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LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY
No. 30 Vol. V \$2 Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca Thursday, July 23, 2026



Strawberries

**In a Bind at Club 57
Thursday, July 23**

In a Bind will be performing at the Club 57 on the patio event from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, July 23. They play a variety of hit music.

**Still Water at Christ
Community Church
Friday, July 24**

Southern Gospel Quartet from Kentucky Still Water will be in concert at Christ Community Church in Waseca at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 24. This event is free to attend, but they will accept free-will donations. 2200 4th St. NE Waseca.

**Chris Mims at Indian
Island Winery July 24**

Musician Chris Mims will play the Indian Island Winery from 6-8:30 p.m. on Friday, July 24. He plays rock and country.

**Fund 85 Run at
Waseca Legion July 25**

The Waseca American Legion Riders are having their Fund 85 motorcycle run at 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 25. Hot beef sandwiches, live music, this is a motorcycle run to help Minnesota veterans and their families.

**Band for the Barn at
Farmamerica July 25**

The Band for the Barn event will take place at Farmamerica from 5-9 p.m. on Saturday, July 25. Enjoy an evening of live music, delicious food and beautiful country views, and it's for a great cause. Bring a lawn chair and some friends, this event is 18+.

**Dan Tanz & the
Wildfire at Pleasant
Grove Pizza Farm
Sunday, July 26**

Dan Tanz and the Wildfire will play the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm from 1-7 p.m. on Sunday, July 26. They curate a selection of bluegrass standard and deep cuts, blending progressive favorites and high, lone-some harmonies.

**Waldorf Picnic for the
Park July 29**

A meal of hot dogs, beans, chips, a beverage and dessert will be served on the east lawn of the Lutheran Church in Waldorf beginning at 5:30 p.m. There is no charge for the meal, but a free-will offering is being collected to help toward purchasing new playground equipment for the city park. The church is located at 120 Third Avenue North in Waldorf. In case of unsuitable weather, the event will take place at the city community center.

**Free Children's
Classes at Waseca Art
Center July 30**

There will be a free children's art class featuring Whimsical Bendy Dolls from 1-3 p.m. on Thursday, July 30. Join us to create your own bendy doll and dress up as you wish, as a fairy, witch, pirate or anything! Ages 7-11.

**Pillow Cleaning at
Sacred Heart August 1**

Sacred Heart is having their annual Pillow Cleaning from 8 a.m. through 1 p.m. at the east door on Saturday, August 1. Sponsored by Catholic Daughters.

*A word from
The Word*

*Turn from evil and
do good; seek peace
and pursue it.
Psalm 34:14*

Farm and City Days, July 17, 18 and 19, 2026



Jen Weber announces the honor, Brandy Jacobson delivers the Grand Marshal award to Pam Goehring and Barb Wildgrube of the New Richland Area Historical Society during the annual Farm and City Days breakfast, Saturday morning, July 18, 2026.

**Historical Society,
Goehring, Wildgrube
serve as Grand Marshals
Farm and City Days committee
prepares for 150th anniversary**

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

Hundreds of visitors and residents were in attendance throughout Farm and City Days weekend in New Richland, July 17 to 19. Few complaints were heard regarding the weather which was a little bit cooler than expected with highs maxing out around 85 degrees.

The most popular attractions included the classic car show, which drew more than 100 cars. There were 109 cars last year, a record 149 in 2024 and 127 cars in 2023.

Named this year's "Best of Show" was Todd Moran's 1963 Buick Riviera. The rest of the car awards were:

Mayor's Choice - Bob Neudecker's 1955 Dodge Lancer
Best GM - Burt and Doreen Doyles' 1969 Pontiac GTO Judge
Best Ford - Gary Bergeson's 1932 Ford Sedan
Best Mopar - Steve Clark's 1970 Phy RR (roadrunner)
Best of the Rest - Shorty Stickler's 1935 International Bus

Top 25

Jim Miller 1962 Chevy Impala SS; Jeff Quam 1964 Chevy Nova; Dave and Lori Lembke 1929 Ford Tudor; Rick Kendall 1950 Mercury 2 door; Derek Fette 1983 Buick Electra; Mike Klampe 1955 Chevy Bel Air; Dale Paulson 1963 Chevy Impala SS; Gary and Joanne Hagen 1969 Pontiac Firebird; Jim Mladek 1955 Chevy Nomad; Craig Anderson 1976 Chevy C10; Phalen Seedorf 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air Dennis and Faye Malecha 1950 Chevy Pick-up; Gary Johnson 1958 Chevy Impala; Mike Lockie 1965 Plymouth Satellite; Tom Clark '62 Chevy Impala; Rick Bliss 1946 Chevy Pick-up; Brian Mendenhall 1972 C10; Matt Thompson 1967 Chevy Nova SS; Dan Schultz '58 Ford Custom 300; Terry Prokopec 1967 Chevy Chevelle; Mike McClary 1962 Chev, Chevy II; Sylvia Christiansen 1974 Dodge Challenger; Larry Ferris 1969 Ford Mustang Con V.; Dave Arnfelt 1973 Chev. Chevelle SS; Layne Groskreutz



KIDS ZONE - Saturday featured many events for kids, including a kid zone, a monkey trampoline and a kids tractor pull.

1955 Cadillac Series 62.

New this year was a VR Experience on Friday night, a Chicken Plop event Saturday, the Dino Lab event held at the public library. The Steeple Event Center held an open house Saturday.

Returning for the second year were adult tricycle relay races sponsored by the State Bank of New Richland.

A fun run sponsored by New Richland's Panther Power House helped kick off Saturday's schedule at 8 a.m.

Other popular events included Neighbor's Meat's kids' grilling contest, and Power Pedal Tractor Pull for ages 4 to 11 (sponsored by NR Auto Repair, Midwest Repairables and Thompson's Body Shop).

Saturday night included a well-behaved crowd at the street celebration, with AZBY performing.

A parade showcased many,



many groups and organizations. Selected as this year's parade grand marshal was the New Richland Historical Society, represented by Barb Wildgrube and Pam Goehring. The organization celebrated its 25th anniversary this year.

A plethora of other events took place, including Water Wars with the New Richland Fire Department, and many different displays throughout town.

These displays and more are shown throughout this edition of the newspaper.

This year's winning button numbers are 47; 183; 329; 571 and 742. Winners can contact farmandcitydays@gmail.com

The Farm and City Days Committee deserves a lot of credit for its efforts to put together our annual community-wide celebration.

F&C continued on 8

**Faith, caring and
progress follow accident**

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

"People should realize how much difference two seconds can make," advises Joy Gottschalk, who was the victim of a January accident during which she was struck by a vehicle. "We all need to slow down and pay closer attention."

The afternoon of January 14, Joy, 65, was walking between locations in Waseca's downtown area taking care of some bills. The next thing she knew, she was returning to consciousness in a Rochester hospital to be informed she had been hovering between life and death for about 10 days while her family had been making critical medical decisions.

She had been airlifted to Rochester, having experienced head trauma and compound breaks in her right arm and leg. She remained unconscious all through the

emergency treatments and beyond, so she received a tracheotomy to help with her oxygen intake and a feeding tube for nourishment.

"I don't know what it is, but God must have a purpose for me, because I'm still here," observes Joy. "I could have died; I could have been a vegetable. But instead I'm getting better every day."

"Getting better" is an ongoing process. Joy has not resided in her home since January. After a 33-day stay in Rochester, she moved to a facility in Mankato where "I'm getting physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy," she says, explaining that although she is no longer staying in Mankato, she continues to receive services there. She now resides in a Waseca facility.

Gottschalk continued on 8



LOVE + MERCY - Waseca resident Joy Gottschalk sustained serious injuries when she was struck by a vehicle while crossing a downtown Waseca street in January. She attributes her survival and ongoing recovery to God's love and mercy. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

**WALDORF
CITY COUNCIL**

**Waldorf
keeps
traditional
state flag**

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The Waldorf city council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 13. It was shared during the meeting that council members have voted to display the original Minnesota flag at city buildings.

A Waldorf Picnic for the Park event will take place from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on the lawn of First Lutheran, located at 120 Third Ave N. Hot dogs, beans, chips, dessert, and a beverage will be served. There will be no posted charge for the meal, but the Parks and Recreation Committee will accept free-will donations. If it rains, the picnic will be at the community center. The committee is just a little over the halfway mark towards its goal of \$110,000. Installation of the park equipment is planned to begin in August.

The fire department has decided not to include a children's portion of the water fight during Waldorf Days. The Waldorf fire department donated \$5,000 to the new park. The Waldorf Fireman's Burger and Sweet Corn Feed (part of Waldorf Days) is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21. The city will spray the week before the city celebration to keep the mosquitos under control.

City resident Kathy Grinnell requested a break on her water bill, which was \$800 due to a leaking toilet which has since been fixed. A motion was made to bring the cost down to \$250. Regarding the city water system, \$4,009 was not collected, with 14 no pays, and six partial payments.

The council voted to increase pay for election judges to \$25 an hour; the hope is to keep the level of pay competitive.

A resolution was made to change the city's ordinance violation policy. In addition to a letter of warning on the first violation and a financial penalty on the second, if a third violation occurs, the Waseca County Sheriff's office will be called in to visit with the individual. The sheriff's office will be provided with the information needed for these conversations. This policy is similar to that currently used in New Richland.

A resolution was passed adopting an amended fee schedule for 23 different costs charged by the city, including water meters and late fees. There will be zero fees for heavy loads permits, excavation permits, peddler or transient merchant permits, costs for reviewing, and investigating and administering.

Council continued on 5



Compostings

by Al Batt

I couldn't care fewer

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
That sign should be "10 items or fewer" instead of "10 items or less."

Are you obsessed with gram-mar?

No, I couldn't care fewer.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It's a harsh world. Day breaks and night falls. I was on the outskirts of a city. Steven Wright said, "You can't have everything. Where would you put it?" I know. The answer was there on the edge of town: Storage units. A stop before the landfill.

It was hot. How hot was it? It was so hot that the artificial flowers were wilting in the cemetery. A robin blew on the worms before eating them. It was as hot as a porta-potty at a habanero festival. I used one of my shoes as a cup holder for my water bottle. I needed to stay hydrated while thinking of getting a Subaru Kangaroo for short hops.

Someone who didn't know what a muffler was had driven by in the middle of the night. He wanted to make sure I was up early enough to buy things. I've had some surgeries, but I'm still capable of locomotion. I know people who have had umpteen surgeries, and that's a lot. I need to make myself useful. When I was a boy, walking down a grocery aisle was a big event. Now that I'm a kadult, I'm trying to resurrect that feeling when I go grocery shopping. I read the product labels as if they hold the answers to humankind's eternal questions. I look for foods with little or no sugar and sodium. A noble quest. Fruitless pursuits for \$200, Alex. I found motor oil enticing—one serving gives me 0% of my Daily Value (DV) of both sugar and sodium—but it tastes like motor oil.

A WAYFARING STORYTELLER

I was in Eldon, Iowa, and stopped at the Dibble House, which inspired Grant Wood's famous 1930 painting "American Gothic." Wood never set foot in the house. The farmer and the woman in the painting represented a father and his daughter. Wood modeled the man after his dentist and the woman after Wood's sister. The house features a distinctive upper window in the Gothic Revival style, which gave the painting its name. American Gothic might be the most parodied painting in history. It became an icon by capturing the American spirit and resilience.

Tom Arnold and Roseanne Barr operated Roseanne and Tom's Big Food Diner in Eldon from 1993 to

1995. The short-lived diner featured a menu focused on loose-meat sandwiches. Arnold was born and raised in nearby Ottumwa.

I'VE LEARNED

Missouri and Tennessee each border eight other states. Missouri borders: Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska. Tennessee borders: Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Missouri.

Alaska is the northernmost state in the U.S. The northernmost Lower 48 state is Minnesota. Its Northwest Angle extends above the 49th parallel into the Lake of the Woods.

The part of the body where one cannot reach to scratch is the acnes-tis.

The first legal meat raffle in Minnesota took place in Albert Lea in 1978 as part of a 4-H fundraiser.

Toast has a dark side.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

The Institute for Unfinished Research concluded that 6 of every 10 people...

Where did Benedict Arnold shop for his groceries? Traitor Joe's.

In England, it's called a lift. In the U.S., it's called an elevator. People are raised differently.

NATURE NOTES

A robin, a fine bird, sang in the rain. I consider that song to be a rain song, even if it isn't. It rains, and there is a song. That seems right.

Our backyard looks like a home for wayward ferns. I didn't even have to start a GoFronDMe campaign.

It's a good year for fireflies. Fireflies do well in damp conditions. The same can be said for mosquitoes. It's a good year for mosquitoes, too. What's good for the lightning bug is good for the skeeter. I swat mosquitoes, but that only monitors the population and doesn't affect it.

Hummingbird moths (sphinx moths), which are often mistaken for hummingbirds, visit flowers to feed on nectar. They don't harm the plants.

Fledgling rose-breasted grosbeaks are slow-moving, as if weary or lethargic. I watched an adult male crack open sunflower seeds and feed the kernels to a fledgling begging on a platform feeder. Males flash pink or reddish under the wings, while females show a yellowish color. If an immature bird has pink feathers on the breast, it's a male.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."—Princess Diana.



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

Going 'swishing'

I spent a few days this past week up at my family's cabin near Akeley. With the warm high temperatures we've been experiencing, it was the perfect time to be "at the lake."

Astoundingly, our thermometer in the lake claimed the water was about 83 degrees—although that was in shallower water off the dock. Still, there was no "Oh! That's cold!" reaction as a person lowered into the water, even in the middle of the lake.

I had borrowed three teenagers, ages 13, 14, and 15, for the trip, figuring it would be a shame and a loss if only my brother and I were able to enjoy the escape from the heat. The vast majority of our time was spent in or on the water; one approach to summer heat my family has often used is to go "swishing," that is, to fish for a while and then jump on in. You know it's hot out when you get overly warm sitting on a boat.

