WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 44 Vol. V $2 | Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca | Thursday, October 29, 2026

Inside:

- **2** - City Council
- **3** - Election info
- **4** - Obituaries
- **5** - Trick-or-Treat
- **6** - Beatitudes
- **7** - School Board
- **8-10** - Sports
- **12** - Bluejays
- **12** - Tobacco laws

Page 5



Treats on the Streets

Veterans Day Photos

In observance of Veterans Day November 11, the Waseca County Pioneer will publish a section dedicated to our defenders of freedom. Area veterans or family members are encouraged to bring in photos of veterans in uniform from all branches of service for inclusion and the recognition they so justly deserve. If you submitted a photo for a previous edition, you simply need to call or e-mail the Pioneer to have the photo included.

The deadline for photo submission is 4 p.m., Monday, November 2. For questions or more information, please call the Pioneer office at (507) 837-6767 or e-mail news@wasecacountypioneer.com.

El Tequila's closes Waseca location after 16 years

El Tequila Mexican Grill & Cantina announced the closure of one of its two southern Minnesota locations, with its Owatonna restaurant staying open.

"With a heavy heart, we would like to announce that we are closing our restaurant," the business posted on Facebook, referring to the location at 200 State St. in downtown Waseca.

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 Saturday, Oct. 31

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.

A word from The Word

And he changeth the times and the seasons:he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:he giveth wisdum unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding

Daniel 2:21

Cancer survivors encourage regular mammograms

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Waseca area breast cancer survivors Delphine Farley, 81, and Angie Bohannon, a 1996 Waseca High School graduate, have two very different stories, but at least one very emphatic shared take-away:

Women should not skip their annual mammogram.

"They're uncomfortable, and nobody likes them," concedes Angie. But she goes on to say they can save a woman's life, and can allow cancer to be found quickly, reducing the level of treatment women will need.

It was a lesson she learned the hard way.

When she went in for a routine mammogram in 2024, it had been about six years since her most recent previous one, in 2018; she says she wishes she had not waited so long, given the difference it might have made in her treatment.

"Now I encourage all the women in my life to go for their annual tests," she comments.

She also says that, after cancer interfered with her life for just over a year, she has seldom gotten sweeter news than the "no evidence of disease" test result she received in August of 2024. She says her whole outlook on life has changed.

"I don't sweat the small stuff," she says cheerfully. "There's no reason to get tense and upset, because things can be handled."

She would know.

After her routine mammogram in 2024, she was informed there was something "suspicious" in the images, and asked to report for a biopsy.

"I was nervous, but I told myself it was just a routine test."

When it turned out the lump was cancerous, she remembers feeling "devastated. Hearing

the C-word changes your whole world."

From the moment of her diagnosis, she recalls, "things moved pretty quickly."

Plans for a prompt lumpectomy had to be changed when an MRI revealed the lump was so close to the

Cancer continued on 6



Delphine Farley faced and survived cancer in 2010. Mother of 4, grandmother to 12 and great-grandmother to 8, Delphine loves spending time with her family, including Cooper, pictured here.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Great Fall Get Together celebrates 50 year milestone

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The Waseca Art Center's Great Fall Get Together held at the Starfire Event Center the evening of Oct. 24 included an expression of gratitude to four volunteers who have made important contributions to the Art Center (WAC) and its programs. They saw over 200 partygoers through their doors.

WAC President Mikhail Rostislavovich gave heartfelt speeches honoring Monica Priebe, Molly Hendrickson, Anne Johanson and Tara Bjerke.

As he called attention to Priebe's contributions, he let everyone know, "The Great Fall Get Together was originally Monica's idea."

Of Hendrickson and Johanson, he highlighted "six years of planning meetings, gathering donations, coordinating details, solving problems, and ensuring that our guests enjoy an exceptional evening." Regarding Bjerke he said, "For five years Tara has brought her enthusiasm, determination, and considerable talents to this event.

"Ladies and gentlemen, collectively, these four women represent 28 years of dedication to the Great Fall Get Together, all in support of an organization whose mission is to enrich the lives of others." To thank the four, with support from Exclusively Diamonds, Rostislavovich continued,



50 YEARS OF CREATIVE ENERGY - The Waseca Art Center's Great Fall Get Together celebrated the organization's 50-year milestone at Waseca's Starfire Event Center on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2026. Pictured from left: WAC President Mikhail Rostislavovich, Monica Priebe, Ann Johannsen, Tara Bjerke, and Molly Hendrickson.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

"On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, it is my honor to present Monica, Molly, Anne, and Tara each with a beautiful pair of earrings as a small token of enormous gratitude. Ladies, your contributions are seen, your efforts are valued, and your dedication has made a lasting difference. You have created a tradition that brings people together, strengthens our organization and helps ensure that the arts will continue to flourish in Waseca for generations to come."

Rostislavovich also provided a short history lesson about the Art Center, which started in 1976 in a small space in the same building as the Waseca Library. The current address at 200 North State

Fall continued on 12

Event gives high schoolers a glimpse of the future

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

About 140 Waseca area high school students had a look at various options for the future during the Waseca College and Career Fair held at the Mill the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 20. The event was organized by the Workforce Development Committee of the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Waseca Public Schools. Business owners, agencies, and representatives from area technical and traditional colleges–about 40 experts altogether–, shared options and possibilities in a wide variety of fields. Though similar events in the past have brought students in from around the area, Robin Dulas, Chamber Executive Director, clarified "They were all Waseca this time."

The Mill was packed with tables, some had candy to attract eager, yet nervous young students. There were robots courtesy of Riverland College, drinks, demonstrations and employees ready to talk. One such table belonged to Mandy Quist, who was present on behalf of Minnesota State University Mankato. At the halfway point through her day, she said she'd spoken to around 40 prospective students so far: "We discussed their interests and how MSU applies to that and what they should be thinking about after high school."

To encourage interaction, participants were given "bingo" cards to have marked as they moved around the space. Each spokesperson used a bingo dabber to stamp the cards when presented. The cards also had ice breaker questions the students could ask to get conversations started.

Sam Steffel of Dennis Steffel Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Services of Waseca was among the representatives. Since his is a business that deals with the deceased, he said he'd gotten some pretty interesting questions from some of the students: "Do you believe in ghosts?" or "What's the pay like?" and "How long does it take to cremate a body?" In answering the questions, Steffel revealed cremations performed by the company take place in Janesville.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE - Sergeant First Class Miranda Rewe and Staff Sergeant Nate Engel were representatives on behalf of the United States Army, which was one of many agencies meeting with students and answering questions during the Waseca College and Job Fair on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2026.

Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Unexpected questions aside, Steffel said he wants students who think there is nothing to do in Waseca to reconsider. "Working in the funeral business offers a lot of challenges, and it's a rewarding career. But if you compare it to the military, with all that hard work, it comes with many rewards. There is lots to do in Waseca." He said that, even for area youth who go elsewhere for education or military service, he hoped the event planted seeds which would encourage them to return once those phases of their life are complete.

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County garage experiences significant rain damage

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Waseca County Highway Engineer Jim Kollar reported to county commissioners during the Oct. 20 meeting that significant damage to the county garage on Fifth Street SE in Waseca occurred when preventive measures left in place by a roofing contractor failed and a 1-inch rain drenched the interior of the building. The company performing the work was Commercial Roofing of Kasson: the contract for the work had been awarded during the Sept. 1 county board meeting.

Kollar shared videos showing leaking water, and explained county staff had done its best to protect equipment including the building's boiler, sensors and meters, and control panels.

The flat roof of the large building which houses county highway department offices, work areas, and large vehicle parking was in the process of having the roofing membrane replaced; anticipating rain, the contractor left preventive measures in place the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 14 and anticipated returning on Friday.

The preventive measures failed in numerous locations. Kollar told commissioners his staff did what it could to protect interior elements during the event, called the contractor in to see the damage, and contacted Bauer Mitigation of Faribault to assess the circumstances and take steps to prevent mold and structural problems.

Kollar stated he could not provide an estimate of the damages because it was yet to be determined what extent of repair or replacement will be needed for the many pieces of equipment possibly affected. The consulting firm Widseth, which offers architecture and design services, is under contract with the county to provide contract administration and oversight services, and was also called in to assess circumstances at the county garage. Widseth had advised Kollar that the contractor's insurance will be called upon to cover the damages.

Commissioner Brian Harguth observed that, when the county accepted the bid for the roofing project, it had followed the typical government procedure of selecting the "lowest responsible bid."

County continued on 12



Compostings

by Al Batt

Smoothing life's path

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

Good morning.

And the rest of the day to you. You look taller.

That's because I got a raise at work.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. Halloween is when old cobwebs become new decorations. I bobbed for apples and got water on my knee. I dressed as a Band-Aid once. That was a hard costume to pull off. My neighbor Crandall wore a Mark Hamill mask. You should have seen the Luke on his face.

Hoping to smooth my life's path, I took a job at a gas station to learn how to do things. I had a short and distinguished career as a pump jockey. It was more short than distinguished. My boss told me my job was to never disgrace the sign. He pointed to the logo of the business. I wasn't as talented as a coworker who claimed to be proficient at using a Slim Jim and hot-wiring cars. Paying with a credit card required me to place a customer's embossed plastic card into a mechanical device called a zip-zap or knuckle buster machine and roll a heavy metal handle across it to imprint the card number and name on a multi-part carbon paper sales form before it was signed.

My strongest point was being good at using GOJO hand cleaner.

I'VE LEARNED

Dr. Lowell Barr of Spring Valley has a 1931 Ford Model A. Lowell's uncle purchased the car new in Nebraska. The Model A began production in 1927. It's 95 years later, and the Barrs have preserved that piece of family history that can still be driven.

The inventor of the couch invented nothing else. He was too busy napping.

The paper towels at the gas pumps are there to wipe the tears away.

When the James-Younger Gang robbed the First National Bank of Northfield on September 7, 1876, they left with a burlap bag containing $26.70 cash.

ASK AL

"What do you think Edward Munch's painting 'The Scream' portrays?" A father who stepped on a Lego brick.

"Why do sharks swim in salt water?" Pepper makes them sneeze.

IN LOCAL NEWS

Our local origami shop kept getting busier. Business was in creasing, but then it folded.

Brace yourself for the upcoming orthodontists' strike. Local geometry teacher missed a school day after spraining his angle.

All Flat Earth Society members must report back to the 8th grade.

Ventriloquist retires after dummy contracts laryngitis.

Local man gives up watching football on TV to spend more time with his family.

Senator Highbottom recommends putting stop signs on interstate highways to slow speeders.

Baking Bad Bakery (formerly Filled of Cream) has rigamarolls, but you will have to go through a lot to get one.

NATURE NOTES

I led a tour to Denali. Alaska is a big place, and traveling around it builds a big appetite. We stopped to eat, grabbing sandwiches and drinks before finding perches outside, because why wouldn't we sit outside? We finished our meals and were walking back to our bus when another tour arrived. They snagged sandwiches and chips, placed them on the outdoor tables, and went to get drinks. I told the leader that someone should stay and guard the food. I'd do that, but I needed to catch a bus. He thought I was goofy and asked who would steal their food. He was right about the goofy part, but when I said, "The gulls," he replied, "The gulls to you too."

I stood by the door of our bus, using my amazing math skills to be sure all 50 of my tour participants boarded. Before I stepped onto the deluxe motor coach, I looked back at the spot where we'd enjoyed a lovely repast. Delicate-appearing gulls named mew gulls (the name has been changed to short-billed gulls) were devouring the sandwiches of that group of tourists. The "mew" part of the name didn't come from its catlike call because it makes nothing that sounds like that. It's derived from "zee meeuw," an old Dutch name for the bird. Gulls are incredibly good at obtaining food. A gull in Florida snatched a partially eaten hot dog from my hand. It did so for my own good.

The name "nighthawk" is a misnomer, since the common nighthawk isn't strictly nocturnal—it's active at dawn and dusk—nor closely related to hawks. They have long tails, forward-swept wings and spectacular aerial maneuverability. It belongs to the nightjar family, and its "hawk" name comes from its resemblance to a small hawk flying and its hawking method of catching insects mid-air.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year."—Ralph Waldo Emerson. Be kind.

Support schools by voting



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

Here's a question for you: "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?"

I will be voting yes to the proposed constitutional amendment on Tuesday, and I hope you will be, too. It has already been passed by both Minnesota Houses, and now requires voter approval.

Voting yes will not raise anyone's taxes. Failing to mark the question yes on your ballot is the same as voting against the amendment, since passing it requires approval from a simple majority of people casting votes. I am informed it might be easy to accidentally overlook the question because it appears on the back side of the ballot.

As has been mentioned in a few articles over the past months, if the amendment passes, all schools which receive money from the permanent school fund will receive about $33 more per student beginning with the 2027-28 school year than in 2026-27: from $68 to $101. Districts also receive state funding from other sources, about $7,000 for each student, but as school financial managers will assure you, every little bit helps.

