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Stitchers in Time

Roadway planning session examines statistics, local experience

County roadway plan improves chances for outside funding

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Interested and invested parties were invited to a three-hour session which addressed the process of updating Waseca County's "County Roadway Safety Plan" the afternoon of Oct. 6. Representatives from the Minnesota Department of Transportation and from the Twin Cities company SRF Consulting met with about 20 people who chose to attend representing law enforcement, highway maintenance, and county and township leadership.

Leading the session was SRF consultant Renae Kuehl, a professional traffic operations engineer (PTOE). Kuehl explained that having a highway safety improvement plan broadens the county's eligibility for outside funding on targeted construction projects. She mentioned her com-

pany is in the fourth phase of a four-tiered process helping more than 50 counties update their plans; Waseca County's was last updated in 2014.

Kuehl shared that the State of Minnesota receives about \$37 million in highway safety funding from the federal government each year. About half of that is distributed to local agencies such as counties, municipalities and townships through an application process: local agencies describe a project which they believe will improve traffic safety and apply for funding. Selected projects are granted as much as 90 percent of the cost, with 10 percent coming from local funds.

Kuehl went on to say that the revised plan will not only identify projects, it will include all the information

Plan continued on 10



VISUAL TRAP - This roadway in Waseca County provides an example of a "visual trap." An unfamiliar driver could easily believe this road continues straight ahead, but the hill is concealing a curve.
Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Law enforcement, leaders, share local roadway concerns

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

During an Oct. 6 session which addressed safety on Waseca County roadways, local leaders and law enforcement officers were asked for their input regarding traffic and driver behavior, and how changes in signage, lighting, or road construction might be used to reduce driver errors. Session leader Renae Kuehl, a traffic engineer and consultant leading the session, told those in attendance their comments were being written down, and would be taken into consideration as planning continues.

Regarding Hwy. 13, Sheriff Jay Dulas mentioned drivers are confused, and perhaps frustrated, that

the speed limit varies between 55 and 60 miles per hour on different sections of the road. That confusion might lead to the speed limit being violated. One deputy mentioned that some drivers make an obvious choice to speed, and told of having clocked numerous drivers exceeding 100 mph on the roadway.

Dulas also mentioned that people with homes along Hwy 13 share complaints that entering the highway from their driveways is complicated by the speed at which passing cars are moving.

Minnesota Department of Transportation representative Mark Wagner said that changing the posted

Concerns continued on 6

Waseca Treats on the Streets Oct. 22

Treats on the Streets will take place in downtown Waseca from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22. Organizers will mark the sidewalks, businesses will get creative with handing out treats.

Dan Duffy Orchestra at Indian Island Winery Friday, Oct. 23

Indian Island Winery is having the Dan Duffy Orchestra from 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23. An exciting group from Mankato performing swing and hot club music from the 20s on up to today.

Schizmaties at Starfire Event Center Oct. 23

The Starfire Event Center will host Schizmaties w/ doors open 7 p.m., music 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23. This local group draws a young crowd.

Liver Feed at Waseca American Legion Saturday, Oct. 24

There will be a Liver Feed at the Waseca Legion at 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. Includes fries, onions, potatoes and a roll, or a hamburger steak instead, \$10 per person.

Great Fall Get Together 2026 at Waseca Art Center Saturday, Oct. 24

The Great Fall Get Together 2026 will take place at the Waseca Art Center from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. Mingling, appetizers and full bar with music from Bump & Hustle to Hoehn Brothers DJ Entertainment. Tickets \$40 at Waseca Art Center or from a board member.

A word from
The Word

And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

Deuteronomy 7:15



FALL FUN - About 1,200 people visited Farmamerica's Fall Festival on Oct. 17. Visitors toured the grounds, and also enjoyed numerous event-specific elements, including a scarecrow contest, a kids' "pedal pull," a visit from Minnesota's Princess Kay of the Milky Way, a gigantic "bounce pad" for the younger set, llamas, and demonstrations of various era-appropriate crafts and skills.



Farmamerica Fall Festival entertains 1,200

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

The Farmamerica Fall Festival entertained about 1,200 visitors on Saturday, Feb. 17. The event included a wide variety of activities meant for everyone from toddlers to senior citizens. Familiar sites like the 1850s homestead and the 1930s farm had extra touches, including era-appropriate demonstrations and activities.

Ropemaker Albert Rysavy, handranger artist Arlene Orton, and weaver Ralph Keyes shared information about their skills at the 1850s site: blacksmith Wyatt Bienfang worked away at the blacksmith shop. Princess Kay of the Milky Way, Owatonna area resident Jena Hanson, greeted visitors at the 1930s farm site.

Area vintage tractor owner Ron Wood was able to provide a demon-

stration of an early 1950s International Harvester corn picker which is capable of harvesting one row of corn at a time.

Visitors were asked to weigh in regarding their favorite scarecrow of the 9 on display. As of press time, the votes had not yet been tallied.

Those out looking for a walk wandered through the corn maze, with its precision planted pattern that in-

cluded the liberty bell, an eagle, and a flag.

Members of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pempherton FFA volunteered their time to supervise bingo games: they had also come earlier in the week to pick the pumpkins which were available to every child in attendance.

"It was a busy, exciting day," comments Farmamerica program coordinator Kari Wadd.

Waseca fire chief shares fire prevention advice

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Waseca Fire Chief Jason Forshee says he's happy to make appointments with people and groups to help with their concerns surrounding fire prevention and fire safety.

Forshee was the guest speaker at the Oct. 13 meeting of the Waseca Exchange Club, where he shared information with a group of about 20 area business and service providers.

October is Fire Prevention Month, perhaps chosen because it leads into firefighters' "busy season," that time of year when people are heating their homes.

Forshee told those in attendance the Waseca Fire Department was formed 158 years ago, making it one of the oldest continually operating services in the state. It has three full-time employees, one of whom is always on call for everyday business. There are 33 firefighters on call to respond to emergencies: their employers honor that service by allowing them to leave their duties at work on short notice. At other times of day, they are prepared to leave family or personal events when called.



Members of the Waseca Exchange Club thanked Waseca Fire Chief Jason Forshee for his presentation regarding fire safety. Pictured here, from left, are Jay Bulfer, Jake Lieser, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Forshee, and Riley Lynch, who is both an Exchange Club Member and a recently instated member of Waseca's firefighting team.
Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

So far in 2026, Forshee said, fire department staff has responded to 679 calls, 600 of which were medical. He went on to say only a minority of fire departments choose to attend medical calls, "but when people need help, that's what we're here for."

Forshee says the department is "on pace" to respond to about 900 calls for the year.

The department has responded to three structure fires in the last 30 days.

Naming smoking as one of the top three causes of fires-cooking and overloaded or faulty electrical wiring being the other two-he mentioned it is something of a loss to safety that coffee no longer comes in tin containers. "It used to be, smokers had a coffee tin where they'd throw the ends of

their cigarettes," he elaborates. "Now they have to find other places." One common choice is to put some dirt in a container and use that to crush out any embers. "But if people use potting soil, they don't realize there are styrofoam beads in there that can ignite."

Forshee emphasized the importance of fire prevention awareness by mentioning a recent fire in White Bear Lake that led to the deaths of three people. People living in older homes, he mentioned, often use extension cords because the number of installed outlets tends to be smaller than modern homeowners want to make use of. In White Bear Lake, analysis showed the deadly fire

Advice continued on 6

WALDORF
CITY COUNCIL

Charlie Barnes no longer running for council

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

During the Oct. 13 meeting of the Waldorf city council, member Charles Barnes shared that, for personal reasons, he must resign his role as a city council member. Because he reached this understanding recently, his name will still appear on the Nov. 3 ballot; he explained that, if elected, he will decline the position. Ruthie Webster and Renee Cordes have expressed interest in becoming write-in candidates.

Two donations were made to Waldorf; one in memory of Gary Bartelt for \$25 and another from the Waldorf American Legion for \$500.

One item of discussion during the meeting was filling the LP tank at the Community Center water tower; council members decided to purchase 2,200 gallons at the contract price of \$1.74. a gallon for winter use; if more is needed next summer, it will be arranged for then. The city currently has a credit of nearly \$300.

Missy Sorbo of the Parks and Rec Committee said the next Park meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4. There will also be a holiday vendor fundraiser at the Community Center for the \$50,000 that is still needed to pay for the park that will take place from 9 a.m. through 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. The final payment to Flagship Recreation for the park equipment in the amount of \$30,611 was approved by the council. Charlie Barnes brought the new bike rack for the park which was welded by Waldorf Welding and said, "They deserve our thanks for their donated labor!" Barnes also painted the rack yellow and will install it

Council continued on 4



Compostings

by Al Batt

Meeting one-eyed cars

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
I just read "The Shining" by Stephen King.

I thought you didn't like horror novels.

I don't. I shut my eyes during the scary parts.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. A radio station played "You Can Call Me Al" by Paul Simon and dedicated it to me. I am a lucky guy.

I rode on a bus and listened to a fellow traveler tell me he was not good at sleeping. The only thing that helped was called cognitive shuffling. He explained that the technique involved thinking of a random, emotionally neutral word, for example, "tree." He takes the first letter of the word, in this case "T," and he thinks of as many items or objects as he can that begin with the same letter, such as "table," "toaster" or "towel"—visualizing each item as he thinks of them. Once he cannot think of any more words beginning with the letter T, he moves on to a second letter. He said he rarely makes it to a third letter before falling asleep.

I'VE LEARNED

The best foldable device is a book.

You are a hypochondriac if you put cough syrup on your pancakes.

We never tipped the lunchroom ladies in school.

On my drive home from Northfield, I met many one-eyed cars and many more bright-eyed ones. Some were too bright-eyed, causing me to mumble, "Namaste." In Sanskrit, that means "I bow to you." In yoga, "namaste" is often said to mean "The light in me salutes the light in you." If your high beams dim on their own, your car is using an automated system.

To be frank, I'd have to change my name.

Humpty Dumpty was pushed off the wall by a cat.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

Why did the cat cross the road? Because the chicken had a laser pointer.

If my body were a car, I'd trade it in for a newer model because every time I sneeze, my radiator leaks and my exhaust backfires.

My wife asked me to stop singing "I'm A Believer" by The Monkees because she found it annoying. I thought she was kidding. Then I saw her face.

Why did Humpty Dumpty have a great fall? Because he was on edge all summer.

IN THE HEADLINES

Bigfoot is never seen at a bowl-

ing alley. Researchers say shoe sizes are a big deterrent.

Snowman caught picking his nose in the produce department of a grocery store.

The Condescending Club has rules, but you wouldn't understand them.

Cemetery refuses to bury anyone living in the area.

New fiber-laden cereal promises a colonoscopy preparation in every bowl.

A local couple went on a whale-washing tour. They thought it was a typo but learned it takes a long time to wash a humpback whale.

NATURE NOTES

Laura Belin of Ames asked how long she should keep her hummingbird feeder up. I keep mine up for two weeks after I stop seeing any hummingbirds at them. I do so in case a straggler shows up and could use a convenient filling station. When that happens, I wish the tiny birds could tell me why they were running so late. I need more good excuses.

I watched a northern harrier hunt by floating low over the ground. Its buoyant flight reminds many of a butterfly's. I quite like seeing the raptor once called a marsh hawk. The more, the harrier.

A young cardinal, its grayish-black bill not turning an orange-red color until the bird is 65-80 days old, was feeding on a platform feeder offering black oil sunflower seeds. It fended off a female purple finch who thought the seeds were for sharing. There was a lot of feigning and stabbing the air with bills, but no apparent harm.

The yard blue jays were having a communal cow. They had discovered a perched owl or accipiter. Their common calls were a harsh, raucous "Jay, jay, jay!" I'm sure a blue jay, a dapper sentry of the neighborhood, is a reliable listener, even though it sounds as if it's a constant interrupter.

I marveled at the beauty of the red maple leaves. They had worked hard, and now they get to become breathtaking beauties. I found it impossible to find a loser in a legion of champion leaves.

A woolly bear caterpillar's direction of travel is an instinctual search for a safe spot, not a conscious navigation towards a specific destination. It moves in search of a suitable hibernating spot to overwinter, like under leaf litter or wood chips, which offer a freeze tolerance. The colors of the future Isabella tiger moth indicate the woolly worm's age.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"Kindness and politeness are not overrated at all. They're underused."—Tommy Lee Jones.



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

The connection of homestead and future farmers

I spent much of Saturday, Oct. 17 at Farmamerica, where I was one of dozens of volunteers who interacted with visitors during the Fall Festival. The day started out rather chilly, but by noon the temperature was pleasant and I was able to do without my handwarmer.

What I want to share in this column is the interesting perspective that came from providing information about the 1850s homestead at Farmamerica and the fast-moving harvest that was going on all around me as I drove home.

Many homesteaders in the late 1800s acquired homestead property for free, or for a price so low it might as well have been free. A common amount of acreage was 160—more land than a European born farmer could have imagined ever owning, since farming practices on the other continent were already long established and land passed from father to

first-born son, with all the younger brothers left out in the cold.

Of that vast tract of land, much was left as pasture because one family and their horses could only plow, plant, cultivate and harvest so many acres.

I spent the day telling people how every bucket of water had to be drawn from the well and carried to where it was needed. One interactive display allowed kids to use a washboard and hand-cranked wringer to "do the laundry." I used the example that every on switch we use a day was a job that needed doing back in pioneer times. A light switch would mean a candle or lamp had to be lit. A heater would mean firewood needed to be carried. Turning a car key would lead to hitching up the horses, possibly after feeding them and giving them water.

To the homesteaders, even the vintage tractors volunteers supply to



Coming from Farmamerica, Deb drove past harvesting equipment capable of feats homesteading farmers back in the day would not dream of accomplishing. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

pull the passenger trams would have seemed miraculous.

After the day's event at Farmamerica wound down, I drove home past pieces of equipment capable of harvesting more in an hour than those homestead families would have been thrilled to bring in for a season. Wagons and trucks with enough cubic foot capacity to be apartments rolled through the fields loaded to their tops with golden bounty. Thanks to the machinery, two or three people kept the processes of picking, loading, and delivering going smoothly, filling bins with more grain than my theoretical homestead farmer probably harvested in his lifetime.

Yet he and the modern farmers are also richly connected. He made the same decisions about what to plant, when to plant it, and when to begin harvesting. He paid attention to the heavy rains and dry spells, worrying how each would affect his yield. He

worried whether the sale price of his wheat or oats or corn would be strong enough to keep him, his family and his essential livestock supported for the twelve months now standing between him and the next harvest. He weighed carefully how much of it he should sell right away and how much he should store in case prices would be higher later on.

They both planted their crops in the extraordinarily rich soil that is our heritage from the centuries of prairie grass that once grew in the southern part of Waseca County. Both sets of farmers took time to revel in the wonder of seedlings sprouting under the early summer sun.