Once at the cabin, though, I learned of a distressing travesty. None of the teenagers had ever been to the headwaters of the Mississippi River. I informed them they were not qualified to call themselves Minnesotans—and could therefore not earn Minnesota drivers' licenses—until they had been to Itasca State Park.

They found my adamance on the subject confusing, but since they all hope to be licensed drivers someday, they consented to a day trip to two nearby state parks.

We went first to Lake Bemidji

State Park. At nearly 7,000 acres, it's a big park with a fair list of offerings including access to hiking and bike trails, a swimming beach, and a fairly large campground. Our objective, though, was the "bog walk," a 1,200 foot boardwalk through a wet area where specialized plants grow.

Though my brother and I had heard of the bog walk and been interested, neither of us had visited it before. I guess the picture in my head was that we would drive to a parking area and then walk out onto the raised walkways. Knowing it would be shaded, I figured the day's heat wouldn't be much of a problem.

Now let me put it this way: Talking about the bog walk that evening, I said that, if I were informed the next day, Saturday, could be an exact repeat of our Friday unless I chose to change something (weather excluded), I would do it again. I said something like, "Yes, it was a long walk (more than half a mile made even longer by the heat and humidity) from the parking lot to the boardwalk, and yes, it was hot and strenuous walking on sandy gravel with a fair number of hills, and yes, I was drenched in sweat when I finally got back to the car—but I would do it again." The boardwalk goes through a truly interesting area with all sorts of little surprises. There are many unusual plants, often marked by small placards, as well as occasional spots to sit and just appreciate the en-



Deb "borrowed" teenagers (from left) Montgomery, Alex and Juniper Revermann for a trip to the cabin, and then insisted they had to visit the Mississippi headwaters at Lake Itasca.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

vironment and what it has to offer.

In other words, the boardwalk was worth the unanticipated effort and discomfort we faced in getting to it. Make no mistake, when I do go again, I will choose a cooler day—but the experience was very worthwhile. With that adventure managed, we headed toward Itasca. The drive was quite a bit longer than it might otherwise have been because of road construction. And because we missed a sign somewhere along the way, we ended up on dusty back roads recommended to us by the GPS.

By the time we got to the park, the heat of the day was starting to wane. Along with that, the walkways at Itasca are smoother and well shaded; the path from the parking lot to the headwaters is the length I wish it had been at Lake Bemidji.

The teens and I headed down.

Since he already holds a Minnesota driver's license, and has been to the headwaters a fair number of times, my brother satisfied himself with a stop at the visitor center.

I believe that, if I had asked my

companions as we arrived in the parking lot how long they wanted to stay at Itasca, they would have said something like, "Let's just go see it, and then we can head back to the cabin for supper." As they arrived at the stepping stones, though, they seemed to acquire some enthusiasm for the destination. They walked across the stones and across the square beam which spans the river there at the start. It wasn't long before two of them were neck deep in the water of Lake Itasca, even though swimming had not been a planned part of the stop.

We were probably there more than an hour, rather than the "few minutes" they would have originally suggested. All in all, I would classify the trip as a success—and now the teens are authorized to call themselves Minnesotans.

Our warm day away from the cabin was also a reminder of how lucky we were to be at a lake, where we could spend the rest of our stay swimming, fishing, and "swishing" to our hearts' content.

Winning big at the casino, in my own way

Of all the things I've ever wanted to do in life, gambling has never been one of them.

I know many kids who turned 18 and bought scratch-off lottery tickets at the gas station because now they could. When I turned 18, I went sky diving, and I've never bought a lottery ticket.

Sometimes, when people turn 21, they want to go to a casino and gamble, experiencing the bright lights and energetic atmosphere. Or they like to go for someone's birthday, for fun, or to win a bunch of money.

I had never gone to a casino before last weekend. That is, I had never gone for the purpose of gambling, or spent more than a few seconds in the room. So when I was offered a chance to truly experience a casino and gambling for a night, I accepted.

The nearest gambling spot to Denver is Black Hawk, near Idaho Springs. It's a quaint little mountain town, built for casinos. As a person drives through the town, one passes cute historic buildings, which I realized I could get 14 if I were to keep "Oh, that building's really cool....oh, that building is a casino," more than



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

half the time.

So it dawned on me early that the town was built for casinos, or casinos built the town. The bigger hotel casinos were on the outskirts, but you could still bounce around like pinballs to each different casino and hit most of them in a night.

Anyway, Jack and I went to Black Hawk with his sister and brother-in-law and two of their friends for his brother-in-law's birthday. They stayed in one of the casino hotels for the night, which is the way to go. It was nice to start in the room, go out gambling, and then have a place to come back to where you could hang out with friends and have conversations.

The reason I'm bringing up this

weekend is because I realized that I love going to casinos—and I didn't even gamble. I spent \$1.75 on the night: one dollar at the claw machine and 75 cents on the little crank candy machines.

Maybe I'm just too tight with my money, or maybe I've lost any interest in gambling from watching patrons at the bar lose hundreds or thousands of dollars in a night, but I didn't have a single urge to gamble at the casino. I did have a ton of fun watching Jack play blackjack, his brother-in-law winning big at roulette, and watching Jack's sister go for the bonus on one of the colorful slot games that made no sense to me.

And don't even get me started with the people watching. Casinos

have anywhere from the young punks trying their hands at everything and enjoying time with friends, to older people hunched over and camped out at their slot machines. You have the serious people who are too far in to back out now, hunched over their chips protectively, and the people there smiling and laughing and throwing fate to the wind.

While it was a bit sad watching people ultimately lose quite a bit of money, and we swapped stories of people maxing out the ATM or losing thousands or millions of dollars, the vibe at the casino was fun. My favorite part was the free soda and coffee machine. I spent the entire night going from cups of Diet Pepsi, to Dr. Pepper, to iced coffee, to root beer and a suicide, to a hot coffee, and back to Diet Pepsi. I had a blast.

All this to say, if anyone ever wants a casino buddy or a DD, let me know.

My Determination: "Act as if you're a wealthy man, rich already, and then you'll surely become rich." — Jordan Belfort, The Wolf of Wall Street

Only two aces left in the deck

The cribbage faceoffs with my dad continue. This week I took home the majority, 11-6. Dad registered one skunk, which decreased my lead and gave us even totals. Prior to Monday evening, I was up 7-3 in games. That evening, up three to one in games, we were playing our final game. The difference in the evening happened in game two. Dad had the advantage. He was dealing, which meant I counted first. I needed 15 points to win. I was dealt a hand of 10, 10, 7, 3, 2, 2. Assessing the situation, I realized I could get 14 if I were to keep the 10, 3, 2, 2 and cut an ace.

I did exactly that. Now I just needed to peg for a pair and I would come out on top. I led out a 2, hoping Dad would play another 2 or a face-card. He played a 6, making the count 8. I played my 10, making the count 18. He played his 8, making it 26. After some thought, I played my 3. He played an ace, which allowed me to play my final 2 for five points. As I am writing this, I realize my dad miscounted when he said 25 with his 8. The count should have been 26. I could not have played the way I did for five points. Meaning he would have played 31 for four points, leaving me a final peg for one. I don't



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

think he had enough with his crib so I would likely still have won, but the dramatic ending that I remember is now undone, since I realize we misplayed.

When things like what I just described happen, we write down our complaints and will write a full letter to "Commissioner Bortle" with our list of grievances for him to rule on. Terry Bortle, of Waseca, is one of our longtime family friends, against whom we have both played thousands of games of cribbage. He will have the arduous precarious privilege of determining who is in the right in these situations. In this case, I should probably concede that dramatic win to my dad. But also, to cut one of only two remaining Aces in the deck and then peg five in order to win felt pretty cool.

In our supposed final game of the night, up 3-1 in games, my dad said

it would be our last one. I said if he skunked me, then we would have to play a tie breaker, since skunks are worth two wins. He agreed.

This meant I was hoping he would skunk me because it would mean we would get to play another game.

He did.

The difference in that game happened on a hand in which I was dealt two face cards, a pair of fives and a pair of sevens. It was his crib, so ordinarily I would not have given him the huge advantage throwing the pair of sevens would lead to.

But I wanted Dad to skunk me, so I threw them. The decision was defensible because I kept 10 points. However, I have learned playing a little more conservatively with my father leads to me winning more often. So I did the opposite of what my gut said to do.

The result was a 28 point swing. I

cut a six, which would have given me 16 points had I kept it the way my gut told me. Instead I had 10 points and my dad had a 24-point crib as he threw a pair of eights to match up nicely with the sevens.

I won the final game, which came down to the final hand. Had I not pulled up lame at the end, I could have skunked him back.

In between games my dad stepped outside for a smoke break. I joined him and a wave of memories of playing ping pong washed over me. We played hundreds of games of ping pong throughout my teenage years—on our porch, at night, with lamps taped and strung up to light the deck. I hadn't thought about those memories in years. Our neighbor Barb said she had to adjust to the noise of the ping pong ball hitting paddles. Once she did, though, she said it was hard to sleep without it.

My dad mentioned how, when we started playing, he could beat me while playing left-handed. But when we finally stopped playing, I was beating him playing left-handed.

"We both got older," I told him.

I don't actually like winning when

Cribbage continued on 8

WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

SERVING THE WHOLE OF WASECA COUNTY
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GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

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AMELIA ROESSLER
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JON LUCCA
BEN REVERMANN
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OBITUARIES

Elizabeth McIntire

Elizabeth “Betsy” McIntire, age 63, of Owatonna, Minnesota, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on July 13, 2026, at Cedar Lodge Assisted Living in Owatonna.

Betsy was born on June 25, 1963, in Rochester, MN, the youngest daughter of Homer “Mac” and Elizabeth “Betty” McIntire of Waseca. She attended school in Waseca, including elementary school at Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary, middle school at Central, before graduating from Waseca High School in 1982. She graduated from Mankato State University in 1993.

Betsy was known for her genuine kindness, friendly demeanor, and bright smile. She worked for Carlson Craft Printing in Mankato for many years, only leaving to move to Colorado. In Colorado, she met & married Keith Beggs, and although they divorced in 1999, they were blessed with a son, Joshua.

While she enjoyed her time in Colorado, she and Joshua moved back home to Waseca, to the delight of Betty, her mother, later moving to Owatonna.

Betsy was constantly concerned about the well-being of others, from her brothers and sister, extending to her nephews and nieces and friends. She found great joy in the simple things: gathering with friends and family, playing Bingo and Gin (regularly beating John & Nancy), and cheering on her beloved Vikings. She absolutely loved cats, especially her cat Bandit.

Due to health issues, she moved into Cedar Lodge Assisted Living in 2022, making friends with everyone. She was also supported by Moments Hospice of Mankato, so combined with the Cedar Lodge personnel, Betsy was always surrounded by caring individuals. We’d like to thank the entire staff for their continuous care and kindness toward Betsy. She felt you were all family.

Betsy is survived by her brothers Marty (Becky) and John (Ann), and sister Nancy



Elizabeth McIntire

(Dave), her son Josh LaMotte, nieces and nephews Brad (Jenny), Brian (Natalie), Kimberley, Craig, Katie (Brian), James, Eileen, and Mary, great nephews & nieces Logan, Hayden, Ethan, Amelia, and Teddy.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Homer & Betty McIntire, her brother, Robert McIntire, grandparents Homer Sr. & Eileen McIntire and Robert and Irene Glennon. May their memory be a blessing.

A celebration of Betsy’s life and funeral mass will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Waseca. Visitation will be held from 9:30 AM until the time of services at the church on October 10th. Burial will be at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca followed by a luncheon in the Sacred Heart Fellowship Hall.

The family kindly requests that, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to the Homer and Elizabeth McIntire Endowment Fund (Waseca Area Foundation) or to your favorite charity in her memory.

The family would especially like to thank the staff at Cedar Lodge Assisted Living of Owatonna and Moments Hospice of Mankato/Rochester for all their amazing care and support. She truly felt at home. Special thanks to Matt O’Brian and the late Bea O’Brian, who have been her long-time trust advisors. Thank you all!

Strawberries-N-Creme, Loon Lake Tea feed the fair

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

It seems sticking to values of down-to-earth simplicity can lead to a lot of complications. At least, that might be one point fair vendors Kelly Miller and John Gotz, owners of the Strawberries-N-Creme and Loon Lake Iced Tea businesses at the Waseca County Fair might share.

Strawberries -N-Creme has been a vendor at the county fair for about 40 years, having been begun by Waseca entrepreneur Gayle O’Regan. Miller and Gotz purchased the business in 2018, when O’Regan had let people know she was retiring.

“We wanted to retain her philosophy of simplicity and fresh, high-quality ingredients while adding branding, operational expertise and defined culture all our own.”

Miller, a 1984 graduate of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton school district, had grown up in the area, and remembered always seeking out Strawberries-N-Crème at the fair because she loved the simple combination of fresh berries layered in non-dairy whipped cream. She and Gotz, an Austin native, had met in the Twin Cities and become a couple. Having earned degrees in human resources and marketing at Minnesota State University Mankato, Miller had established a career as a consultant in human resources. Gotz worked in residential remodeling and construction.

In 2018 when Strawberries-N-Crème became available, they felt their complementary talents could bring some innovations to the summer task of operating a concession booth at the fair. By 2021, they had moved to Waseca to be closer to family.

Today, Miller laughs when people suggest that the concession business is simply selling to customers during the Waseca Fair and the State Fair—that she works only two weeks out of the year.

A conversation with her quickly reveals the amount of time and many steps needed to prepare for and then operate what have become two successful concession businesses: Strawberries-&-Crème and Loon Lake Iced Tea.