The permanent school fund has been part of Minnesota's constitution since it was first written. Under its terms, income from millions of acres of land in the northern part of the state–mostly timber and mining leases–is managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

State leaders reveal the fund is currently about $2.3 billion and growing by approximately 8 percent each year. Interest and dividends on the fund are distributed according to a system designated in the original state constitution.

There is bipartisan agreement that changing the language would not be detrimental to the value of the fund itself, and that it is contrary to the intended purpose of the fund for any of the interest and other accruals to remain undistributed.

In other words, it seems like a "no-brainer" to vote in support of the initiative. Even if you see few other reasons to go to the polls next Tuesday, I encourage you to head on over and weigh in on at least this one item.

If you want more information, it's easy to find online. I offer the Minnesota Public Radio website and "Vote Yes for Minnesota Students" as resources. The "Vote Yes" website provides estimated dollar amounts which will be going to all 510 school districts which receive support from the fund. According to information posted there, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton would increase from about $42,500 in 2025 to $63,000; New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva from about $52,000 to nearly $78,000; and Waseca from nearly $114,000 to nearly $169,000.



Happy hauntings, Halloween and hooplah



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

Happy spooky season you ghosts, ghouls and goblins. And more importantly, Happy Halloween.

It's always so nice when Halloween falls on a Saturday, isn't it? It just makes life so much easier. Kids can trick-or-treat starting as early as they want, and us older kids get to party as late as we'd like with Sunday as recovery day. Plus, you can squeeze in all the fun fall, pumpkiny, Halloween activities happening during the day.

It's just perfect.

I will be dogsitting on Halloween, so I'll just be hanging out with the doggy during the day. The dog's mom offered to buy candy for me to hand out to trick-or-treaters, but after she mentioned not very many people actually stop by, we decided it wasn't worth it for her to get candy. So I'll just be getting my costume ready to attend a Halloween party myself.

I will say, I am quite excited. Last year was my first year to do a couples costume with Jack, but we were both so busy that we got a costume at the last minute at Goodwill and went as race car drivers. This year, we've planned ahead, and (I decided) we're going as Buttercup and Wesley from the movie The Princess Bride, which if you didn't know already, is one of my favorite movies. It's like a dream come true.

Speaking of The Princess Bride, last weekend I met a guy who went to the Cary Elwes meet and greet/Q&A a few months ago. Through that, he learned that Elwes had fractured his toe the first day on set while riding with Andre the Giant on an ATV that Andre was driving around. I guess Elwes was scared to tell the director that he had already broken his toe, so one of the first scenes they filmed was where he meets up with Buttercup. His leg/toe hurt so much that when he leaned back and crossed his feet, he had to straight leg the move and the director was impressed by the uniqueness of it. That's when Elwes told him that he actually had to do it because he was in pain from the broken toe.

Anyway, that was a fun fact that I loved to learn about, but I know that I am just a big fan so I probably found it a lot more interesting.

I don't know if I can say Halloween is one of my favorite holidays, but I would say it's up there. I enjoy the fall-ness of it and the decorations and fun that come with it. And I also like that I can choose to celebrate as much as I want, and there's no pressure to actually do anything. Yeah, I can carve pumpkins and go to a party with a costume on, but the point is that I don't have to. I usually do, but it's nice not to feel like I have to go along with the expectations.

Along with that, Halloween means the colder weather: I can decorate for Thanksgiving, and the holidays are fast approaching. Which also means I have to get going on buying presents…

My Determination: "Monsters are real. Ghosts are too. They live inside of us, and sometimes, they win." — Stephen King, The Shining

City determines assessments for Second Street project

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

During the regular Waseca city council meeting the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 20, Nate Willey, Waseca city engineer, summarized financial information regarding the Second Street NW reconstruction project which took place this past summer. As of September 11, the total project cost was $5.2 million, about $630,000 less than originally estimated.

About 30 residential and 10 commercial properties will be assessed taxes for the project: Assessments for residential properties range from around $4,000 to nearly $9,500. Commercial properties will be assessed between about $5,000 and as much as about $89,000. Any amounts not paid by Nov. 19 will be added to the property taxes for each location and divided out among the next 10 years.

Two separate State Airport Fund grants have been approved for $4,500 in funding toward the Waseca Airport precision approach path indicator (PAPI) and runway end identifier light (REIL) installation project.

The council voted to officially accept a $5,300 grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to the Waseca Police Department. The grant is designated for additional efforts toward enforcing laws regarding specific driving behaviors including impaired or distracted driving, seatbelt use, and speeding.

Cindy Kolander, Executive Director to the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (WANSC), alerted the council about the Knights of Columbus coat distribution which took place at the Center on Monday, Oct. 26. Two years ago, 92 coats went out and she was hoping to match that number.

Regarding the West Interchange Land Use Designation and Funding Application, said Carl Sonnenberg, "The landowners along County Road 2 have decided not to support the City's intention to create an Industrial 3 Zoning district. The reason is not allowing retail and the increase in real-estate taxes. Not allowing retail is based on state criteria from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic development for their grant program, the Business Development Infrastructure Program. On the plus side, four landowners have agreed to the rural service district annexation. Taxes will remain the same under this designation. There is also a possible four-acre parcel at a prime development site. This should also help to jump start development in this area."

The next city council meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, not Tuesday, Nov. 3 because of the election.

WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

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

PHONE: 507-837-6767
email: news@wasecacountypioneer.com
Address: Office at 111 Elm Avenue West
Mail: PO Box 578, Waseca MN 56093

DEADLINES: Pioneer: Noon Monday
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ELI LUTGENS	Publisher
DEB BENTLY	News Editor
AMELIA ROESSLER	Editor
JIM LUTGENS	Sports Editor/Dad
JON LUCCA	Ad Design
BEN REVERMANN	Staff Writer
TERESA ROSACKER	Advertising Sales
MELISSA DUNN	Staff Writer

Contributing writers/photographers: Dave Zika, Al Batt, Darin Reese, Payge Rosacker, Rachael Jaegar, Rachel Loverink, Jessica Lutgens, Cassie Rupe, Debbie Rodriguez, Pastor Michael Coglan, Rev. Glenn K. Frerichs, Pastor Michael Grannis, Pastor Rick Wulf, and Pastor Jillene Gallatin

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Attend the Church of your Choice!

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507-835-2235
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404 30 120th St. Waseca
Pastor Sarah Krolak
507-234-6463

Area election candidates respond to Pioneer Survey

Casey Roeker, one two people running for Soil and Water, District 3

- Your family in the same household:

Wife: Natalie Children: Hadley, Presley & Nash

- How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived in SW Waseca Co for 18 years

- What is your occupation or profession?

I have worked at the Southern Research & Outreach Center for 21 years

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

I am running for Soil and Water Conservation District 3 because I believe protecting our soil, water, and natural resources is important for the future of Waseca County. Although I have not previously served in an elected or appointed position, I see this as a great opportunity to learn, listen to community members, and make a positive contribution. I am willing to ask questions, work with others, and help support responsible conservation practices for future generations.

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

I believe my strengths are my willingness to learn, listen to others, and work toward practical solutions. I am open-minded, dependable, and committed to making thoughtful decisions that benefit our community. Although I have not served in a public office before, I see this as an opportunity to grow, gain knowledge, and contribute to protecting our soil, water, and natural resources for future generations. I believe being willing to listen, ask questions, and work collaboratively is important to serving Waseca County well.

- 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?

I believe some of the most important priorities are supporting our local farmers, protecting soil health, and finding practical ways to conserve our natural resources. Healthy soil is essential to productive farmland and the long-term success of agriculture in Waseca County. I believe it is important to work with farmers and landowners to encourage conservation practices that reduce erosion, improve water quality, and keep our land productive for future generations. I would also like to see landowners have access to information and resources that help make conservation affordable and effective. I may be new to serving in this role, but I am willing to listen, learn, and work with others to find common-sense solutions that benefit our farmers, our communities, and our environment.

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

I believe Waseca County's land and water resources are some of our most valuable assets, and it is important that we take care of them for future generations. Our local farmers and landowners play an important role in conservation, and I believe working together and sharing ideas can make a real difference. I am new to this type of public service, but I am willing to listen, learn, and bring an open mind to the position. I believe that practical, common-sense solutions that respect our agricultural community while protecting our natural resources are important to the future of Waseca County.

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.

Melissa Sorbo, one of three candidates for the office of mayor in Waldorf

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

Waldorf, my husband and 3 children

- How long have you lived in the area?

22 years

- What is your occupation or profession?

Healthcare Documentation lead at Mankato Clinic

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

10 years as a Waldorf city council member

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

Having served 10 years on the Waldorf City Council. My position as Healthcare Documentation lead requires detailed understanding of policies to help ensure work is carried out properly that I will also bring to the city council.

- 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?

Taking time to consider issues and agenda subjectively with proper time to research when possible to make the best decisions for the town as a whole.



Sorbo

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

I was also the first woman to be elected to Waldorf First Lutheran Church council, having served on the education board for many years.

Kathy Grinnell, one of three candidates for the office of mayor in Waldorf

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

3 children. Faith(22), Jake(18) and Jacqueline(12)

- How long have you lived in the area?

4 years

- What is your occupation or profession?

Real Estate Broker, City Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Pemberton, Ordained Minister, Certified Natural Health Professional.

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

Since our move to Waldorf, my children and I have gotten to know many of the residents in the community. We have opened our home up to the community and hosted many events in the past. We currently have a large group that comes for coffee every Mondays. We have families that host their reunions and holidays together at our home every year. We try to bless the community in any way we can. There are alot of very kind hearted people in the community. Many residents have lived in the area for many generations and are truly what makes Waldorf so amazing. I would like to represent their concerns and values for the City of Waldorf.

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

I have been working with the City of Pemberton for 1.5 years now as their City Clerk/Treasurer. I have worked with the Mayor, City Council, City Attorney and had an opportunity to work with our State Representatives on funding for the City's projects. We as a team were able to work together and save our Fire Department and are currently working on an infrastructure project for 2029. In addition, I have 27 years of experience in Real Estate and 30 years in Investment Property Management. I have worked for non-profits in the past and several government funding programs.

- 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?

I am a "Service Leader". My leadership style is asking, "How can I do my part to help you accomplish your goals as a community/a team of representatives for a community." So, my most important role is to serve where I am needed and support the concerns and desires of the community. I will help the City Council and staff accomplish those goals by showing support, hard work and effort. I believe that the City of Waldorf has a really great team of people on staff and City Council who love their community greatly. I have also observed the town's residents take on a very active role in showing support for their City and Fire Department which is truly the heart of the town of Waldorf.

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

Waldorf is an amazing place to call home and being a part of its history and progressive growth and experiences as Mayor would be a blessing.

Jen Johnson, one of five candidates running for four open seats on the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School Board

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

We moved into Janesville in 2023 with no prior connections to it. I'm originally from Madison Lake, and Dave is from the metro. We had no idea how deeply we would come to love this community and what it's done to help our family absolutely thrive.

- How long have you lived in the area?

3 1/2 years in Janesville. I'm originally from Madison Lake.

- What is your occupation or profession?

In the past, I've been a Special Education Director for a cooperative of 11 school districts, and an Early Childhood Special Education teacher. I've also briefly subbed within JWP while I transitioned to my current profession. Currently, I work as a Support Planner for individuals with disabilities which allows me to create my own schedule and work from home.

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



Johnson

Although I have not previously served on a school board, I spent six years as a Special Education Director for a cooperative of 11 school districts, including navigating the challenges of COVID. In that role, I participated extensively in school board meetings, helping inform decisions related to staffing, budgets, programming, and student needs. I also worked as an Early Childhood Special Education teacher and briefly substitute taught within JWP. These experiences have given me a practical understanding of school operations, governance, and the challenges districts face. Additionally, I have completed graduate coursework in Minnesota school finance and applied that knowledge in real-world settings. My current work as a Support Planner for individuals with disabilities continues to strengthen my skills in advocacy, problem-solving, and resource planning.

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

I am a creative problem-solver, data-based decision-maker, and thoughtful listener. As a former Special Education Director, I learned to stretch limited resources across a large geographic area while retaining the staff needed to serve students effectively. I believe in educating myself on unfamiliar topics, reviewing available research, and listening to the people directly affected before making decisions. As a parent of three school-age children enrolled at JWP, I also see firsthand the value of a small school where students are known, supported, and valued. Having moved to Janesville in 2023 without prior connections, I appreciate the community we have found here. I would bring professional experience, a parent's perspective, a willingness to consider innovative solutions, and a commitment to integrity, collaboration, and thoughtful long-term planning.

- 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?

Declining enrollment is a significant concern because it affects district funding while building and operational costs remain steady or increase. The board must carefully evaluate enrollment trends, educational options, staffing, and budget priorities while planning for the district's long-term sustainability. Equally important is supporting and retaining quality staff, maintaining safe and effective facilities, and ensuring students continue to receive meaningful educational opportunities. Decisions should be guided by data, community input, and a clear understanding of both immediate needs and future challenges. The goal is to preserve the strengths of JWP while adapting responsibly to a changing educational landscape.

