Emmons ended their hope for advancing in tournament play when they squeezed the Jazz out 5-4. The local squad finished the season 12-5 while G-E holds a 8-9 record.

Star archives, New Richland

25 Years Ago - (1997)

Cedric Pinto, 16, of Tournefeuille, France, is spending four weeks visiting with Gordon, Brenda, Misty, and Shawn Ebnert in New Richland. He arrived July 26 and will return to his home August 25.

-The Waldorf-Pemberton FFA's annual Livestock Show, open to all 4-H and FFA members will be held in the village park at Waldorf, Tuesday, August 1 with judging of livestock starting at 1 p.m. During the evening there will be a concert by the Waldorf-Pemberton high school band, under the direction of James Kopetzki.

-The championship team in the second annual Farm-City Days Church Games was from Vista Lutheran Church with 260 points. Included were a pie eating contest, a scavenger hunt, a water balloon toss, picking safety pins out of rice blindfolded, ana inflating a balloon, carrying it between one's k-nees to a box where it was deposited.

-According to Dave Anthony, Waseca County Weed Control Supervisor, the ag pesticide and herbicide collection held at the New Richland Town Hall in New Richland on Thursday, July 10 was very successful. The only collection held in Waseca County collected a total of 5,200 pounds of discarded chemicals turned in by area farmers.

-It was reported to the New Richland City Council, Monday evening, by City Clerk Gail Schmidt that estimated Local Government Aid for 1998 will increase from the 1997 \$149,775 to \$156,268, an increase of \$6,493.

-The North American Farm and Power Summer Show comes to southeast Minnesota in Mower County for three days July 22, 23, and 24. More than 300 agricultural companies will be represented by leading farm and ranch distributors, manufacturers, and dealers.

-The New Richland American Legion Jazz finished their regular sea-

son 11-3 as they squeezed out a win over Minnesota Lake 4-3 on Thursday. The sub-district tournament begins Saturday at Alden. The Jazzmen have been seeded No. 1, so they will not play until Sunday at 1 p.m. They will meet the winner of the Blooming Prairie-Alden game.

50 Years Ago (1972)

-Two sisters in New Richland paint houses in the summer time to earn money for their college educations, Kathy and Jeanne Lust, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Lust. They enjoy their work, they say, and find it an excellent way to not only earn money, but to develop a summer tan. This is their second year of house painting, and they have become quite efficient.

-The Waldorf-Pemberton FFA's annual Livestock Show, open to all 4-H and FFA members will be held in the village park at Waldorf, Tuesday, August 1 with judging of livestock starting at 1 p.m. During the evening there will be a concert by the Waldorf-Pemberton high school band, under the direction of James Kopetzki.

-Willis Schwichtenberg, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Rueben E. Fischer of rural Ellendale, will be ordained as a Lutheran minister in a worship service on July 30 at 2:00 p.m. in Trinity Lutheran church, Waterville. The Rev. Victor M. Roth will officiate.

-New Richland seems to be the natural "stopping off" place for bicyclers on their way to the West and bicycling has become a very common way to travel. Paul Corrigan of Millinocket, Maine pedaled into town last week and decided the village park looked like a great place to spend the night.

he State Bank of New Richland Girl's Softball team recently completed their first season in the Waseca Women's Softball League by compiling an excellent 10-8 record. The "Bankers", although ranging in ages from 12-14, finished the season in third place in the seven team

league.

75 Years Ago (1947)

-Rotegard's Drug Store was burglarized some time during the night Monday and \$26.85 in cash was taken. Mr. Rotegard made a close check Tuesday morning and could find no further loss in merchandise, or narcotics.

-A terrible accident occurred on a farm about seven miles west of Waldorf at 10 a.m. Monday forenoon, which cost the life of six-year-old Allen Besser. Allen, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Besser, was playing in the yard, riding his express wagon drawn by his dog. As the big truck on the Minnesota Lake milk route pulled into the yard, the dog ran in front of the truck, leaving little Allen directly in line with the front wheel.

-Nick Callahan had an experience Saturday he'll not soon forget. He is employed by Stuart Root and was in the field cultivating corn. Suddenly he felt a sharp pain in one of his legs. The leg became numb and sort of paralyzed and Nick became alarmed and went to the house. A doctor soon found the cause. A bullet had nearly penetrated the fleshy part of his thigh. It was extracted and Nick thinks he'll soon be alright.