That is the perspective I gained from being on a homestead site for part of the day and driving among harvest fields for another part. Isn't life interesting, that we can be simultaneously separated and joined in so many ways?

Surprise! It's a birthday party celebration

Surprise!

That's what I yelled last Saturday when I attended my first surprise birthday party. Or did I just yell Happy Birthday? I can't recall.

It was a dirty 30 party for someone I play volleyball with. His girlfriend, who I also play volleyball with, had arranged the whole thing weeks in advance. We met at a restaurant, donned party hats and party blowers, and waited for the two to arrive. They rounded the corner and ta da! Needless to say, he was surprised, a little embarrassed to be the center of attention, and happy to have his friends there to celebrate with him.

We then went to Punch Bowl Social, a bowling alley/arcade/bar, where we had lanes rented out for us. It was a lot of fun to bowl, chat, and eat cake. It had been a long time since I had bowled, so I was shocked when I came in first out of the six of



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

us for the first game, and not surprised when I absolutely lost the second one. Their bowling pins were attached to strings, so sometimes the pins would fall weird, but I'm not making excuses.

Attending the birthday party made me think back to all my birthday parties. I don't remember being big into birthdays. Of course I celebrated large on the big birthdays—skydiving on my 18th and throwing a big party at the bar on my 21st—but the

only birthday I really remember aside from those is when I had a birthday party at Pizza Ranch when I was very little. I was telling Jack about it when I realized he had no idea what a Pizza Ranch was! So I explained to him the wonders of midwest Pizza Ranch and he agreed to go with me when we visit Minnesota in December.

Other birthdays I don't really remember. I've worked a few of them, and I even remember one where I

was home alone and I just made legos and watched tv while my parents were at work. That was a good birthday too. And of course there were a couple I spent at the lake, soaking in the last of summer. At least there hasn't been a birthday I haven't enjoyed—I've had fun at them all, and I guess that's what's important.

Either way, I hope that my friend enjoyed his birthday party. We left the bar around midnight, and he was still there drinking the shots his other friend kept offering him, so I'll have to ask him next week how the rest of his night went.

My Determination: "We are only human, and the gods have fashioned us for love. That is our great glory, and our great tragedy."—Aemon Targaryen, Game of Thrones

Something special is happening at Waseca Rotary

To the Editor:

As I travel throughout southeastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin preparing to serve as Rotary District Governor, I have the opportunity to visit Rotary clubs of all sizes. My recent visit with the Waseca Rotary Club left a real impression on me.

This is a club that seems to understand that Rotary can honor its traditions while also continuing to evolve.

I was particularly struck by the number of women actively involved in the club, including many younger women who are stepping into leader-



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ship and helping shape what Rotary looks like in Waseca. The club's energy shows up in the things the club is doing throughout the community.

Projects like the new Wellness Walk, along with events such as the Adult Prom and Fall Fest, are great examples. They are creative, visible and, most importantly, bring people together. That's what community

service should do.

During my visit, I also had the privilege of recognizing Gregg Johnson with a Rotary District 5960 Impact Award. Gregg represents a kind of leadership that doesn't always seek the spotlight. He leads with humility, treats people with respect, and has earned the trust of those around him. His impact on the Waseca club is a wonderful example

of what "Service Above Self" looks like in practice.

Every community needs people willing to give their time and talents to make where they live a little better. Waseca has a strong group of those people in its Rotary Club.

Thank you to the Waseca Rotarians for the warm welcome—and, more importantly, for the difference they are making in the Waseca community.

Lonny Stormo
District Governor-Elect
Rotary District 5960

WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

SERVING THE WHOLE OF WASECA COUNTY
including the communities of Waseca, Janesville, New Richland, and Waldorf

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GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

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Ballot candidates answer survey questions

Jeremy Conrath, running unopposed for reelection in Waseca City Council, Ward 1
- Your area of residence and members of your family in the same household:



City of Waseca, a household of 2
- How long have you lived in the area?
50 years
- What is your occupation or profession?

Conrath

Production Supervisor
- How long have you held the elected position you are in? What are some accomplishments you wish to mention?

10 years. New Conagra development, improving city infrastructure to reduce discharges in Clear Lake and flooding in residents basements, maintaining high level of public safety, and being part of getting new homes and multi-family housing projects started

- What are some personal traits or experiences which act or will act as strengths for you in this office?

In 10 years on the Waseca City Council, I have never missed a regular city council meeting. I have also responded to every person who has reached out to me on city issues. I worked for Waseca County for 15 years and spent many years in the private sector as well giving me different perspectives. I have also been on many volunteer organizations such as the Waseca Police Reserves and the Waseca County Snowmobile Trail Association
- What do you regard as some of the most important tasks or concerns the office will be, or should be, handling in the near future?

My number one priority is getting the needed infrastructure to the west interchange, this is needed to attract new businesses which will help with the property tax burden

- What additional observations or impressions would you like to share?

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of Waseca the last ten years and I am grateful to serve them 4 more years

Waseca Area Food Co-op Event at The Mill Sunday, Oct. 25

The Mill will host a community information and feedback event from 2-4 p.m. October 25. This is a chance to discuss a community-owned grocery store, connect with local farmers and producers, and share thoughts about what residents would like to see in a future store.

Blood Drive at Waseca American Legion Monday, Oct. 26

The Waseca Legion will hold a blood drive from noon thru 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26.

Beaded Corn demo at Indian Island Winery Monday, Oct. 26

Indian Island Winery is having a Beaded Corn demo at 3:30 p.m. Oct. 26. Inspired by Minnesota's multicolored flint corn, this is geared for ages 7-12.

The Waseca County Pioneer sent questionnaires to various area candidates asking for their responses to a set of straightforward questions. Their responses will appear when they are submitted.

DeAnne (De) Malterer, incumbent running for re-election as Waseca County Commissioner, District 4

- Your area of residence and members of your family in the same household:



Malterer

I live in Janesville with my husband, while my son and his wife live on the home farm in Iosco Township.

- How long have you lived in the area?

Most of my life. I was away for college and the first few years of our marriage as we lived on my husband's home farm in Blue Earth County.

- What is your occupation or profession?

Retired from farming and teaching, allows me to give full energy to serving District 4 and Waseca County.

- How long have you held the elected position you are in? What

are some accomplishments you wish to mention?

I've served 8 years as District 4 Commissioner. During that time I've been influential in expanding broadband to more than half the rural part of the county and also increased service and competition within the city of Janesville.

As a member of the Ditch Subcommittee, I advocated for the Land and Water Resources department to provide better upkeep of our county ditch system

As a member of the Building and Grounds Subcommittee, I helped with planning the remodel at the Community Services Building, worked on the plans for our new Judicial Center and the plans to consolidate other downtown county services back to the courthouse.

I lead a statewide work group recommending new state funding and formula for the foundational public health responsibilities, ensuring that rural counties got adequate ongoing funding to do that important work.

Actively participate on AMC and NACo policy committees to provide rural Minnesota perspective.

- What are some personal traits or experiences which act or will act as strengths for you in this office?

I've learned it is essential that the

person holding this office be a good listener, have strong learning/communications skills, and collaboration skills. It's all about relationships.

A commissioner should be organized, able to read many pages of material on a wide variety of subjects, analyze and understand data, and concepts, ask questions, acknowledge feelings, but be able to separate them from facts.

Understanding the role of a board member is to help the county board make the best, most well informed decision, with the information available at the time.

Protect the nonpartisan status of the board to preserve long term relationships with legislators and governmental partners.

Know when to lead and when to defer to a colleague or staff with greater expertise.

A commissioner must be able to creatively solve immediate problems, while keeping the long-term vision in mind.

This is how I serve Waseca County.

- What do you regard as some of the most important tasks or concerns the office will be, or should be, handling in the near future?

While we support the city of New Richland in cleanup efforts, the long-term fix is going to take a

strong, sustained, collaborative effort between the county, city, state, and federal governments. I, the rest of the county board, and county staff, have established relationships with our state and federal legislators and staff in state and federal agencies that can help move this forward in partnership with the City of New Richland.

We also need to continue to modernize our county departments and systems so we can more effectively serve our residents while keeping the levy sustainable.

- What additional observations or impressions would you like to share?

It has been an honor to serve on this board for 2 terms. I've brought life experiences and skills into the office with me, but have worked to expand those skills and knowledge while serving.

There is still work that I want to help lead, some of which I have outlined above.

Electing me means that you get a full-time county commissioner who's only job is to work for District 4 and Waseca County. Contact me with questions or concerns. Contact information is available on the county website or find me on Facebook. Thanks for your support.

Daren Arndt, running unopposed for re-election to Waseca City Council, Ward 3

- Your area of residence and members of your family in the same household:



Arndt

Waseca, Ward 3
- How long have you lived in the area?

41 years
- What is your occupation or profession?

Lead at a pallet recycling company

- How long have you held the elected position you are in? What are some accomplishments you wish to mention?

12 years. Bring more business to town and have more housing

- What are some personal traits or experiences which act or will act as strengths for you in this office?

I've been on city council for 12 years and like to see community members more involved.

- What do you regard as some of the most important tasks or concerns the office will be, or should be, handling in the near future?

Trying to balance the budget and not have to raise taxes every year

- What additional observations or impressions would you like to share?

I would like to see more businesses come to the community and have more reasons for individuals to shop in town.

Timothy Corry; one of three candidates running for Mayor of Janesville

- Your area of residence and members of your family in the same household:

Janesville, 4 members of household

- How long have you lived in the area?

10 years

- What is your occupation or profession?

Senior Trainer

- What are some personal traits or experiences which act or will act as strengths for you in this office?

Professional project manager. I train Change Management classes to large corporations. I own a business that requires professionalism and attention to detail.

- What do you regard as some of the most important tasks or concerns the office will be, or should be, handling in the near future?

My conversations with the Janesville residents show there is an impression that "nothing ever gets done." I don't think that's a fair summary of the progress the city has made, but it is the impression that exists. We need visible forward momentum and a city identity that focuses on progress and growth.

- What additional observations or impressions would you like to share?

I do not want to sit quietly in meetings and watch everything stay the same. I want conversations around growth, around community, and about impact. We owe those things to the people of Janesville.

Curt Keyes, candidate for District 4 Commissioner

- Your area of residence and members of your family in the same household:

Rural Iosco Township, am the sole survivor of my family.

- How long have you lived in the area?

All my life. Waseca Graduate.

- What is your occupation or profession?

Farmer, retail management at Kwik Trip inc., Iosco Township Supervisor

- If you are not an incumbent,

what positions or offices have you served which help you feel prepared for the office you seek?

Township officer for many years, County extension committee member, Waseca Rural Fire District board member and Treasurer since 2015.

- What are some personal traits or experiences which act



Keyes

or will act as strengths for you in this office?

Good Listener, fiscally responsible, easy to talk to.

- What do you regard as some of the most important tasks or concerns the office will be, or should be, handling in the near future?

Being a voice for the people I hope to represent. Settling on a justice center plan that will work for the law enforcement community and keep the area safe. Encourage new businesses to consider the area for expansion to

Brad Krause, incumbent candidate for District 5 Commissioner. Running unopposed

- Your area of residence and members of your family in the same household:

Wilton township. My wife and I

- How long have you lived in the area?

Life long resident

- What is your occupation or profession?

Farmer

- How long have you held the

elected position you are in? What are some accomplishments you wish to mention?

Started in November of 2019; will be 7 years

Was involved in the establishment of Land and Water Resources Dept

Extension of Broadband in Waseca County

Was involved in the establishment of the Public Land Survey System - Re-monumentation Policy for Waseca County

- What are some personal traits or experiences which act or will act as strengths for you in this office?

Being efficient

and effective in the community

and knowing the needs and concerns of the constituents in my district and all Waseca County.

- What do you



Krause

regard as some of the most important tasks or concerns the office will be, or should be, handling in the near future?

Growing our local economy, strengthening our small business in both city an rural areas.

Create opportunity, innovation so agriculture remains strong and respected.

Public Safety for our community to feel safe and secure .

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OBITUARIES

Alvin Gilster

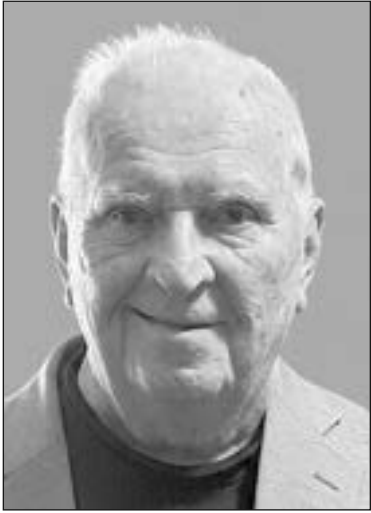
Alvin Arno Gilster, age 90, of Le Center, MN passed away peacefully on October 13, 2026.

Born on October 11, 1936, in Waseca, MN he was the son of Arno and Alvina (Detjen) Gilster. He was raised in the Waldorf area, where he attended and graduated from Waldorf School. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Navy, spending most of his service stationed in the Mediterranean region.

After returning home, he met Violet Schwarz through mutual friends, and the two were married on August 10, 1958, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville, Minnesota. They spent a short time living in Waseca before settling in Le Center, where they made their home and raised their family. Al began his career at Jim Fox Motors in Waseca. After moving to Le Center, he joined Kroll Chevrolet, eventually purchasing the business and renaming it Gilster Specialties. Throughout the years, Al continued working in various roles, maintaining his strong work ethic well into his 80th year.

Al enjoyed playing golf and cheering on his favorite teams, especially the Minnesota Twins and Vikings. He took great pride in the community he called home and believed in giving back to the people and organizations that made it special. His service in the United States Navy remained one of the greatest sources of pride in his life, and he continued to honor that service through his involvement with the VFW, where he served as past commander. In 2026, he was honored to receive a Quilt of Valor in recognition of his military service. Al was also a member of the American Legion, the Le Center Community Club, where he once served as president, and St. Paul Lutheran Church, where he was a longtime member.

Above all, Al loved his family deeply. He cherished the memories of growing up alongside his siblings and the family bonds that shaped his life. As the years passed, that same love carried into gatherings with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, where the joy of being to-



Alvin Gilster

gether remained one of life's greatest gifts. Al lived his life with integrity, stood firmly by his values, and moved through the years with no regrets. He leaves behind a legacy of honesty, hard work, service, and, most importantly, a family who will carry his love and the lessons he lived by for generations to come.