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

Moving to Janesville without prior connections to the community, has given our family a unique appreciation for what makes JWP special. My children are known, cared for, and valued, and I believe that sense of belonging is one of the greatest strengths of a small school. I want to help preserve that culture while ensuring our district remains financially responsible, adaptable, and focused on the future. Good leadership means listening, asking thoughtful questions, and making decisions with integrity. I would approach this role with an open mind, willingness to do the work, and commitment to our students, staff, and community.

Kevin Born, one of five candidates running for four seats on the JWP School Board

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



Born

Wife Dr. Candace Born (Veterinarian/Business Owner) Andrew 25, Christian 22, Ethan 20

- How long have you lived in the area?

I grew up in the district and attended JWP and have been back in the district for the last 27 years.

- What is your occupation or profession?

I run an Agricultural Equipment Manufacturing Company

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

I am seeking my second term as JWP school board member. During my first term the district eliminated cell phones in the classroom, achieved high standard test scores in reading, math and science, and navigated a difficult budget shortfall.

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

I have a background in education from Iowa State University where I taught and have managed a successful equipment manufacturing company for the last 17 years.

- 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?

Budgets will continue to be a challenge as we are dealing with decreased enrollment and decreased funding across rural areas. Navigating these challenges carefully is essential to protecting student growth and outcomes.

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

All aspects of public service is important regardless of the position. Our schools, our towns and our local organizations need volunteer leadership. If you have the skills and the time please step up and get involved in helping and guiding these important parts of our rural communities.

Dave Dunn, one of four candidates running for four seats on the Waseca School Board

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



Dunn

Waseca, Melissa (wife)

- How long have you lived in the area?

Most of my life

- What is your occupation or profession?

Retired from Railroad.

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

I have served on the School Board twice. Previously for nine years and currently for eight years. I have held the Offices of Vice-Chair, Clerk and I am the current Board Chair.

- 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?

Future Board decisions include Facilities and as always the Budget. There is never enough money to meet all your needs but at the same time you can't spend money you don't have. We need to improve student learning but that is always a work in progress. The Superintendent and the Board currently have a very comprehensive Strategic Plan that is adjusted as needed.

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

I have a strong desire to serve in this capacity because of my deep belief that our children's education creates the foundation of their future.

James Ebertowski, running unopposed for Waseca City Council Ward II



Ebertowski

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

Wife and two children

- How long have you lived in the area?

Born and raised in Waseca. Moved out of town for a few years and then came back.

- What is your occupation or profession?

Heavy Diesel Truck Parts Sales

- If you are an incumbent, how long have you held the elected position you are in?

I am an incumbent, one term/4 years. I have enjoyed my time serving the community in this role.

- 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?

Continuing to listen to the community and push for responsible development, jobs/careers, Grocery store, I&I of the storm water system.

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

Although there may be disagreements between council members or between citizens we all want to see Waseca win. The only difference is how we get to the finish line. Ultimately we are all on the same team.

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OBITUARIES

David Bathke

David Wesley Bathke, age 88, of Waseca, MN passed away peacefully on October 23, 2026, with family by his side.

Born on July 3, 1938, in Waseca, MN he was the son of Wesley and Pearl (Peterson) Bathke.

He attended school in Waseca, graduating in 1956. He served in the Army from 1958-1960.

Following his honorable discharge from the army, he attended Vocational Technical College in Minneapolis, Dunwoody Vocational and later General Motors Training Center.

David had an early appreciation and passion for automobiles and things mechanical and was a mechanic for most of his life beginning in the fall of 1955 at Hasselquist Pontiac and Buick and remained there until its closure in the early 1980s. After its closure he worked for South Side Schools and the University of Minnesota Waseca campus doing maintenance on their vehicles and held a Master Boilers License. In the beginning of his career path he worked at Kuyper Implement and Waseca Implement and owned and operated Murphy Motor Freight in Waseca. David eventually retired from the Rochester Police Department after 17 years maintaining their squad car fleet.

David married Dianne Davidson on June 27, 1964, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Meriden.

Together, they welcomed their son, Michael David, and began building their family and life together. David enjoyed spending time at car shows and swap meets with his son and grandson, sharing their common love of cars. Cars always played an important role in David's life. While serving in the Army stationed in Colorado, he was introduced to stock car racing and he began racing cars. Along the way he also was able to watch and participate in Demolition derbies for the first time. After returning home he became a member of the Waseca Jaycees. As they looked for events for fund raising



David Bathke

he recalled his time in the Army and watching demolition derbies and shared this idea. He then organized and officiated the first demolition derby at the Waseca County Fair in 1966 and continued his role doing this for many years. This event has remained an annual tradition since it began. David has shared his passion of the sport along to his son and now his grandson who carries on his number 7. David was a long-time member of the Waseca County Fairboard and worked for the Minnesota State Fair managing Gate Admissions for the Grandstand. He worked for and commuted to the Minnesota State Fair each year during the fair for over 59 consecutive years.

David is survived by his wife, Dianne; son, Michael (Doreen) Bathke, grandson, Kyle; sister, Diane (Ken) Strehl; brother-in-law, Jim Davidson; along with nephews, cousins, and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 11:00 AM at St John Lutheran Church in Waseca, MN; Pastor Ashley Kuhlman will officiate. David's family will greet guests at a visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca, MN.

Brian Blatter

Brian Blatter, age 60, passed away on October 22, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and cherished memories.

Born on April 5, 1966, Brian was raised in Waseca, Minnesota, where he developed a deep appreciation for the outdoors and the small-town values that remained with him throughout his life.

Brian married Rohnna Pryor, and together they raised three children: Anthony, Derrick, and Jennifer.

An avid outdoorsman, Brian enjoyed fishing and hunting whenever he had the opportunity. He also had a passion for antiquing and collecting treasures from days gone by. Each spring, he eagerly anticipated morel mushroom season, a favorite pastime that combined his love of nature with creating lasting memories alongside family and friends.

Brian especially treasured his role as a grandfather. He loved joking with his grandchildren and giving them a hard time, in the way only a grandpa can. He also shared his love of coin collecting with them, creating special memories and passing along an interest they will always cherish.

Brian is survived by his partner, Tracie; his children, Anthony (Carly) and Jennifer (Mark); his ten beloved grandchildren, Hannah, Marlee, Christian, Derek, Sailor, Abel, Emery, Brenan, Brantley, and Kevin; his siblings, Gary (Lori) and Dawn (David); his nephews, Matthew



Brian Blatter

(Jenna) and Alex (Brooke); and his nieces, Katherine and Kassandra (Steven). He will also be remembered by many extended family members, dear friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

He was preceded in death by his son, Derrick; his wife, Rohnna; his mother, Judy; and his nephew, Nicholas.

Brian's kind heart, sense of humor, and appreciation for life's simple pleasures will be deeply missed. His memory will live on through the stories shared by those who loved him, the traditions he passed down, and the countless lives he touched throughout his years.

Skol Vikings!

Memorial service for Brian will be at 2:00 PM on Saturday, November 7, 2026 at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will be held at a later date.

Dsofuneral.com

Marlys Kopischke

Marlys Marie Kopischke, age 89 of Janesville, MN passed away peacefully on October 22, 2026.

Born on October 21, 1937, Marlys was the only daughter of Orvil and Evelyn (Ditlevson) Rose. She grew up in rural Waseca, attending country school before graduating from Waseca High School. After graduation, she began her working life, setting out on the next chapter of her journey.

On November 3, 1956, she married Edward Kopischke at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Together, they made their home in rural Janesville, where they raised their five children, worked side by side, and built a life centered on family and farming.

Marlys' days revolved around caring for those she loved, a role that came as naturally to her as the work of each day on the farm. She made sure everyone was fed, the family was cared for, and her husband had a helping hand with the farm chores. Between tending the garden, canning, and keeping up with the farm, she always found a way to make sure those around her had what they needed. Her caring heart extended beyond her own family, too.

As her children grew older, Marlys returned to the workforce, sharing her gift for caring for others at Hillcrest, as a home care provider, and at the Faribault Regional Center. Strong in her faith, Marlys was a longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Church, where her commitment went beyond Sunday services. She shared her time and talents by serving on numerous committees, making her church another place where she could lend a hand and care for others.

Marlys had a way of drawing people in, and she was happiest when surrounded by family and friends. A true social butterfly with a little feistiness in her spirit, she brought warmth, personality, and plenty of life wherever she went. Family was always her greatest priority, and she never hesitated to show up for the people she loved. Whether supporting her children, cheering on her grandchildren, or making memories with her great-grandchildren, Marlys would travel whatever distance she needed to be there. Her presence was a gift, her love was unwavering, and her family always knew they could count on her.

She will be lovingly remembered by her children, Blaine (Lorri) Kopischke, Bonnie Stickley, and Bruce (Denise) Kopischke; son-in-law, Mark Clasen; grandchildren, Bekah (John) Kindall, Michael (Lindsey) Kopischke, Adam (Corrine) Thayer, Jennifer (James) Pierce, Mark (Mary) Kopischke, Bryan (Kim) Thayer, Amber Morrow, Devick (Amy Swetkey) Stickley, and Chris Kopischke, along with 20 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Edward in 2022; daughters, Betty Gilchrist in 2007 and Becky Clasen in April of 2026; son-in-law, Rick Stickley; grandchildren, Josh Gilchrist and Westly Kopischke; and grandson-in-law, Zach Morrow.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2026, at 11:00



Marlys Kopischke

AM at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville, MN; Pastor Jason Wolter will officiate. Marlys' family will greet guests at a visitation held two hours prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at Meadow Ridge Memorial Park in Faribault, MN.

Dale Radke

On November 2nd, this special Feast of All Souls Day, remembering the life and passing of Dale Frederick Radke. Born on December 14,1955. Died by natural causes at his home in Orlando, Florida on July 21, 2025. Dale is buried in Calvary Cemetery, New Richland, Minnesota with his parents Harold and Marcella Radke. Dale is remembered for his kindness, gentleness and giving to others. Dale had a love of golf. Dale is survived by his siblings Barbara Radke, Betty Radke, niece Carly Velazquez (Tyler), great nieces Emma Velazquez and Josephine Velazquez. Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Anyone remembering Dale or your own loved ones that have passed on the Feast of All Souls Day are asked to donate to birthright330 Stadium Road, Suite 201, Mankato, MN 56001 from November 1st-November 8th in memory of Dale or in memory of a loved one that you have lost. The gift of life is such a blessing from God and we are given so many memories made with love.

Candidates answer survey questions cont.

Thomas Sexton, running for Minnesota House of Representatives, District 19B

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



Sexton

Jeanne, two sons, two daughters-in-law, and three grandkids

- How long have you lived in the area?

Most of my adult life, except while serving in the US Air Force and a brief four-year stint in Houston, Texas.

- What is your occupation or profession?

I served as a special operations and combat rescue helicopter pilot in the US Air Force for over 26 years before retiring in 2012. Then, I became pipeline and facilities construction manager for 9 years before retiring in 2021.

- If you are an incumbent, how long have you held the elected position you are in?

I am running for re-election after serving in the Minnesota House of Representatives for two years.

- What are some accomplishments you wish to mention?

As your Representative, I serve on the Energy Policy & Finance, State Government Policy & Finance, and the Capital Investment (Bonding) committees. In addition, I act as a resource for the Veterans & Military Affairs committee. Separately, I serve on the Inspector General Commission. Through very close work with our elected city and county officials and their staff, Waseca received the full $8.9 million dollar request for funds to address sanitary sewer inflow and infiltration and the full $1.0 million dollar request for planning and land acquisition funds for a new water tower. Separately, we worked to make sure our income taxes did not increase while decreasing the size of government in a highly contested budget battle. Finally, we are addressing Fraud by creating the Independent Office of Inspector General (OIG). Once selected, we enabled the OIG to investigate and address fraud where past fraud prevention attempts were unsuccessful.

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

Growing up in Minnesota gave me many great experiences and a true foundation to build a strong US Air Force career. Military service with many outstanding mentors honed my listening, verbal, and organizational skills. My spouse, Jeanne, makes me the luckiest person alive and acts as my sounding board on many issues both large and small. Living and serving in many parts of the world provided new experiences and a greater appreciation for the values we need to preserve here in southern Minnesota. Public service and service in private industry provided me with a deeper appreciation for both needed entities. Together, all these experiences helped prepare me to lead, negotiate, and work with all our elected officials and fellow public servants to serve our district. I understand that my role is to represent all of you as we must work together to build a stronger Minnesota for our future generations!

- 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?

Affordability and Fraud concern Minnesotans the most today. Please visit the MN Management and Budget website where you will discover a set of pie charts showing that Individual Income Taxpayers are responsible for 51.9% of the General Fund dollars and Sales Tax equal to 23.5%. These two line items represent 75.4% of the budget which equals $51B of the $67.047B biennial budget. Just the cost of these two tax categories impacts our lives and affordability significantly! Now think about the millions in Fraud we continue to discover. Imagine how we could have helped our fellow Minnesotans had the money not been stolen.