Dennis Roesler, 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Roesler, is recovering at the hospital from injuries received in an accident Saturday from which he was fortunate to escape. He was in the farm yard during threshing operations and in some manner got beneath a wagon loaded with grain bundles, unnoticed. When the wagon started moving it ran over him, and might have killed him but for the fact that it was equipped with rubber tires.

100 Years Ago (1922)

-The New Richland-Adams game last Sunday ended in the sixth inning after McCleary, official league umpire, had quit, and an outsider had taken his place. The game ended when New Richland refused to resume play after the new man called

Kline safe at home plate.

-The committee appointed jointly by the local Farm Bureau Unit and the New Richland Community Club has named Thursday, September 21st as the day for New Richland's fall celebration. The chief industry in this community is the dairy industry. The good old dairy cow is our chief source of income and the committee in charge believes that she is of sufficient importance to warrant having a day set apart in her honor. They have, therefore, named it the "Dairy Day" and a special effort will be made to advertise our dairy resources and to boost the dairy business generally.

-The various committees in charge of the Firemen-Band Picnic to be held at St. Olaf Lake next Sunday, have made arrangements for one of the best programs and one of the largest crowds in history, and weather being favorable, the event should be the grandest of all the 27 years of this popular event.

-The Babcock plan, transferring to the state the burden of improving and maintaining the main arterial highways, Minnesota counties and townships immediately reduced tax levies of road and bridge funds by more than \$1,500,000.

-Two sisters in New Richland paint houses in the summer time to earn money for their college educations, Kathy and Jeanne Lust, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Lust. They enjoy their work, they say, and find it an excellent way to not only earn money, but to develop a summer tan. This is their second year of house painting, and they have become quite efficient.

-Olaf Liane has received a certificate from the United States Department of Agriculture that his herd of 36 Holstein cattle is an accredited tuberculosis-free herd. This certificate is issued to him after having for the past three years had his herd properly tested each year and on each occasion no tuberculosis germs were found.

Council adopts moratorium

City of Janesville reviews ramifications of July 1 legislation

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

A new cannabis law passed by the Minnesota state legislature on July 1 has left many cities like Janesville discussing its ramifications. The new law allows statewide sale of edible products and beverages which contain small levels of THC, the mood-altering substance in cannabis.

At their Monday, July 25 meeting, Janesville city council members discussed the possibility of imposing a local moratorium on the otherwise-allowed sales. City Administrator Clinton Rogers informed council members that local entities have been given the authority for such bans in order to correlate the terms of the new law with existing local ordinances: he advised them to do so, thus allowing the city time to study its codes and implement any necessary changes..

Before eventually deciding to follow Rogers' recommendation, council members discussed the option for some time, with levels of disagreement regarding how necessary a moratorium might be.

"The legislature made an amendment to one of its bills at the very last minute," Rogers claimed. "They included the sale of cannabis products, and I'm not sure they totally understood what it did."

Council member Melissa Kopachek had an issue with the moratorium: "I want to stress that what this looked like to other residents was a ban," she said. "I want Janesville to stand out and show that we'll be putting studies in place and try to run something on this."

Rogers replied that by law, the city has to do research on the bill during the time that the moratorium is in effect. "It's also not a ban," he added. "It's a pause."

City Attorney Jason Moran stated that the amount of time the morato-

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

rium is in place depends on many factors. "Adjusting our city code to fit the state laws could happen quickly," he said. "It could also be the gambit of taking 11 to 12 months of figuring things out. This could be the tobacco issue again where one city does one thing and a neighboring city six miles down the road does another. The state will have to clarify this law."

Rogers agreed. "There's a possibility that the legislature will call a special session on this."

Kopachek still felt unsure about doing the moratorium, with fellow council member Jim Mulcahey agreeing. "I don't think we're ready for this yet," he said.

However, the moratorium passed 3-2 with Kopachek and Mulcahey opposing.

Other Business

The city approved two revolving loan requests for two businesses as recommended by the Economic Development Authority. Home Sweet Home Remodeling will be taking over the south side of the Janesville Hardware Store building (211 and 215 N Main Street), while JD3 Properties will take over the other part of the building (213 N Main Street). Both requests were for \$80,000 and will have a duration of 15 years.

Moran and Rogers proposed some changes in local laws to align them with state statutes. One pertained to the time bars are required to close. Referring to some "ambiguity" in the wording of the local ordinance, Moran suggested that clearer wording would benefit all parties.