Miller says the underlying philosophy behind both booths is the same: provide wholesome, fresh products coupled with friendly, welcoming customer engagement. The result has been a strong and loyal following for both stands. Customers often share memories of coming for strawberries year after year as part of their State

Fair experience. The iced tea booth has repeat customers that talk about all the flavors they tried and want to know where they can get it outside of the fairs.

During the Waseca fair, a staff of about 15 is needed to keep things flowing smoothly. About four at a time are interfacing with the public while at least that many are in the background working at a specially equipped trailer. Workers acquire and prepare the needed supplies—including cleaning and stemming the strawberries, whipping the topping, brewing the tea and delivering products and supplies to the stands.

Having both booths at the Waseca Fair, says Miller, is a good warmup for the State Fair, where everything increases in speed and intensity. Her staff of 15 becomes 50. Sales are rapid, requiring ramped up systems to keep the booths supplied.

“The parfaits are flying out the door,” describes Miller regarding Strawberries-&-Crème. “There are times we go through 64 pounds of strawberries in six minutes.”

The single kitchen trailer supports both stands; two campers for Miller, Gotz and others means they “rarely leave the fairgrounds for the 12 days of the fair,” describes Miller. To keep up with the startling number of strawberries needed, Miller has continued a relationship Gayle started with the parishioners of a nearby congregation with a school and commercial kitchen. About 30 church members are paid by the pound to come to the church daily to clean and stem between 600 and 1,200 pounds of strawberries through the morning. Other volunteers wash dishes and clean and sanitize equipment. The money earned is all donated back to the parish, Miller says.

On site at the State Fair, the non-dairy topping is whipped and Tea of various flavors is brewed and cooled. Workers are kept busy shuttling the food, beverages and supplies to the two concession stands; an often repeated round-trip walk that has had Gotz and others walking as much 23 miles in a single day.

This year, Miller reports, state fair organizers have informed Strawberries-&-Crème that it will be in a new location—a potentially worrisome problem because the stand’s many loyal customers will have to come looking for it. Still, Miller says, she and Gotz have decided “not to waste a good crisis” and have used the change as an opportunity to create a new food item for the stand and add a fenced area to the opera-



SWEET FUN - Owner/operator of Strawberries-N-Creme Kelly Miller (center) with servers Sadie Schimming, left, and Chelsia Eneboe during the Waseca County Fair.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently



Titan Rahe and Kallen Glynn served Loon Lake Iced Tea during the Waseca County Fair.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Outdoor summer mission festival August 2

Following a tradition many decades in the making, an outdoor mission festival will take place in a grove about 7 miles south of Janesville. Church services will be at 10:30 and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 2, with a potluck lunch at noon.

Seating is available, or those attending may choose to bring their own chairs. Music will be provided by a band composed of church members and other volunteers.

Officiant for the day will be Rev. Dr. Richard E. Carter, professor emeritus at Concordia University of St. Paul. He and his wife Miriam served in international mission work in east and southeast Asia.

Those attending may take part in any portions of the day they prefer. Those planning on the meal are asked to bring a

dish to pass.

To arrive at the location of the festival, participants should begin at Freedom Lutheran Church, 30266 35th Street, south of Janesville along County Road 3. Driving south from there, many signs will be posted to mark the way. Drivers will turn east (left) onto 300th Avenue, then follow the curve onto 38th Street; the grove will be at the bottom of the hill. In case of unsuitable weather, the event will be held at the church.

The mission festival has been sponsored for many years by Immanuel Lutheran Church of Freedom Township. Immanuel is now part of a four-location parish which also includes St. John of Danville, First Lutheran of Waldorf, and Trinity Lutheran of Wilton.

Coffee with Sexton teaches website navigation

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

There was another installment of Coffee with Tom Sexton at the Waseca Chamber of Commerce offices on Friday, July 17.

During a session of Coffee with Tom Sexton on Friday, July 17, Representative Sexton took it upon himself to guide those in attendance how to properly navigate the Minnesota government website <https://www.leg.mn.gov/>. Sexton spoke on how there are different statistics available, training material, uniform standards and procedures: “All of this information is available and checked for accuracy on the House or Senate website, but many people prefer to read unchecked and inaccurate information on social media.” The status of current bills coming before the Senate or House is also available.

Sexton also shared information about the “coordinating commission.” This group gets bills from both the Minnesota House and the Senate. They need the wording of these bills to match, “Sometimes it’s minor tweaks and sometimes

it’s major issues. Our state constitution requires the House and Senate to vote on single subject bills. However, many times single subject bills are bundled into an omnibus bill under a larger topic like healthcare or energy. Thus, a legislator opposing a portion of an omnibus bill will speak on the House or Senate floor about the portion of the omnibus bill that they cannot support. Then, at the end of their speech, the same legislator will testify why they will still vote for the bill as it supports the greater good presented in the majority of the bill.” He boasted a great bipartisan staff for those who want to learn about bonding or the effects of some of the programs. There are also summaries for bills and information about fraud on the government website.

Sexton provided the example of the Inspector General’s (IG) office bill, “That bill is 66 pages long with all the notes and changes that have been made so far.” Sexton has been selected to be part of the commission choosing the candidate for Inspector General, which will be forwarded to Governor Walz for

approval. The Commission members will be handed a list of names to choose from before they meet to make their selections. Once the selection has been made and approved, the Commission will bring the IG to their committee once per quarter for a question/answer period. Mikhail Rostislavovich asked, “Is the legislature going to send the IG which direction they need them to go?” Sexton replied, “They don’t have that authority, but we can make a list of priorities for them.”

There has been an effort for legislators in Minnesota to find up to a billion dollars without raising the budget from 2025 to 2026, but still have enough to fund the state government. Sexton said they did find it in some of the agencies who weren’t spending as fast as they were forecasted to. Representative Sexton gave an example, “When Nick Shirley presented his video on non-emergency transportation, all of a sudden a bunch of those companies that were billing Minnesota stopped. Which put us, in

the first quarter, ahead in the budget by \$345 million, just on non-emergency transportation. Suddenly that money that was requested before wasn’t needed or a fraudulent provider no longer submitting requests for reimbursement. It’s still in human services; we can move it around a bit now.”

Sexton said that for 2027 we should see cheaper license plate tabs, “But we were only able to get that pushed through for the one year.”

There was talk of an Owatonna curler who requested Sexton represent a bill where Minnesotans could purchase a curling license plate for their cars. This was supposed to be written into law but was shut down because it was attached to an omnibus bill that didn’t pass. The negative aspect of omnibus bills are, “You can vote for nine out of the ten things you want in an omnibus package, but you’re also voting for that tenth thing you didn’t want for your district but needed to vote for to get what you did want.”

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Board introductions, plan updates given

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

Superintendent Eric Hudspith opened the Waseca school board’s July business meeting by introducing Carlo Driessen to the board. Driessen, a junior, will be joining returning senior Violet Rohwer as student representatives at school board meetings.

Hudspith gave his monthly update on the strategic plan and Business Director Andrew Adams gave the financial update, noting the new school year budget began July 1. Board chair Dave Dunn spoke

WASECA
SCHOOL BOARD

of a recent Minnesota School Board Association webinar he viewed concerning the relationship between schools and booster clubs.

The board approved a resolution pertaining to the district’s ten-year long term facilities maintenance (LTFM) expenditures and revenues, and approved continued membership in the Minnesota State High School League for the 2026-27 school year.

Waseca’s Garden Walk returns Aug. 1

This year’s Waseca Garden Club garden walk is on Saturday, Aug. 1 from 1 to 5 p.m. Five unique gardens in and around Waseca will be featured.

Those attending are asked to start at the Waseca Public Safety Building at 303 S. State Street, where refreshments and maps to the featured gardens will be provided.

Gardens this year include one with a koi pond, perennial gardens with native plants for pollinators, as well as raised gardens with herbs, vegetables and cutting flowers. One is a living tribute to a wonderful gardener that features colorful blooms and quiet spaces for conversation and remembrance. Another has placed design secondary to nourishing people and pollinators while welcoming neighborhood chil-

dren over the years. One features a large raised vegetable garden along with a hardscape that has evolved well in our Zone 4 climate. Another has many perennials as well as annual flowers landscaped throughout the property, along with a spectacular view of Clear Lake.

Homeowners will welcome questions and requests for advice; the purpose of the garden walk is to showcase the many different ideas, choices and techniques available for gardens in all settings.

There is no charge to visit the gardens, but donations to the Garden Club are always appreciated. The garden walk will be held rain or shine. The Waseca Garden Club has hosted its annual garden walk event since 1987, except for one year during the pandemic.

Council

from Page 1

ing applications for an amendment to the zoning code. There will also be no fees for costs incurred in reviewing, investigating and administering applications for a preliminary or final plat. A fine of \$25 will be imposed on homeowners who blow their grass clippings into the street. The monthly water charge will be \$46 base fee plus \$.006/gallon. The monthly sewer services are \$46 base fee plus \$.00525/gallon. There will be a \$50 charge for utility reinstatement serv-

Glass

from Page 3

used in glassmaking is usually mined from rock formations that were once the bottom of ancient sea beds. The sand is collected, purified, and then ground into a powder. During the melting process, it is mixed with soda ash and limestone.

So-Hot does not make glass from scratch; instead they buy clear glass and melt it.

Glass kept liquid in the furnace, the two explained, is pooled in a crucible at the bottom. It sticks to the end of their blowing tool—a hollow metal rod about four feet long—to be drawn out of the furnace in rounded lumps, then remains liquid enough to expand and shape until it cools below 1,000 degrees.

During the sculpting process, the glass can be rolled in small containers holding various substances to give it color. For example, copper oxide can be used to make the glass red; chromium or iron oxides can make it green.

Air blown through the metal

ices, service disconnection and turn-off charge and \$50 per hour to trim residents’ grass. Snow removal will be a minimum of \$40. Delinquent payments shall be ten percent of past due amount. The water rate shall be \$.10/gallon. The building permit fee shall be \$10.00/\$1,000, with an eight month completion date or \$750 fine. Community Center rental fees are \$100 to rent the front, \$200 whole building, \$60 setup day before or after, \$75 for fundraisers. A tractor bucket load of gravel is \$50 per load. All unlicensed pets will be \$50/month until pet is registered.

rod expands the glass from the inside; metal hand tools are used to squeeze or stretch the glass. The project is returned to the furnace periodically to keep it sufficiently hot, then brought out for further shaping.

When a sculpture has taken form, it must still go through another step before it can be safe for use or handling. The annealing oven in their workspace is kept at about 946 degrees F. throughout the day. Projects are placed inside it and kept hot so they can all be cooled at a gradual pace overnight.

Without that step, Frayman explains, the glass will someday shatter spontaneously—maybe within a day, maybe a year or two down the road. “It just breaks,” he elaborated. “Since no one knows when it will happen, it’s not safe to have it around people until it’s been annealed.”

The two say they are glad to be—at least temporarily—back in Minnesota, after having spent much of last summer here. “I really enjoy the farm communities,” commented Socha. “People are friendly and open-minded, and they always ask such good questions.”

Driving the road to recovery in an armchair

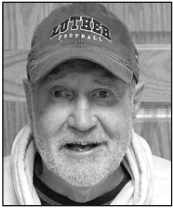
Hi readers, it's me! I'm back after a long hiatus. Have you missed me?

As I grow into my senior years, larger and larger parts of my conversations with others seem to center around health concerns. I’m finding that things I complain about maybe aren’t all that bad, especially when others share their spouses’ health issues.

The word “bionic” is defined as the replacement of human capabilities using mechanical or electronic devices. I just talked to someone who has gone through total replacement of both hips, both knees and a shoulder. (No need for shocked horror, the replacements were not all done at the same time.) I’m now also a member of the senior citizen bionic replacement club. With bones grinding in both hips and both knees, the time arrived this past winter to get something done: I could no longer get around with a cane or walker. Common sense told me it would be logical to start with a hip replacement. Over the time since last November, I’ve had both hips replaced.

The first hip was the right one. After many visits to many specialists I was ready for a total hip replacement. With the help of a laser and robot, a few screws and a new hip socket, Dr. Bowkowski had me in the recovery room after two hours of surgery. The team of providers at Mayo Health in Mankato was outstanding; I was home the next day. Good Samaritan, out of St. Peter, would provide my rehab and physical therapy. Nurses and therapists visited me regularly for weeks and were wonderful.

Ironically, the “road to recovery” meant spending many long days in the fireplace room with Sammy, the wonderdog, at my side. Thanks to my many medications, I became an expert on the early morning news. No oxycontin for this camper, Tylenol would be my lone remedy for



Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika



pain. The news would always have interesting wake-up stories: One was about a couple who had their cars towed during a snow removal emergency. The fee was \$240 dollars per vehicle, \$480 total; that story eased my pain. People camped overnight waiting for the new Krispy Kreme donut store opening in the Cities—that must be one special, wonderful, one-of-a-kind, tasty donut!

A big, full, green, tall evergreen grows in my neighbor’s backyard, in perfect view from my Lazy Boy. Every morning at day break and every evening just before sunset, Sammy and I watched a great number of birds who took shelter in the tree during below freezing temperatures. Most of them were sparrows. This conifer had a perfect shape to provide cover for the birds. Snow slid off its short, flexible limbs and branches stood strong in the heavier snowfalls. It was even the perfect shelter to keep the birds warm and toasty during the coldest and windiest nights of winter.

So how do trees survive the frigid cold and harsh conditions? Both deciduous and coniferous trees have a natural antifreeze. Living trees are full of water. Since water expands and can burst open a tree, the tree cells produce sugar and other compounds to lower the freezing point to prevent major damage.

When deciduous trees like maple, oak and birch begin dropping their leaves in fall, it allows them to conserve energy and water while also moving nutrients into hardy, woody, trunk tissues. Coniferous trees, on the other hand, hold a little water in their needles,

which have a hearty wax coating and therefore don’t freeze. The needles continue to produce energy through photosynthesis all winter long, and so keep a green color.