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

I characterize myself as the eternal optimist! Minnesota is a fantastic place to live, work, and raise a family. As someone who moved every three years or so during our military career, I experienced living in many places and none of them felt like home as much as southern Minnesota. Furthermore, we all recognize the "unity" in community, especially as we witnessed the devastating flood waters moving through New Richland recently. Neighbors were helping neighbors and everyone worked hard to prevent as much damage as possible. Now, rebuilding continues to occur, and we all want to pitch in! Let's Just Do It!

Alyssa Bowers, one of four candidates running for four seats on the Waseca School Board

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

Married to my husband, Michael, and together we have three daughters. Two are graduates of Waseca Public Schools, and our youngest is currently attending Waseca Public Schools.

- How long have you lived in the area?

I have lived in Waseca for the past 13 years.

- What is your occupation or profession?

For the past 8 years, I have worked as a Mortgage Loan Officer with Keen Bank.

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

I am an incumbent candidate, having served on the Waseca Public School Board for the past four years. During that time, I have served as the Board Clerk and am seeking election to my second term.

I am proud of the work our current board has accomplished – particularly in addressing the district's facility needs. We have focused on maintaining existing facilities responsibly while also planning for future improvements and long-term needs.

That same approach extends to our financial stewardship. We continue to make fiscally responsible decisions that support students while protecting taxpayers' investment in our schools.

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

My strengths as a school board member included strong communication skills, a willingness to listen and understand different perspectives, and an open-minded approach to decision making.

- 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?



Bowers

One of the most important issues our district faces is facility needs and communicating those needs to our community.

Additionally, we need to keep a close eye on finances and budget. School districts are increasingly challenged by state mandates and program requirements that are not always fully funded by the state. While these are well-intentioned, they can place pressure on local budgets.

Finally, we need to continue to focus on student achievement and testing scores. The district has recently implemented curriculum changes, and the early results are encouraging.

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

We have an effective school board whose members bring a diverse range of backgrounds, experiences and perspectives. This allows us to thoughtfully consider issues from multiple viewpoints and make well rounded decisions.

With four candidates running for four open school board seats, and three of those candidates being incumbents, the board will retain valuable experience and continuity. As we face important decisions in the years ahead, I am confident that we have a dedicated board committed to leadership, responsible stewardship, and the continued success of Waseca Public Schools.

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Waseca Treats on the Streets, October 22



















Pioneer photos by Ben Revermann

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The Pastor's Column

The beatitudes show us the way

By FR. GLENN FRERICHS
Sacred Heart Church

Christians around the world will be hearing some of the most memorable words from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount this weekend. The beatitudes are among the most often-quoted passages in the Bible.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me...." (Luke 5:1-10)

We can easily tend to think of the moral life as a series of "do not's." After all, scripture is filled with examples like the Ten Commandments and the negative Golden Rule, "do to no one what you yourself dislike" (Tobit 4:15). However, the moral life is not meant to focus only on the negative. To do that means the goal of life is to stay out of trouble. Rather, the beautiful teachings of the Beatitudes invite us to direct our attention to what we are to become. That is, they lead us into a life modeled after the life and teachings of Christ. It is in weakness that God's strength is demonstrated; it is in poverty of spirit that true wealth is found. As like begets like, it is in living a life of purity of heart that we shall have the ability to see God for who he truly is.

This is not a new concept. It is common knowledge that people who share a perspective can relate to and empathize with each other more easily. We see this among those who spend a lot of time together, share a career, or have endured a similar difficult experience. They often understand each other in ways that others do not.

Many years ago, I decided to take in a miniature Australian puppy. He was tricolor, very smart, and named Prince. As a puppy, Prince was undoubtedly 100% dog, doing the things dogs like to do: chew, bite, bark, and jump on legs to greet people. To stay indoors and be around people, Prince needed to learn habits and ways of being that were a little more refined than those typically found in the dog world. He needed to learn where he could sleep, what he could chew, how to greet people, and what he could eat, to name a few. One might say that Prince was partially humanized, in the sense of elevating his natural inclinations to meet human expectations, if he was going to stay in the home.

The Lord is rich in mercy, and He desires to draw each of us to Himself. We also know that living out the perfections of heaven is far beyond our abilities on this side of eternity. St. Clement of Alexandria once said, "The Word of God became man, that you may learn from man how man may become God." Grace enables the Christian to live out the beatitudes so that we might reflect God's nature, much as Prince was able to adopt human mannerisms and ways of interacting.

Perhaps this is what Gregory of Nazianzus meant when he said: "Let us become like Christ, since Christ became like us. Let us become gods for His sake, since He for ours became man" (Oration 1, Sec. 5).

■ Cancer

from Page 1

chest wall that there was a danger the muscle would be penetrated during surgery. Instead Angie was scheduled for six rounds of chemotherapy to be administered across 18 weeks. The objective was to shrink the tumor so that the surgery, when it occurred, would be safer.

"It was very scary," she says of the news the tumor's location made it more dangerous. She describes chemotherapy as being "awful." Her hair fell out, so she chose to wear wigs or hats. She would arrive on the appointed days around 7 a.m., and not be finished until about 2 p.m. The treatments left her feeling lightheaded and physically "heavy" for the next few days. Despite that, she says, she continued to go to work as much as possible. "It was easier for me if I stuck with my routine," she describes. "It helped me feel normal."

As she considered the approaching surgery, she reached the conclusion she would have a double mastectomy. "It was a difficult choice," she says. "But I didn't want there to be any chance I would have to go through this again."

After the surgery in August of 2024, she received infusions through March of 2025. Thankfully, she say, those did not make her feel ill, even though the procedures and the setting were the same as for chemo.

With those done, and the "no evidence of disease" test result, she says she is filled with gratitude for her everyday routine and for the people who supported and strengthened her during those difficult times. "My biggest supporter was my mom [Nelda Metz], who had had lung cancer," Angie remembers. Nelda died in March of 2025.

Other supporters are still all around her, including her husband Jason, her two children, her father John, and her co-workers at Deml Ford, and her friends. Her recollection of their support and help is part of the reason, she believes, she can be so positive. Another source of pleasure is her hair, now a few inches long.

When new pleasures come her way, she says she enjoys them in a way she hadn't before. "I see life differently," she reflects. "It's good to appreciate what we have, and not fret over details.

"Life goes on, and that's what matters."

Delphine Farley is a 16-year survivor of her cancer diagnosis. She says she was always consistent about a yearly mammogram, and had no idea anything was wrong when she scheduled her annual appointment.

When she received the news there was a suspicious lump in her breasts, and when further tests revealed it was cancerous, she was offered an array of options. The lump could be removed, followed by both chemotherapy and radiation. Or she could choose more aggressive surgery; each level would entail progressively less intense followup.

As she made her decision, Delphine explains the experiences of her sister-in-law, Renae Farley, were in her mind. Renae had previously been diagnosed with cancer, and had undergone both chemotherapy and radiation. She had described the discomforts of both, and even after receiving them, her health had continued to decline, eventually leading to her death.

"I didn't want any chance it would come back," says Delphine of her cancer, describing her feelings at the time. "So I had both breasts removed. I was 64 years old; I didn't need them for anything any more."

With that level of surgery, doctors said only one form of follow-up treatment would be needed, a medication which she took for five years.

She says she has never regretted her choice.

Being cancer free allowed her to enjoy 10 more years of her 55-year marriage to James, with whom she had operated the multi-generational Farley family farm near Janesville beginning in 1974. It allows her to continue to enjoy time with the four children they raised, Lisa, Brian, Amy and Dean, born between 1968 and 1979. It means she is still here to share the company of her 12 grandchildren, and to appreciate the births of her 8 great-grandchildren so far– one of them just this month.

At least in part, she credits her survival to that regular annual mammogram in 2010. "I just always knew I should schedule an appointment every year," she says. "I'm glad I did, and I suggest that every woman do the same."



Angie Bohannon was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2024, and now encourages her friends to always be sure and get their annual screening.
Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

IN BRIEF

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.

Halloween Super Bingo at VFW Saturday, Oct. 31

Sweet-Sommers VFW will hold a Halloween Super Bingo starting at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31. Cost $35 packets, $60 regular games, $200 special games and $750-$1250 blackouts. Wiste's Meat raffles and pull tab races also.

Lutefisk and meatball dinner at North Waseca Lutheran Church Nov. 1

North Waseca Lutheran Church is offering its yearly Lutefisk and Meatball dinner on Sunday, Nov. 1 at the church. The meal will be served in a sequence of settings at 1 p.m., 2:30 and 4 p.m. Tickets are $25 available in advance from many church members. For more information contact Roy Srp at 507-521-1185 or Greg Thompson at 612-619-3868.

Waseca Area Caregiver Services hosts Empowerment class Monday, Nov. 2

There will be an Empowerment of Mind and Body As We Age class at the Waseca Area Caregiver Services building from 2:15-3:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2. Led by chiropractor Dr. Jay Bulfer and massage therapist Linda Grant.

Veterans' Appreciation Brunch at First Lutheran Church of Waldorf Nov. 7

The First Lutheran Church of Waldorf will hold a Veteran's Appreciation Brunch at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7. For further info contact Susan Kipp-570-420-8973.

Driving Awareness

Gearing up to Break the Stigma of Mental Health & Getting Help

Minnesota Prairie County Alliance
Community Services of Dodge, Steele & Waseca Counties

TIME
November 14, 2026
9:30 AM- 3:30 PM

LOCATION
The Midway – Dodge County Fairgrounds
100 11th St. NE, Kasson, MN 55944

Keynote Speaker: Jason Lennox
"What would I do if this was a loved one?"

Ray Stenglein
QPR for Agriculture & Industry
"Making the tough conversations easier"

Meg Moynihan
Dept. of Agriculture
"No wrong door"

- Mindfulness activities during lunch/breaks
- Community Resource Fair

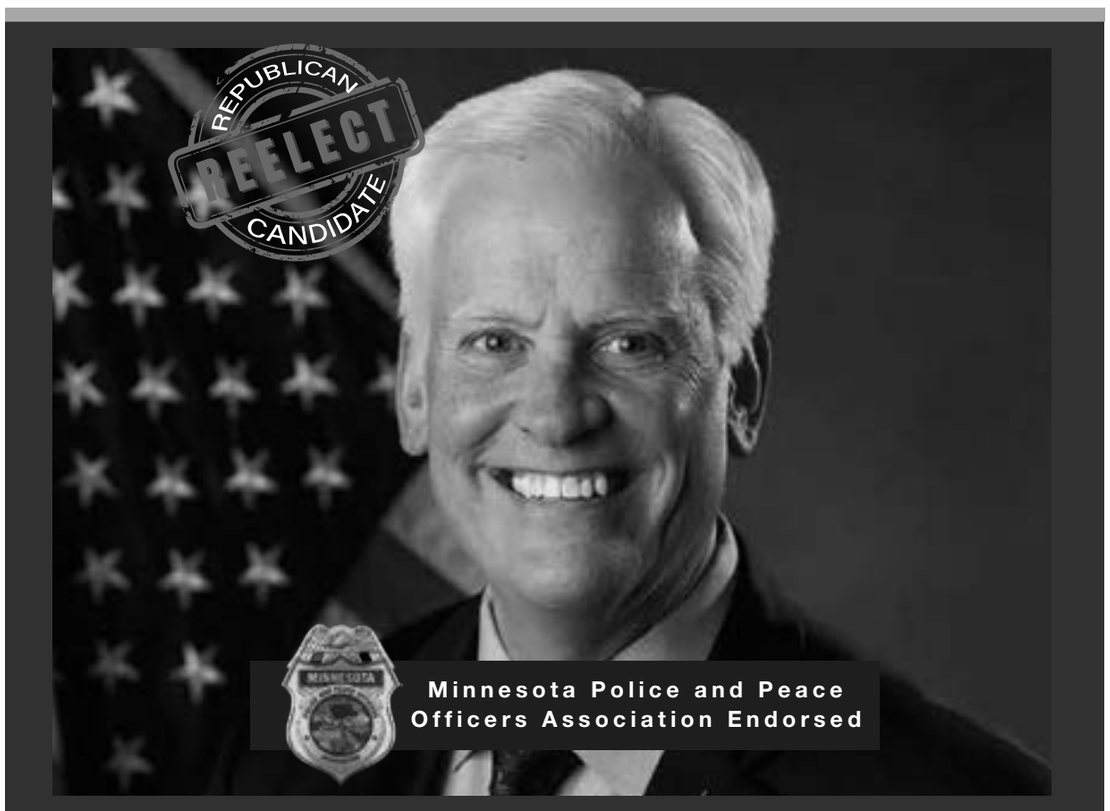
FREE Admission upon registration, lunch/snacks, beverages included

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- Strengthen the Rule of Law
- Defend and Support our Public Safety Professionals
- Stop Fraud
- Restore Election Integrity

Prepared and Paid for by the Campaign for Thomas J. Sexton

Janesville

25 years ago

- Amy Burhop and John Hanson of Janesville are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Carissa Ann Hanson, born September 18, 2001, at Waseca Medical Center. She weighed eight pounds, 12 ounces. Maternal grandparent is Linda Burhop of Janesville. Paternal grandparents are Marlowe Hanson of Mankato and Hilda Perez of Janesville. Great grandparent is Gloria Flitter of Janesville. Carissa is welcomed home by sisters, Ashley, who is seven and Brittany, who is three.