Council member Kopachek suggested breaking up the amendment reviews. "We should address the hot button issues separately," she said.

"I want Janesville to stand out and show that we'll be putting studies in place and try to run something on this."

— Council member Melissa Kopachek

Rogers went through the police portion of the proposed 2023 general fund budget with the council. The only significant changes were to the equipment budget and insurance. According to Rogers, the police department budgeted for some equipment this year and will not need nearly as many funds next year. However, the city and police department cannot help the rise of insurance costs.

The line item for part-time officers increased slightly as well. "We are struggling to get part-time officers," Ulmen said. "We will be down to three of them soon. We hope bumping that line item up a bit to increase the pay will help."

The last order of business the city took care of was to approve election judges for this November.

Reports

Janesville Police Chief Dave Ulmen reported that the second quarter of 2022 was "fairly active" for the police department.

"Narcotics went up," he pointed out. "It was a busy Hay Daze for us that included the seizure of ten grams of cocaine. We also discovered a Dodge Ram three-quarter ton pickup with significant amounts of marijuana."

Rogers told the council that the city received the first half of its Local Government Aid money coming out to be \$424,000. The second half is anticipated in December. He was also happy to report that the city received a \$10,000 matching grant from the



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Four board seats open for election

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

During the July 21 meeting of the Waseca School Board, it was announced that four of the seven school board members, Katie Youngberg, Scott Deml, Dave Dunn and Charlie Priebe, have terms in office which end on January 1, 2023. Elections for their seats will occur during general elections. Anyone wishing to file for candidacy can do so by submitting appropriate forms (available online) to the district office between August 2 and 16. Information about eligibility and expectations for the positions is available on the district website..

A financial update provided during the meeting reported that fiscal year '22 is being brought to a close and

fiscal year '23 opens soon. An audit is underway.

The deadline has passed for families to use an online portal to verify their children as students for the 2022-23 school year.

Superintendent Eric Hudspith gave an update regarding planned facility upgrades. As board members continue to consider a number of different proposals for construction at the Waseca Intermediate School, the next step is to continue educating the community about the various plans and receiving input.

Hudspith mentioned that teachers are starting to do curricular work now and are preparing for the beginning of the school year. Also mentioned was that the vision card results

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

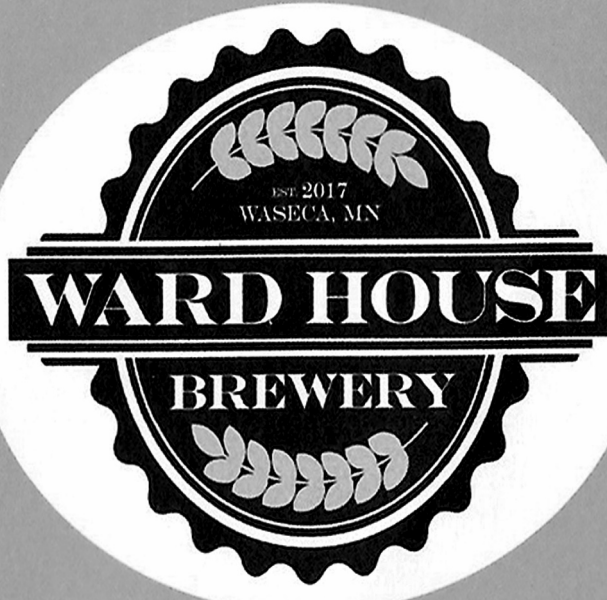
are going to be at the August workshop and that September 6 and 7 will become entrance conference days where parents and students can meet with teachers before the school year starts.

Motion of accounts payable of \$1,464,702.30 and \$15,678.50 for June dental and payroll of \$883,106.16 was approved. Waseca Mayo Clinic was designated as the medical facility for the school. Elizabeth Berry, director of business services, will be authorized to make payments and approval of claims.

Board member reports included

looking at an online system for activity tickets; the approaching 30-year anniversary of the hockey arena; and student council plans for homecoming with coronation scheduled for Thursday, September 29 and the parade and pep fest the next day. The nature park on the west side of the high school and on the south side of the football field is being worked on to make better use of the area for classes or other educational purposes.

Other announcements included that eighteen teachers had achieved tenure, that the superintendent contract had been finalized, and the approval of service animals in the schools which include miniature horses!