After eight weeks, I got clearance to drive; thanks to healing and physical therapy, I had regained the flexibility to move my right leg between the accelerator and brake. I was reawakened to the joy of autonomy as I took myself to get a haircut, shop at Walmart, or just take a spin around Clear Lake.

Spring was just getting a good start when, without warning, my left hip was done functioning. Lisa told me, “You really don’t have a choice.” She pointed out I was either going to live in pain or get a second hip replacement.

When I called the surgeon, he informed me “I have an opening in two weeks.” I replied “Sold!”

Suddenly I was having surgery the first week of May. After the recovery time, we’d still enjoy half a summer at the cabin. I’d just been through the process of all my pre-op appointments so I was able to cut some corners.

The surgery went well, only this time it lasted 3.5 hours. The surgeon said it was one of the worst hips he had replaced. He had to cut out a number of arthritic bone spurs.

Rehab with this hip was more difficult, but thanks again to the team of health care good samaritans, I mended the new hip while spending endless hours watching sports and movies once again. My son Marc talked me into a power electric recliner. My time spent in the chair was heavenly!

Spring was in the air and early every morning I would do a workout with the walker up and down the driveway. It was refreshing watching the trees bud. I was able to enjoy the sight of robins hop-hop-hopping in the front yard and appreciate the spring sounds of the dove on our roof top and the honking of passing geese.

I’ve left an artificial Christmas wreath on the front of our garage for the past four years. Every year, birds build a nest in it. The last two years it has been a pair of finches. At first I thought my temporary neighbors were purple finches, but they prefer forests, avoid people, and are solitary. My tenants are smaller than a sparrow and have distinct red markings. A little research revealed that, in the early 1900s, these birds were captured in California and shipped out east to New York, where they were sold as caged birds under the name of Hollywood Finch. In the 1940s, new laws made keeping these birds illegal, causing pet stores and private citizens to simply release them. The birds adapted to living all throughout the US. I enjoyed watching them in our front maple tree every morning. I’d startle them when I opened my garage door, so they would wait for me to complete my workout before returning to the nest.

Now, I’m back in the saddle again and moving nicely without pain. I still use a cane just in case. Our return to the cabin has been delayed. Seven straight days of temperatures with high humidity in the 90s with no breeze. Throw in a little smoke from the wild flowers of the north and even the thought of spending time at the lake loses its appeal. Next week looks much nicer and we will head to the lake and the cabin.

Fate decrees I will be adding another piece to my bionic body, but fortunately it can wait until after my longing for time on the water has been satisfied.

Ice Cream social has a peaceful setting

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The St. Peter Lutheran Church of Otisco held their annual Ice Cream Social over the dinner hour on Sunday, July 19. The good Lord provided plenty of sunshine and a light wind for a peaceful summer dinner.

Harlan Gekeler was taking free-will donations, serving began at 4 p.m. but he said, “I got here at three this afternoon.” He thought for a moment and said, “I’ve been a member here since 1969.” He was sitting at a small card table that had an empty water pitcher in front of him. Those coming through the line had plates with food and were putting money in the pitcher. Proceeds from the day



PIES POSSESSION - St. Peter Lutheran Church of Otisco held their Ice Cream Social over dinner on Sunday, July 19, 2026. Pictured counterclockwise: Cameron, Sadie, Kassandra, Ada, Alyssa, Pat, and Glen Bathke.
Pioneer photos by Ben Revermann

go towards church maintenance.

Pat Lewer, organizer for the day approached and said, “The weather has been good, and the past few years it’s been good, hopefully our luck holds out. I got here today at 10 a.m. and we’ve been ready since 11:30.” St. Peter’s bought the hamburger for the sloppy joes, and the buns and potato salad. Continued Lewer, “Natalie Fell bought all

the ice cream. The pies, we have 35 of them, were all donated by the congregation. I myself made an apple pie. Everyone who has shown up tonight has been so generous.”

Supporters gather for Rep. Sexton fundraiser

WASECA, Minn. — Community members and supporters gathered at Alexander House for an evening in support of Representative Tom Sexton, enjoying wine, hors d’oeuvres, and an opportunity to hear directly from the legislator about his accomplishments during the past legislative session and his vision for the future.

Throughout the evening, Representative Sexton reflected on the work completed on behalf of Waseca County and discussed the priorities he hopes to advance if elected to another term. Guests also had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in conversations about the issues facing southern Minnesota and the state as a whole.

Representative Sexton highlighted the im-

portance of investing in local communities while remaining committed to responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

“We’re especially proud of the funding we were able to secure for Waseca’s critical infrastructure needs through this year’s bonding bill,” said Representative Tom Sexton. “These investments will have a lasting impact on our community and help position Waseca for continued growth. As I look ahead, we will continue fighting against waste, fraud, and abuse in Minnesota government. I am honored to have been appointed to the Inspector General Advisory Council, where I will help establish the state’s new Office of Inspector General as a trusted, independent entity dedicated to pro-

tecting the integrity of taxpayer dollars.”

The evening provided supporters with an opportunity to connect with Representative Sexton in a relaxed setting while discussing the challenges and opportunities facing Minnesota. Attendees expressed appreciation for his accessibility, commitment to fiscal responsibility, and focus on delivering tangible results for the residents of Waseca County.

Representative Sexton thanked those in attendance for their continued support and encouraged community members to remain engaged in the legislative process as Minnesota continues to address infrastructure, public safety, fiscal accountability, and economic growth.



The Pastor's Column

Summer lessons

By PASTOR RICK WULF

Okay, let's play a word association game. When I say the word, "summer", what do you think of? Let me guess: HOT. Yeah, it's been a scorcher these past couple of weeks! Now that we've gotten the temperature out of the way, what else do you think of? Maybe it's a vacation with the family, or time o from school. Maybe you have routines that include a little di erent rhythm than the rest of the year.

Let me tell you what comes to my mind. Summer has a way of reminding me that I am not as much in control as much as I'd like to believe. Let me explain.

When we look around this time of year, the fields surrounding our communities are alive with corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and countless other crops. Or maybe look in your backyard and see your garden producing tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, and beans. Lawns seem to need mowing every few days. Life is growing all around us. It's beautiful.

Yet beneath all that growth is a quiet truth: none of us can actually make it happen. Now, you might quibble with me. Yes, a farmer can prepare the soil with great care. He can select quality seed, apply fertilizer, control weeds, and maintain his equipment. A gardener can water faithfully, pull weeds, and protect young plants from pests. But the truth is, neither possesses the power to make a single seed come to life.

Growth itself remains a gift. The same hands that plant the seed cannot command the rain to fall. They cannot order the sunshine to appear at just the right moment or prevent a late frost. No one can guarantee a perfect growing season. For generations, those who have worked the land have understood something our modern world often forgets. Diligence is our responsibility, but the outcome ultimately belongs to God. And this is both di icult and freeing at the exact same time.

Perhaps that is why agriculture has always provided such rich imagery throughout the Bible. Jesus frequently spoke about seeds, vineyards, harvests, and fields not only because He lived in an agricultural setting, but because they reveal profound spiritual realities. A seed must disappear beneath the soil before new life emerges. A harvest requires patience and whether we like it or not, fruit cannot be rushed.

The Apostle Paul knew this to be true as well. He wrote in 1 Corinthians 3:6, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth." Paul was describing the work of God's kingdom, yet He captures something true about life itself. We are called to work faithfully, but we are never promised control over the results. James also commended the farmer for his faith in James 5:7. You see, summer teaches us lessons that extend far beyond agriculture.

Let's continue. Parents faithfully teach and love their children, yet they cannot ultimately control all the choices their children will make. Employers work hard to

build successful businesses, yet they cannot always control the changing markets or the price of fuel. Students study diligently for exams, but they cannot predict every question. Doctors can provide remarkable care, yet even modern medicine has limits.

So, we make plans and we work hard. In doing so, we pray for wisdom. These are good and honorable things. Scripture always encourages discipline, diligence, and faithful stewardship. But Scripture also reminds us that our best e orts are never the final word. Our best e orts cannot be our ultimate goal.

What if our greatest struggle is not that we fail to work hard enough, but that we quietly convince ourselves we are in control? What if it wasn't that we are inefficient, but that we actually walk by sight, not by faith? What happens to our faith if we believe that if we plan carefully enough, save enough money, make enough wise decisions, or work enough hours, we can insulate ourselves from uncertainty?

Because life has a way of humbling us; a storm arrives, a diagnosis comes unexpectedly, a job disappears, a relationship changes. Suddenly we remember what summer has been teaching us all along. We were never truly in control. Oddly enough, that realization is not meant to produce fear, but trust.

I don't know if you would agree with this statement or not, but I have seen it in my own life and the countless number of people in my church experience: If everything depended upon us, we would carry every burden too heavy to bear. Every disappointment would become our failure. Every uncertainty would become our responsibility. Agree?

Instead, the Bible invites us to labor faithfully while entrusting every outcome to the Lord. This trust is not an excuse for inaction by any means. Farmers still rise before dawn, gardens still need tending, families still need loving, and communities still require faithful neighbors. Trusting God does not replace responsibility. But it does transform it.

Every green field, every growing garden, every timely rainfall quietly reminds us that a gracious God sustains us. Long before we wake each morning, He is already at work. Long after we have done everything within our power, He continues doing what only He can do. There is deep peace in recognizing that truth.

So, as you drive past the fields this summer or harvest vegetables from your backyard garden, let them remind you of something more than another growing season. Your e orts matter. Work hard, to plan wisely, and to fulfill the responsibilities God has given you. At the same time, rest in the confidence that the world does not ultimately rest upon your shoulders. Trust Him with what you cannot control. After all, we may plant and water—but God gives the growth.

Maybe this is one of summer's greatest gifts.

Local farmers, restaurants partner to source local

This August across south central Minnesota six restaurants and eight farmers are partnering to celebrate Local Foods Month from Saturday August 1st – Monday August 31st. The goal of the celebration which is organized by the Region Nine Development Commission and MNSU-Mankato's Center for Workforce Professional Education is to provide farmers with new sales channels, connect restaurants with fresh local products, and help residents get more local foods into their lives.

Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm (Waseca) and Stone Hearth Farm & Garden (Madelia)

Emily and Bill Knudsen of Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm in Waseca know how to create a mouthwatering and eye-catching pizza. So, when the opportunity to use edible flowers from Stone Hearth Farm & Garden came about for Local Foods Month, it was a perfect partnership. Pleasant Grove's Blueberry Cheesecake Dessert Pizza becomes a true work of art when topped with pansies from Stone Hearth Farm and Garden. You can find Stone Hearth's edible flowers, cut flowers, hot sauce, canned goods and baked goods can be found at the Mankato Farmers' Market every Saturday from May through October. You can also



HEALTHY PARTNERSHIP - Emily and Bill Knudsen of Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm in Waseca are partnering with Caitlyn and John Wiederhoeft of Stone Hearth Farm & Garden for Local Foods Month.

find them at the Winter Mankato Farmers' Market inside Bomgaars Supply the 1st & 3rd Saturday's from November through March. You can visit Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm Friday and Saturday from 4-8 pm and Sunday's 1-6 pm to try this perfect pairing!

Farmers: Caitlyn and John Wiederhoeft, Restaurant: Emily and Bill Knudsen

The Wooden Spoon (Mankato) Blissful Bee Pastures (Gibbon), CT Farm (Le Sueur), Cedar Crate Farm (Waldorf), Leuer Gardens (North Mankato)

Farm to Wooden Spoon Dinner, Friday, August 28th .

This four course Scandinavian inspired meal will feature locally raised poultry, grass fed lamb, and an abundance of locally grown veggies. Tickets for this exciting event are available at woodenspoonmn.com

The Food Natasha Frost, Owner of Wooden Spoon

The Farmers Anna Johnson, Blissful Bee Pastures
Chad Boisjolie, CT Farms
Dan Zimmerli, Cedar Crate Farm

Hilary Leuer, Leuer Gardens

The Cup Truck (Sherburn) and B2B Honey (North Mankato)

This partnership between the Cup Truck and B2B Honey will feature smoked ham and buttermilk hush-puppies topped with parmesan, chives, and B2B hot honey. The Cup Truck is a fixture at farmers' markets and community events across the region. To find out where they are, follow them on Facebook. The B2B bees spend their spring, summer, and fall days enjoying the wide range of flowers that our region has to offer. From buckwheat and clover to native prairies and even cucumbers on local farms, this honey truly offers a taste of the countryside. But for those looking for more than just the flavor of flowers, B2B also offers specialty honeys such as lavender infused, bourbon barrel aged, and hot honey.

The Food Seth Lintelman
The Farmer Ritchie Schaefer

Child's History of Waseca County

Cont. CHAPTER XIII, 1855. Preparations for winter—Hauling provisions from Iowa. Trip made to Auburn, Iowa, by the author—December 19, 1855 on the prairie all night—One man frozen to death—A cold Christmas.

I spent the rest of the day there and enjoyed a night of very refreshing sleep. That afternoon, I learned from my hostess of a sad affair of the night before—the night that I camped upon the prairie. She said that two of their neighbors had visited Austin on the 19th, and in coming home that night one of them had perished with cold and was found dead, while the other had been found with his hands and feet very badly frozen. The body of the dead man was found within forty rods of his own door, where a patient, loving wife, with three children, watched all night for his coming. The other, who was so badly frozen, was found about eighty rods from the dead man, unable either to walk or to talk when first found. Empty whisky bottles were found upon them, and there was no doubt as to the real cause of the death of the one and the maiming of the other. No wonder Shakespeare said, speaking of intoxicating liquors, "Let us call thee Devil."