Al will be lovingly remembered by his children, Deb (Pat) Bauleke, Donna Gilster, and Jeff Gilster; grandchildren, Abby (Pat) Miller, Dezi Bauleke, Brian (Callie) Bauleke, Cody (Tina) Bauleke, Kyle (Stacy) Robbins, Angella Robbins, Paige (Jake) Sumpter, and Chelsea (Kaya) Lindell; great grandchildren, Haydin, Zaelyah, Kryxus, Alizybeth, Xeona, Evie, Claire, Azena, Parker, C.J., Tyler, Tristan, Kalli, Colten, and one on the way in February; family friend, Nick Eilrich; siblings, John Gilster and Judy Webber; sisters-in-law, Sue Gilster, LaJune Schmidt, and Luanne Schwarz; brothers-in-law, Frank Groskreutz and Pat Muldoon; along with many nieces, nephews, and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Violet in 2016; siblings, Wanita Groskreutz, Dan (Florence) Gilster, Larry Gilster, and Janice (Nick) Samaraka; sisters-in-law, Beverly Muldoon, Alice (Kenny Spotts), LuVerne (Yvonne) Schwarz, and Florence (Bill) Braun; brothers-in-law, LeRay Webber, Cliff Schwarz, and John Schmidt; and nephew, Kent Spotts.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, October 26, 2026 at 11:00 AM at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Le Center, MN; Pastor Heath Queen will be officiating. Al's family will greet guests at a visitation held two hours prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at Ft. Snelling.



GALLERY OF STITCHES - The sewing circle aptly named *Stitches in Time* was featured at the Waseca Art Gallery during its most recent gallery opening on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026. Pictured from left: Donna Hagerty, WAC Director of Education and Planning, Christy Easton, Deb Rysavy Lien, WAC President Mikhail Rostislavovich, Lynn Gorski, Conna Roesler, and Kathy Mentjes.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Waseca Art Center features special needs artwork and the Stitches in Time

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

A display titled "Quilts Across America" featuring work by the local sewing group *Stitches in Time* shared the limelight with a second display showing artwork created by local individuals with disabilities during an Oct. 17 gallery opening at the Waseca Art Center (WAC). The Waseca Area Foundation facilitated the second display by supporting it with a grant.

WAC President Mikhail Rostislavovich shared some comments as the opening reception began, saying, "We are especially pleased to showcase the artistic talents of individuals with special needs. Their work offers us an opportunity to appreciate the creativity and unique perspectives of artists whose contributions deserve to be seen and celebrated."

For the Beckman Gallery, Rostislavovich continued, "Our second exhibition, *Quilts Across America*, features the remarkable talents of the *Stitches in Time*. I have always found quilting to be a particularly fascinating art form. It combines mathematics, geometry, color, patience and imagination. Unlike many forms of art, a quilt often has a very practical purpose. It can keep us warm, commemorate a special occasion, honor someone we love, or become a treasured family heirloom."

To help celebrate America's 250th anniversary, *Stitches in Time* challenged its members to create



ART FOR ALL - The Waseca Art Center recently held a gallery opening on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026. Pictured from left are some of the artists: Melissa Cardona, Chris Diems, WAC President Mikhail Rostislavovich, Mary Kay Foley, Angela Ulman, Jay Boyce, WAC Director of Education and Planning Christy Easton, Maggie Gahler, Jolene Root, and Caitlin Roberts.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

patriotic wall hangings. *Purple Mountain Majesty* by Beverly Emery for example, or *Lady Liberty* by Deb Rysavy Lien. Rostislavovich added, "Some of the quilts also demonstrate how this craft can become an act of generosity and service. Beverly Emery's *America Strong* will be donated to Quilts of Valor, while Lynn Gorski's *Turkey Hunt* will be given to a veteran participating in a special hunt at Fort Ripley."

One quilting fan insisted on a photo in front of *Star Quilt*, sewn by Mary Emerson and she said, "This is the first quilt I ever made through a 'block of the month' activity. Through that I learned to make the following stars: morning, shooting, combination, hidden, folded, Ohio, Amish, pointed star variation, snowball, army, royal and Christmas star. It isn't perfect but after all these years, it's my favorite." *The Prismatic Portal* by Deb Rysavy Lien was another interesting quilt because it featured what looked like a galactic wormhole or portal.

Christy Easton, WAC Director of Education and Planning said, "The WAC has been expanding

classes to include free sessions to local special needs groups since fall 2024. Through a generous grant from the Waseca Area Foundation and enthusiastic participation from members of these groups, the WAC can now curate this exhibit showcasing their remarkable talents."

Unfortunately the exhibit does not show all the artwork because many art pieces have been brought home to share with family and friends.

Featured in the Harguth Gallery representing ICAN were Jolene Root, Angela Ulman, Mickenzie Mendez, Katrina Davison, Josh Gertz, Josiah Owino, Joy Gottschalk, Maggie Gahler, Jay Boyce. Representing Lifeworks were Jacob Voracek, Samantha Seifert, Jared Dalton, Nate Klecker, Tim Krebsbach, Alex Lamont, Gavin Brewer, Georgia Weber, Dale Templin, Michelle Goodrich, and Rachel Jahnke. Representing MRCI were Christopher Diem and Mary Kay Foley.

After the opening remarks, guests were invited to mingle and greet the artists. Refreshments were also served in the Tea Room.

Council

from Page 1

at the park himself using concrete. The council also discussed monthly park maintenance to be done.

The Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP), which is administered by the Minnesota DOT has funding available for road projects that are significant, will improve safety, address transportation deficiencies and contribute economically. The City is working with Jim Kollar of Waseca County to apply for funds. This construction would take place in 2028 on Railway Street which has above average heavy truck movement because

of Crystal Valley which serves residents and businesses up to 90 miles surrounding Waldorf. The council approved the application to the LRIP and agreed to further cover those expenses not covered by the grant for road repair.

Waldorf resident Todd Levine was alerted by the city clerk Sherri Sandry about a change in his water bill. Due to a water leak, his bill was much higher than it usually is. The council approved using an average bill and agreed he could pay that amount.

A water tower evaluation quote was obtained using a remote operated vehicle; the City will obtain a second quote for comparison. Anthracite levels have been within acceptable levels, but the City is still investigating costs for anthracite shocking.

Community invited to learn about grocery co-op

A community information and feedback event for the upcoming Waseca Area Food Cooperative will take place at The Mill in Waseca on Sunday, Oct. 25. Waseca councilwoman Stacy Schroeder will open the session; featured speaker will be Keri Johnson, human resources manager at the St. Peter Food Co-op.

Before the introduction, guests will be invited to grab drinks and appetizers while mingling and having a look at interactive displays and reading material. People will be encouraged to consider questions and the benefits of a co-op, including access to healthy foods and how that benefits local agriculture. How it helps to have neighbors connect.

There will be committee introductions where they will explain why community input is so important and what they hope to learn. The mission statement for the co-op is: "A vibrant Waseca community where everyone

has access to healthy food, local agriculture thrives, neighbors connect through shared experiences, and community ownership creates a resilient and sustainable future for generations to come."

Keri Johnson, HR Manager at the St. Peter Food Co-op & Deli will give a 15-minute presentation on 'Why a community should own its grocery store. Why local food systems matter and what happens when a community invests in themselves.'

There will also be a question/answer session explaining how ownership of a co-op works, tableside group discussion, and opportunities to become a member of the co-op. They will also be looking for someone with experience in food co-ops, community-owned businesses, local food systems, and economic development. They will also have informational handouts to take home.

There have been many steps to

reach this point including:

May 2026 – The Waseca Area Food Cooperative is authorized as a legal entity under the laws of the State of Minnesota. The authorization allows the cooperative to enter into contracts, apply for grants, and begin formal fundraising.

June 2026 – The co-op initiated a feasibility study with Paul Vesey, CPA (Inactive) Business Consultant Small Business Development Center. The study will be completed by the end of October.

August 2026 - Sabri Fair, Environment & Sustainability Planner with Region Nine and Jim Boerboom met with Chu-Yen Pai, Assistant Professor of Marketing at MSU. They discussed how supply chain management courses could support the Waseca Food Co-op. Holly Callaghan, Economic Development Specialist from GreenSeam introduced Sabri and Jim Boerboom to Dr. Yen

in July.

September 30 - Dr. Yen shared a course syllabus where students would address five focus areas. They are: 1. Understand School Lunch Customer Needs; 2. Compare Existing Cooperative Partners' Offerings; 3. Explore Local Produce Sources; 4. Design a Voucher Program Process and 5. Plan Food Rescue Logistics.

Dana Srp, who is helping to coordinate the get together at the Mill said, "This is to create an energetic, welcoming community experience that introduces residents to the vision of a community-owned grocery store, allows them to shape that vision, answers their questions and concerns, connects them with local food producers, and inspires them to become owners, advocates and participants in making the store a reality." All Waseca residents interested in a new grocery store in town are invited to attend.



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The Pastor's Column

The legacy of love

By PASTOR RICK WULF
Christ Community Church

Before you read this article, why don't you spend a moment to read 1 Corinthians 13.

It feels as though, there are a lot of things in this world we can disagree about. We can disagree about politics, how to raise children, the best way to spend a Saturday afternoon, is it a casserole or a hot-dish, or whether Minnesota winters are something to celebrate or simply endure. And that's just a few.

But there is something we all need, regardless of our age, background, beliefs, or circumstances—love. And just as importantly, we need to know how to give it.

In 1 Corinthians 13, the apostle Paul offers one of the most familiar descriptions of love in the Bible. Maybe the last time you heard it, it was at a wedding. But this passage was not originally written for a wedding ceremony. It was written to a church—a community of people who were struggling to get along, competing for recognition, and having difficulty putting one another first.

Sounds like maybe it has more relevance to today than we originally thought.

Paul begins with a startling reminder: impressive abilities, remarkable knowledge, extraordinary faith, and even generous hearts are great to have. But if we do not have love, we have missed what matters most.

Think about it. We can be right and still be unkind. We can be successful and yet selfish. We can be busy doing good things while still failing to treat people around us with the compassion they deserve. Love is more than a feeling. It is a choice we make in how we treat people.

Maybe you hadn't thought about this. Love is essential to a good life, not simply an accessory to a good life. We often talk about love as though it were something that happens to us. We fall in love. We feel love. We lose that loving feeling. And while feelings certainly have a place in our relationships, Paul describes love not in terms how we feel, but in terms of how we live.

Remember these words. Say them aloud: Love is patient. Love is kind. It does not envy or boast. It is not proud or rude. It is not self-seeking. It is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs.

We do not have to travel far to find opportunities to love; these descriptions are incredibly practical. Love is the patience we offer when someone is taking longer than we think they should. Love is the kindness we show to the cashier who is having a difficult day. Love is the decision to listen rather than interrupt, to encourage rather than criticize, and to forgive rather than bringing up an old mistake for the hundredth time. Love is the everyday decision to treat another person with extraordinary grace: at the breakfast table, in the workplace, at the hardware store, in our conversations with our neighbors...

We cannot control how everyone treats us, but we can choose how we treat others. In this life, we will encounter difficult people. The question is whether we will allow their behavior to determine ours.

That choice matters because love

has a way of changing the atmosphere around us. If we respond in love, in a tangible way, we point them to the way of Jesus. Jesus called His followers to love our friends and our enemies. Friends, maybe easy, the latter, a more challenging standard. Jesus reminds us that love is not merely a reward we give to people who deserve it. Love is a reflection of the love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness we have received and the kind of people we desire to become.

This does not mean love ignores wrongdoing. Genuine love can speak difficult truths, seeks justice, responds when necessary. But it does so with a desire for what is good, rather than to return evil for evil.

Love does not require us to agree with everyone. It does call us to remember we are all made in God's image, even when we disagree. And perhaps this is one of our greatest challenges right now. It is easy to love people who think like us, vote like us, worship like us, or share our opinions. The real test comes when we encounter someone who does not.

Paul closes this chapter by reminding us that faith, hope, and love remain, but the greatest of these is love.

Why love? Because so many of the things we spend our lives pursuing are temporary. Our accomplishments will eventually be forgotten. Our possessions will belong to someone else. Our positions and recognition will fade. Even the things we work so hard to build will one day pass from our hands.

But the love we give leaves a mark. This is the legacy we leave in people, not just for people.

This legacy of love shapes our families, our communities, the discouraged, and the lonely. This legacy of love gives hope to those who wonder whether anyone cares, crosses generational divides, bridges differences, and brings people together when almost everything else seems to pull them apart.

We may not be able to solve every problem in our community or change every circumstance in our world. But our legacy of love will make a difference in the lives of the people God has placed around us.

We can be a little more patient. A little more generous. A little quicker to forgive. A little slower to judge. We can look for the person who needs encouragement and take the time to offer it.

And we can begin today.

How can we honor the message of 1 Corinthians 13? Let's not simply admire its beautiful words but put them into practice. What would happen if each of us made it our goal to show a little more love in our homes, our workplaces, our churches, and our neighborhoods?

Love is not always easy. It can be inconvenient, costly, and uncomfortable. But it is always worth pursuing. You can start by loving the person in front of you. You do not have to do something extraordinary to make a difference. Paul reminds us, when everything else has passed away, the legacy of love remains. 1 Corinthians 13 reminds us that of all the things we could leave behind, there are few things more worthwhile than a living life that helps others know they were loved.

■ Concerns

from Page 1

speed limit signs to be more consistent would require a traffic study and reevaluation of the roadways in question

Chief Deputy Doug Gerdts mentioned that area citizens persistently ask for additional enforcement at the intersection of County Roads 2 and 3, where they cross south of Janesville. Area drivers have the perception, confirmed by officers at the site, that a significant number of vehicles fail to stop, or even slow down, while approaching the location, even though it's well known drivers on 2 have a stop sign.

Kuehl offered that a safety plan for the intersection could begin with lower cost options such as adding flashing or dual stop signs, implementing a four-way stop, and/or creating rumble strips. Constructing a roundabout, a project which typically costs between \$100,000 and \$400,00, would be another approach.

Also mentioned as a possible

choice for improvement was the portion of County Road 4 known as the "Snake Trail" leading northwest out of Waseca. Records show that 10 "property damage" crashes took place from 2021 to 2025 along the road: nine were single vehicle; five occurred on a curve; seven involved an animal.

Local officers shared the observation that, during colder parts of the year, slippery frost has a tendency to form on the road overnight; in the morning, inconsistent driving conditions develop as the sun warms some parts of the road while frost remains in patches where trees create shade. All Waseca County drivers, they pointed out, should be alert for deer, perhaps especially in areas near woods.

One local spokesperson expressed frustration regarding drivers using their smart phones. "I'm floored," he said, "by the number of people I see with their phones on their ears."

"That's got to contribute to a lot of driver error."

Kuehl acknowledged that "driver behavior" is a contributing factor in 92 percent of all accidents—but that

"behavior" includes a wide range of distractions and choices.