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TRADITION - Immanuel Freedom Lutheran Church has sponsored an outdoor mission festival for more than 100 years. Submitted photo

Immanuel Lutheran mission festival

Immanuel Freedom Lutheran Church and its sister congregation Trinity Lutheran Church of Wilton are holding their annual Mission Festival on Sunday, August 7. Weather permitting, the festival is held outdoors in a grove which has been owned for generations by a family whose members attend the church.

The day begins with a 10:30 a.m. service officiated this year by Rev. Dr. Richard Carter, a now-retired minister and theology professor who formerly served in the mission field as a seminary teacher in Nigeria from 1981 to 1987.

A relaxed pot-luck meal is shared at mid-day.

At 2 p.m., a second service is offered. This one will be officiated by Chaplain Rob Nelson, an ordained minister with more than 25 years of experience who served as a missionary in Japan and as minister to churches in Battle Creek, MI, and St. Louis, MO, before becoming an Air Force Chaplain. Having served in Las Vega for two years, he and his family, including 5 children ages

6 to 17, are now stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he leads services and acts as counselor to hundreds of airmen. Chaplain Nelson is son-in-law to Immanuel Church members Paul and Loraine Mueller, married to their daughter, Nicole.

The churches' mission festival has been held for over 100 years, and is one of few remaining from a time when, according to one member of the church, most churches held such events, spreading them across the summer so that an area volunteer band—complete with uniforms—could make room on its schedule. Members of the two congregations still dust off their instruments each year to provide music for the services.

Anyone interested in attending the August 7 event is encouraged to come. To find the venue, travel south of Janesville on County Hwy 3 to one-quarter mile past the Immanuel Freedom Church. Turn left and follow the posted signs. Bench seating is available, but guests may wish to bring their own chairs.

New bishop for local diocese

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Editorial Assistant

In a Facebook post dated June 2, newly appointed Bishop Robert Barron said "Friends, I am overjoyed and humbled to learn that Pope Francis has appointed me the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester." Barron goes on to explain the importance of the role of bishop in a diocese: acting as a spiritual father to the people and priests of the region. "My prayer this morning is that the Lord will give me the grace always to be a good father," Barron said, praying for the grace to be the kind of shepherd to the Catholics of southern Minnesota that is described in the bible. A shepherd leading the way, giving encouragement, and gathering those who have fallen behind.

As Barron looks into the future, he reminisces about his time as the auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. "It is with real sadness in my heart that I take leave of the good people of the Santa Barbara pastoral region.... I will never forget your kindness to me and never cease to draw strength from your faith," he claims.

What some people wonder is what this move means to the work of the "Word on Fire" Catholic Ministries, an institution that Barron started in Chicago in the 1950s with radio programming homilies. As Barron's number of radio homilies grew, he decided to post them online so that people could access them. According to Word on Fire's website, the site's overriding mission is to "spread the Good News of Jesus Christ through

multiple media platforms, engaging people with the goodness, truth, and beauty of Catholicism." Now, Word on Fire shares the gospel through all platforms, including both electronic and print.

Barron assures his followers that those ministries will continue. "I am grateful to all of you who follow and support Word on Fire," he says, ending his post with thanks and prayers for all the people of the Winona-Rochester diocese.

Area Catholics are excited for Barron's move, with followers of the Word on Fire series looking forward to the leadership of an international figure. "We're blessed to have a big name bishop like that to come to little Winona—we are humbled but we are also very grateful because of what he has to offer for this diocese,"



Bishop Robert Barron says local Catholic priest Father Thè Hoàng. "We thank Bishop Quinn for his many years of service."

Risking their lives for a drink of water

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

My cucumbers were starting to produce on my back porch. I have faithfully watered them every day or had someone water them since I planted them. We had 2 nice sized cucumbers almost ready to pick and plenty of flowers and small ones. My daughter got one big one, the deer got the rest. Half of my cucumber plants were eaten. It is devastating.

I am not a professional gardener, no, I put the plants in large patio planters feed them miracle grow every two weeks and actively water them. My tomatoes are 6' tall, my cucumbers were full, the peppers have been producing and my daughter's mulberry bush recovered from its Northern transplant. Not so much now. We still have tomatoes and peppers, but the deer really love cucumbers and mulberry.