On the night of the 20th, more snow fell. On the 21st, I reached Austin. The snow had become so deep that I could

not well proceed further on wheels, and so I purchased an ox-sled at that place. The 22nd was spent in taking the wagon apart, loading it and its contents upon the sleigh and driving as far as Mr. Vaughn's. That was an intensely cold, stormy night. The Frost Fiend was abroad in all his howling majesty, and many were the expressions of hope that no one was out on the prairie that night to face the merciless blasts that swept the country. The storm abated the next morning about ten o'clock, and I made about seven miles on the 23rd through the snow drifts, stopping with a kind hearted English family, the last residents on the road home between Vaughn's and Owatonna.

The next morning, I started before the sunrise, the weather being clear and very cold. The roads had not been traveled since the snow storm and the going was heavy. Three times that day I had to shovel through drifts of snow and pry up the sled in order to get through. About two o'clock p.m. I met two teams of horses and three or four men going into Iowa for flour. After this, traveling was much easier for the oxen. In the afternoon the weather grew colder, and before night I began to think my feet would freeze in spite of my efforts to keep warm. I finally pulled off my frozen boots and traveled with nothing but socks on my feet. At first my feet got very warm, but finally

the frost began to work through the socks and I thought I should surely freeze. Suddenly I came upon the remains of a campfire in a thicket of jack oaks, some ten or twelve miles south of Owatonna. I at once piled on some more wood and renewed the blaze. Here I fed the oxen some corn, overhauled my bundle of clothing and found some dry socks and a pair of new boots, which I put on; I also ate some doughnuts which my hostess of the night before had put into my overcoat pockets, and again started the weary oxen towards Owatonna. Five miles south of Owatonna I struck a pretty fair road, several teams having passed over it since the snow storm. The night was bitterly cold and it was a difficult matter to keep from freezing. I finally arrived at Sanford's tavern in Owatonna over Christmas and sold a portion of my load at good prices. On the 26th I started for Wilton. Here again the road was unbroken. The cattle were already weakened by their long journey, and, just as night came on, in pulling through a deep snow drift, the sled tongue was torn out. This made it necessary to leave the load there for the night. This accident happened a little north of what is known as the Vinton farm. There was no help for it; I was compelled to unhitch the teams and take my course homeward, guided only by the stars. I had along with me a

large, white cat that I had bought in Iowa, and that I carried confined in a grain sack on the load. It would not do to leave him there for he might perish if anything should happen to prevent my return for a day or two; so I took him out of the sack and called him to follow me. He did so in the most approved manner, keeping close to me all the way. I arrived at John Jenkins' cabin about 11 o'clock that night, where I found Uncle John sitting by his fireplace eating parched corn. He arose in a half dazed way and wondered how I got there such a night as that without any road. He said he had about given up all hopes of my return and thought I must have frozen to death on the prairie.

The next morning Uncle John accompanied me and we brought in the load safe and sound.

Very few of the settlers that made trips to Iowa or Wisconsin that winter for supplies fared as well as I. Many were badly frosted; some lost their teams; others were obliged to sell their loads on the road at a sacrifice; all suffered more or less severely.

We realized enough out of our load to pay expenses. The experience and fifty cents a day was all that I got out of the enterprise. But then, I was pretty well satisfied—thankful that I was again at my own bachelor fireside, hale and hearty.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. * * * * *	Sunday worship 10 a.m. * * * * *	New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * * * *	Wednesday — 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18 * * * * *
4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH 605 4th St NE, Waseca 507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker) Worship Sundays 10 a.m * * * * *	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS 1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca 507-835-4640 Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m. * * * * *	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 CHURCH 412 N. Main Street, Janesville Pastor Jason Wolter Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:30 a.m. Worship * * * * *
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 801 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-3167 Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m. * * * * *	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 1221 8th St SE, Waseca 507-835-2213 Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. * * * * *	ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Father Glenn Ferichs Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays p.m. Mass Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m. * * * * *	JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 401 N. West St., Janesville Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship * * * * *
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 6th St NE, Waseca 507-835-9176 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship 10:15 a.m. Wednesday Eve Worship 6:30 p.m. * * * * *	CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 900 14th Ave SE, Waseca 507-833-1082 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m. * * * * *	FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Larry Sipe Sundays: Worship 8 a.m.; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and adult bible class * * * * *	BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METH-ODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter) * * * * *
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca 507-833-1703 Sundays 9:00 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 * * * * *	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship * * * * *	ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St. Janesville 10 a.m. - Mass * * * * *
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 314 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-2647 Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m. * * * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship * * * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * * * *	FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 Owen St., Janesville Pastor Sarah Krolak * * * * *
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net) Worship Sunday 10 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 * * * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * * * *	ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * * * *
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.m. * * * * *	LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting * * * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN Wilton Township Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor Services 6 p.m. Saturday * * * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship * * * * *
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 4th St NW, Waseca Father Glenn Ferichs 507-835-1222 Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m. * * * * *	REAL LIFE CHURCH 620 W Elm Ave, Waseca 507-833-0017 * * * * *	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 * * * * *	NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 404 30 120th St. Waseca Pastor Sarah Krolak 507-234-6463 Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; Second sunday "Young at heart" Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. confirmation * * * * *

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Janesville

25 years ago



- Juniors grades 7, 8 and 9- pictured here are: Front row (from left): Abby Schreader and Trish Westphal. Second row: Katie Wheelock, Sam Fox, Gina Conion, Coach Sarah Milow, Ashlee Amundson, Anna Hall and Kristin Brady. Back row: Jenna Bartelt, Heather Johnson, Danielle Mulcahey, Jenna Monahan, Annette Quast and Stephanie Duffy

- U.S. Bank awarded a total of \$80,250 to 321 high school seniors in Minnesota through the U.S. Bank High School Award program. The U.S. Bank High School Award is presented to one graduating senior at each Minnesota high school in communities served by U.S. Bank. The award consists of a \$250 cash gift and an inscribed certificate. Recipients of the award are chosen by each high school's award committee. Chosen to receive the local award was Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School student Heidi Schmidt. Heidi was nominated because of her academic success and her commitment to JWP and her community. She is the daughter of Melvin and LeAnne Schmidt of Janesville.

- Two local teachers recently attended Carleton College's Summer Teaching Institute. Laura Childs, Janesville, a teacher at Faribault High School spent the week studying techniques for teaching environmental science. Kersten Peterson, Janesville, a teacher at Sleepy Eye High School learned strategies for teaching art history. The institute's courses allow teachers to examine selected topics within the curriculum for their subject area. Participants have the opportunity to modify an existing course, create a new course or develop new teaching materials. Ranked among the nation's top liberal arts institutions. Carleton is a private, co-educational college of 1,180 students located in Northfield. High academic standards, an excellent teaching faculty and a diverse student body contribute to Carleton's outstanding reputation.

50 years ago



- OFF AND RUNNING- A telephoto lens catches young kart drivers as they are given the green flag by the starter at Sprintways International, Sunday.

- August 7-8 are the dates the Janesville Jaycees have set up for their second annual Lakeview Park Days. This year the event will include a City League softball tournament, for men and women, a horseshoe tourney, a tug-of-war, canoe races and a softball throw. A highlight of the event will be the beef feed which will be held from 5-7 p.m. Sunday evening. Tickets are now available from Janesville Jaycees.

75 years ago

- Alvin Dumdei won the television console given away in the Centennial drawing held the final evening of the celebration last week. Not present at the drawing, he brought in his winning number later. All prizes have now been claimed. The other winners were present when the drawing was held.



- Smiling very happily, as well she deserves, Lois Grose (center) has just been crowned regional dairy princess by Princess Kny of the Milky Way and American Dairy princess Ruth Marie Peterson (right). The new princess mother, Mrs. Melvin Grose, is shown at left.

- Ellendale turned the tables on the Janesville Red Sox in a 4th of July makeup game on their field Wednesday. After losing to the Sox here Sunday 9-1, Ellendale gained revenge in the makeup game 9-5. Minus their regular pitcher Don Spoo, Johnson and Gjerdahl did the hurling for Janesville Wednesday. Spoo scattered six hits to stop the visitors in the Sunday game. The Sox now have a 5-3 record for the season, remaining in the top half of the bracket in the Four County League. Janesville travels to Morristown Sunday in its next scheduled game.

- The Janesville Centennial committee, through the general chairman Axel Johansen, and the Chamber of Commerce, sponsors of the celebration, extend a hearty "thank you" to all committee chairmen, workers and the public for their labor, cooperation and response in putting on the 100 year event. The committee chairmen express their appreciation for all the help they received. The expressions will be found in an ad on another page of this paper.

100 years ago

- A good endorsement for any may is the approval of the home town fold. There is a precept which states man is not without honor save in his own country, and so when the home people can speak highly of a man who is running for public office it is safe to conclude that man is all right. Blue Earth County Enterprise.

Waseca

25 years ago

- Dave and Sheryl Brisel of Waseca are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Erin Brisel, to Paul Nelson, the son of Donna Nelson of Brooklyn Park. Erin is a 1988 graduate of Waseca High School, and a 1989 graduate of Dakota County Technical Institute. She is currently enrolled at Rasmussen Business College in the Accounting Program. Paul is a 1986 graduate of Osseo High School. They are both currently employed at United Health Group in Edina. A September 15, 2001 wedding is planned.



- The students listed below from Waseca graduated from Bethel College following the spring 2000 semester. Bethel graduated 495 students with bachelor's degrees and 38 graduate students with master's degrees at the May 19 commencement on campus. Christina Busman, daughter of Lowell and Carol Busman of Waseca, graduated summa cum laude from Bethel College after the spring semester with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Stacy Lewer, daughter of Brian and Cindy Lewer of Waseca, graduated from Bethel College after spring semester with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. Richard A. Swenson, M.D., an author, lecturer and former professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin, encouraged the graduates to be diligent about taking time in an ever-busy society to know and love truth.



- Overall Winner of the boat parade and recipient of the Mayor's Traveling Trophy was Hank Olson and his Marines of Iwo Jima.

50 years ago

- The new swimming pool and tennis courts were opened at Lakeside Country Club in Waseca on Saturday afternoon, July 3. Club president Chuck Noble conducted a brief ceremony at which Jim and Lillian Donahue and Degar F. Johnson were presented with plaques of appreciation from the board of directors. Donahue's initial donation was termed as the beginning point of the \$100,000 project at the country club. When Oather Trol Dahl, project chairman presented Degar Johnson with his plaque, he pointed out that in addition to the E.F. Johnson company donation and Edgar's personal financial contribution, Edgar donated more time than any person on the project. He designed the swimming pool complex and spent countless hours seeing that the project was done right.

- The Waseca Recreation Department is sponsoring the local Frisbee competition on Wednesday, July 7 at 3 p.m. The competition will be held at each park with the winners advancing to University Park for the city championship on July 8 at 3 p.m. There will be competition for both boys and girls in two age categories, ages 11 and under, and boys 12-15. Boy and girl champions in each age category will represent Waseca at the state meet. Competition included a variety of basic Frisbee events, such as accuracy, curves, skip flights and distance, plus some novelty catches.

- Vandals apparently worked themselves into a patriotic mood over the holiday weekend and reportedly made off with flags displayed at Waseca residences in the northeast and northwest parts of town, according to police reports. Sergeant Bruce Stauffer said today that investigation is currently underway due to the four reports received on flag thefts, in which vandals broke the poles, then took the flag. Any resident who are missing their flags should report the theft to the police station.

75 years ago

- Waseca county 4-H'ers are making plans to live in homes in Jefferson county, Kentucky, from July 11 to July 20. In this county exchange, 30 4-H club members and adult leaders will live in 4-H homes in another state and county. "World peace and understanding must begin at home with an appreciation of the people and their customs and beliefs in our own country," said Home Agent Helen Fahning. With this purpose in mind Waseca Co. 4-H members will become "adopted" members of families in Jefferson county, Kentucky, near Louisville. As a member in the family, each 4-H'er, will do the same things as a son or daughter. As in any normal family, work is surrounded by pleasant and happy times.

- There were no accidents reported in Waseca county nor in the city over Wednesday's July Fourth holiday, according to the sheriff and police departments. "People in the county observed a safe and sane Fourth of July," Sheriff Stan Bailey commented. "Things were slow around here-and we like it that way." Deputy Don Eustice said. A minimum of firecrackers were heard throughout the day and most comments were that "the kids didn't miss them-they never knew what they were." Across the nation, the National Safety council prediction of 130 deaths was surpassed.

- In answer to request to repeat "Bugler's Holiday" the band concert at Clear Lake Park Sunday will include this number according to Director Her Streitz.

100 years ago

- A fourteen pound pickerel, measuring 40 inches in length, was caught by Harold Lorenz off Maplewood Park, Clear Lake, Monday. He was fishing with his uncle, Geo. Reinhart, of St. Paul. They were trolling and Harold was using a June bug spinner ahead of a minnow.

- Peter Taylor, a new horse recently added to the W.S. Brown stables entered its first race at Minot last week Thursday. The horse finished seventh, fifth and fifth in the three heats. The time of the race was 2:15 1/4. Brown's horses are being moved this week to Fargo where Teviston is entered in Tuesday's races. Peter Taylor will enter races the latter part of the week. From Fargo the horses will make the following cities: Grand Forks, Omaha, Burlington, Davenport, Janeville, Wis., and Des Moines.

- L.J. Lorenz of Blooming Grove has purchased the W.J. Priebe residence on Lake Avenue, and will be given possession of it as soon as Mr. Priebe's new house on Tenth street is ready for occupancy. The consideration was \$5,100. Mr. Lorenz will be employed at the new W.J. and E.C. Priebe oil station. He is moving this week into rooms in the Carl Bahr house on North Second Street.