Since teaching people not to make mistakes is unachievable, she said, and since every severe injury or death is a tragedy, the Toward Zero Deaths program works on factors it can control, including increasing law enforcement, strengthening emergency response programs, and engineering highway features that will "help keep people on the road" even when they make a mistake.

She mentioned one approach is adding features that return their attention to the road: "rumble strips" at both the edge and center of the road are an example. She went on to say that nearby residents sometimes complain about the noise caused as vehicles cross those zones: Newly engineered "mumble strips" have been devised which keep the level of vibration inside vehicles at the same level, but reduce the volume of sound heard around them.

Kuehl's presentation also included discussion of "visual traps," places where drivers are likely to perceive that a road continues in a straight line, when in fact the main

right of way curves or might have a stop sign that won't be seen until the driver tops a hill. There are numerous ways to address such "traps," she said—signage of various sizes and sometimes with electronic features can be of help.

Deputies mentioned the "traffic approaching" signs which flash along Hwy 60 north of Morristown, saying they and some ambulance drivers have found them helpful.

MNDOT representative Wagner shared that studies show signs of that type make a difference when they are first installed, but as drivers become accustomed to them, they have less and less effect.

"We aren't installing any new ones," he said.

Dulas complimented the effectiveness of "median cable barriers" used on new Highway 14 and elsewhere in the county, saying they are very helpful in keeping out-of-control vehicles from either leaving the roadway or crossing into oncoming traffic. Emergency medical personnel, he said, had commented more than once on the barriers' effectiveness.

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Janesville

25 years ago



- The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Yellow Ribbon Team will be involved in activities throughout the school year to help prevent youth suicide. Front row (left to right): Jena Yentsch, Luke Weimert, Julia Ulmen, Maria Schultz, Katie Jorgenson and Brenda Trahms. Row two: Heather Swenson, Teah Sylvara, Julie Radunz, Jenny Potter, Keill Christianson, Levi Muicahey, Katie von Holtum and Erika Schoer. Row three: Lance Meyer, Tim Malterer, Amanda Danberry, Rachel Lutter, Cassandra Kuhl, Bridget Kester, Cassandra Hayenga, Cassandra Kopischke, Heather Johnson, Kaleena Steinberg, Danielle Mulcahey, Tonya Balow, Tina O'Brien, Trevor Aase, Stephanie Steinhaus, Catalina Jewison, Laura Ewald and Samantha Fox. Not present were Trisha Chartton, Brenda Hiles, Anna Hall, Jennifer Jewison, Stephanie Kraft, JoAnna Krienke, Katie Linde, Nicole Ozmun and Nikki Steele.

- A week ago the Janesville City Council held an emergency meeting to protect the city against the possibility of any new adult businesses opening in town. The action was in response to the recent opening of a strip club in Nicollet by two men who had come to Janesville for a copy of the city ordinance. They also looked at buildings for sale in town. By its action last week, the council passed a resolution that establishes a six month moratorium on a permit or action relating to Adult Use. Waseca City Manager Kris Busse said Waseca already has such protection in place. "We can't outlaw these clubs but we can keep them out of certain zones," Busse said, Waseca has as much legal protection as is possible, she said. According to the city ordinance, adult businesses are not allowed within 1500 radial feet of residential zones, day care centers, public libraries, public parks, or schools.

- A new display has opened at the Waseca County Historical Society. The show is entitled, "Then and Now, Comparisons of Waseca County's Architecture." The show was put together by our photo archivist Sheila Morris. Sheila uses photos of buildings from the WCHS collection to show how they looked years ago and how they look today. This exhibit is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Waseca County history through our existing buildings as well as through the ones we have lost. The museum is open from 8 a.m.-noon and from 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

- Ms. Waseca County, Emily Keller, visited with Mr. Krautbauer's health classes on Monday, Sept. 24. Ms. Keller spoke to the students about bullying, depression and suicide.

50 years ago

- Mr. and Mrs. Val P. Miller, Belle Plaine, announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Lou to William (Bill) Patrick Jewison of Janesville, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Jewison. Mary Lou is a 1973 graduate of LeSueur High School and received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Mankato State University in May of 1976. She is presently residing in Mankato. Bill is a 1972 graduate of Janesville High School and attended University of Minnesota at Waseca. He is currently farming in partnership with his parents near Janesville. This couple will be married Jan. 8 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Janesville.

- Barbara Mulcahey was honored with a bridal shower Oct. 3 in St. Ann's Catholic Church dining hall. Hostesses were Mrs. Bert Mulcahey, Mrs. Jerry Mulcahey, Mrs. Everett Maxwell of Rochester, Mrs. Jerry Miller of Waseca and Mrs. Marion Welsh. The afternoon was spent socially, the honoree opened her gifts, door prizes were awarded at the close of the afternoon, lunch was served. Miss Mulcahey will become the bride of Al Kunz of Waseca Nov. 20 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Janesville at 2:30 p.m.

75 years ago

- Robert Pearce will head a committee arranging for a luncheon meeting at the Foss Cafe at 12 noon. There will be a table reserved for 11 persons and others will be accommodated in booths. At 2 p.m. the caravan will leave for Alma City and Waldorf, Chas. Ewald and will meet the delegation at Waldorf and he and others from that area will accompany the party to New Richland after visiting Waldorf places of business.

100 years ago

- "Ah, doctor!" greeted Mrs. Piffegilder. "I should like to ask you a question."
"As many as you like, my dear madame!" gallantly replied old Doctor Pillsbury. "Well, then, doctor, is profanity equal to medicine for the treatment of rheumatism? My husband seems to think it is." -Kansas City Star.
- Here are words of wisdom-said Pluto to Socrates: "The man who doesn't throw his mouth into high gear until he is sure that his brain is turning over-always makes the grade."-Dodge County Republican.
-Girls will actually go hungry to buy clothes, says a writer. Judging by the amount of apparel some of them are toting around they are not missing a great many meals.-Baudette Region.

Waseca

25 years ago

- Roy Tollefson wore this uniform when he was the pitcher on a special occasion. Waeca's regular pitcher became suddenly ill and was unable to pitch the game. Roy had a good pitching record for Augsburg College and was asked to pitch for Waseca. He hesitated, saying he had not pitched a game since leaving college. The game was between Owatonna and Waseca. Roy pitched the winning game for Waseca and thus the Southern Minnesota League Championship in 1926. Roy, who passed away in 1995, will be remembered for his many years as the owner of the Coast to Coast Store on Waseca's main street. Last week, his uniform was given to the Waseca County Historical Society by his wife Jeanette.



- These are the members of the 2001 Waseca High School homecoming royal court. The homecoming king candidates are (front row, from left) Brett Prescher, Sam Conway, Colby Swanson, Ben Janike, Mike Wobschall and Jordan Below. The queen candidates are (back row, from left) Rhonwen Chester-Jones, Carly Broughten, Melaina Flat-tum, Abby Clemons, Tara Conway and Katie Bluhm. See page 3A for Homecoming weekend plans.

- Mike and Nicki Blowers, of Waseca are happy to announce the birth of their son, Robert Michael, born August 15, 2001 at 8:56 p.m at the Owatonna Hospital. He weighed six pounds, two ounces and was 19-1/2 inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Chuck Schumacher of Waseca and Sandy and Dan Peterson of Morristown. Paternal grandparents are Robert and Diane Blowers of St. Augustine, Florida. Maternal great-grandparents are Lola and the late J.P. Schumacher and Ruth and the late Lyle Seewald, all of Waseca. Paternal great-grandparents are Elvira Blowers and the late Robert Blowers, Sr. and Joan Matz and the late James Matz, all of Waseca.

50 years ago

- Joshua Donn Kabow was born Sept. 7 to Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Kalbow, 321 12th Ave. NW, Waseca. He was baptized at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Sept. 26 with Rev. Francis Kunz officiating. Sponsors were Tina Dooley, Mankato and Blain Nelson, Waseca. Guests at the Kalbow home were Mr. and Mrs. Everett Lynch, St. Clair, Mr. and Mrs. Allie Denn, Mr. and Mrs. Dwain Nelson, Blaine Nelson and Jody Mitchell, all of Waseca and Tina Dooley, Mankato.

- Kim Porter hosted the Crazy Clovers 4-H meeting Oct. 5. From the last meeting new officers were elected: They are: president, Christy Bombach; vice president, City Kuschel; secretary, Lori Anderson; treasurer, Kim Porter and reporter, Lisa Anderson. The meeting was called to order by Christy Bohmbach. Then they had roll call and also recited the flag pledge and talked about old and new business. They also talked about project enrollment cards, signed the enrollment cards. The meeting was adjourned. A demonstration was given by Mr. Broadwater. He showed some slides. Lisa Anderson brought treats and Kim Porter made the refreshments.

- It was more difficult than it looked to groom a six and a half week old filly Sunday afternoon for Wasecans Jim Billiar and Pat Linnihom who worked diligently at the task in preparation for the Mishek Arabian Clinic and Horse Show. The filly belonging to mare Aliyah (who was recently sold to Jim Donahue) brough ooh's and ah's from the crowd of 700 plus yesterday at the open house which featured clinics conducted by six professional horse trainers from throughout the United States and a presentation of 13 Arabian horses — all regional or national champions owned by the Misheks.

75 years ago

- Mrs. Clara Cronkright, widow of the late William H. Cronkright, passed away at San Diego, Calif., Tuesday, Oct. 9. The body will arrive at the Pfaff Funeral Home Saturday evening. Friends may call there Sunday afternoon and evening. The Rev. Hillis B. Slaymaker will conduct graveside services at Woodville cemetery, Monday afternoon at two o'clock.

100 years ago

- At the school board meeting Monday evening, it was voted to levy \$75,000 for school taxes for next year. This is \$5,000 higher than last year. The extra money is to be placed in a sinking fund to meet the payment of school bonds which come due in 1928. It was voted to hire another high school teacher for the balance of the school year. Miss Astrid Lindahl was hired at a salary of \$140 a month. It was also voted to employ Miss Sadie Fox as a school nurse for four weeks at a salary of \$35 a week.

- A scientist says stretching is the true key to health. So catching the fish is not as good exercise as describing it.--Detroit News.

New Richland

25 years ago

- Carey Kay Paulson and Jeremy Lee Root are happy to announce their engagement and upcoming wedding. Carey is the daughter of Dennis and Bessie Paulson of Waseca and is a 1994 graduate of El Shaddai Private School and a graduate of Rochester Technical College. Jeremy is the son of Burchard and Kayla Root of New Richland is a 1993 graduate of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School. A Saturday, October 13, 2001 wedding is planned.



- Laura Ewald of Waseca County showed the Champion Hereford heifer at the 2001 Minnesota State Fair 4-H Beef Show on Thursday, August 23. Ewald, the daughter of Guy Ewald of Waldorf is a member of the Waldorf Peppy Peppers 4-H club and received an award from MN Hereford Breeders and Oxley Hereford Ranch.

- Valerie Crumb received a \$200 scholarship from the Lutheran Brotherhood Freeborn Branch 8482. Valerie attends Minnesota State University at Mankato.

- In the Byron Invitational Cross Country Meet the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva team placed second with 50 points.

50 years ago



- Kim Massop smiled happily as she realized that she was being crowned Homecoming queen at Waldorf-Pemberton High School, Thursday evening. Doing the honors was Cindi Bartelt, retiring queen. The other two candidates were Lynn Huxford and Jeanne Floden. Kim is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Massop of Waldorf.



- New Richland-Hartland FFA Chapter officers, Lonnie Kormann, treasurer and Kevin Knudson, president hold a check for \$2,300 which was the amount of money received for the corn collected in the chapter's annual Corn Drive, last Tuesday. The money will be presented to Camp Courage by the chapter.

75 years ago

- Mr. and Mrs. Leo Skelton are the parents of a son, born at the Memorial hospital, Waseca, Monday November 12, weighing 8 pounds and 12 ounces. Mr. and Mrs. Skelton are now the parents of three children, a daughter and two sons.

- Saturday evening Mrs. Henry Weckwarth went out to their farm yard to investigate the terrific barking of their dog and found a deer eating leaves off the trees in the orchard. As they approached the deer, it bounded away into the field. Mrs. Weckwarth thinks maybe deer like even a late apple or two.



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THEIR NIGHT — The Waseca High School football seniors had fun last Friday while defeating Albert Lea 41-6. Front from left: Titan Rahe and Jonah Worke; middle: Hayden Stencel, Sean Noble, Shakeem Brown, Daries Powell, Brady McKenna, Owen Rupe and Trey Jenzen Back: Alex Dickerson, Brandon Bartz, Tucker Thompson, Xander Rivera, Tovinn Grannis, Kallen Glynn and Owen Honstad.

Photos by Waseca Football Association



FOLLOWING THE BLOCK — Waseca's Sam Seltun (23) follows Shakeem Brown during last Wednesday's victory over Albert Lea. Quarterback Kellen Klinger (15) is in the background.

Bluejays tame Tigers, 41-6

Sixth-rated WHS football squad improves record to 6-1

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The Albert Lea Tigers came to town last Wednesday with hopes of an upset.

The Waseca Bluejays were not going for it.

The Jays, 6-1 and rated No. 6 among the state's Class AAA high school football teams, were not generous hosts on their Senior Night as they rolled to a 41-6 decision, never really allowing the Tigers into the game.

The scary part for future Bluejay opponents?

"I still think our best football is ahead of us," said WHS head coach Brad Wendland.

For the second week in a row, the Bluejays were dominant on both sides of the scrimmage, and Wendland was complimentary of both units.

"Our offensive lineman are good, and they're well coached," said Wendland. "And we need them to get better and better."

The unit includes tackles Aidan DeRaad and Trey Jensen, guards Sean Noble and Shakeem Brown, center Brandon Bartz, and frequent substitute Kyle Welander.

What about the equally important defensive line, which features starter Daries Powell at the nose and Landan Madsen and Brady McKenna at tackle?

"What I like to see from our defense, first and foremost, is to pressure the opposing quarterback," said Wendland. "That makes things awful difficult."

The Bluejays, as usual, put the

"I still think our best football is ahead of us."

— WHS coach
Brad Wendland

first points on the board on a 35-yard touchdown run by Sam Selthun. Owen Rupe kicked the PAT and it was 7-0 after one quarter.

The Bluejays delivered the knockout punch in the second period on a six-yard scoring run by Kellen Klinger, a 38-yard touchdown pass from Klinger to Owen Honstad, and a 23-yard run by Titan Rahe.

The Tigers scored on tipped 60-yard pass on the final play of the second quarter.

After a two-yard touchdown plunge by Klinger in the third quarter, Isaiah Dymeck scored from 18 yards out in the fourth.

For the second straight week, reserves saw plenty of field time as the clock in the fourth quarter went to running time.

Selthun finished with 135 yards on 12 carries, surpassing the 1,000-yard mark for the season. Klinger ran 11 times for 69 yards while completing five of 10 passes for 74 yards.