- Julie Eichorst of North Mankato and Paul Evans of North Mankato were united in marriage on April 21, 2001, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Greggory Coop was the officiating pastor at the 4 p.m. ceremony. Julie is the daughter of Janette Williamson of Waseca and Allen Eichorst of Waseca. Paul is the son of Beverly Evans Peterson and the late Robert Evans of Vernon Center. Maid of honor was Jodi Eichorst and Pam Pinske was bridesmaid. Bestman was Tim Stevenson and John Jagerson was groomsman. The ushers were Tom Stier and Terry Saar. A dinner and dance was held at the Morson-Ariao VFW in Mankato. The couple honeymooned in the Black Hills.

50 years ago

- Joel David Meyer, born Aug. 19 to Audrey and Charles Meyer, R. 2, Janesville was baptized at the Pemberton Independent Congregational Church Oct. 10 with Rev. Stephen Bringardner officiating. Sponsors were Mrs. Madline Griffin, Good Thunder and Mrs. Kathy Groll, Waseca. Dinner guest at the church basement were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Griffin and John, Grandma Griffin and Oscar Weigdt, all of Good Thunder; Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Petrowske, Wilmar; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Groll and family, Waseca; Mr. and Mrs. Burt Coy and family, Waldorf; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Schull and family, Wells and Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Burnett and family, St. Clair.

- Gene Oelke, Janesville Body Shop, Janesville, admits it took four days, but he didn't think that was bad at all. Oelke called quickly after selling his 1972 Nova. He remembered his could get a price break on advertising if he called immediately after the sale and cancelled the ad. Most of our customers take advantage of these special "breaks" and they profit with quick sales too. If you have something to sell, want to buy or need anything, why not call Pat or Julie (835-2220) at the Journal. They can help you word your ad for best results.

75 years ago

- The village last week hired a man to fill the position of policeman in Janesville, officials advised. The vacancy was created when Keith James resigned recently. The new man is Al Sorbo of Bricelyn, Minn. He is 25 years old and single, yet, Mr. Sorbo comes to Janesville with some experience, having been policeman at Amboy for six months. He assumed his duties here this week. Sully Walther, who is relief police officer in Janesville, has carried on the duties full time since the resignation of Mr. James.

- Mrs. Alice Mulcahey of Janesville, announces the engagement and approaching marriage of her daughter, Margaret Ann, to Gerald V.R. Miller, son of Mrs. Lillian Miller of Waseca. Miss Mulcahey is employed by Birds Eye in Waseca, and her fiance is with Mahler Hardware in Waseca. The wedding is planned for December 1 at 10:30 o'clock at St. Ann's Catholic church in Janesville.

100 years ago

- Don't get it into your head that you are better than anyone else. Perhaps the very person you try to snub has you beaten a thousand ways. -Dassel Dispatch.

- Good friends are kind. Useful friends tell you the truth. Sometimes a friend can be both good and useful. He can tell you the truth and yet do it in a way that is kind. He is a rare being. Trust him. Do not lose him.-Grove Patterson.

- Talk about your scare-head advertising-out in San Francisco a minister had a large sign paint and put over his church that read: "Don't wait for a hearse to bring you to church."-Montgomery Messenger.

Waseca

25 years ago

- Stacy and Greg Vilt of Waseca, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Ragan Jean, born September 30, 2001, at Immanuel St. Joseph's Hospital in Mankato. She weighed eight pounds, six and one quarter ounces and was 21-½ inches in length. Paternal grandparents are Darryl and Darla Vilt of Waseca. Maternal grandparents are Tom and Carol Barrick of Hutchinson. Ragan is welcomed home by her brother, Fletcher, who is two years old.



- Members of the Waseca High School junior and senior classes made a human knot with their ninth-grade classmates as part of a leadership in action event held last week. The event was meant to encourage students from different years to become better acquainted.



- Students from Waseca Central Intermediate School dropped off a bucket full of coins to be counted at Wells Fargo for donation to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. The students collected a total of $806.95. Presenting the donation to Caryn Wendt of the Waseca Red Cross were (from left) fifth grader Bridget Flintrop, fourth grader Rue Erickson and sixth grader Jenna Hines.

- To the Editor: The Waseca Fire Department, Police Department and the local chapter of American Red Cross deserve not only a huge "thank you," but additionally a "well don, ladies and gentleman," for their immediate response to a situation at my home Friday evening. Not only was their reaction timely, but also very professional and respectful. Thank you for your outstanding work. -Carol A. Wobschall Waseca

50 years ago

- Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Byron, Waseca announce the engagement of their daughter, Kaye to Jeffrey M. Monahan. A 1975 graduate of Waseca Senior High School, Kaye will graduate from Mankato State University, obtaining an Associate of Arts Degree, Legal Secretary. She is employed at Gardner Law Office, Janesville. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Monahan, Waseca Jeff is a 1971 graduate of Waseca Central High School and is self-employed in partnership with his family in Waseca. The couple will be wed Dec. 11 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Waseca.

- Navy Machinist's Mate Fireman Curtis W. Priem, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo D. Priem of 213 Vista Villa Waseca participated in exercise "Bonded Item" in the North Sea. Priem is serving aboard the dock landing ship USS Hermitage, homeported at Norfolk, Va. He was one of the 10,000 Navymen and 11,000 ground troops, from the U.S., Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany, who recently took part in the coordinated amphibious, land and air exercise. "Bonded Item" was conducted jointly by the commanders of the Atlantic striking Fleet and Allied Baltic Approaches Forces. It is one of a series of operations, conducted each fall from Norway to Turkey, designed to provide unified and coordinated training of national and NATO forces within the Allied Europe Command. A former student of Waseca High School, Priem joined the Navy in August 1974.



75 years ago

- The old furnace beneath the sheriff's office and jail was torn out Monday and a new modern type heating unit is being installed. The old furnace was a converted job, probably back to the coal days, was highly inefficient and was coming apart and by the looks of some of the old fire bricks.

- Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. McCarthy

100 years ago

- Bill Foster, Waseca's nationally :know racing dog fancier, left Monday evening via Chicago for New Orleans, La., where he will be presiding judge at the 100 day racing meet at the New Orleans Electric Track. This is the winter meet held by the New Orleans Kennel club and Bill., who was formerly president of the Dog Racers Association has been signally honored by this appointment. Last Friday, Bill. sent his Will-Ella-Step to the National Dog Races now being held at Junction City, Kansas. Following the completion of that meet, Will-Ella-Step will be sent to New Orleans to compete in the meet run by her owner.

- August Draheim, patrol man on Highway No. 13, thinks one of the meanest sneak thieves in this part of the state is the man who stole two lanterns he placed on loose gravel piles on the road last week. The lanterns were put out to warn motorists of the danger and thus prevent accidents. The lanterns owned by the highway department had been stolen and then Mr. Dreheim put out two of his own, and now they are gone. It is barely possible that the parties who took them did not realize the crime they were committing. If such is the case, they are asked to return the lanterns.

New Richland

25 years ago



- New owners of Verns Repair building on North Broadway in New Richland are Jared Prestegard (left) and Steve Skalicky. The new shop will be known as J & S Auto Center. Jared recently graduated from auto technology training in Chicago. At Owatonna, Steve has worked as an auto technician for the past few years.

- Lacey Lindeland, a Maple River High School sophomore, brought home the top ribbon this year in the Minnesota State Fair steer competition. The Lindeland name has been on many awards handed out at the State Fair steer competitions during the past four decades. This year Lacey brought home a championship ribbon for the first time. It is something that her father, uncles and three older siblings did not accomplish over the years in competition.

- Josh and Laura Witts of Pemberton are the parents of a daughter born Friday, September 28, 2001. Kaylee Christine, as she has been named, weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 ½ inches in length.

- The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva girls cross country team tied for the first place with Blooming Prairie at the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton invitational Thursday. Each team scored 28. A sixth runner tie breaker won the top spot for Panthers. April Bayerkohler ran a 18:18 to place second.

50 years ago

- Rich Westland, a 6'1" 200 lb. Sophomore from New Richland, plays offensive guard for the Concordia College varsity football team. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Westland of New Richland. Concordia Cobbers are entering their eighth season with head coach, Jim Christopherson. A member of the Minn. Inter-collegiate Athletic Conference, they finished out the last season with a 4-5 record.

- The New Richland-Hartland Cross Country Team will enter the Regional meet at the Eastwood Golf Course at Rochester, Thursday at 2:30 pm. Other teams in the area entered are Austin Pacelli and Kenyon.

- The New Richland-Hartland Girls Volleyball team won the Gopher Conference championship, Tuesday night, when they defeated Waterville-Elysian, 2-0. Their record is 12-0. Game scores were 18-2 and 18-9. The entire squad had an opportunity to play and played well, according to Coach Ann Goudy. Now they enter District Tourney play, Thursday, November 4, so it is important that they keep winning.

- Daniel Chase Branstner, who was born June 15 arrived from Korea, October 8 to be with his mom and dad. Dennis and Kathy Branstner. He weighs 10 pounds, 8 ounces and is already gaining weight.

75 years ago

- It's official now. An Albert Lean, Orville J. Johntson, has been confirmed as editor of "The Watch on the Rhine," an official publication of the Society of the Third Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. As editor of the official publication, Johnston will be a member of the executive committee of the society.

School board looks at child care, trimester changes

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

October is National Principals' Month, recognizing the important role school leaders play in supporting students, staff and school communities.

At its Oct. 22 meeting, the Waseca School Board received updates from Superintendent Eric Hudspith on the district's developing childcare plan and the possibility of transitioning from semesters to trimesters.

Hudspith reported that all building inspections related to the childcare plan have been completed. Registration information is expected to be released within the next week.

The superintendent also provided a second update on the potential transition from trimesters to semesters. At the high school level, district staff are working with the high school team to explore course adaptations and transition plans to ensure students can meet credit requirements. At the elementary level, a calendar focus group is examining what a transition from the current semester structure might look like. Hudspith said additional information will be presented to the board in December.

Business Manager Andrew Adams reported that fall enrollment is in line with projections, a positive development from a budget standpoint.

Board Chair Dave Dunn recognized an anonymous donation that funded the installation of lights at the high school tennis courts earlier this month.

Other board action included approval of fall teacher lane changes and a revised employee handbook.

The board's next work session is scheduled for Nov. 5 at the high school. The session will not be livestreamed.

A special meeting will take place Nov. 12 to allow the board to canvass election results, as required by Minnesota law; the regular business meeting is Nov. 19.











RUNNING HARD— At left, Bluejay quarterback Kellen Klinger dives for extra yards during Waseca's regular-season-ending victory at New Ulm last Wednesday. At right, Sam Selthun (23) runs the ball as Trey Jensen (76) looks for someone to block.
Photos by Jim Lutgens

Bluejays nullify New Ulm, end regular season

Bluejays seeded second in Section 3AAA tourney

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The Waseca High School football team is becoming more predictable every week.

It seems all the Bluejays do is win.

The most recent victory was Wednesday, Oct. 21 in the regular-season finale at New Ulm, where the Bluejays prevailed 35-14 to improve their record to 7-1. They've been rated No. 6 among the state's Class AAA teams.

"I think we're making some progress in every phase of the game," said Bluejays head coach Brad Wendland. "I think we're being more aggressive and confident in playing faster."

It was noted that while the Bluejays have some definite stars, it seems like every game someone else steps up to make a big play.

"That's what we've hoped," said Wendland. "A part of any team, especially at this time of the year, is how well you can play together. That's what we hope for and that's what we preach. At this time of the season, it's important how examples are set. The goal is to play clean football and not do things that set our team back. We take pride in that and we hope it can continue."

The Bluejays asserted themselves on the opening possession, going 65 yards in nine plays, the last of which was a 12-yard touchdown run by Sam Selthun, who along with quarterback Kellen Klinger carried for eight plays in the drive. Owen Rupe kicked the PAT.

After the Bluejays stopped the Eagles three-and-out, they quickly moved back into New Ulm territory behind a 32-yard run by Selthun and carries from Klinger and Isaiah Dymeck, making folks wonder how badly the Bluejays would blow out the Eagles. But the Bluejays fumbled inside New Ulm's one-yard line.

The Eagles then made a statement that they would not just roll over - at least not in the first half, anyway. They methodically moved the ball inside Bluejay territory before coming up just short on fourth-and-11, the Bluejays' Jonah Worke making a first-down-saving shoestring tackle.

The Bluejays, again starting in excellent field position, took it to a touchdown in nine plays, the score coming with Klinger finding a wide-open Rupe in the end zone. His kick made it 14-0 with about five minutes left in the second quarter.

The Eagles, starting on their own 24, converted one fourth down and almost another, but Jaxton Rohl ended the threat with an interception on a fake punt play.

After Rohl returned his interception to the New Ulm 30, the Bluejays quickly found themselves in the red zone, threatening to widen their lead. That scoring drive came to a halt when the Eagles intercepted a pass in the end zone. The first half ended 14-0 Waseca.