New Richland

25 years ago

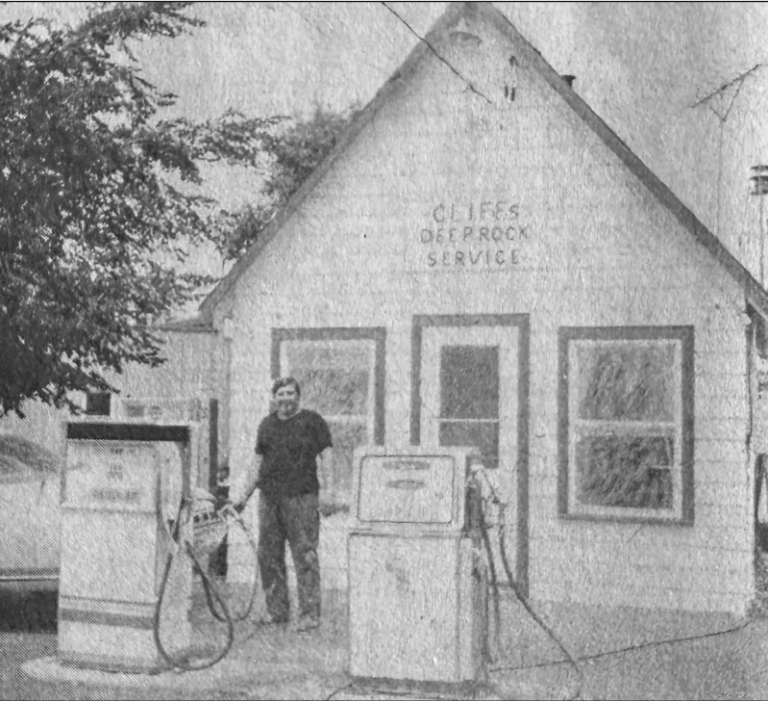


- New Richland High school graduates of the class of 1951 held their 50th reunion at the New Richland American Legion clubrooms, Saturday evening. Anonymous donations by the class members were designated to the Alumni Foundation Scholarship Committee. Karen Krause (left) announced that \$725 had been gifted to the Foundation. Representing her class of 1951 in the collection was Jane (Rotegard) Hesse.

- David Loretta Schlaak, Waseca, announces the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Lori Schlaak, to Eric Baertsch, son of Bruce and Sue Baertsch of Hastings. A Saturday, September 8th wedding is planned at St. John Lutheran Church, Waseca.

- The Academic High Honor and Honor lists for the past spring semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato have been announced by Dr. Karen Boubel, interim president of MSU. Area students on the list are: Julie Flemming, Jacquelyn Hulloper, Ryan Stringfield, Grant Wildgrube, all of New Richland; Gayle Eustice and Mollie Holmes, both of Waldorf.

50 years ago



- Clifford Tesch purchased the Deep Rock Station at Waldorf from Greg Traynor of Wells, Tuesday June 29. The past 4 years, Clifford has worked for Polar Chemical in Waldorf. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Tesch, who farm, three mies north-east of Waldorf. In March he moved to Waldorf.

- On Saturday, July 24 and Sunday July 25, Vista Covenant Church of rural New Richland will celebrate its 100th Anniversary. The beginnings of this congregation date back to November 3, 1876.

- In a double ring ceremony, Judy Demmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Demmer of Ellendale, became the bride of Gary Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peterson of New Richland on Thursday, July 1 at 7 pm.



- Officers of the New Richland-Hartland High school Band, Teri Entwisle, vice president; Susan Espe, secretary-treasurer and Greg Swenson, president, admire the certificate and a \$100 check the band received for placing first in marching competition in the Mankato Bicentennial parade, recently.

75 years ago

- In conversation with Ambrose Linnihan, Byron farmer, Tuesday we learned that he has at last found a larger and more suitable farm for expansion in the sheep raising business. He negotiated for and finally purchased the Duffy estate farm near Shakopee.

- Patsy Fern, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Root of New Richland and Levi H. Bartz, son of Mrs. Theodore Lueck of Waseca spoke their marriage vows at St. Paul's Lutheran church of Waseca Wednesday afternoon, August 8, before an altar graced with gladioli and dahlias. E. H. Eifert, pastor, officiated at the double ring ceremony at 2:30.

Waseca Braves venture for season sweep

By JIM LUTGENS
Staff Writer

The Waseca Braves amateur baseball team ventured to Waterville Sunday in search of a rare season sweep of the Indians.

They fell just short. It was close until the seventh inning when Waterville put five runs on the scoreboard on the way to a 13-7 victory, evening Waseca's season record to 7-7. "We hit the ball fairly well, but we got off to a bad start and that didn't help," said Braves coach Tink Larson. Tyson Reger continued to

hit the ball very well, going 3-for-5 and scoring two runs. Keato Roeker was 2-for-5, Cody Huiras and Ryan Hanson 2-for-3. Logan Reger and Kyle Waugh also hit safely. Roeker, Payton Garza and Hanson pitched for Waseca. The playoffs start on Wednesday, July 29. The Braves won't know until July 27 if they are home or away. There are playoff games on Friday, July 31 and Sunday, August 2. The Braves are home Saturday at 2 against Blue Earth. They play Sunday at 2 at Morristown.

■ Cribbage

from Page 2

I play cribbage with my dad. I worry when I do that he is losing his edge. Thankfully, it is really, really hard to beat him. I have to think about every single decision in the game and I can't slack off at all. Many, many games come down to the final hand or even a single sequence of pegging in the game. When we play at night and I am particularly tired, I have noticed he has even more of an edge. Other nights, like tonight when he was tired, I had the advantage. I really am just spending as much quality time with my dad as I can. Farm and City Days was this past weekend. I wrote an entire column about it, but much of it was dominated by complaints of pain. My Splenic Flexure Disorder has flared up the past two weeks. Many of my recent life choices have centered around avoiding pain. This weekend was full of it. I was in and out of my apartment, icing and heating and massaging my side simply so I could go back outside and take photos and cover

■ F&C

from Page 1

Committee members include: Angela and Ryan Gehrke, SaraJo Vulcan, Brandy Jacobson, Jennifer Weber and Sam Morgan. If you see them, thank them for a job well done. Next year the city of New Richland will be celebrating its 150th anniversary. The committee is looking for recommendations. Any ideas can be submitted to: farmandcitydays@gmail.com. Farm & City Days Parade Grand Marshals • 2026 — New Richland Historical Society - Pam Goehring, Barb Wildgrube • 2025 — Sue Kulseth • 2024 — Mitch Heimer • 2023 — Kathy (Schumacher, Flor) Hinkley • 2022 — State Bank of New Richland, Bonnerup Funeral Home, and NRHEG Star Eagle • 2021 — Karl and Tammy Proehl • 2019 — Chris Schlaak • 2018 — Carlie Wagner • 2017 — Mary Ebnet and Rick Schulz • 2016 — Town & Country Garden Club — Kris Pfeffer, Delores Bartholmey, Mary Sack, Joanie Proehl, Pastor Charles Espe, Lou Anderson, Julie Phinney, Jodi Johnson, Betty Hullo-peter, Avis Rugroden, Mike Phinney, Barb Finseth, Kay Adams, Dawn Halgren, Gerald Hullo-peter, Eleanor Schlaak, Janae Janike • 2015 — Wayne and Merlys Wenzel • 2014 — Surviving WWII veterans: Richard Crumb, Eu-

gene Warke, Bud Shurson, Donnie Bartness, Tony Arnfelt, Dr. Albert Flor, Gordon Peterson, Harold Thompson, Winston Evenson, Kenneth Eaton, Donald Smith, Audrinne Smith, Marie Querna • 2013 — 2012-13 NRHEG Girls' Basketball Team — Hannah Lundberg, Maddie Wagner, Marnie Wagner, Carlie Wagner, Abby Crabtree, Paige Overgaard, Anna Stork, Jade Schultz, Katie Cole, Kelli Harrington, Raelin Schue, Ryann Hagen • 2012 — Gail Schmidt • 2011 — Pastor Paul Andree • 2010 — Larry and Pam Goehring • 2009 — Myron Schumacher • 2008 — Gene and Sylvia Dodge • 2007 — Mary Ann Schlaak • 2006 — Vince Peterson • 2005 — Don and Audrinne Smith • 2004 — Pastor Phil Lewison • 2003 — Gene and Mildred Budach • 2002 — Orrin Ribbe (Honorary Gary Billing) • 2001 — Bernie Anderson • 2000 — Dale and Dawn Halgren • 1999 — Beth Wesselhoeft • 1998 — Jim Jessen • 1997 — Margaret Engesser • 1996 — Pastor Charles Espe • 1995 — Lee Mendenhall • 1994 — Gene Amley • 1993 — Elmer and Marilyn Quiram • 1992 — Jean Horn • 1991 — Bill Robinson • 1990 — Vince and Edna Erdmann • 1989 — Herb Prescher • 1988 — Abraham Family • 1987 — Dr. Albert Flor • 1986 — Harry Anderson • 1985 — Leo Eckart • 1984 — Dr. George H. Olds



EXCITING REMEMBRANCE - The New Richland-Hartland Class of 1971 met at the Willows on Saturday, July 18, 2026, for a whole day of activities during the New Richland Farm and City Days weekend. 14 classmates have passed away, and 19 classmates attended. With spouses, 30 total were in attendance. Front row: Bill Robran, Carol (Westland) Peterson, Lynn (Proehl) Hall. Second row: Gordie Nelson, Blaine Lewer, Neil K. Berg, Vicki (Jesson) Windfeldt, Jerry Kroeger, Jerry Demmer, Jim Possin, Jane (Zellweger) Bluhm, and Chuck Rosacker. Back row: Jim Loken, Roz (Bach) Krook, Mike Matthies, Joan (Arneman) Anderson, Mitch Routh, and Dennis Winegar.

Class of 1971 holds 55th reunion

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

There was a reunion for the New Richland-Hartland (NR-H) Cardinal Class of 1971 at The Willows on Saturday, July 18. The consolidation of the former New Richland-Hartland (NR-H) and Ellendale-Geneva districts created NRHEG School District #2168 in 1992. Organized by co-chair's Jane Bluhm and Chuck Rosacker, the event had the room filling quickly with excited retirees. Bluhm was looking through some information and supplies. She had a radio near her; next to that was an old cassette tape from the 1983 movie "The Big Chill." She had a smile on her face, and it looked like she had been planning on

playing music, but it was quite loud in the room. She revealed only 14 people had registered in advance, but also pointed out many more people than that were already present. "I also got great responses from the people who said they couldn't make it." She would go on to include Chuck Rosacker in the conversation, "Chuck helped me out a lot." She said there were 79 graduates in the NR-H class of 1971, "There was a pretty even mix of both boys and girls in that class." Rosacker said, "We once had our reunion at Gene Miller's house over in Waseca, but that was like 20 years ago." He had to repeat this a number of times because the volume of those reunion folks had gone up since they were all talking at the same time.

Bluhm added, "The person who is living the furthest away was Marleen from up in Alaska. She won't be here, but it's still nice to include her." William Robran was there; he is retired and spends a lot of his time, "Fishing and picking berries. Before that I worked at Crown Cork and Seal in Owatonna for 14 years and did Cargill for 23 ½ years. I have also farmed all my life." Lynn Hall/Proehl, with Proehl being her maiden name, is semi-retired; she works at Collin W. Fritz Consultation Co., which is a third-party administration firm. Her husband is David. Jim Loken was there, also retired, he was operations manager for Kristico's in Mankato. He and his wife Donna live in St. Peter. Neil Burg, a

railroad man, worked for Union Pacific for 39 years and lives in Waseca. Jerry Kroger, an aggregate transportation specialist, has delivered stone in Freeborn and Waseca counties. Also present was Mitch Routh, brother to Hartland Mayor Kelly Routh. Mitch is a mover of heavy equipment, he's worked for the county, he's been self-employed, he's also worked for his nephew Jesse Wells and currently lives on St. Olaf Lake. Bluhm had a whole list of activities for the group during the afternoon including remembrance of classmates who have passed. The agenda also featured news and good news, group photos, a short parade and a street dance to attend later.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

■ Food Shelf

from Page 3

p.m. People wishing to donate can stop by any time during open hours. Those wishing to make use of the shelf's services are asked to contact the food shelf at 507-833-4119 Ext 302 during operating hours to make an appointment in advance. For new families that are in need of food support, on their initial visit to the food shelf they will be asked

to complete a self-reporting form that indicates their income is 300% or less of the poverty level. They are also asked to provide some basic information such as name, number and ages of people in the household. They then are offered a shopping experience a maximum of once per week to pick out their food choices to take home. The food shelf's list of most needed items includes ramen noodles, tuna, spaghetti sauce, pasta noodles, canned fruit (any kind), cereal, canned vegetables (any kind), peanut butter, crackers, jelly, granola

"We can distribute those types of produce on our shelves. With fresh food being so nutritious and good-tasting, we'd be thrilled to have them among our offerings."

— Cindy Kolander

bars, instant mashed potatoes, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Pasta-Roni, ketchup, salad dressing or mayonnaise, mustard, tomatoes, tomato sauce, soup (any kind), macaroni and cheese, cake mix and

frosting, applesauce, flour, sugar, Spam, canned luncheon meat, and produce of any kind - fruits or vegetables. The food shelf gladly accepts extra garden produce from any grower.