After finishing the regular season Wednesday, Oct. 20 at New Ulm, the Bluejays will begin defense of their section championship.



HARD-HITTING ACTION — At left, the Bluejays' Titan Rahe breaks a tackle. At right, Waseca's Jackson Janike stops an Albert Lea ball carrier in his tracks. Below, Toby Jeske tackles a Tiger runner.

Waseca 41, Albert Lea 6									
AL	0	6	0	0	-	6			
WAS	7	21	7	6	-	41			

First Quarter

WAS - Selthun 35 run (Rupe kick)

Second Quarter

WAS - Klinger 6 run (Rupe kick)

WAS - Honstad 38 pass from Klinger (Kick blocked)

WAS - Rahe 23 run (Selthun run)

AL — RaBrown 60 pass from Wacholz (Kick blocked)

Third Quarter

WAS - Klinger 2 run (Rupe kick)

Fourth Quarter

WAS - Dymeck 18 run (Kick blocked)

	AL	WAS
First downs	4	15
Rushing Yards	0	358
Passing Yards	85	74
Total Yds.	85	432
Penalties-Yards	2-10	6-55

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — WAS: Selthun 12-135; Klinger 11-69; Rahe 4-59; Dymeck 8-56; Howard 6-40; Rohl 1-2; Harguth 1 —1; Dufault 1 —2; AL: RaBrown 8-23; Groess 1-9; McGill 1 —1; Wacholz 8 —27

Passing — WAS: Klinger 5-10, 74; Dufault 0-



1, 0; AL: Wacholz 3-11, 85	Janike 1T; Rupe 1S	4. Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	7-0
Receiving — WAS: Honstad 2-48; Rahe 1-19; Entinger 1-7; AL: RaBrown 1-60; Williams 1-26; Collins 1 —1		5. Perham	6-1
WAS Defense — Stencel 2T; McKenna 5T, 1S; O'Brien 1T; Rohl 4T; Powell 2T, 1BK; Glynn 4T, 1S; Jeske 3T, 1S; Dufault 1T; Castro 1T, 1 int.; Knutson 1T; Nelson 1T; Brown 1T; Madsen 4T;		6. Waseca	6-1
		7. Albany	6-1
		8. Holy Family Catholic	6-1
	1. Pierz	9. Pequot Lakes	5-2
	2. Luverne	10. SCLNAUMLWA	7-0
	3. Annandale		

Bulldogs drop squeaker

Another week, another barn-burner.

That was the synopsis last Wednesday as the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton football team hosted Blooming Prairie/Hayfield, with the visitors walking off with a 27-26 squeaker.

"It was another exciting game," said JWP head coach Ryan Luedke. "We just came out on the wrong side."

The biggest highlight for the Bulldogs occurred, not surpsingly, in the passing game.

A week after Seth Dahlberg set the school single-game record for passing yards, Gavin Bauer had a huge night receiving, catching 12 passes for an impressive 222 yards.

The game was back and forth all night, with the visitors winning it on a fourth-quarter touchdown run.

Bauer caught two touchdown passes, Jaxon Wolff one to go with his 10 receptions for 79 yards.

Dahlberg, meanwhile, finished 20-for-36 passing for 313 yards. He also led JWP in rushing with 38 yards on 11 carries.

Yale Johnson had 10 tackles to lead the Bulldog defense, Parker Geariety nine.

The Bulldogs end the regular season Oct. 20 against Maple River.

Blooming Prairie/Hayfield 27, JWP 26

BPH	7	6	6	8	-	27
JWP	0	13	7	6	-	26

First Quarter

BPH - Johnson 3 run (Mealy kick)

Second Quarter

JWP - Dahlberg 1 run (kick failed)

BPH - Escamila 9 run (run failed)

JWP - Bauer 50 pass from Dahlberg (Peterson kick)

Third Quarter

BPH - Escamila 24 run (kick failed)

JWP - Bauer 44 interception return (Peterson kick)

Fourth Quarter

JWP - Wolff 22 pass from Dahlberg (kick failed)

BPH - Escamila 5 run (Gimbel run)

	BPH	JWP
Plays	62	59
First downs	20	22
Rushing	147	39
Passing	24-36	13-20
Passing Yards	192	344
Passing TDs, int.	0-1	2-3
Total Yds.	339	373
Third down	8-14	6-10
Fourth down	0-1	1-1
Fumbles lost	1	1
Penalties	7-50	5-40

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING — JWP: Dahlberg 11-38; Sturdivant 7-21; Wolff 1-3; BPH: Escamila 15-75; Gimbel 3-53; J.Mealy 1-9; Johnson 1-8; DenHerder 4-2

PASSING — JWP: Dahlberg 26-36, 313; Wolff 2-3, 38; BPH: Escamila 20-35, 192

RECEIVING — JWP: Bauer 12-222; Wolff 10-79; Geariety 2-31; Sturdivant 2-11; Weedman 2-9; BPH: C.Mealy 7-67; Gimbel 4-36; J.Mealy 3-32; Miner 1-7; Johnson 1-8; DenHerder 4-40; Naylor 1-5

JWP Defense: Wolff 3T; Quast 1T; Bauer 6T; Weedman 8T; Simonson 1T; Harris 2T; Geariety 9T; C.Schultz 2T; Bure 2T; Kronbach 2T; B.Schultz 1T; Rider 9T; Huber 2T; Schoenrock 1T; Y.Johnson 10T; T.Johnson 2T.

BLUEJAY FOOTBALL



PLAYER of the WEEK

Sean Noble

senior, guard, helped lead an all-around dominating effort for the Bluejays in a 41-6 victory over Albert Lea on Senior Night in Waseca, Oct. 14, 2026

Bluejay Football Player of the Week Sponsored by:



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DIGGING PINK — The Waseca High School volleyball team hosted its annual Dig Pink Night last week, honoring Todd and Patty Altman. Front from left: Hannah Helget, Madalynn Root, Bryal Nelson and Kaia Sartori. Back: Avery Fliflet, Addison Zimmerman, Brier Hayes, Savanna Vagts, Todd Altman, Ashley Fliflet, Tyler Stagman and coach Krissy Plonske.

WHS volleyball team hosts Dig Pink Night

Former line judge Altman honored

Last Monday was not just another match for the Waseca High School volleyball team. It was Dig Pink Night, a time to celebrate cancer survivors everywhere. The Bluejays honored a fellow Bluejay, Todd Altman, who along with his wife Patty served as a line judges for many years at Waseca. Patty is an elementary school teacher. "They're great people and great community members," said Waseca head coach Krissy Plonske. "Both their kids graduated from Waseca High School and their daughter played volleyball as well." Oh yes, there was some volleyball played, with the Bluejays drop-

ping a 3-0 decision, falling 25-12, 25-17 and 25-17. "We came alive in the third set," said Plonske. "If we had started that way, we could have made the first two sets a lot closer. We had some good volleys." Tyler Stagman was the team leader in kills with five. Kaia Sartori totaled four kills and 11 digs, Brier Hayes six set assists ant five digs. Also contributing were Avery Fliflet with seven assists, and Bryal Nelson and Madalynn Root seven digs apiece. After their Monday, Oct. 19 non-conference match at NRHEG, the Bluejays will prepare for the section tournament.

Panthers top Medford

Last week, New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School football coach Devin Lockerby said there was one distinct difference in his team and Fillmore Central. The opposite could be said of the most recent game. The Panthers came out flying and never really let visiting Medford get into a rhythm while cruising to a 50-14 triumph on Senior Night in New Richland. "It was a great night for our seniors getting a win on their night," said Lockerby. "We played a physical brand of football tonight for four quarters. Now, it's on to the next game." The Panthers struck quickly. Sean Lassahn busted a big run on their first play and, on their second play, Brooks Gilliland hit A.J. Deen with a long touchdown. A two-point PAT try failed but it was 6-0 early in the opening quarter. The Tigers sustained a couple setbacks in the first period as they lost their starting quarterback to injury and a starting lineman was taken off the field on a stretcher with an apparent broken leg. The Panthers, meanwhile, continued to score, striking quickly after a botched snap on a Medford punt set them up on the Tigers' 24-yard line. Three players Lassahn scored from three yards out, and he ran for the two-point conversion to put the Panthers up 14-0 with 9:15 left in the first quarter. A long punt return by Calvin Nissen then put the Panthers on the Medford 28, but a tipped pass resulted in a Tiger interception. Then Medford's lineman went down, temporarily at least, taking the wind out of the Tigers' sails. Lassahn broke a 69-yard run and, after an incomplete pass on the PAT try, it was 20-0, still in the first quarter. Nissen opened the second stanza with another nice punt return to the Medford 32, and Lassahn quickly followed with a bruising 33-yard touchdown run. Ryan Schlaak carried for the conversion, making it 28-0. The Tigers then finally found the end zone, scoring on 57-yard pass. Lassahn added one more touchdown run from 25 yards out. NRHEG reserves got playing time in the second half as the Panthers cruised to the Senior Night victory. The Panthers improved to 4-3 while the Tigers fell to 0-7. NRHEG concludes the regular season Wednesday, Oct. 12 at United South Central.

NRHEG volleyball team tops Maple River, 3-1

Victories have been tough to come by this season for the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School volleyball team. But the Panthers got one in convincing fashion last Monday, topping Maple River 3-1 in New Richland. Set scores in favor of NRHEG were 25-19, 17-25, 25-22 and 25-22. According to NRHEG head coach

Bethany Tennis, the Panthers showed great composure while fighting through adversity. "Despite some ups and downs throughout the match, the girls battled their way to victory in four sets," said Tennis. The highlight for the Panthers was nine service aces. "We hope to continue this momentum as we travel to Randolph tomorrow night," said

Tennis. Individually against Maple River: Ezra Boerner four kills, two digs, four blocks and two aces; Izley Boerner eight digs; Clara Buendorf two kills, one dig, one block; Clara Buendorf two kills, one dig, one block; Aubrey Hendrickson 11 digs, one ace; Jovey Knudson three kills, three blocks; Anika Ladlie nine kills, five digs, three blocks; Joey Rossing two digs; Brooklyn

Sommer five digs, 24 set assists, two blocks, one ace; Emmy Stadheim six kills, nine digs, three blocks, one ace; Ciara Stenzel four digs, four aces. At Randolph, the Panthers took their momentum but lost three close games 25-23, 25-20, 25-21. Individual statistics: Ezra Boerner five kills, three digs, one set assist, two blocks, one ace; Izley Boerner five digs, one set assist; Buendorf

one kill; Sierra Fish two kills, one set assist; Hendrickson seven kills, two set assists, two aces; Knudson three kills, one dig, one set assist; Ladlie eight kills, 10 digs, one ace; Rossing one dig, one block; Sommer four digs, 18 set assists, on ace; Stadheim seven kills, two digs; Stenzel three digs.

Season ends for Waseca soccer

Both Waseca High School soccer teams saw their season come to a conclusion last week. The girls, who finished with a record of 5-12, were defeated 9-1 in the opening round of the Section 1AA tournament at Northfield. They were led by first-year head coach Dustin Miller. The girls' squad included seniors Reese Ludwig, Angelica Lopez, Anya Gaona and Jacey Jensen, junior Reese Rodriguez, sophomores Elizabeth Aboki and Delilah Veroeven, freshmen Aryana Garza, Rachel Mielke and Mya Kath, eighth-graders Leilla Johannsen, Teagan Hart, Genevieve Coon and Josephine Olson, and seventh-graders Natalie Erickson and Kendall Lang. The WHS boys, meanwhile, lost

3-0 to Austin in the first round of section play. The boys, like the girls fielding a very young squad, finished 2-12-2 under first-year head coach David Vasquez. The boys' team included seniors Tovin Grannis, Nolan McQuery Edwin Aragon, Sunny Mei and Jacob Harguth, juniors Sawyer Maris, Landon Rutt, Matthew Nelson, Kendrick Spies and Carlo Driessen, sophomores Ivan Schoenrock, Tomas Vasquez-Neigebauer, Jaden Lenz, Isaiah Adams and Shylo Driessen, freshmen Tobin Rutt, Mateo Vasquez-Neigebauer, Kelvin Aragon and Ryden Benham, and eighth-graders Brock Groh and Mica Aboki. Grannis and McQuery were the captains.



GOAL! — The Bluejays' Teagan Hart (6), Rachel Mielke (14) and Leilla Johannsen (4) celebrate a goal for the Waseca High School girls' soccer team.

Dual season ends, but doubles team remains alive

The bad news for the Waseca High School girls' tennis team is that its dual-meet season has ended. The good news? They still have some players alive in the Section 1A individual tournament. The conclusion of the dual-meet season was Monday, Oct. 12, as the fifth-seeded Bluejays fell 5-2 to No. 2 seed Cannon Falls, which lost to Lake City 4-3 for the section championship and state tournament berth. Both of the Bluejays' wins at the Rochester Athletic Center against Cannon Falls were at doubles. Anna Benson and Hannah Sommers, sophomores, took the No. 1 doubles match 6-1, 7-6 (4), while freshmen Lucy Deml and Olivia Hagen were victorious 7-5, 7-6 (4). The Bluejays had freshman Kayla Landrum and seventh-grader Everly Kestel at No. 3 doubles. Playing singles against Cannon Falls were junior Hannah Rugger, sophomore Ava Miller, sophomore Libby Miller and sophomore Sam Sutton. All lost in straight sets.

WHS head coach Kyle Collins put a little different lineup on the court for the individual section tournament. Rugger and Ava Miller, who played singles all season, teamed at No. 1 doubles to earn the No. 3 seed, and they upended a pair from Rochester Lourdes 6-0, 6-0 in the semifinals after defeating a Cannon Falls team in the opening round. Benson and Sommers played No. 2 doubles but were eliminated in the opening round by a team from Winona Cotter 6-3, 2-6, 6-0. At singles, Deml lost to a United South Central opponent 6-0, 6-4 in the No. 1 slot, while Libby Miller dropped her No. 2 singles match 6-1, 6-1 to a Rochester Lourdes player. Rugger and Ava Miller were set to play the section championship match Monday, Oct. 19, along with a third-place match and possible True Second match to follow. The top two singles players and top two doubles teams advance to the Class A state tournament Oct. 29 and 30 in Minneapolis.