Again, the Bluejays quickly set the tone in the third quarter, stopping the Eagles three-and-out and promptly moving into New Ulm territory, gaining five or more yards on every play but one, Selthun and Klinger leading the way on a drive that consumed about six minutes off the game clock. Klinger covered the final five yards and Rupe tacked on the PAT.

The Eagles, though remained pesky, mixing run and pass while taking it from their own 34 to Waseca's 32 before a fourth-down play resulted in a sack.

Then, in the blink of an eye, the Bluejays exploded, with Selthun racing 54 yards for a touchdown on the next play. Rupe kicked the PAT and the third quarter ended 28-0.

The Eagles - aided by a 15-yard, third-down roughing-the-passer penalty called on the Bluejays - finally found the end zone with 10:34 to play, cutting the deficit to 28-7 with a 10-play, 64-yard possession.

The Bluejays responded, with Dymeck carrying the bulk of the load before Klinger punched it in from a yard out, Rupe adding the PAT. Only one carry in that drive, which covered 54 yards, was less than seven yards, and that was Klinger's touchdown.

Selthun finished with 182 yards rushing on 15 carries, Klinger 109 on 15 attempts.

The Bluejays, 7-1, got the No. 2 seed in Section 3AAA behind 7-1 Tri-City United. The Bluejays hosted No. 6 seed Albert Lea Tuesday, Oct. 27, with the winner to play Oct. 31 at the high seed. The section championship game is Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. at New Ulm High School.



HONING IN — The Bluejays' Jaxton Rohl (12) hones in on a New Ulm ball carrier during last week's victory for Waseca.
Photo by Jim Lutgens

Waseca 35, New Ulm 7

WAS	7	7	14	7	35
NU	0	0	0	7	7

First Quarter
WAS - Selthun 12 run (Rupe kick)

Second Quarter
WAS - Rupe 18 pass from Klinger (Rupe kick)

Third Quarter
WAS - Klinger 5 run (Rupe kick)
WAS - Selthun 54 run (Rupe kick)

Fourth Quarter
NU - Hall 28 run (Stueber kick)
WAS - Klinger 1 run (Rupe kick)

	NU	WAS
First downs	14	17
Rushing Yards	187	342
Passing Yards	56	18
Total Yds.	243	360
Penalties-Yards	1-15	2-25

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing – WAS: Selthun 15-182; Klinger 15-109; Dymeck 7-587; Ristau 2 —7; NU: Heil 14-115; Arndt 5-47; Kral 6-33; Ranweiler 4-7; Powers 1-2; Drill 8 —1; Gag 1 —2; Mertz 1 —14

Passing — WAS: Klinger 1-4, 18; NU: Drill 6-15, 56; Powers 0-1, 0

Receiving — WAS: Rupe 1-18; NU: Broste 4-32; Castleman 2-24

WAS Defense – Rahe 2T; Worke 2T; Stencel 5T; McKenna 5T, 1S; Kath 9T; O'Brien 4T, 1S; Rohl 6T, 1 int.; Powell 2T; Wilson 1T; Glynn 7T; Jeske 4T; Thompson 2T; Knutson 5T; Nelson 4T; Madsen 1T; Petersen 1T; Janike 4T

Minnesota Class AAA Football Ratings Through 8 Weeks By Maxpreps.com

1. Pierz	8-0
2. Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	8-0
3. Annandale	8-0
4. Waseca	7-1
5. Perham	7-1
6. Luverne	7-1
7. Pequot Lakes	6-2
8. SCLNAUMLWA	8-0
9. Albany	6-2
10. Holy Family Catholic	7-1

Markeson earns all-conference at Big South Championships

Feldkamp honorable mention for Waseca boys

The Waseca High School cross country teams competed at the Big South Conference Championships at the Jackson Golf Course last week, highlighted by a pair of conference honors for the Bluejays. Senior Taylor Markeson earned All-Conference honors for the Waseca girls, while Samuel Feldkamp earned All-Conference Honorable Mention for the Waseca boys.

"It was probably the most challenging course most of our athletes have run, with very little level ground and some steep hills," said WHS head coach Grant Popp.

The Waseca girls finished fifth in the Big South Conference Large School Division with 111 points.

Markeson led the Bluejays with a 9th-place finish, completing the course in 21:16.18. Her top-10 performance earned her Big South All-Conference honors.

Junior Maren Schimming was Waseca's second finisher, placing 23rd in 22:11.26, while freshman Ellie Kopischke followed in 27th with a time of 22:59.99.

Junior Ava VanDenHemel and sophomore Quinn Yoder crossed the finish line less than a second apart. VanDenHemel placed 32nd in 23:29.97, while Yoder finished 33rd in 23:30.88. Freshman Leah Wilson rounded out the Bluejay lineup, placing 40th in 24:43.12.

Waseca Girls Results

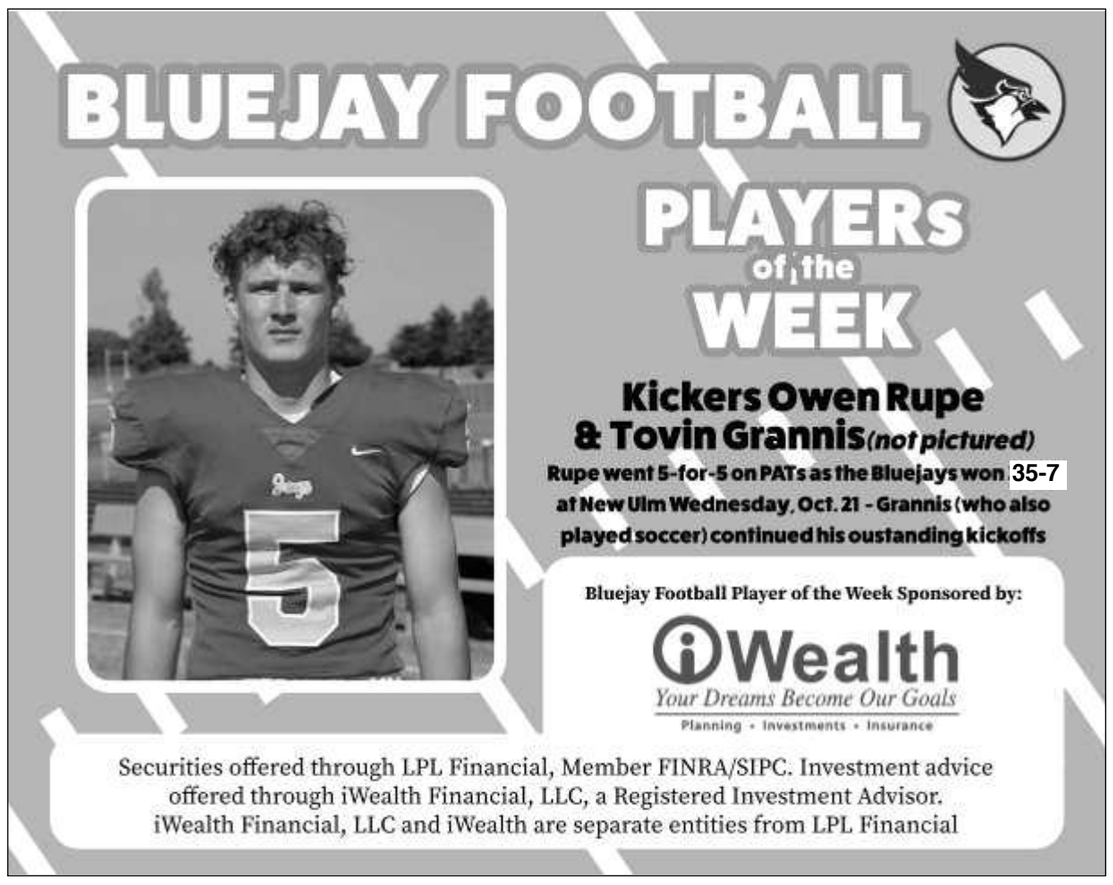
- 9th – Taylor Markeson: 21:16.18 — All-Conference
- 23rd – Maren Schimming: 22:11.26
- 27th – Ellie Kopischke: 22:59.99
- 32nd – Ava VanDenHemel: 23:29.97
- 33rd – Quinn Yoder: 23:30.88
- 40th – Leah Wilson: 24:43.12

Girls Large School Standings

1 Marshall – 28 points
2 St. Peter – 51 points
3 Belle Plaine – 57 points
4 Fairmont – 108 points
5 Waseca – 111 points
6 Worthington – 171 points

The Waseca boys finished seventh in the Big South Conference Large School Division with 146 points, just one point behind sixth-place Worthington.

CC continued on 9





OFF TO THE RACES — JWP's Jaxon Wolff outraces Maple River defenders on his way to a game-opening kickoff return for a touchdown at Janesville last Tuesday. Photo by Jim Lutgens

Bulldogs drop shootout to Maple River

Jaxon Wolff returned two kickoffs for touchdowns, Gavin Bauer returned a fumble 97 yards for a score, and the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School football team converted a fourth-and-11 play for a touchdown.

On this night, it wasn't enough.

The Bulldogs dropped a shootout to visiting Maple River last Tuesday, fallling 48-42.

It was up and down the field all night after Wolff scooped up the opening kickoff and race 96 yards for a score.

Maple River's 506 total yards were just too much to overcome.

The Bulldogs also played with their starting quarterback, Seth Dahlberg, in a sling with an injury expected to take four to six weeks to recover from.

Tyson Kronbach filled in admirable at quarterback, going 13-for-21 for 166 yards and rushing 12 times for 58 yards.

Wolff finished with six catches for 122 yards.

Bauer and James Schoenrock led the JWP defense with 13 and 12 tackles, respectively. Parker Gearity was in on 11 tackles.

The Bulldogs received the No. 5 seed in Section 2AA and opened the tournament Tuesday, Oct. 27 at No. 4 St. Clair/Mankato Loyola. The winner of that game plays Saturday, Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. at the higher-seeded team, and the section title game is Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. at JWP High School.

Maple River 48, JWP 42

MR -	14	0	14	20 - 48
JWP -	14	6	8	14 - 42

First Quarter

JWP - Wolff 96 kickoff return (Peterson kick)

MR - Orduna 11 run (Forestal-Bartell fumble recovery in end zone)

JWP - Wolff 35 pass from Kronbach (Peterson kick)

MR - Orduna 2 run (two-point conversion failed)

Second Quarter

JWP - Bauer 97 fumble return (kick blocked)

Third Quarter

MR - Orduna 3 run (Orduna run)

JWP - Wolff 78 kickoff return (Kronbach run)

MR - Orduna 3 run (Orduna run)

Fourth Quarter

JWP - Gearity 12 pass from Kronbach (Gearity run)

MR - Harris 4 run (Harris run)

MR - Harris 43 run (Harris run)

JWP - Bauer 18 pass from Kronbach (kick failed)

MR - Caven 62 pass from Braaten (run failed)

	MR	JWP
Plays	69	46
First downs	31	15
Rushing	430	61
Passing	4-9	14-22
Passing Yards	76	189
Passing TDs, int.	1-0	3-1
Total Yds.	506	250
Third down	7-10	2-7
Fourth down	1-2	2-3
Fumbles lost	1	1
Penalties	4-11	3-35

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING — JWP: Kronbach 12-58; Bauer 1-4; Sturdivant 8 —1; MR: Orduna 38-272; Harris 9-101; Braaten 11-65; Gartner 1-4

PASSING — JWP: Kronbach 13-21, 166; Bauer 1-1, 29; MR: Braaten 4-9, 82

RECEVING — JWP: Wolff 6-122; Bauer 7-40; Sturdivant 3-21; Geariety 2-12; MR: Caven 4-62; Stevens 2-15; Orduna 2-5

JWP Defense: Wolff 2T; Bauer 13T; Weedman 8T; Simonson 1T; Geariety 11T; Schultz 8T; Bure 5T; Trubenbach 1T; Rider 8T; Huber 2T; Schoenrock 12T; Anderson 5T; Johnson 10T; Neegard 1T; Wheelock 2T



ON TO STATE — Waseca's Ava Miller, left, and Hannah Rugger combined at doubles to advance to the Minnesota state girls' tennis tournament.

Rugger, Miller advance to state

Singles players combine for doubles in Section 1A tourney

A season spent competing individually will end on Minnesota high school tennis's biggest stage — together.

Waseca High School's Ava Miller and Hannah Rugger are headed to state after an impressive run through the Section 1A Girls' Tennis Individual Tournament, earning a spot in the 2026 MSHSL Class A Girls Tennis Individual Championships.

For most of the 2026 season, Miller and Rugger were fixtures near the top of the Bluejays' singles lineup. Rugger battled her way to a 13-11 record at No. 1 singles, while Miller turned in an outstanding 18-6 record at No. 2 singles.

When the postseason arrived, the two Bluejays joined forces as doubles partners — and the combination quickly proved to be a winning one.

Entering the Section 1A Individual Tournament as the No. 3 seed, Miller and Rugger opened postseason play with a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Malena Mandelkow and Miranda Mandelkow of Cannon Falls.