■ Gottschalk

from Page 1

"I was a caregiver," observes Joy with an ironic smile regarding the sudden change. "And now I'm someone who needs care." Here too, though, she sees grace at work. "God has protected me from pain," she says. Given the extensive surgeries and the titanium rods now in place in her arm and leg, she says she feels surprisingly agile. "My leg seems heavy," she notes, "but it doesn't hurt." She also shows how easily she can move her right wrist and fingers. Joy has been a Waseca resident for 42 years. She and her husband Allen raised their four children,

now in their 30s, here. An elementary teacher before her marriage, Joy was a stay at home mom who made sure her children got to the many activities and events that were part of their everyday lives; she even coached some of her children's sports teams. For the past 18 years, Joy has worked for iCan, interacting with clients at various settings including sometimes providing in-home care services. She has also helped daughters Joella and Angela with the care of their young children. She is a member of Waseca's Christ Community Church. "If you know anything about my mom," observes daughter Joella Gottschalk, "you know she loves God." Joy says her confidence in God's love and care is the reason

she chooses to focus on positive elements of her recovery. A bible verse she believes applies is from Genesis 50:20, where Joseph forgives his brothers, saying the harm they intended for him had been part of God's plan, and had been turned to bring about a great good. "I've been reminded of everything that's truly important in life," she says of her experience. "I am so grateful for my family, and my daughters who have made sure I was taken care of, and who get me to all my appointments." She tells of her three siblings and her 89-year-old mother who gathered from locations as far away as Italy and Alabama to come see her soon after the accident. She says she has an enriched appreciation for the value

of the caregiving work she had done for so long, since she is now receiving similar services herself. Joy states her belief in the value of prayer has been affirmed, since so many people of faith visited and prayed for her during her hospital stay. Her name was put out on some Facebook networks, she mentions, and she has received get well cards from people all across the country saying their prayers are with her. Thanks to God's love, she says there is no room in her heart for anger or resentment about the accident or her injuries. "But I hope," she says, "if they learn about how it's been for me, people can set aside any frustrations about traffic and traffic lights and take a few extra seconds to be careful."

Farm and City Days, July 17, 18 and 19, 2026



MARSHALS - From left, Farm and City Days committee member Brandy Jacobson, Grand Marshals Barb Wildgruben, Pam Goehring, and committee member Jen Weber.



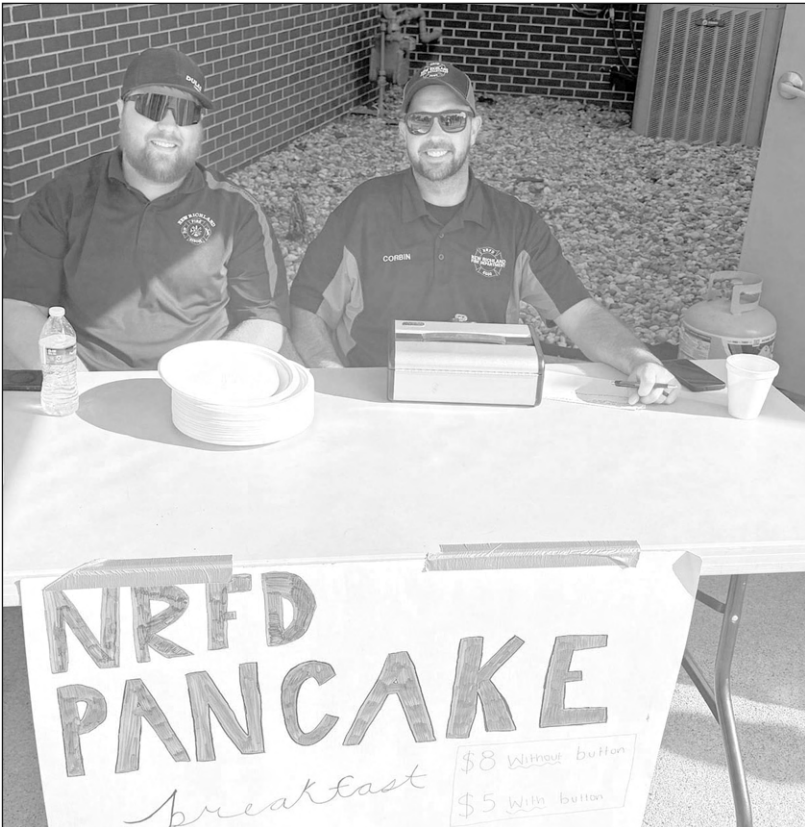
GRILL MASTERS - From left, fire fighter Brian Ziemke, retired firefighter Josh Moen, and son, 13-year old Breckyn Moen. More than 60 lbs. of sausage were grilled Saturday.



HIVES - Jason Casey has operated Sun Honey since 2014.



TATTOOS - Caralle Koopal, 17 and Crissa Koopal, 14, both NRHEG students, were selling jewelery and doing Henna temporary, organic tattoos. Caralle said she has been doing the hobby since 8th grade after she taught herself the trade.



PANCAKES - Firefighters Quinten Arndt and Corbin Pederson accept payments for the pancake breakfast Saturday.



MUSIC MAN - Waseca's Jim Kozan provided the entertainment Saturday morning during the pancake breakfast.



RAFFLE - Luke Weber and Jen Weber run a booth in charge of a raffle for Twins Tickets for the Sept. 15 home game. The tickets were provided by Bolton and Menk. Funds used from the raffle will help for next year's 150th anniversary.



PUZZLES - Janae Janike of New Richland has been running Janae's Wacky Workshop for more than five years. She sells individually cut animal puzzles.



BAKE SALE - Emily Schultz of St. Olaf Bakery sells all-sourdough-based goods during the pancake breakfast feed. Schultz has been in business for a little over a year and runs a farm stand at her house. She has lived in the area for fifteen years.



GOOD STUFF - Dave and Renae Jeno run three businesses. On Saturday Dad's Good Stuff was open, which has been operational since March, open Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. They are closed for the month of August for the fairs as they also run a food truck, Ole and Lena's, which has been around for 24 years.

Photos by Eli Lutgens



FLORAL - From left, Haley Brekke alongside 7-year old Rhysse Christensen and 5-year old (as of Sunday) Chase Christensen run the Hartland Flowers booth. The children were selling 3-D printed pots and fidget spinners. Brekke and Andi Staloch of Hartland run their business. They also run DIY events with their upcoming schedule including: July 18 at 6 p.m. at The Bend in the Road Manchester; July 28 at 6 p.m. at Geneva Bar and Grill; Aug. 8 at 3 p.m. at Indian Island Winery in Janesville; Aug. 9 at 1 p.m. at Margaret's Pub, Easton; Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. at TB3's in Freeborn; Aug. 30 at 1 p.m. at Indian Island Winery and Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. at Geneva Bar and Grill.



HOMEMADE - Jen Clark of New Richland, 2005 NRHEG graduate, sells sourdough products, and has for more than two and half years. Her Facebook page is Sourdough by Jen.

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EDA considers Child Care House, 109 Main vacancy

By JANESVILLE JOURNAL

The Janesville Economic Development Authority (EDA) is setting its sights on two of the community's most pressing needs: expanding local child-care options and revitalizing a long-vacant downtown property.

At its Tuesday afternoon meeting, the board discussed a potential \$300,000 "Child Care House" project to bring up to 15 new childcare slots to the city. In a creative twist, board members suggested that a vacant, cityowned lot at 109 Main Street could serve as the perfect home for the facility.

To address Janesville's ongoing shortage of childcare providers, the EDA reviewed a community briefing on "The Business of Child Care's Child Care House." The program is designed specifically for small, rural communities facing critical gaps in childcare.

The initiative involves a \$300,000 investment to establish a single "Child Care House" unit, which can add up to 15 licensed childcare slots. The organization behind the program works with municipalities to design customized funding maps, helping secure grants and alternative financing. The home can be owned by the city or a thirdparty provider. City Development Director Kratz noted that Mapleton has already "successfully utilized the program."

"Child care is a longtime need for the city and should be considered a high priority," said EDA President Finley, who proposed a unique location for the project.

Finley suggested that the city-owned vacant lot at 109 Main Street could be an ideal spot for the child care unit, noting its close proximity to the local park and the general scarcity of available residential lots in town. Other potential sites briefly discussed included partnerships with local churches or local residents who have expressed interest in hosting childcare in their homes.

Board member Johnson expressed enthusiasm at the idea, but urged caution regarding local regulations and zoning. "It could be a great project if we could pull it off," she explained, noting that while the opportunity is worth exploring, there may be significant legal or property hurdles to clear.

Kratz reported that a passionate group of local workers is already available to staff such a facility while Maas floated the idea of a "pod" structure, where multiple day-cares could operate cooperatively under one roof. The board directed Kratz to follow up with the lead representative of the Child Care House to see if the vacant Main Street lot could accommodate either a single unit or a multi-provider pod system.

Prior to the childcare discussion, the EDA held a lengthy debate on how to handle the approximate 45x20-foot vacant lot at 109 Main Street, located between the Janesville Journal office and the post office.

Maas characterized the lot, which was acquired by the city a few years ago and is now

owned by the EDA, as a "black hole" in the heart of the downtown business district.

To spark developer and public interest, the EDA is planning a public outreach campaign. The board intends to launch a social media campaign to gauge what residents would like to see fill the space.

Because passersby often struggle to see the potential of a bare dirt lot, Maas suggested hiring an artist to create mockups showing what various businesses could look like on the site. "The EDA owns the land and is willing to sell to someone if they have a good idea," Maas said, noting the artist's rendering would carry minimal cost to the city.

Finley reminded the board that a neighboring building has an unresolved, multi-year wall repair issue that would need to be addressed before any physical construction begins on the site. The EDA agreed to move forward with the social media interest-gauging campaign as a first step.

In old business, the board voted to approve a fourth application for the 2026 Storefront Enhancement Program. Kratz reported that while the application was received after the official June deadline, the applicant had faced "extenuating circumstances" on the deadline date. "I didn't want to write this application off considering the factors that occurred at the deadline," Kratz said. The board agreed, voting unanimously to accept and approve the application.

Of the \$20,000 budgeted for the program this year, only \$7,487 had been awarded, leaving more than \$12,000 in unused funds.

Regarding the city's economic funds, Kratz reported that the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF Fund 202) holds \$326,000 as of June 30, with all active accounts currently in good standing. Notably, one account has been fully paid off. Another separate loan fund holds \$175,000. Meanwhile, the EDA Fund 204 sits at a balance of \$42,000, with an additional \$11,000 expected to arrive this fall.

The EDA also looked ahead to future funding opportunities through the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) Economic Development Grant Program. Though they missed last year's deadline, Kratz reported the grant program has undergone a "major overhaul" and now primarily supports technical assistance, such as business workshops.

While the city is not eligible to formally apply for this cycle until 2027, City Administrator Rogers pointed out that the six-month delay gives the city ample time to plan a "highly competitive application." Finley suggested that the grant could eventually be used to fund technology setups for the proposed childcare center. The city may also look into partnering with local community organizations, such as Janesville Beautification or the Janesville Area Foundation (JAF), to strengthen the application further.

With nothing further on the agenda, the EDA adjourned at 15:27. The next EDA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 15:00.

Meet the 2026 Minnesota Farm Families of the Year

Families and growers from across Minnesota will be represented as the University of Minnesota honors them in the 2026 Farm Family of the Year ceremony at 1:15 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6, at the annual Minnesota Farmfest near Redwood Falls. The event will be held on the Gilfillan Estate in the Wick Buildings Farmfest Center.

Collectively, the selected families cover a wide spectrum of farming, from traditional crops and livestock to com-

munity-based ventures and operations producing an array of fruit, vegetables and flowers. They were selected by local University of Minnesota Extension committees based on the honorees demonstrated commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture.

"This year's Farm Families of the Year reflect the impressive strength — and incredible variety — of agriculture in our state," said Extension Dean Bev Durgan. "The University of Minnesota

is proud to honor these families and their innovation and dedication to Minnesota agriculture."

All the 2026 families are featured at z.umn.edu/farm-families.

Visit with University of Minnesota educators, researchers and staff at Farmfest

◦ University of Minnesota | Booth 615S: Extension, CFANS and others will share programming and resources for farmers as well as specific crop dia-

gnostics and hands-on activities for kids.

◦ UMASH | Booth 326: The Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center will offer activities, including a Polaris/4-H ATV exhibit.

◦ WROC | Booth SR11: West Central Research and Outreach Center staff and researchers will share the latest in University of Minnesota agricultural research, education and innovation.

Official Ballot

Judge _____

Judge _____

State Partisan Primary Ballot

Waseca County, Minnesota

August 11, 2026

Instructions to Voters:

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

This is a partisan primary ballot. You are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only.

Republican Party

Federal Offices

U.S. Senator
Vote for One

Joyce Lacey

Tom Weiler

Cynthia Gail

Michele Tafoya

Royce White

Adam Schwarze

Bob "Again" Carney Jr.

Ahmad R. (Raafat) Hassan

Patrick Munro

U.S. Representative
District 1
Vote for One

Oliver R. Morlan

Brad Finstad

Gregory A. Goetzman

State Offices

State Senator
District 19
Vote for One

Crystal Alan

John R. Jasinski

State Senator
District 23
Vote for One

Gene Domink

State Representative
District 23A
Vote for One

Nick Ronnenberg

Governor and Lieutenant Governor
Vote for One Team

Mike Lindell and Phillip C Parrish

Raul J Estrada and Joe Kincaid

Lisa Demuth and Ryan Wilson

Kendall Qualls and Brian Nicholson

John Krhin and Dennis Conn

Ross Nova and Kerry Busby

Loner Blue and Andrew Maass

Secretary of State
Vote for One

Tad Jude

Wendy Phillips

State Auditor
Vote for One

Scott Jensen

Will Finn

Nate George

Attorney General
Vote for One

Ronald J. Schutz

Publication Ballot

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

Federal Offices

U.S. Senator
Vote for One

Angie Craig

Billy Nord

Peggy Flanagan

Peter John Murgic

George H Kalberer

Kurt Michael Anderson

U.S. Representative
District 1
Vote for One

Alex Eaton

Jake Johnson

State Offices

State Senator
District 19
Vote for One

Adama Youhn Doumbouya

Sam Powell

State Senator
District 23
Vote for One

Jennifer Ney

Angie Hanson

State Representative
District 23A
Vote for One

Joe Staloch

Colin J. Minehart

Governor and Lieutenant Governor
Vote for One Team

Amy Klobuchar and Ben Schierer

Po Vang and Mark Frascone

Bill E Gates J.R. and Leah Harris

Ole "Viking" Savior and Ashley "Skol" Johnson

Kobey J Layne and Paul Ference

Mohammad Wazwaz and Murad Alshlool

Thomas Evenstad and Jason Haarsager

Secretary of State
Vote for One

Steve Simon

State Auditor
Vote for One

Zack Filipovich

Attorney General
Vote for One

David J.S. Madgett

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Services at 10:30 and 2 p.m.
Potluck lunch at noon
Sunday, Aug. 2

South of Janesville off County Road 3;
Follow signs beginning at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Freedom Twp.