TENNIS ACTION — Chloe Hagen of the WHS girls' tennis team returns a shot. The Bluejays' dual-meet season ended last week, though the doubles team of Hannah Rugger and Ava Miller remained alive in section play. Photo by Jim Lutgens

WHS CC teams make progress

Many personal bests logged

Last Tuesday was a definite day of progress for the Waseca High School cross country teams at the Jordan Invitational. All of the Bluejay girls, and the top three boys' finishers, registered season-best or personal-best times over 5,000 meters. The varsity girls put together a great team race, according to head coach Grant Popp, while placing ninth out of 16 schools. Westonka took the girls' varsity team title with 70 points, followed closely by Delano with 73. The Bluejays totaled 212. Places and times for Waseca's varsity girls: Taylor Markeson, 21st, 20:26.7; Stella Omtvedt, 43rd, 21:12.2; Ellie Kopischke, 46th, 21:18.7; Quinn Yoder, 50th, 21:25.2. Maren Schimming, 52nd, 21:35.2; Ava VanDenHemel, 63rd, 21:15.2; and Leah Wilson, 65th, 22:22.1. Delano's varsity boys won with 58 points. Redwood Valley was second with 50. Waseca took 14th with 334. Bluejay boys' varsity places and times: Sam Feldkamp, 26th

17:39.2; Keenan Collins, 51st, 18:38.9; Luke Feldkamp, 69th, 19:28.4; Miles Popp, 93rd, 20:47.0; Korbin Collins, 95th, 20:55.4; Ryan Yoder, 98th, 21:01.0; and Collin Guggisberg, 112th, 29:37.0. Waseca's junior varsity girls, also running 5,000 meters, did not field a complete team. Westonka topped a five-team field with 38 points. For the Bluejays, Megan Tegmeier was sixth with a time of 23:03.9 and Violet Rohwer was 32nd in 26:30.0. The Bluejays did not have any JV boy runners. In the girls' C-squad 2,500-meter race, Zoe Popp finished 12th in 11:42.0, Violette Hughes 15th in 11:50.2, Lylah Jorgenson 21st in 12:20.0. For the boys in the C-squad run, Noah Love finished 19th in 10:11.7. Will Deml was 33rd in 10:59, Eli Rohwer 35th in 11:01.8, Joe Harguth 44th in 11:23.1, Ryan Fierke 60th in 12:13.0. The Bluejays travel to Faribault's Alexander Park for the section meet Thursday, Oct. 29.

Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Oct. 26

Free children’s coats will be distributed from 5 to 6:30 p.m. the evening of Monday, Oct. 26 at the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center, located at 203 Third Ave. NW in Waseca, thanks to the Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus (KC) chapter of Waseca. Coats provided by the KC are new and previously unworn.

This national KC program, labeled “Coats for Kids,” has handed out millions of coats across the U.S. and Canada.

Coats are available to children from infants to high school seniors , and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cindy Kolander, executive director for the Waseca Area Neighborhood Center (WANSC), says her organization is pleased to be able to provide a location for the event.

Along with that, she says, the Neighborhood Service Center is supplementing the KC coats with winter wear from its own stock: WANSC items are gently used clothing donated by area citizens.

“That way, if families don’t find anything suitable in the Knights of Columbus items, they don’t have to go away empty-handed,” states Ko-

lander. The WANSC is also offering accessories, including gloves or mittens, hats and scarves.

The Knights of Columbus also operated this same program in 2024, when 92 brand new coats were distributed. Kolander remembers some very positive feedback from families who were grateful their children could be better prepared for the coming cold weather. She also speculates that some children living in poverty will be especially grateful for a brand new coat, all their own, as opposed to a hand-me-down from siblings.

Though the coat distribution is intended for families experiencing financial hardship, Kolander says, no forms or signatures will be required.

“The Knights of Columbus and the Neighborhood Service Center encourage people to come,” states Kolander. “Every child deserves to have a nice warm coat to wear during the winter.”

Anyone who wants more information about the Coats for Kids distribution can contact Todd Norton of the local Knights of Columbus at 507-521-1470, or the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center at 507-833-4119 (ext. 301).

Knights of Columbus Coat Distribution at Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center Monday, Oct. 26

The Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus will be giving away winter coats at the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center from 5-6:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 26. This is on a first come first serve basis and for toddlers through teens.

Hot Dish Luncheon at Waseca Legion Oct. 30

The Waseca American Legion Auxiliary will hold a Hot Dish Luncheon at the Legion from 11 a.m. thru 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30. Cost is \$10 per person.

New Richland Care Center Flood Relief Burger Basket at the Mill Friday, Oct. 30

The New Richland Care Center will hold a flood relief Burger Basket at the Mill from 3-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30. Cost \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. There will also be a wine pull, silent auction and bake sale.

Waseca Trunk or Treat

Waseca Area Churches will hold the 4th annual Trunk or Treat event on Halloween evening, Saturday, Oct. 31 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30/7 p.m. (times vary by church). Maps with participating church addresses are posted throughout downtown businesses, on Waseca church bulletin boards and on Facebook.

Halloween Bakery Bash at Barefoot Lane Oct. 31

Barefoot Lane LLC will hold a Halloween Bakery Bash from 8 a.m. thru noon Saturday, Oct. 31, at the bakery, 111 2nd St. NW in Waseca.

Waseca County Halloween Farmers Market at Farmamerica Oct. 31

The Waseca County Halloween Farmers Market will take place out at Farmamerica from 8 a.m. thru noon on Saturday, Oct. 31. Shop vendors, costumes recommended, color-your-own candy bag, trick or treating and \$1 dollar cupcakes from the Tattooed Baker.

Fall Festival at St. John

Lutheran Church Saturday, Oct. 31

St. John Lutheran Church will hold their Fall Festival from 11 a.m. thru 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. Luncheon, dine in or take out, craft and bake sale, puzzles, and quilts by St. John’s Quilters.

Halloween Bash at the Mill Event Center Saturday, Oct. 31

The Mill Event Center is hosting a Halloween Bash starting at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31. Spooky season is almost here, so why not celebrate with the party of the year? Live music, scary good drink specials, a cash prize costume contest, and a great time with friends. Contact the venue for tickets.

■ Plan

from Page 1

needed to apply to the state for funding them.

The reason for the Oct. 6 session, she said, was to receive input from local groups about actual roadway experiences within the county so it could be taken into account as the plan is updated.

According to Kuehl’s summary, 10 percent of the highway miles in Minnesota are under the control of the state highway system, while 90 percent are locally controlled. Regarding incidents which involve either a death or a life-changing injury, nearly 70 percent occur on locally maintained roadways.

Local safety plans are part of the national “Toward Zero Deaths” initiative which began in 2003. At that time in Minnesota, two decades of data showed a rising trend in severe crashes: 650 or more traffic-related deaths had occurred in three years be-

tween 1995 and 2003; the lowest number of deaths during those years was 568.

While acknowledging the only “acceptable” number of injuries or deaths on roadways is zero, Kuehl related that, during the 23 years since the initiative began, deaths on Minnesota highways have been reduced to numbers as low as about 360 in some years, so that roughly 5,000 fewer lives have been lost than trends indicated prior to the program. The stated goal is 225 or fewer deaths per year.

The Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) program has wide-ranging elements from education meant to increase driver awareness, expanded law enforcement to encourage drivers to obey traffic laws, engineering of improved roadways, and strengthened emergency medical services.

When it comes to highway engineering, Kuehl said, TZD takes a proactive approach. Information from all crashes in the state is compiled and underlying factors are identified. Closest attention is paid to “severe” crashes, which in this context are those that entail a death or a life-changing

injury.

Data indicated that inappropriately high speeds are contributing factors in more than 20 percent of severe crashes: driver inattention in about 7 percent. Of slightly more than 2,000 severe incidents in 2021 to 2025, about one-fourth involved an “impaired” driver.

Statistics indicate nearly half of all severe accidents occur at intersections; nearly half also involve a “lane departure,” whether that includes leaving the roadway or moving into the on-coming side.

Kuehl presented examples of ways highway construction and signage could help reduce numbers in these two settings. She provided the example of curves where drivers might leave the roadway either because they were unaware of the curve or because they navigated it at too high a speed. For such areas, she offered placing chevrons (> shaped signs) and posting recommended curve speeds as relatively low-cost solutions: she indicated the size and number of chevrons could be selected based on the sharpness—or lack of visibility—on the curve.

Another option would be to re-engineer the curve, which would entail construction.

Regarding intersections, she described that accidents are more likely to occur when roads meet at an angle rather than square on.

Where actions at intersections occur because one driver failed to notice a sign, her presentation showed that solutions can range from adding flashing lights or creating a four-way stop to constructing a roundabout which would compel drivers to slow down and pay more attention. Thus, the cost to strengthen safety at the intersection could range from a few hundred dollars for additional signage to hundreds of thousands of dollars for major construction.

Mark Wagner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s (MNDOT) traffic engineering department, said that when the department evaluates requests for funding, it weighs the cost of the project as compared to the number of drivers whose safety would be improved, and the degree to which safety would be enhanced.

Notice of Public Hearings and availability of environmental report

In the Matter of the Application for a Certificate of Need for the PowerOn Midwest 765 kV and 345 kV High-Voltage Transmission Line Project
PUC DOCKET NUMBER: E002, ET2, ET6675/CN-25-117 | **CAH DOCKET NUMBER:** 28-2500-41617

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold public hearings on the Certificate of Need Application filed by Great River Energy, ITC Midwest LLC, and Xcel Energy (collectively, the Applicants) for the proposed PowerOn Midwest Project. The Project would involve construction and operation of approximately 340 miles of new 765-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines and additional 345-kV circuits on replacement or existing structures across southern Minnesota, along with related substation expansions and upgrades.

The proposed facilities in Minnesota include:

- Approximately 271 miles of new 765-kV single-circuit transmission lines from the South Dakota border connecting with the Lakefield Junction Substation in Jackson County, Pleasant Valley Substation in Mower County, and North Rochester Substation in Goodhue County, with an additional connection from Lakefield Junction to the Iowa border.
- Approximately 31 miles of new 345-kV circuit between the Pleasant Valley and North Rochester substations, replacing existing single-circuit structures with new double-circuit-capable structures.
- A second 345-kV circuit added to an approximately 38-mile segment between North Rochester Substation and Hampton Substation in Dakota County, primarily using existing double-circuit-capable structures.
- Expansions and upgrades at Lakefield Junction, Pleasant Valley, North Rochester, and Hampton substations, including 345-kV transmission line connections between select existing and expanded substations.

The project is part of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) Long Range Transmission Planning Tranche 2.1 portfolio, approved by the MISO Board of Directors in December 2024 as part of the MISO Transmission Expansion Plan 2024 (MTEP24). The Applicants state that the project is needed to address projected reliability issues, support compliance with national reliability standards, improve regional transmission capability, and provide capacity to serve forecasted residential, commercial, and industrial demand. The Applicants also state that the project would support replacing aging or less cost-effective generation with new generation resources, including carbon-free resources, while maintaining electric system reliability.

IMPORTANT: This proceeding concerns whether the project is needed. Granting a certificate of need would not approve a specific transmission line route or guarantee approval of a route permit. If a certificate of need is granted, specific routes would be reviewed in separate route permit proceedings, with additional opportunities for public comment at meetings and hearings. The Applicants expect to file route permit applications no earlier than the first quarter of 2027.

In-Person Public Hearings

Date	Hearing Location	Time
Monday, November 9, 2026	St. Leo Church (Gym) 415 S Hiawatha Avenue, Pipestone, MN 56164	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Monday, November 9, 2026	Murray County Central Schools (Gym) 2420 28th Street, Slayton, MN 56172	5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Tuesday, November 10, 2026	Worthington Event Center 1447 Prairie Drive, Worthington, MN 56187	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Tuesday, November 10, 2026	Windom Community Center 1750 Cottonwood Lake Drive, Windom, MN 56101	5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Thursday, November 12, 2026	Fox Lake Event Center 730 125th Street, Sherburn, MN 56171	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Thursday, November 12, 2026	Golden Bubble 11575 State Highway 22, Wells, MN 56097	5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Friday, November 13, 2026	Austin Eagles Lookout Aerie 703 107 11th Street NE, Austin, MN 55912	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Monday, November 16, 2026	Dodge County Fairgrounds Midway Building 100 11th Street NE, Kasson, MN 55944	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these hearings, please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the hearing. To find out if a hearing is canceled due to bad weather or other reasons, call 1-855-731-6208 or visit mn.gov/puc.

Online Public Hearing via WebEx

Date: Monday, November 16, 2026 **Time:** 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
(The hearing ends when all attendees have commented or at 9:00 PM. Log in at the start time to ensure participation.)

Join by WebEx (Webinar) Link:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/jhnp?MTID=m692095c2a8eac8e7efe30f48b01df5f4>

Webinar Number: 2480 280 7515

Webinar Password: GakXRvpi846 (42597874 from phones)

Join by Phone: 1-415-655-0003

Phone Access Code: 2480 280 7515

If you are joining the hearing via WebEx and would like to ask a question or make a comment during the designated portion of the hearing, use the raised-hand function or the chat function to send a message to the hearing moderator. If you are joining the hearing by phone, press *3 on your phone. When it is your turn to speak, your line will be unmuted, and you will be able to ask questions and provide comments.

Additional information and instructions are available at: <https://mn.gov/puc/activities/meetings/webex/>

Public Hearing Information

The public hearings will be presided over by the Honorable Joseph Meyer, an administrative law judge with the Court of Administrative Hearings, who will provide the Commission with findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a recommendation.

The purpose of the public hearings is to obtain public input and compile the record for the Commission to consider in making a final decision on the certificate of need application. Specifically, interested persons will have the opportunity to: (1) ask questions of state staff and the Applicants; and (2) offer oral and written comments on the merits of the certificate of need application and on the environmental report.

- Comments received at the hearings and during the comment period will be used to inform the record and help the Commission make its final decision.
- The information presented will be the same at all in-person and online hearings.
- The hearings will end when all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded, or at the scheduled end time of the hearing, whichever occurs first. It is recommended that all interested persons arrive at the scheduled start time.
- Members of the public may participate without intervening as a party; representation by legal counsel is permitted but not required.

Comment Period

Written comments will be accepted until December 7, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. Please include the docket number in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Topics for Comment

- Should the Commission grant a certificate of need for the PowerOn Midwest Project?
- If granted, what additional conditions or requirements should be included in a certificate of need?

Submit Comments

Online: <https://mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments>

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Consumer Affairs Office

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101

Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission’s website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

Environmental Report

The Commission has completed an Environmental Report (ER) for the project. The ER outlines the affected resources, evaluates potential human and environmental impacts, describes approvals required from other government agencies, and considers possible alternatives (where applicable).

The ER is available for review and download on the Commission’s eDocket System. Print copies of the ER will be available for review at the in-person public hearings. A limited number of electronic copies (flash drives) of the ER will also be available to take home. For questions about the availability of the ER please contact Commission staff.

Evidentiary Hearings

Members of the public may attend and listen to the evidentiary hearings, but these hearings will not provide opportunities for public comments. To provide oral comments, please attend one of the in-person or online public hearings described earlier in this notice.