This past week's devastation of my garden by the deer have spurred me on to two things. First, I need to get my slug barrel on my shotgun and



The Pastor's Column

In the same way our soul longs for something to fill it. We seek to fill it with any number of things, often with fame, fortune, success, happiness, or love. Yet with each of these good things, they are fleeting, rarely fulfilling and are self-defined. We are the ones that choose when we have that need in our soul filled when we seek to fill it with things in this world, and when we reach some level of success in filling our soul, we are left wanting more. The drink of water that the deer seeks is never enough they must return to the water again and again.

Our souls are filled by one thing. By the hope we have in God. The psalmist continues in chapter 42.

5 Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and 6 my God.

When we feel like God is far off, when things are not going the way we want them to, let us turn from our problems and put our hope in God. Let us praise Him for who He is and what He has given us. Let us remember the good He has granted us and the hope we have for all eternity. For it is in the action of worship, that we take the focus off our problems and fill our souls with the reciprocal love we have for God.

Friends and family at FCC, Please note that this devotional will be reprinted in the Waseca County Pioneer Newspaper every week. It is my desire that we would be a blessing to our community and help them grow in faith as well. Perhaps it will allow us an opportunity to share with our neighbors what God is doing in our church and share the hope we have in Him.

Blessings,
PK

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CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. * * *	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.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 * * *	Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * *	Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship * * *
4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH 605 4th St NE, Waseca 507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker) Worship Sundays 10 a.m * * *	SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 4th St NW, Waseca 507-835-1222 Worship Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sundays 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., weekdays 8:30 a.m. Tues., Wed. and Fri., 7:00 a.m. Thurs. * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship * * *	VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * *	BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship * * *
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 801 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-3167 Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m. * * *	REAL LIFE CHURCH 620 W Elm Ave, Waseca 507-607-8245 Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m. * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Mary Iverson Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting * * *	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 * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN Wilton Township Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor Sunday — 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St. Janesville Father Brian Mulligan 10 a.m. - Mass * * *
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 6th St NE, Waseca 507-835-9176 Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m., Wed. 6:30 p.m. (for the summer) * * *	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS 1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca 507-835-4640 Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m. * * *	FIRST CONGREGATIONAL New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Pamela Jensen Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * *	ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass * * *	THE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS Brad Donner, Branch President Waseca, Minnesota www.lds.org Sunday — 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School Wednesday — 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18 * * *	ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Vacancy Sunday = 1 p.m. Worship * * *
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca 507-833-1703 Sundays 9:00 a.m. * * *	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 1221 8th St SE, Waseca 507-835-2213 Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m. * * *	LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota * * *	FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor Sunday — 8 a.m. Worship; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 412 N. Main Street, Janesville Pastor Brian Johnston Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship; 9:15 Worship w/bible Class, 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota Vacancy Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship * * *
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 314 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-2647 Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m. * * *	CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 900 14th Ave SE, Waseca 507-833-1082 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening * * *		IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * *	JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 401 N. West St., Janesville * * *	NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.

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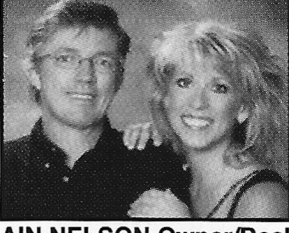
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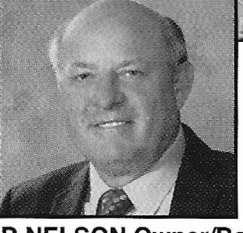
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Click on ABOUT at the top, then contact us.

CITY OF WALDORF, MN
119 Main Street South
2022 GENERAL ELECTION

The following positions to be filled at the General Election are as follows:

MAYOR	2 YEAR TERM	Start	End	
Current Mayor	Rob Wilkening	1/1/2021	12/31/2022	2 Year

COUNCIL MEMBER	4 YEAR TERM	Start	End	
Current Council Member	Carrie Ferch	1/1/2019	12/31/2022	4 Year
Current Council Member	Melissa Sorbo	1/1/2019	12/31/2022	4 Year

Affidavits of Candidacy accepted at Waldorf City Hall
From July 26, 2022 to Aug. 9, 2022 during normal business hours:
Monday and Thursday from 9:00-4:00 p.m.
August 09, 2022 hours are 9:00-5:00 p.m.

Filing Fee \$2.00

SAMPLE BALLOT

State Partisan Primary Ballot
Waseca County, Minnesota
August 9, 2022

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

This ballot card contains a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only.

Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party	Legal Marijuana Now Party	Republican Party	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party
Federal Offices	Federal Offices	Federal Offices	Federal Offices
U.S. Representative District 1 Vote for One	U.S. Representative District 1 Vote for One	U.S. Representative District 1 Vote for One	U.S. Representative District 1 Vote for One
☐ Brian Abrahamson	☐ Richard B. Reisdorf	☐ Brad Finstad	☐ James Rainwater
State Offices	State Offices	☐ Jeremy Munson	☐ George H. Kalberer
Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team	Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team	State Offices	☐ Jeff Ettinger
☐ Darrell Paulsen and Ed Engelmann	☐ Chris Wright and L.C. Lawrence Converse	State Senator District 23 Vote for One	State Offices
☐ Steve Patterson and Matt Huff	☐ James McCaskel and David Sandbeck	☐ Lisa Hanson	State Senator District 23 Vote for One
		☐ Gene Dornink	☐ Brandon Lawhead
		Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team	Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team
		☐ Scott Jensen and Matt Birk	☐ Tim Walz and Peggy Flanagan
		☐ Joyce Lynne Lacey and Kent Edwards	☐ Ole Savior and Julia M Parker
		☐ Bob "Again" Carney Jr and Captain Jack Sparrow	Secretary of State Vote for One
		Secretary of State Vote for One	☐ Steve Carlson
		☐ Erik van Mechelen	☐ Steve Simon
		☐ Kim Crockett	Attorney General Vote for One
		Attorney General Vote for One	☐ Bill Dahn
		☐ Sharon Anderson	☐ Keith Ellison
		☐ Doug Wardlow	
		☐ Jim Schultz	

Continue voting on the nonpartisan ballot.

Continue voting on the nonpartisan ballot.

Continue voting on the nonpartisan ballot.

Continue voting on the nonpartisan ballot.

Vote front and back of ballot

SAMPLE BALLOT

State and County Nonpartisan Primary Ballot
Waseca County, Minnesota
August 9, 2022

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

This ballot card contains a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only.

Federal Offices
Special Election for U.S. Representative District 1 To fill vacancy in term expiring January 3, 2023 Vote for One
☐ Haroun McClellan Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party
☐ Richard B. Reisdorf Legal Marijuana Now Party
☐ Brad Finstad Republican Party
☐ Jeff Ettinger Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party
☐
write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

Nelson powers Braves past Lake Crystal

Waseca advances in baseball playoffs with 10-2 triumph

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

After stranding 14 runners in a 7-4 loss to Morristown in the opening round of the playoffs Saturday, the Waseca Braves blew Lake Crystal out of the water in a 10-2 rout at Tink Larson Field Sunday, July 24.

In front of about 50 fans, ace Kelvin Nelson tossed a gem, allowing two runs on six hits while walking one and striking out nine.

The Braves scored five early runs, providing Nelson with room to work. Nelson helped his own cause in the first inning, reaching first on a hit by pitch. He was run around the bases on two pass balls before scoring on a Chris Glynn groundout to first.

“That fake bunt got ‘em,” coach Tink Larson joked after Glynn successfully pulled back two straight bunt attempts.

Kyle Waugh singled sharply in the inning, but was picked off of first to end the threat.

Nelson needed only six pitches to retire the Lakers in the second.

The Braves added a run in their half of the inning after a pop fly single off the bat of Ryan Wangen was followed by a beautiful sac bunt from Alex Faeney. A two-hopper just fair down the third field line by Peyton Garza plated the second run of the game.

A three-run third put Waseca ahead for good. Nelson, helping his own effort again, led off the inning with a double. After a walk, Waugh redeemed his earlier gaffe, plating both runners with a sharp grounder off the glove of the diving Lakers third baseman. Two batters later, Danny Cromer plated Waugh with a double off the base of the right field wall. The Braves left two runners in scoring position, but the damage was done.

In the fourth, the Lakers notched their first run of the game after a lead off double from Dom Camacho was plated via a Justin Schwanke single.

Camacho later scored the second and final run for the Lakers after he reached via an infield single in the sixth. He scored on a misread ball, resulting in an RBI double for Adam Sulkow.

The Braves exploded for five runs in the eighth, threatening to end the

“If the pitched ball doesn’t cross the foul line, then it’s a balk.”

— Tink Larson

game early via the 10-run rule, if not for a home-run-length ball gone foul.

Alex Feeney and Cromer led off the eighth with singles and both scored on a Scooter Hansen sharp single between short and third. Scooter later scored on a pass ball after a balk put him on third. An interesting moment occurred when, initially, Scooter was called out at third. Larson argued the call, resulting in the umpires making the correct call of a balk, requiring the Lakers to retake the field defensively.