Officiant will be Rev. Dr. Richard E. Carter, prof. emeritus at Concordia University St. Paul and former missionary to Asia and East Asia.

Honoring a tradition from early in our region's history, music will be provided by a band consisting of volunteer musicians. Seating provided; bring your own chairs for comfort.

If taking part in the meal, please bring a dish to pass. Immanuel is part of a four-location Missouri Synod parish which also includes St. John, Danville Twp; First Lutheran, Waldorf; and Trinity Lutheran of Wilton.

SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 JULY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6pm Bar Bingo	2 7pm BINGO	3 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	4 250 th Independence Day
5	6	7	8 6pm Bar Bingo	9 7pm BINGO	10 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	11 QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 5pm
12	13 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	14	15 6pm Bar Bingo	16 7pm BINGO	17 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	18 QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 5pm
19	20	21	22 6pm Bar Bingo	23 7pm BINGO	24 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	25 QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 5pm
26	27 Korean War Veterans Armistice Day	28 National Buffalo Soldiers Day	29 6pm Bar Bingo	30 7pm BINGO	31 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm BLAKE'S FOOD TRUCK 5-7 PM	

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
The Waseca County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on Thursday, August 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.to consider the following item:

A. **Delores Jackson Cole Srp et al** request a variance for their parcel (PID 02.019.1200 TBD) in Section 19, T.108N R.22W in Blooming Grove Township. The applicants’ new detached garage will be placed approximately 28 feet from the Road Right of Way of 410th Ave, their request is for a variance of 47 feet. Section 6.08 of the Waseca County UDC requires a front yard setback of 75 feet. The parcel under review is zoned A-1 Agricultural Protection District.

B. **Christopher Lenz and Tonya Wittman** request a variance for their parcel (PID 12.326.0540) in Section 21, T.107N R.22W in Woodville Township. The applicants’ new detached garage will be placed approximately 35 feet from the Road Right of Way of Knollcrest, their request is for a variance of approximately 15 feet. Exact measurements to be determined by certificate of survey. Section 6.20 of the Waseca County UDC requires a front yard setback of 50 feet. The parcel under review is zoned UE Urban Expansion.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 23, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
The Waseca County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on Thursday, August 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.to consider the following items:

A. **Ulland Brothers and Doreen Eaton-Borchert, Trustee** request to renew their conditional use permit to mine aggregate materials on a previously mined and reclaimed parcel (PID: 08.010.1200) belonging to Doreen R Eaton-Borchert, Trustee in Section 10, T106N R22W of Otisco Township. The request is to mine the materials 350 feet from a residence (PID 08.010.1205). Waseca County UDC §6.07 (H) (2) (i) (5) states “No on-site processing of materials or storage of excavated materials or topsoil shall occur within 1,000 feet of a residence.” The parcel is located within the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District and Mineral Extraction, Mining are allowed in this zoning district as Conditional Uses as specified in §4.13 and §6.08 of the Waseca County Unified Development Code (UDC).

B. **Request for Amendments to Section 3.09** of the Unified Development Code (UDC). Waseca County requests amendments to the above section of the UDC pertaining to Special Events Permits.

The staff report on this item will be available at the Waseca County Planning and Zoning Office, 300 N State St., Waseca during regular business hours 8-4:30, and will be on the county website www.wasecacounty.gov at the agenda tab by August 3, 2026. Oral comments will be accepted at the meeting. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all Waseca County services, programs and activities.

Tina G. Wilson, Planning and Zoning Administrator

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 23, 2026



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
The Waseca County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.to consider the following items:

A. Elijah Gist requests for a Conditional Use Permit to engage in cannabis cultivation on parcel 02.036.0120. The parcel is owned by Dustin and Alicia Lee Stewart and zoned A-1 Agricultural Protection District. The requested use will be pursuant to section 6.16 of the Waseca County Unified Development Code, MS 342 and MN Rule 9810.

B. Harold D Guse & Shannon R Guse and Deanne & Tim Malterer, as Trustees are requesting a rezone of parcel 12.007.0500. Currently the parcel is zoned Urban Expansion, with the request to rezone to A-1 Agricultural Protection District. The requested change in zoning will be pursuant to Section 3.03 Amendments/Rezoning of the Waseca County Unified Development Code.

C. Request for Amendment to Waseca County 2026 Fee Schedule. After review of the State Cannabis Licenses and State instituted fees, this amendment will make Waseca County associated fees comparable. This amendment will include several housekeeping edits.

The staff report on this item will be available at the Waseca County Planning and Zoning Office, 300 N State St., Waseca during regular business hours 8-4:30, and will be on the county website www.wasecacounty.gov at the agenda tab by August 3, 2026. Oral comments will be accepted at the meeting. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all Waseca County services, programs and activities.

Tina G. Wilson, Planning and Zoning Administrator

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 23, 2026

NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR 2026 WASECA CITY ELECTION

NOTICE is hereby given by the City of Waseca, Minnesota that the first day of filing of candidates for the November 3, 2026, City General Election is **Tuesday, July 14, 2026**, and the last day for filing is **Tuesday, July 28, 2026**.

The offices to be filled at said election are as follows:

Mayor – two-year term
Council member Ward 1 – four-year term
Council member Ward 2 – four-year term
Council member Ward 3 – four-year term

Candidates must file in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 508 South State Street, Waseca, Minnesota, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from July 14, 2026, to July 28, 2026. The City Clerk’s office will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, to accept final filings.

Candidates must be eligible voters in Minnesota, at least 21 years of age upon assuming office, and have maintained residence in the Ward from which the candidate seeks election for 30 days before the general election. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Julia Zuehlke
City Clerk

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 9, 16 and 23, 2026.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
The Waseca County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing at the Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room), 300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.to consider the following items:

A. **Ulland Brothers and Doreen Eaton-Borchert, Trustee** request to renew their conditional use permit to mine aggregate materials on a previously mined and reclaimed parcel (PID: 08.010.1200) belonging to Doreen R Eaton-Borchert, Trustee in Section 10, T106N R22W of Otisco Township. The request is to mine the materials 350 feet from a residence (PID 08.010.1205). Waseca County UDC §6.07 (H) (2) (i) (5) states “No on-site processing of materials or storage of excavated materials or topsoil shall occur within 1,000 feet of a residence.” The parcel is located within the A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District and Mineral Extraction, Mining are allowed in this zoning district as Conditional Uses as specified in §4.13 and §6.08 of the Waseca County Unified Development Code (UDC).

B. **Request for Amendments to Section 3.09** of the Unified Development Code (UDC). Waseca County requests amendments to the above section of the UDC pertaining to Special Events Permits.

The staff report on this item will be available at the Waseca County Planning and Zoning Office, 300 N State St., Waseca during regular business hours 8-4:30, and will be on the county website www.wasecacounty.gov at the agenda tab by August 17, 2026. Oral comments will be accepted at the meeting. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all Waseca County services, programs and activities.

Tina G. Wilson, Planning and Zoning Administrator

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 23, 2026



HONORED - From left, Jenny David, President Mikhail Rostislavovich, Ann Staloch, Jeanne Sexton and Christy Easton.

Waseca Exchange Club earns national recognition

Omaha, NE. — The Waseca Exchange Club returned home from the National Exchange Club Convention in Omaha with an extraordinary list of national honors, earning recognition for excellence in leadership, service, and community impact.

The club received the Distinguished Club President, Distinguished Club Secretary, and Distinguished Club Treasurer awards, recognizing club officers who successfully met rigorous national benchmarks for leadership, reporting, and organizational excellence.

The club also earned the National Service Award and the prestigious Big E Award. While many Exchange Clubs across the country qualify for the National Service Award, only a select number achieve the Big E, one of the organization's highest club recognitions.

The Big E Award recognizes clubs that excel in membership recruitment and retention while maintaining a robust calendar of impactful community service. Among the Waseca Exchange Club's signature projects are its Student of the Year program, Adopt-A-Highway cleanup efforts, annual recognition of local law enforcement officers and first responders, and the recent dedication of a new Freedom Shrine at Waseca Jr./Sr. High School.

The club's most significant accomplishment came with receiving the CARE Award for the third consecutive year, an achievement unprecedented in the history of the National Ex-

change Club. The CARE Award recognizes exceptional dedication to the Exchange Club's mission of bringing awareness to the prevention of child abuse.

"This is an incredible honor for our club," said Club President Mikhail Rostislavovich. "While it is gratifying to be recognized by our national organization, the awards themselves are not why we do this work. Our purpose has always been to serve the Waseca community, support our youth, recognize those who protect and serve us, and make our hometown a better place. These awards simply affirm what can happen when dedicated volunteers come together with a shared commitment to service."

The national recognition reflects the commitment of the club's members, volunteers, and community partners who make each project possible. From honoring outstanding students and first responders to preserving our nation's history through the Freedom Shrine and keeping local roadways clean, the Waseca Exchange Club continues to demonstrate the spirit of service that defines Exchange.

The Waseca Exchange Club welcomes individuals who are passionate about making a positive difference in the community. Those interested in learning more about the club or becoming a member are encouraged to attend an upcoming meeting or contact any club member for additional information.

4 Gal Best Shot Outing draws 60 players

By MELANIE PILTINGSRUD
Staff Writer

Is there a better way to spend a sweltering July day other than golfing at the local course? Why, sure: golfing with 59 of your girlfriends.

That's just what Penny Hagen coordinated at Riverview Golf Course on Wednesday, July 15. The 80-acre course saw 15 teams of four ladies each, gathered to play at the 4 Gal Best Shot Outing, starting at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start. The ladies played until around 3 p.m. to find out which teams would win various prizes.

According to the ladies, they were all having a good time. They had no reason not to; it was a beautiful, sunny day among friends. If that weren't enough to fill their cup of happiness, Sheri Donovan and Ginger Tune had spent days dolling up a pink golf cart with fringe and frills, with which they brought beverages ranging from lemonade to hard seltzer in iced coolers to thirsty golfers.

Many other volunteers pitched in to make Saturday's event happen. Volunteers were needed to advertise the event, to help with registration, to serve food, etc.

Annette Strenge assembled the flyer advertising the event. Laura Hagen and Sandy Waldstrom got, per Hagen, "a ton of donations."

The donations came from area businesses, who were happy to donate numerous prizes for the event, including Brenda Routh Insurance Agency, First Impressions, Hope Creamery, Stacey Blouin Massage, Wagner Foods, the Willows, RJ's on 5th Ave. Bar & Grill, Steve's Meat Market, Two Doves Boutique, Faribault Golf Club, and several others.

Hole sponsors donated items and cash for longest drive, closest to pin, and closest to the line.

In addition, there was a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. The ladies brought in "gently used" golf clothing to sell, the proceeds from which went into drawings. The Lady Bug Thrift Shop, which donated some of the prizes, also donated clothing items to raise money for the drawings.

Because no party is complete without food, the golfers brought in breakfast treats, such as muffins and protein snacks, as well as various types of bars.

Lunch at the conclusion of the match was served by another group of volunteers: Janice Jensen, Allie Larson, Cheryl Peterson, and Snooky Hagen. They gather each week to play cards at the golf course, sometimes for several hours. On Wednesday, they played cards and volunteered to serve lunch.

Although this is the first ladies' golf tournament in 17 years, the



BEST SHOT - Brenda Morris, Dianne Johns, Penny Hagen and Susan Corton that golfed at Riverview Golf Course on July 15 for the 4 Gal Best Shot Outing. Penny Hagen was largely responsible for coordinating the event.
Pioneer photo by Melanie Piltingsrud

ladies otherwise meet weekly to play golf. It is a tradition that began when Kay and Darlene Miller started golfing on Wednesday mornings. Darlene decided to call Hagen and several other retired individuals who wanted to golf. "They were the initial pioneers," said Hagen, "and now I think I have 40 people on my call list." It falls to Hagen to let the others know whether the outing is happening or not, depending on the weather.

One member of the original group, Kay Miller, passed away recently. The entire group sent flowers to the funeral and a sum of money for a memorial.

Of the Wednesday morning meet-ups, Hagen said, "It's social, it's fun. Nobody cares how anybody does on normal Wednesdays."

"Today, of course, everybody wants to win," Hagen adds.

The group had talked about organizing a tournament all last summer, an event which never came to fruition. When golfing season started again this spring, Hagen said, "We really need to do this." The rest of the ladies agreed. Hagen drew up a list of requirements to organize the event, including all of the volunteers needed. "The ladies were very generous," she said.

One of the ladies playing on Wednesday was Gretchen Supalla, whose in-laws, Laurence and Irene Supalla, once farmed the 80-acre expanse where the Riverview Golf Course now resides. "That number nine whole is where I'd get stuck all the time with the tractor. I was glad



Elsie Schultz tees off at the 4 Gal Best Shot Outing.
Pioneer photo by Melanie Piltingsrud

to get rid of it," Supalla joked.

"I think the first golf team would have been '89 graduates," Supalla continued.

The Riverview Golf Course has been in existence since 1987, and it brings people from all over to play. The tournament on Wednesday saw individuals from several different towns, including New Richland, Albert Lea, and Waseca.

Lori Kindschy, Kris Streightiff, Darcy Lee and Cindy Bennett

came from Hayfield to play; they play at a different golf course each week. When Brenda Sammon told them about the 4 Gal Best Shot Outing, it fit right in with their plans. This was their first visit to Riverview Golf Course, and they say they'll definitely be back.

According to Hagen, the plan is to make the 4 Gal Best Shot Outing a yearly event. Let's hope the weather is as beautiful next year as it was on Wednesday.



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