The evidentiary hearings will be held in the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Hearing Rooms at 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101, beginning on November 18, 2026, at 9:30 AM. The hearings may continue on November 19 and 20, 2026, if needed, as determined by Judge Meyer.

Additional Information

Minnesota Statutes and Rules. This project is being reviewed under Minn. Stat. ch. 216B.243 and Minn. Rules ch. 7849. The rules and statutes are available for review at: www.revisor.mn.gov

Review Process. Information on the review processes for certificates of need for large energy facilities is available on the Commission’s website at: puc.eip.mn.gov/certificates-of-need.

Filing Requirements. Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission’s electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants, and interested persons are also encouraged to use eFiling. Visit edockets.state.mn.us, select Sign In/Register and follow the prompts.

Full Case Record. To view all documents filed in this matter, visit edockets.state.mn.us, select Search Documents, enter the docket number (25-117), and select Search.

Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter, visit edockets.state.mn.us and select Subscriptions.

Project Mailing List. Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email eservice.admin@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2246 with the docket number, your name, mailing address, and email address.

PUC Project Website. <http://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/25117>

Contacts

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Scott Ek, scott.ek@state.mn.us or 651-539-1070.

Lauren Agnew, lauren.agnew@state.mn.us or 651-201-2198

Tessa Kothlow, tessa.kothlow@state.mn.us or 651-539-1069

Applicants

Dan Leshner, Great River Energy,

Connect@PowerOnMidwest.com or 888-283-4678

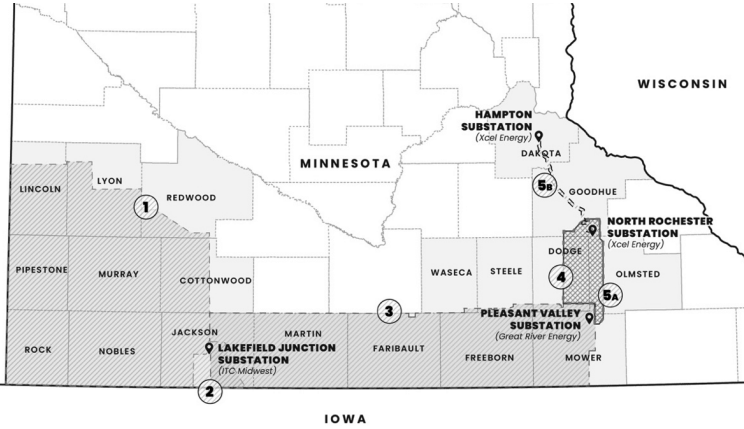
Mark Rothfork, ITC Midwest,

Connect@PowerOnMidwest.com or 888-283-4678

Timothy Rogers, Xcel Energy,

Connect@PowerOnMidwest.com or 888-283-4678

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.



Farmamerica Fall Festival



Photos by Morgan Currans and Deb Bently



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11

Official Ballot

Judge _____

Judge _____

21

State General Election Ballot
Waseca County, Minnesota
November 3, 2026

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

Federal Offices

U.S. Senator
Vote for One

☐ Marisa Simonetti
Independent

☐ Rebecca Whiting
Libertarian

☐ Peggy Flanagan
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Michele Tafoya
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

U.S. Representative
District 1
Vote for One

☐ Jake Johnson
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Brad Finstad
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

State Offices

State Senator
District 19
Vote for One

☐ Sam Powell
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ John R. Jasinski
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

State Senator
District 23
Vote for One

☐ Angie Hanson
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Gene Dornink
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

State Representative
District 19A
Vote for One

☐ Keith Allen
Republican

☐ Martha Brown
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ _____
write-in, if any

State Representative
District 19B
Vote for One

☐ Zack Meyman
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Thomas J. Sexton
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

State Representative
District 23A
Vote for One

☐ Nick Ronnenberg
Republican

☐ Joe Staloch
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Governor and Lieutenant Governor
Vote for One Team

☐ Steven Young and Jane Kirby
Green

☐ Amy Klobuchar and Ben Schierer
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Lisa Demuth and Ryan Wilson
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

PUBLICATION BALLOT

State Offices

Secretary of State
Vote for One

☐ Steve Simon
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Seth Kuhl-Stennes
Green

☐ Tad Jude
Republican

☐ George "Chip" Tangen
Libertarian

☐ _____
write-in, if any

State Auditor
Vote for One

☐ Jay Reeves
Forward Independence

☐ Scott Jensen
Republican

☐ Zack Filipovich
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Attorney General
Vote for One

☐ Keith Ellison
Democratic-Farmer-Labor

☐ Ronald J. Schutz
Republican

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Constitutional Amendments

Failure to vote on a constitutional amendment will have the same effect as voting no on the amendment.

To vote for a proposed constitutional amendment, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question. To vote against a proposed constitutional amendment, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question.

Increasing funding to school districts

Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to increase the funding going to all school districts from the permanent school fund, which is a fund that supports school districts without raising individual income or property taxes, effective July 1, 2027?

☐ Yes

☐ No

County Offices

County Commissioner
District 3
Vote for One

☐ Brad Milbrath

☐ _____
write-in, if any

County Commissioner
District 4
Vote for One

☐ DeAnne (De) Malterer

☐ Curt Keyes

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

County Offices

County Commissioner
District 5
Vote for One

☐ Brad Krause

☐ _____
write-in, if any

County Sheriff
Vote for One

☐ Jay Dulas

☐ _____
write-in, if any

County Attorney
Vote for One

☐ Rachel V. Cornelius

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor
District 2
Vote for One

☐ Matthew Sommers

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor
District 3
Vote for One

☐ Larry Muff

☐ Casey Roeker

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor
District 4
Vote for One

☐ Scott Singlestad

☐ _____
write-in, if any

City Offices

Mayor
City of Elysian
Vote for One

☐ Dennis Schnoor

☐ Shawn Anderson

☐ Derek Westby

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Mayor
City of Janesville
Vote for One

☐ Michael A. Santo

☐ Timothy Corry

☐ Jack Hook

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Mayor
City of New Richland
Vote for One

☐ Richard Rottman

☐ Joshua Warke

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01

State General Election Ballot Waseca County, Minnesota November 3, 2026		
Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●		
City Offices	City Offices	
Mayor City of Waldorf Vote for One	Council Member City of Waldorf Vote for Up to Two	
☐ Katherine Ann Grinnell	☐ Charles A. Barnes	
☐ Melissa Sorbo	☐ David George Hendricks	
☐ Robert Raymond Hill	☐ write-in, if any	
☐ write-in, if any	☐ write-in, if any	
Mayor City of Waseca Vote for One	Town Offices	
☐ Randy Zimmerman	Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Woodville Vote for One	
☐ write-in, if any	☐ Christopher Lenz	
Council Member City of Waseca Ward 1 Vote for One	☐ write-in, if any	
☐ Jeremy Conrath	Town Clerk Town of Woodville Vote for One	
☐ write-in, if any	☐ Andrew Miller	
Council Member City of Waseca Ward 2 Vote for One	☐ write-in, if any	
☐ James Ebertowski		
☐ write-in, if any		
Council Member City of Waseca Ward 3 Vote for One		
☐ Daren Arndt		
☐ write-in, if any		
Council Member City of Elysian Vote for Up to Two		
☐ Bobby Houlihan		
☐ Leo Brown		
☐ Scott M. Thompson		
☐ David Schlueter		
☐ Samantha Williams		
☐ write-in, if any		
☐ write-in, if any		
Council Member City of Janesville Vote for Up to Two		
☐ Ivan Maas		
☐ write-in, if any		
☐ write-in, if any		
Council Member City of New Richland Vote for Up to Two		
☐ Robert (Bob) Swenson		
☐ Brandy Jacobson		
☐ Andrew Hoelscher		
☐ write-in, if any		
☐ write-in, if any		
PUBLICATION BALLOT	Vote front and back of ballot	Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01

11

School District Offices

12

School Board Member
NO. 75 (ST. CLAIR)
Vote for Up to Three

21

○ Elizabeth Cumberland

○ Doug Westphal

○ Sarah Hein

○ Ben Stover

○ Connie Johns

○ Andrew Majeski

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School Board Member
NO. 763 (MEDFORD)
Vote for Up to Three

40

○ Tyler Morgan

○ Matt Dempsey

○ Tricia Prondzinski

○ Allison Janke

○ Jenny Amberg

○ Bryan Duncan

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School Board Member
NO. 2134 (UNITED SOUTH CENTRAL)
Vote for Up to Three

51

○ Kyle Bauman

○ Ashley Ignaszewski

○ Diana Brooks

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School Board Member
NO. 761 (OWATONNA)
Vote for Up to Four

○ Darren Albers

○ Damian Baum

○ Ann Miller

○ Nikki Gieseke

○ Elizabeth Hedlund

○ Timothy O'Connor

○ April St. Martin

○ Christopher Lee

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

PUBLICATION BALLOT

School District Offices

School Board Member
NO. 829 (WASECA)
Vote for Up to Four

○ Dave Dunn

○ Alyssa Bowers

○ Theron A. Kruger

○ Taylor Zinkle

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School Board Member
NO. 2135 (MAPLE RIVER)
Vote for Up to Four

○ Noah Germo

○ Andrea J. Sonnek

○ Dan Sohre

○ Tyler Hunstad

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School Board Member
NO. 2143
(WATERVILLE-ELYSIAN-MORRISTOWN)
Vote for Up to Four

○ Jill Vollbrecht

○ Rachel Short

○ Lyndsay Carlson

○ Jon Bakken

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School Board Member
NO. 2168 (N.R.H.E.G.)
Vote for Up to Four

○ John Misgen

○ Nick Budach

○ Troy Buendorf

○ Justin Schlaak

○ Amy Ihrke

○ Pat Theuer

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

School District Offices

School Board Member
NO. 2835
(JANESVILLE-WALDORF-PEMBERTON)
Vote for Up to Four

○ Derek Knoblich

○ Kevin Born

○ Jessica Milbrett

○ Jen Johnson

○ Sherri Daschner

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

○

write-in, if any

School District Questions

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question. To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question.

School District Question 1

Shall the board of Independent School District No. 2134 (United South Central), Minnesota be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$22,895,000 for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, additions and renovations to improve elementary and early childhood learning spaces, instructional support areas, and physical education facilities; improvements to school offices and technology infrastructure; traffic flow and parking improvements; and the completion of various deferred capital maintenance projects at school sites and facilities?

○ Yes

○ No

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Typ:02 Seq:0001 Spl:01

[illegible]

Notice to Voters

November 3 2026

General Election



Review the information below to learn about upcoming elections.

Access Your Sample Ballot	Find Your Polling Place	Additional Election Information
☐ Your official ballot will have the names of all candidates for your precinct. ☐ To see a list of the names of candidates and questions that will be on the ballot for your precinct visit: mnvotes.gov/myballot ☐ You may also be able to view your sample ballot online by scanning:  ☐ You may request to have a free copy of your sample ballot mailed to you.	☐ Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. ☐ You can find your Election Day Polling Place by visiting: mnvotes.gov/pollfinder Voting Before Election Day ☐ You can vote early with an absentee ballot starting Friday, September 18. ☐ You can vote early by mail, in person, or from the military or abroad. ☐ Learn more by scanning: 	☐ Election Day Polling Places are open 7am to 8pm. ☐ You may live in a precinct where a ballot is mailed to you as a mail ballot voter. ☐ If voting by mail, return your ballot no later than 5pm on Election Day. ☐ Election results will be available starting after 8pm on Election Day at: electionresults.sos.state.mn.us ☐ Check to see if you are pre-registered to vote by scanning: 

Contact Your Local Election Official

- Your County Election Official:
- Can mail you a sample ballot
 - Keeps your voter registration record
 - Handles other parts of the voting

Election Official: Tamara J. Spooner
General phone: 507-835-0610
Website: wasecacounty.gov
307 State St N
Waseca, MN 56093



LEGAL NOTICES

CASE TYPE: OTHER CIVIL/MISCELLANEOUS
STATE OF MINNESOTA
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF WASECA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File No. 81-CV-26-680

SUMMONS

Associated Bank, National Association, Plaintiff, v. Warehouse Storage, LLC; and Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

You are being sued. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. Plaintiff’s *Complaint* is attached to this *Summons*. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that start a lawsuit and affect your legal rights, even if nothing has been filed with the court and even if there is no court file number on this *Summons*.
You must BOTH reply, in writing, AND get a copy of your reply to the person/business who is suing you within 21 days to protect your rights. Your reply is called an *Answer*. Getting your reply to the Plaintiff is called service. You must serve a copy of your *Answer* or *Answer and Counterclaim* (Answer) within 21 days from the date you receive the *Summons* and *Complaint*.
ANSWER: You can find the *Answer* form and instructions on the MN Judicial Branch website at www.mncourts.gov/forms under the “Civil” category. The instructions will explain in detail how to fill out the *Answer* form.
You must respond to each claim. The *Answer* is your written response to the Plaintiff’s *Complaint*. In your

Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the *Complaint*. If you think the Plaintiff should not be given everything they asked for in the *Complaint*, you must say that in your *Answer*.
SERVICE: **You may lose your case if you do not send a written response to the Plaintiff.** If you do not serve a written *Answer* within 21 days, you may lose this case by default. You will not get to tell your side of the story. If you choose not to respond, the Plaintiff may be awarded everything they asked for in their *Complaint*. If you agree with the claims stated in the *Complaint*, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for what the Plaintiff asked for in the *Complaint*.

To protect your rights, you must serve a copy of your *Answer* on the person who signed this *Summons* in person or by mail at this address: David M. Tanabe Messerli & Kramer P.A.
50 South Sixth Street, Suite 2300
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Carefully read the Instructions (CIV301) for the *Answer* for your next steps.
Legal Assistance. You may wish to get legal help from an attorney. If you do not have an attorney and would like legal help: Visit www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp and click on the “Legal Advice Clinics” tab to get more information about legal clinics in each Minnesota county.
Court Administration may have information about places where you can get legal assistance.
NOTE: Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still serve a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.
Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an ADR process under Rule 114 of the Min-

nesota Rules of Practice. You must still serve your written *Answer*, even if you expect to use ADR.
THIS LAWSUIT AFFECTS OR BRINGS INTO QUESTION TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING REAL PROPERTY located in Waseca County, Minnesota, legally described as follows:

The following described real property located in the County of Waseca, and State of Minnesota:

17-21-30010:
Corchrans 2nd Subdivision Lot-001 Block-001

17-21-30020:
Lots 1 and 2, Block 1, Corchran’s Second Subdivision, City of Waseca, Waseca County, Minnesota

17-22-70030:
Out-Lot A, as shown on the plat of Delta Subdivision, Waseca County, Minnesota

Parcel 1:

Lot 1, Block 1, Corchran’s Second Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof, Waseca County, Minnesota

Parcel 2
All that part of Lot 2, Block 1, Corchran’s Second Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof. Waseca County, Minnesota. described as follows:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Lot 2: thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 44 seconds East a distance of 400.00 feet, on an assumed bearing, on the North line of said Lot 2, to a Northeast corner of said Lot 2; thence South 00 degrees 42 minutes 37 seconds West a distance of 183.55 feet, on a East line of said Lot 2: thence South 01 degree 26 minutes

37 seconds West a distance of 100.04 feet to a point on the South line of said Lot 2, said point being 251.52 feet West of the Southeast corner of said Lot 2: thence North 89 degrees 53 minutes 27 seconds West a distance of 398.48 feet. on the South line of said Lot 2. to the Southwest corner of said lot 2: thence North 00 degrees 39 minute 153 seconds East a distance of 283.19 feet. to the point of beginning

Parcel 3*
All that part of Outlot A. Delta Subdivision. according to the recorded plat thereof. Iying West of the East 251.52 feet of said Outlot A.