“If the pitched ball doesn’t cross the foul line, then it’s a balk,” Larson explained. “He fell during his delivery and so that explains that.”

The Lakers pitcher, notably, had a unique stance which, while in the windup, included him starting with his back to the batter, with a spin incorporated into his delivery.

After the balk, a walk and hit batsman put Nelson and Flynn on base, who scored on a single from Waugh and a double by Wangen.

“Wangen didn’t come through with the home run, but he did have three nice hits today,” Larson said after the game.

The Lakers went quietly in the ninth. Not one time during the game did the Braves have someone up in the bullpen.

After the game, head coach Blake Nelson told the Braves they will play Saturday against one of three teams: Wells, Blue Earth or Minnesota Lake. “We can beat any one of those,” Blake said. “We just need to continue to improve offensively and defensively.”

Neither team had any errors as the Lakers’ season came to an end. Saturday afternoon, July 31, the Braves travel to whomever the high seed is remaining of the three teams listed above.



SUPERMAN - Chris Glynn dives home to score during second round playoff action for the Braves, who hosted Lake Crystal Sunday, July 24, defeating the Lakers 10-2. After the play Glynn said he needed the photo for his online dating profile, and was told it not only would be posted on the *Pioneer Facebook* page, but also appear in next week’s edition. So, Ladies, Chris is in fact single and ready to mingle. The Braves return to action Saturday July 30 on the road versus a remaining high seed.



VETERANS - Left-hander Kelvin Nelson pitched a complete game Sunday, striking out nine. Nelson has been with the Braves since his senior year of high school, more than a decade. Above, DH Ryan Wangen dives back to the bag after a pickoff attempt. Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens



Legion baseball is back

Janesville fields team for first time in seven years

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

The Janesville American Legion Baseball team completed its season recently. The team showed some potential in two playoff games in Blue Earth, but eventually lost both after fighting tough battles at the plate and on the mound.

Head coach Cory Jewison stated that the first playoff game in Blue Earth was against Martin County West. It was a great matchup which unfortunately had to have a loser: Janesville lost to MCW 6-4.

The second game, against Truman, lasted three hours and went to 10 innings before ending as a 7-4 loss.

With these losses, Janesville had a final record of 5-7-1 for the 2022 season.

This year marked the first season in seven years that the Janesville American Legion fielded a team, with Jewison leading the way. Jewison had a few observations to share.

Favorite moments

“I would definitely say watching the boys continue playing a game they love was a favorite moment of mine,” Jewison stated. “They have a strong bond and seeing guys step up in the summer from high school was fun.”

Jewison was especially impressed with the team’s perseverance. “The best thing about this summer was watching the boys fight back in so many games and keep losses close,” he said. “They are learning how to be in critical moments and come together as a team. I told them that will go a long way in the future.”

The team did lose soon-to-be junior Ty Melchior to injury. He broke his fibula during a game against New Richland during the middle of the season.

How did the team improve?

“I am excited for the future of this Legion team.”

— Coach Cory Jewison

Coach Jewison talked a lot about the team’s improvement throughout the season, especially their aggressiveness at the plate. “They did a great job attacking the ball all over the field,” he said. “We doubled our doubles in the summer versus the spring season in five less games. We also reached 120 hits in five fewer games.”

He added that the pitchers were much better at throwing compared to during the school year. “They threw a lot more first-pitch strikes and allowed a lot fewer walks. We do have some things to improve upon before next spring, but that’s how you become a better team. We learned about ourselves and as a team—including myself.”

Key loss

Blake Cowdin, who recently graduated from JWP High School, will be a key loss to the Legion team. “He was a key player for us this summer,” Jewison stated.

Other comments

“I am excited for the future of this Legion team – not necessarily with the team specifically, but the program as a whole,” Jewison said. “I think if we continue to play in the summer, then the program will improve.”

“This was our first year playing Legion ball, so I think there were definitely ups and downs,” Jewison added. “But I enjoyed coaching all of these boys. I am excited for what the future holds. All of these boys aren’t just great players, but great kids. Each one of them has a bright future. I am excited to see them develop as athletes and adults.”



2022 JWP Graduate Blake Cowdin, delivers a strike during a recent Jays legion game against Maple River. Pioneer photo by Michael Roy