They were even more dominant in the quarterfinals, sweeping Marie Noser and Ali Welch of Rochester Lourdes 6-0, 6-0 to advance to the section semifinals.

Miller and Rugger returned to the Rochester Athletic Club Oct. 19 with a trip to the state tournament on the line. Facing Stella Brewer and Adela Koliskova of Cotter, the Waseca duo delivered when it mattered most, earning a 6-3, 6-2 semifinal victory and officially punching their ticket to State.

In the Section 1A championship match, Miller and Rugger faced the formidable Lake City duo of Therese Bauer and Rylee Thieren. Bauer and Thieren captured their third consecutive Section 1A doubles championship with a 6-2, 6-3 victory, giving Miller and Rugger the Section 1A runner-up finish.

> "This is a very nice accomplishment for them."
> — Bluejays coach Kyle Collins

"We are very happy for Ava and Hannah to get back to the Class A Individual tournament," said WHS head coach Kyle Collins. "It has been quite a few years since we had a doubles entrant in the state tournament. It will be fun for Ava and Hannah to get back to the tourney, as they were a part of our 2024 team that went to state. Both players proved they can also play doubles. This is a very nice accomplishment for them."

Now, Miller and Rugger will take their postseason partnership to Minneapolis and represent Waseca High School on the state stage.

The 2026 MSHSL Class A Girls Tennis Individual Championships will be held at InnerCity Tennis, 4005 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55409.

From competing individually throughout the regular season to becoming one of the top doubles teams in Section 1A, Miller and Rugger have made the most of their opportunity together. Their postseason run will now continue against the best Class A doubles teams in Minnesota.

Spikers fall to NRHEG

Jays seeded 16th in section

The Waseca High School volleyball team concluded the regular season with a nonconference match against NRHEG at New Richland Monday, Oct. 19.

The night started great for the Bluejays, who defeated the Panthers 27-25 in set one, but they wound up on the wrong end of a 3-1 decision, dropping the final three games 25-12, 25-13 and 25-11.

"We started out really good, especially since a few players were doing different and multiple roles on the court," said Bluejays head coach Krissy Plonske. "Then we just lost our spark and were trying to get it back. We would for a few points, but then we just got too far behind to catch up."

Kaia Sartori had a great all-around night, totaling 16 for the match. She also registered nine kills, six assists and two ace serves.

Madalynn Root was the Bluejays' leader in digs with 23. Hannah Helget had 13.



PASS IT ON — The Bluejays' Savanna Vagts passes the volleyball during their nonconference match at NRHEG last Monday. Photo by Jim Lutgens

Savanna Vagts finished with seven digs, six assists and five kills.

The Bluejays received the No. 16 seed in the Section 2AA tournament, which they began Monday, Oct. 26 by facing 17th-seeded Medford at Southwest Minnesota Christian. The winner got to face top-seeded Southwest Christian later that night.

■ CC

from Page 8

Feldkamp led the Bluejays with an 11th-place finish, crossing the line in 18:26.00. His performance earned him Big South Conference All-Conference Honorable Mention honors.

Keenan Collins was Waseca's second finisher, placing 23rd in 19:38.00, followed by Luke Feldkamp, who finished 35th in 20:03.00.

Ryan Yoder placed 44th with a time of 21:33.82. Miles Popp followed in 46th at 21:38.90, and Korbin Collins rounded out the Waseca lineup in 47th with a time of 21:49.31.

Waseca Boys Results

- 11th – Samuel Feldkamp: 18:26.00
- 23rd – Keenan Collins: 19:38.00
- 35th – Luke Feldkamp: 20:03.00
- 44th – Ryan Yoder: 21:33.82
- 46th – Miles Popp: 21:38.90
- 47th – Korbin Collins: 21:49.31

Boys Large School Standings

1 Marshall – 40 points
2 Belle Plaine – 77 points
3 St. Peter – 77 points
4 Fairmont – 85 points
5 Tri-City United – 136 points
6 Worthington – 145 points
7 Waseca – 146 points

Waseca will compete at the Section 1AA Championships on Thursday, Oct. 29, in Faribault.

Registration open for winter sports

Winter sports registration is now open for the 2026–27 season at Waseca Junior Senior High School. Students planning to participate in a winter sport are encouraged to register early and complete all requirements before the start of their season.

Winter athletic opportunities include boys' basketball, girls' basketball, boys' hockey, girls' hockey, gymnastics, wrestling, and winter sideline cheer.

Registration Requirements

Registration is completed online through Bound. To participate on the first day of practice, all registration requirements must be completed and submitted by 12 noon on the Thursday before the official MSHSL start date for that sport.

Registration requirements include:

- Required Waseca Public Schools and MSHSL forms
- A current MSHSL Sports Qualifying Physical
- Athletic participation fee

Athletic participation fees may be paid online through Bound or submitted by cash or check in the Waseca Junior Senior High School Main Office.

Student-athletes must be fully registered and cleared before they may participate in practices or other team activities. Families are strongly encouraged to complete registration early so there is adequate time to address any outstanding requirements before the season begins.

Cooperative Sports

Waseca is the host school for cooperative agreements in boys' hockey, girls' hockey, and gymnastics. These programs bring together student-athletes from Waseca and participating partner schools.

Students who attend one of Waseca's partner schools should complete their registration through their home school's Bound registration portal. Once registered and cleared through their home school, students will be included as part of the appropriate Waseca-hosted cooperative program.

Register Today

Don't wait until the first day of practice. Completing registration early helps ensure student-athletes are cleared and ready to participate when their season begins.

For complete registration information, requirements, and access to winter sports registration, visit: www.gobound.com/mn/schools/waseca.

Families who need assistance with the Bound registration process can use the green "B" support icon on the registration page to connect directly with Bound's live support team.

For questions regarding athletic eligibility, registration requirements, or Waseca Athletics, please contact the Waseca Junior Senior High School Activities Office.

Panthers upend USC 40-8 to wrap up regular season

NRHEG draws No. 3 seed in Section 1A tournament

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva head football coach Devin Lockerby was not impressed with the first half of last Wednesday's regular-season finale at United South Central.

But he had no problem with the way it finished.

The Panthers, up 10-8 at halftime, put up 30 unanswered points in the second half and rolled to a 40-8 victory.

"It was not a great start to the game," said Lockerby. "But we came out in the second half and played to our standard. Now it is playoff time and just trying to get one more game each week for the seniors and this team. I'm excited for the week of work ahead."

The Panthers put up the lone points in the first quarter, on a 34-yard touchdown run by Sean Lassahn and a safety, with the Rebels answering in the second quarter.

Brock Holland threw a rare pass for a 27-yard touchdown in the third quarter, and Lassahn added two scores before A.J. Deen hauled in a 19-yard scoring pass from Brooks Gilliland.

Lassahn, a senior, surpassed the 200-yard mark for the second straight game, rushing 26 times for 232 yards. Gilliland was 9-for-17 passing for 131 yards.

Ryan Schlaak led the defense, getting in on 15 tackles.

The Panthers, 5-3, drew the No. 3 seed in Section 1A. After first-round bye, the Panthers played Tuesday, Oct. 27 at Fillmore Central, with the section championship Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School.

NRHEG 40, United South Central 8

NRHEG	10	0	14	16 — 40
USC	0	8	0	0 — 8

First Quarter

NRHEG — Lassahn 34 run (two-point conversion successful)

NRHEG — Safety

Second Quarter

USC – 35 Run (Peterson run)

Third Quarter

NRHEG — 27 pass from Brock Holland (two-point conversion failed

NRHEG — Lassahn 6 run (Lassahn run)

Fourth Quarter

NRHEG — Lassahn 54 pass from B.Gilliland (Lassahn run)

NRHEG — Deen 19 pass from B.Gilliland (Lassahn run)

	NRHEG	USC
Plays	50	58
First downs	16	11
Rushing	246	191
Passing Yards	158	6



AWAITING THE CALL — NRHEG football captains Brooks Gilliland (4), Ryan Schlaak (2), Sean Lassahn (6) and Fynn Bauman (45) await the results of the opening coin flip prior to the USC game last Wednesday.

Total Yds.	404	197
Third down	2-8	3-10
Fourth down	3-5	0-2
Turnovers	2	1
Fumbles lost	1	0
Penalties	4-28	9-65

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING — NRHEG: Lassahn 26-232; Quade 1-10; B.Gilliland 2-4; USC: Peterson 7-64; Grems 1-17; Rest of team 35-110

PASSING — NRHEG: B.Gilliland 9-17, 131; Holland 1-1, 27; USC: 2-6, 6

RECEVING — NRHEG: Deen 2-21; Holland 1-9; Lassahn 1-6; Rest of team 6-122; LA: Team 2-6

NRHEG Defense — R.Schlaak 15T; Lassahn 8T; W.Hendrickson 3T; Baumann 6T; Bartlett 3T; D.Schlaak 2T; E.Hendrickson 2T; Piepho 2T; Seedorf 1T; Schroht 4T; Hanna 1T; Holland 2T; Rest of team 11T, 1 safety, 1 interception

Jewison takes 1st, Wobbrock second in conference CC

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School cross country teams competed in Medford for the Gopher Conference Championships on Tuesday, Oct. 20.

Julieann Wobbrock continued to pace the Panther girls, taking second in the 5,000-meter race with a time of 20:22. It earned her first team all-conference honors.

Violette Botten received all-conference honorable mention for her 18th-place finish in 27:16. Rylie Cromwell finished 25th in 31:45.

Blooming Prairie won the girls' team title. No other schools had enough entries for a five-runner team score.

The Panthers' Kasey Jewison won the boys' race, earning Runner of the Year honors while touring the course in 18:04.

Following for the NRHEG boys were Colton Lermon, 26th, 21:40; Devlin McWilliams, 32nd, 23:10; Jordy Klocek, 41st, 26:11; and Jacob Klaras, 47th, 32:17.

Blooming Prairie captured the boys' team championship with 48 points, followed by JWP/WEM with 53, United South Central 80, Randolph 112, Medford 112 and NRHEG 127. "Julieann made a valiant attempt at defending her conference title, coming up short by seven seconds to a very talented Hayfield runner, Hadley Doman," said NRHEG head coach Larry Nydegger. "Violette had a very strong run, earning honorable mention in the process."

Jewison took command of his race after the first mile and gave a convincing performance, crossing the line more than 40 seconds ahead of last year's champion from JWP/WEM, Wyatt Jans.

> "What a wonderful way to wrap up the regular season!"
> — Coach Nydegger

"What a wonderful wrap up to the regular season!" said Nydegger. "The boys' team finally had the numbers to score as a team! Jordy and Jacob stepped up to the challenge of running varsity in their first conference meet."

The Panthers competed in USC's No Frills meet Tuesday, Oct. 13, along with Medford and JWP/WEM.

On the boys' side, NRHEG had its first meet of the season competing as a full-scoring team, with Klocek and Klaras competing on the varsity squad for the first time, bringing the team up to the five runners needed to score.

Jewison finished 2nd (17:54), Lermon 14th(20:41), McWilliams 20th(22:16), Klocek 26th(32:54) and Klaras 27th(34:58).

For the girls Wobbrock took first place (20:39), Botten seventh (25:41) Cromwell 10th (28:05)

"This was a very relaxing meet," said Coach Nydegger. "Nice weather made for good running conditions. I was very happy to see Jordy and Jacob make their debut on the varsity team!"

The runners travel to Norwood-Young America on October 29 to participate in the Section 2A meet for a chance to advance to the state meet.



CROSS COUNTRY — The 2026 NRHEG cross country teams. From left: Coach Larry Nydegger, Violette Botten, Rylie Cromwell, Julieann Wobbrock, Devlin McWilliams, Colton Lermon, Jacob Klaras, Kasey Jewison, Jordy Klocek and Marvin Tolzman.





TOP FINISHERS — Julieann Wobbrock, left, and Kasey Jewison, right, paced the Panthers in last week's Gopher Conference meet at Medford. Wobbrock finished second, Jewison first.



DIGGING IT — NRHEG's Aubrey Hendrickson goes low for a dig during the Panthers' 3-1 victory over Waseca last Monday. Photo by Jim Lutgens

NRHEG spikers top Kingsland 3-0 in Section 1A tournament

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School volleyball team, seeded 15th in Section 1A, was victorious in the section play-in match last Thursday, defeating 17th-seeded Kingsland 3-0 in New Richland.

The final tally in favor of the Panthers was 25-18, 25-18 and 25-22.

Anika Ladlie led the offense with 18 kills, and junior setter Brooklyn Sommer registered a season-high 30 set assists.

Full NRHEG statistics: Ezra Boerner two kills, one dig, one assist, two blocks; Izley Boerner six digs, two ace serves; Clara Buendorf one kill, one block; Sierra Fish one dig, one block; Aubrey Hendrickson nine digs, one set assist; Jovey Knudson three kills, one dig, one block, one ace; Ladlie 18 kills, six digs, one assist, three blocks, one ace; Sommer six digs, 30 set assists, two blocks, one ace; Emmy Stadheim 10 kills, two digs, two aces; Ciara Stenzel five digs.