Waseca County, Minnesota.
Abstract Property

The object of this lawsuit includes, among other things, the enforcement of a certain mortgage that encumbers the Mortgaged Property as such term is defined in the Complaint. The mortgage liens are evidenced by the following documents: Mortgage, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Financing Statement dated March 27, 2024, and recorded with the Waseca County Recorder on April 11, 2024, as Document No. A336594, and the mortgage encumbers the real property and all improvements thereon commonly known as 1340 State Street South, Waseca, Minnesota.

Dated: August 10, 2026

MESSERLI KRAMER P.A.

/s/ David M. Tanabe
Joshua A. Hasko (#303471) David M. Tanabe (#0400262)
50 South Sixth Street, Suite 2300
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 672-3600
jhasko@messerlikramer.com dta-

Johnson APARTMENTS
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1 bedroom apartments
Income guidelines apply Vouchers accepted

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Professionally managed by:

BRUTGER
EQUITIES, INC.

nabe@messerlikramer.com
Attorneys for Associated Bank, National Association

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
The undersigned hereby acknowledges that pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 549.211, subd. 2, costs, disbursements and reasonable attorney and witness fees may be awarded to the opposing party or parties in this litigation if the Court should find that the undersigned acted in bad faith, asserted a claim or defense that is frivolous and that is costly to the other party, asserted an unfounded position solely to delay the ordinary course of the proceedings or to harass; or committed a fraud upon the Court.

Dated: August 10, 2026 /s/ David M. Tanabe
David M. Tanabe (#400262)

IF PART OF THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD CONTAINS YOUR HOUSE, YOU MAY DESIGNATE AN AREA AS A HOMESTEAD TO BE SOLD AND REDEEMED SEPARATELY. YOU MAY DESIGNATE THE HOUSE YOU OCCUPY AND

ANY AMOUNT OF THE PROPERTY AS A HOMESTEAD. THE DESIGNATED HOMESTEAD PROPERTY MUST CONFORM TO THE LOCAL ZONING ORDINANCES AND BE COMPACT SO THAT IT DOES NOT UNREASONABLY REDUCE THE VALUE OF THE REMAINING PROPERTY. YOU MUST PROVIDE THE COURT WITH A LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE HOMESTEAD YOU HAVE DESIGNATED.

IF THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD CONTAINS SEPARATE TRACTS, YOU MAY REQUEST THAT THE TRACTS BE SOLD AND REDEEMED SEPARATELY. EACH OF THE SEPARATE TRACTS MUST CONFORM TO LOCAL ZONING ORDINANCES. YOU MUST PROVIDE THE COURT WITH A COPY OF THE LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS OF EACH OF THE TRACTS YOU HAVE DESIGNATED TO BE SOLD SEPARATELY.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on October 15, 22 and 29, 2026

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: M2 Powersports and Marine
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 1300 State St. S. Waseca, MN 56093, USA

APPLICANT(S):
Name: M2 Powersports LLC
Address: 2010 S Cedar Ave. Owatonna, MN, 55060 USA

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties

of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: Joshua Matejcek

MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: Josh@m2powersports.com

Work Item 1672488000022
Original File Number 1672488000022

STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
09/30/2026 11:59 PM

Steve Simon Secretary of State

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on October 22 and 29, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Waseca County Property & Election Services Office will test the electronic voting machines to be used for vote tabulation in the General Election of November 3rd, 2026.

Testing will be held on Wednesday, October 28th & Thursday, October 29th, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Conference Room on the main floor of the Waseca County Courthouse, 307 North State Street, Waseca, MN.

The Public is invited to attend.

Tamara J. Spooner, Director of Property & Election Services

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, November 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following items:

A. **Larry and Jan Hoffman** request a Conditional Use Permit to operate apiary agritourism for the parcel (PID 06.011.0500) in Section 11, Township 108, Range 24 in Janesville Township. The request will be pursuant to Sections 3.07, 6.07, and 6.08 of the Waseca County Unified Development Code. The parcel is zoned A-1 Agricultural Protection Zoning District.

B. **Waseca County requests Amendments to the Unified Development Code, Articles 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8 of the Unified Development Code (UDC).** Waseca County requests amendments to the UDC by adding to Section 6.07 Cannabis Cultivation Standards, adding Section 6.08 General Standards for Cannabis Business, adding Definitions to Article 8 and additional housekeeping edits in the remaining Articles 2, 3 and 4.

The staff reports for these items will be available at the Waseca County Planning and Zoning Office, 300 N State St., Waseca, MN 56093 during regular business hours 8:00–4:30 and will be on the county website www.wasecacounty.gov on the agenda tab by November 2, 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 October 22, 2026

SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7pm HALL BINGO	2 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	3
4	5	6 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	7 6PM BAR BINGO	8 7pm HALL BINGO	9 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	10
11 Breakfast 8-12 Your Host Bantam Hockey	12 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	13 NAVY Birthday BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	14 6PM BAR BINGO	15 7pm HALL BINGO	16 Walleye Dinner 5:30 – 7 pm	17
18	19	20 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	21 6PM BAR BINGO	22 7pm HALL BINGO	23 MEAT Raffles 5:30pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	24
25	26	27 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	28 6PM BAR BINGO	29 7pm HALL BINGO	30 MEAT Raffle 5:30pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	31

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

SUMMIT ON SECOND APARTMENTS • NOW HIRING •

Job Description: Summit on Second Apartments is hiring a Part-time maintenance person. This position will be 20 hours per week. We are looking for a dependable, energetic individual with maintenance background and good communication skills. Duties include general repair, painting, grounds maintenance. Some experience with plumbing, electrical, heating and appliance repair a plus. Position also requires some common area and vacant unit cleaning. The position is eligible for Paid time off, you start earning your first day!

Pay: \$16.00 – \$18.00 per hour
To Apply: Stop by Summit on Second, 515 2nd St SW, Waseca, MN 56093 to fill out application or email resume to: hadmin@brutgerequities.com





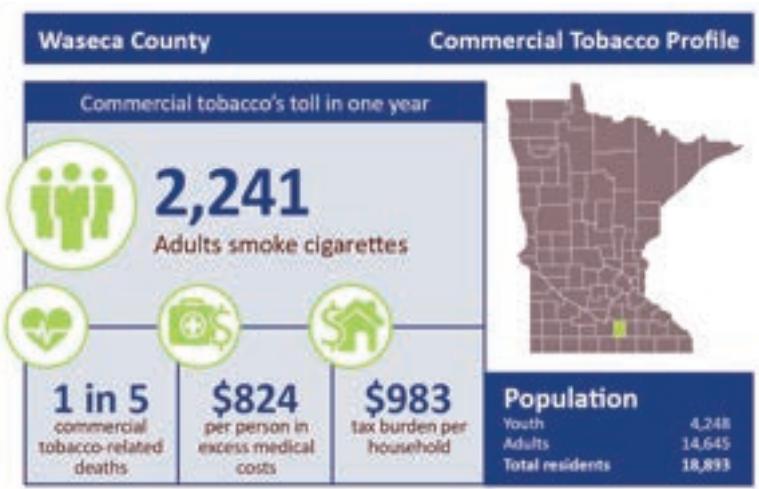
Anyone can say they can fix it, **only we guarantee it...for life!**

- Basement Waterproofing
- Foundation Repair
- Crawl Space Repair



**Schedule your free inspection: (844) 839-1112**

*Certain terms and conditions apply. Ask your Foundation Specialist for details. Contractor ID BC807773



Public health recommends stricter laws on tobacco sales

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Waseca County Public Health supervisor Josh Ramaker encouraged county commissioners to update the county’s codes and practices surrounding tobacco sales, mentioning to them that current statute was enacted in 1999. Due to changes at the state level, there are even places where local laws do not match state standards.

In a presentation given during the Oct. 6 county board meeting, Ramaker commented that much has changed in the tobacco industry since 1999, and went on to share a set of recommendations which include raising the licensing fee for retail outlets which sell tobacco products from the current cost of \$150 to \$450, an amount he said would more realistically address the county’s expenses in administering, implementing, and enforcing its code. Ramaker shared that the county currently licenses seven tobacco retailers located in Janesville, New Richland, and unincorporated locations.

Ramaker stated that, in 2025, about 2,250 county adults reported they are smokers. The adverse effects of smoking and the health care smokers often need due to failing health, he said, create a tax burden of “nearly \$1,000 per household.”

He went on to state the adults “probably wouldn’t be smokers if they had not been

targeted as youth.”

Ramaker commented on the remarkably powerful marketing techniques tobacco companies use to lure young people into trying cigarettes and other nicotine inhalants.

His presentation slide show included a photo of a school principal’s drawer full of confiscated nicotine products; most of them were pocket-sized “vape” units. “Every principal has a drawer like this,” stated Ramaker. “They confiscate new units on a daily basis.”

Among the recommendations which will be included in the proposed new codes, Ramaker told commissioners, are raising the age a clerk must be to sell tobacco products; raising the number of compliance checks at retailers from one to two; prohibiting delivery sales, including drive-through purchases; and not licensing any facility located within 1,000 feet of a location known to be frequented by youth.

Noting that fruit, menthol or mint, and the tastes of candy, desserts, and other sweets are the flavors most often used by youth, he suggested it would be an important step toward protecting area youth—and the adults they will someday become—if the county forbids the sale of flavored nicotine products anywhere within its borders. Ramaker requested that the county might hold a public hearing regarding the proposed new standards during a meeting in December.

WHS Homecoming closes with festive week

Waseca Homecoming week 2026 concluded Oct. 9 after a week full of activities, themed dress up days, coronation, and parades came to a close. The excitement concluded with a 49-7 win over the Worthington Trojans on Friday evening.

The anticipation kicked off with a pep fest for all fall sports held the Friday before homecoming week.

“Dress-up” days, activities and games were scheduled all week long. A major highlight was coronation on Thursday evening. The homecoming court consisted of 12 talented and involved individuals.

Elli Hoban, daughter of Jared Hoban and Ashley Semmann, participates in fall cheer and golf. She works at Four Seasons and attends New Life Community Church. Hoban was escorted by Titan Rahe, son Jeff and Amanda Rahe. Rahe is involved in BPA, is a captain on the football team and is also involved in track. He works for Loon Lake Tea.

Resse Ludwig, daughter of Ryan and Julie Ludwig, is a member of Sacred Heart Church, and she is a captain of the girls’ soccer team. Ludwig is also involved in winter cheerleading, BPA, Teachers of Tomorrow and she volunteers for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program. She also works at the Jays’ Nest, Community Ed and the waterpark. Ludwig was escorted by Brady McKenna, son of Eric McKenna and Kortney McKenna. McKenna is a football captain, youth mentor, and a member of the wrestling team. He is employed at Wiste’s Meat Market and Loon Lake Tea.

Taylor Markeson, daughter of Kris and Karen Markeson, is involved in cross country, track, marching band, jazz band, jazz combo, BPA, Science Olympiad, YCIF and she is the Student Council President. She is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and Grace Lutheran Church. Markeson works at Patton, Hoversten and Berg Law Firm. Markeson was escorted by Tovin Grannis, son of Michael and

Kristy Grannis. Grannis is involved in football, basketball, soccer and track. He is a member of St. Paul Church and refs for soccer games.

Stella Omtvedt, daughter of Aaron and Carol Omtvedt, is a member of the Janesville Methodist church, Minnesota Honor Society, and she is in select choir, show choir, sextets, BPA, cross country and track. She is a FCA Huddle Leader, and she works as a service assistant at the local funeral homes. Omtvedt was escorted by Owen Honstad, son of Rich and Amanda Honstad. Honstad is on the football, basketball and baseball teams, and BPA. He is a member of Christ the King Church and works at Kwik Trip.

Violet Rohwer, daughter of Char-

lie Rohwer and Anne Gerber, participates in cross country, track, student council, speech, jazz band, show choir and sextets. She is a member of the Minnesota Honor Society as Chapter President and is also involved in the Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra. She also lifeguards and babysits in the summer. Rohwer was escorted by Henry Huttemier, son of John Huttemier and Kristi Hyink-Huttemeier. Huttemier is involved in tennis and is a member of Grace Lutheran Church and Minnesota Honor Society. He is employed at Rick’s Appliance and Community Ed.

Katelyn Weber, daughter of Kevin and Melissa Weber, participates in BPA, student council, Minnesota Honor Society, gymnastics and

Giving Brings Us Together. Caring Makes Us a Community.

Contribute to the *iWealth Holiday Food Baskets!*

October 26th - November 15th

This holiday season, iWealth invites you to be part of our cherished Holiday Food Baskets tradition—bringing warmth, hope, and joy to neighbors in need.

We’re proud to once again partner with the **Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center** to share the spirit of the season with our community. Thanks to your incredible generosity last year, we covered 100% of the Holiday Food Basket costs—and this year, we’re aiming even higher!

The iWealth Foundation will contribute **\$3,000** toward this effort, and every dollar you give will go directly toward filling baskets for families here in Waseca County. If donations exceed this year’s costs, the extra funds will support the **WANSC Backpack Program**, which provides nutritious weekend meals to hundreds of local students from Pre-K through Grade 12. With the number of families needing assistance on the rise, your kindness matters now more than ever.

Let’s come together and make this season brighter for our neighbors.

Give today. Share hope. Spread joy.

Story Idea?
837-6767

2025 Totals:

\$9,695 Community Donations

\$3000 iWealth Foundation Donation

\$12,695 Total

Total Baskets = 250

All Individuals Served = 800

Additionally, funds raised helped WANSC deliver **325 food backpacks** each week throughout the school year.

You can Help!

All tax-deductible donations should be made payable to: WANSC.

Write “iWealth Holiday Baskets” in the memo line.

Please mail your donation to:

WANSC
iWealth Holiday Food Baskets
203 3rd Ave NW
Waseca, MN 56093

WANSC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

Scan Here to Donate online. Select iWealth Holiday Food Baskets when donating

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