In the final match of the regular season the Panthers hosted a tough Triton crew last Tuesday and fell 3-0 in New Richland, with set scores of 25-18, 25-20, 25-8.

Hendrickson led the NRHEG defense with 14 digs while Knudson and Ladlie led the Panthers offensively.

Individually for NRHEG: Ezra Boerner two kills, two digs; Izley Boerner eight digs; Buendorf one kill, one block; Gia Cazares one kill; Hendrickson 14 kills, one set assist; Knudson three kills, three blocks; Ladlie five kills, three digs, two blocks; Sommer three digs, 10 set assists, two blocks; Stadheim one kill, one ace; Stenzel two digs.

The Panthers picked up a win Monday, Oct. 19, defeating nonconference foe Waseca 3-1 in New Richland. After dropping the first set 27-25, the Panthers went on to win 25-12, 25-13 and 25-11.

The Panthers racked up 11 aces on the night while Ladlie led the offense with 10 kills.

Full statistics for NRHEG; Ezra Boerner six kills, four digs, one block, one ace; Izley Boerner three digs, one ace; Buendorf two kills, one dig, one ace; Cazares one dig; Fish two kills, Hendrickson 10 digs, one set assist, three aces; Knudson three kills, one dig, two blocks; Ladlie 10 kills, four digs, two blocks, one ace; Sommer three digs, 22 set assists, two aces; Stadheim two kills, three digs, two aces; Stenzel two digs.

The section victory advanced the Panthers to face No. 2 seed Kenyon-Wanamingo Monday, Oct. 26. Their next loss ends their season.

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 Minnesota 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 dtanabe@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

CITY OF WASECA
REQUEST FOR QUOTES
CITY OF WASECA AIRPORT AGRICULTURAL FARMLAND LEASE
CITY OF WASECA AIRPORT HAY LAND LEASE
CROP YEARS 2027-2030

There are approximately 196.8 agricultural tillable acres and approximately 34.2 acres of hay land located at the City Airport, available under varying circumstances, for a four (4) year lease. The quote packet contains a field map with acreages (Attachment A).

Sealed quotes will be received by the Utilities Office at Waseca City Hall and publicly opened at City Hall by the City of Waseca, Minnesota, at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, for leasing all fields.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the leases, specifications, and quote forms, please contact the Utilities Office at City Hall at 835-9718. Those persons with questions may contact Tim Roessler Deputy Public Works Director, by emailing, TimR@ci.waseca.mn.us.

Acreages of the Airport Farm have received nitrogen application from municipal biosolids and micro-nutrients at varying levels.

The quote forms must be marked in a sealed envelope as **CITY OF WASECA AIRPORT LAND LEASE** and returned to the Utilities Office at City Hall no later than **10:00 a.m. (Central Standard Time) on Tuesday, November 10, 2026; at which time all quotes will be publicly opened and read aloud.**

The City of Waseca reserves the right to award quotes and to reject any or all quotes in the best interests of the City, and to waive any minor irregularities, informalities, or discrepancies.

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

City of Waldorf

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS

November 3, 2026

Polls open: 7:00am-8:00pm

Voting Location: Waldorf Community Center

109 Main Street, Waldorf MN

Mayor and Two Council Positions to be Voted on

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: *hradmin@brutgerequities.com*

BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC.

Johnson
APARTMENTS
507-456-9514
Operating in Waseca, Steele, Freeborn Counties
johnsonrents.com

SUMMIT ON SECOND APARTMENTS
FOR RENTAL INFO CALL 507-201-3474

***We are accepting applications for*:**

1 bedroom apartments
Income guidelines apply
Vouchers accepted

2 bedroom & 3 bedroom
Rent based on income

Professionally managed by:
BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC.

Wilton Township

Notice of General Election

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Polls Open:

7 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Voting Location:

Wilton Town Hall

9499 Wilton Bridge Rd, Waseca, MN

Derrick Sommers, Township Clerk

SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642 November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	4 6PM BAR BINGO	5 7pm HALL BINGO	6 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	7
8 Breakfast 8-12 Your Host Girls Soccer team	9 **7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting**	10 Marine Corps Birthday	11 VETERANS DAY 6PM BAR BINGO	12 7pm HALL BINGO	13 MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	14
15	16	17 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	18 6PM BAR BINGO	19 7pm HALL BINGO	20 Walleye or Shrimp Dinner 5:30 – 7 pm your host VFW AUX	21 TURKEY BINGO— SLOPPY JOE'S AND CHIPS FROM 5-7 PM
22	23	24 BURGER NIGHT 5 TO 7	25 6PM BAR BINGO	26 7pm HALL BINGO	27 MEAT Raffle 5:30pm Horse racing 6:30 pm	28
29	30					

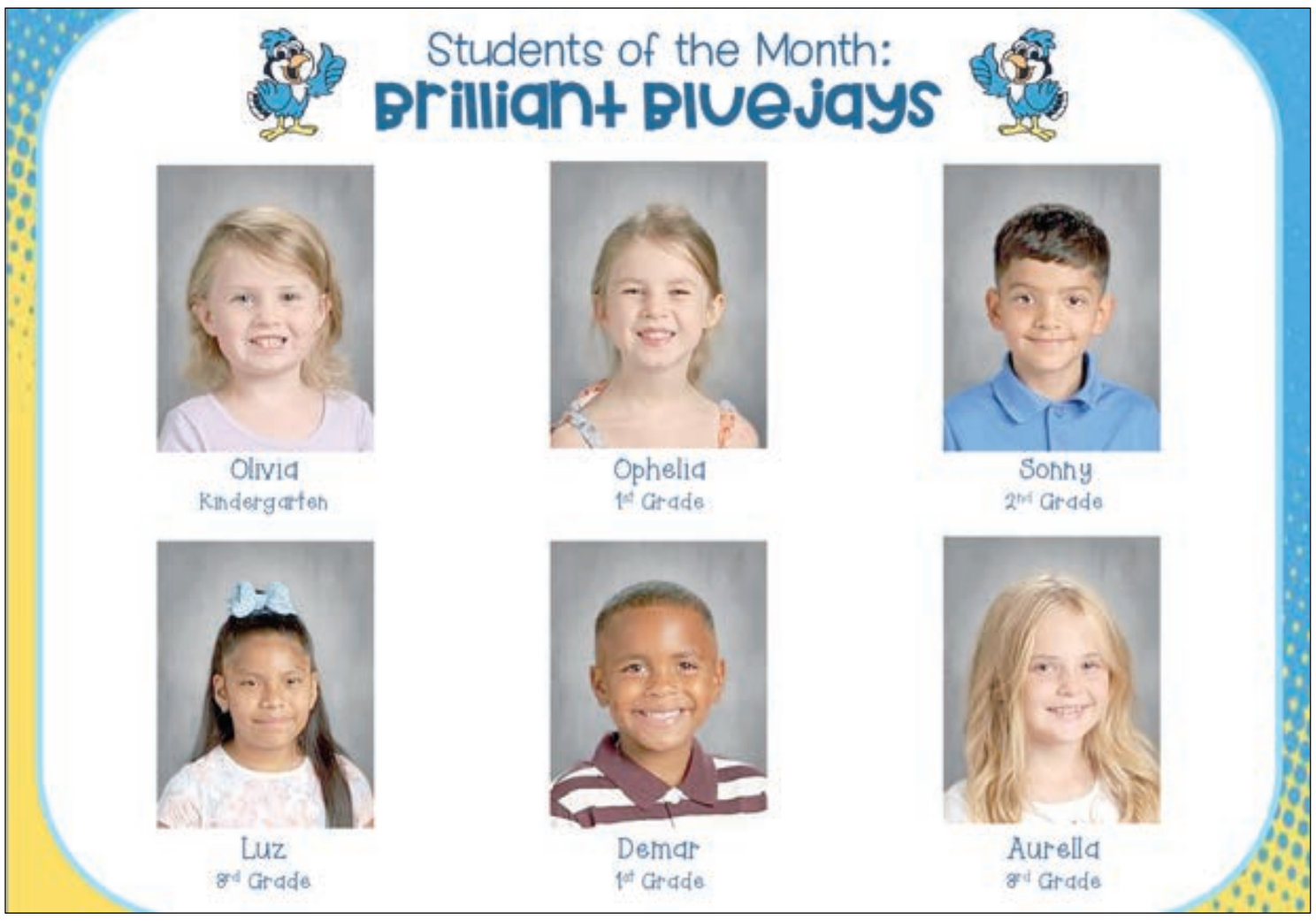
HOURS OF OPERATION
SUN.– MON. CLOSED
TUE.– 1pm to 11pm Tue. Is Lady's nite 2 for one-Men Busch light $2.50 from 4 to 6pm.
WED.– SAT.-1pm to 11 pm
POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

Hearing to address proposed changes to county tobacco retail laws

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners will be considering revisions to Tobacco Retailer Ordinance #73 that governs the regulation of tobacco related products. Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 461.19, subdivision 3 requires that the governing body provide notice to the public prior to the meeting. A public hearing regarding the changes has been scheduled during the Board's Dec. 1 meeting, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the East Annex building, 300 N. State Street in Waseca.

Proposed Tobacco Retailer Ordinance revisions include increasing retailers' annual license fee; capping the number of licensed retailers; prohibiting sales of tobacco products in pharmacies; increasing fines and penalties for ordinance violations; adding a minimum clerk age; prohibiting the sale of "loosies," flavored products, and delivery sales; changing the local code so it meets State Statute for minimum sales of age 21; making coupons and price promotions unredeemable within the county; increasing the number of annual compliance checks at businesses; increasing cigar packaging and pricing; adding proximity restrictions between retailers and youth-oriented facilities; and updating tobacco language and definitions.

Anyone with questions about the proposed ordinance changes or the process, is invited to contact Samara Plotz at 507-308-8746 or samara.plotz@wasecacounty.gov.



■ Fall

from Page 1

Street was purchased in 2011 by the Arts Council and provides an elegant and practical setting for art displays, classes, and events. Rostislavovich concluded, "Here's to 50 years of creativity, community and culture, and to the next 50 years of making Waseca a more beautiful place to call home."

In addition to the statements of thanks, the WAC's Get Together featured a full lineup of music, drinks, food, prizes and auctions.

Music provided by Hoehn Brothers Entertainment welcomed people as they arrived. As guests began flowing in they were encouraged to bid on the silent auction items. Or they could grab some food and an adult beverage or two. Games included Hustle Hole, (think mini golf) where players were competing for a Bluejay tailgating package. At the Disco Dice game, winners had a chance to take home one of two inflatable paddle boards. The Key to My Art had 35 keys guests could purchase for a chance to win an 18-karat white gold earring "jacket," a piece used to enhance gemstone earrings. At the Groovy Grab players chose a wine glass which paired them to a bottle of wine–a few of which were very pricey bottles.

The silent auction had a multitude of donated high-end items from places like Xpressions Salon, Zinnias Boutique, Barefoot Lane, Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm, Poppy Hill Goat Milk Soap, The Tattooed Baker, plants, wines, golfing themes and more.

The live auction featured $300 worth of Waseca Floral items redeemable for anytime of the year. The WAC offered pottery classes for those who are just dipping their toes into the clay experience. Another item was four tickets to a Stages Theatre production, four tickets to the Children's Museum of Minnesota and four tickets to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. For basketball fans, two tickets to see the Minnesota Timberwolves when they take on the Orlando Magic on Friday, March 26, all that and a bottle of Blue Run limited edition bourbon. Last but certainly not least was a Nordic basket, two tickets for the North Waseca Church lutefisk dinner, Ole & Lena joke book, lingonberry jam and felted flowers.

Anyone who would like to know more about the Waseca Art Center, including their class offerings, is invited to visit their website: www.wasecaartcenter.org or stop by the Center.

■ County

from Page 1

When summarizing bids during the Sept. 1 meeting, Kollar had informed commissioners 70 bids had been received: the seven lowest ranged from Commercial's at almost $340,000, to one for $700,000. Widseth's anticipated bid level on the project had been about $500,000.

Harguth asked energetically whether the word "responsible" is well chosen, and suggested the difference between the amount insurance will cover and what the county will still be "on the hook for" will be at least the difference in value between the lower and the higher bid. "Did we really save any money by choosing the 'lowest responsible bidder?'" he asked.

In better news, Kollar also reported the county was selected to receive nearly $900,000 toward the $1 million cost of replacing a bridge on County Road 54 north of Alma City. Construction is scheduled to take place in 2027.

Kollar also informed commissioners he is helping the town of Waldorf with its planning and approval process for construction funds for a major roadway project. If received, the maximum grant to Waldorf would be for $1.5 million toward a project planned for 2029.

Also during the meeting, commissioners approved a request for up to $50,000 for a study that County Land and Water Resources director Chris Howard referred to as the "final piece of the puzzle" in planning and getting approval for a water re-route near the town of New Richland. The study, Howard said, would supply vital information about the "downstream impact" of delivering water that would normally pass through New Richland directly to a downstream location on Boot Creek.

The study would also determine whether holding ponds would be needed along the route, thus helping determine overall construction expenses. More information about the study is included in a separate article which appears in this week's edition.

County sheriff Jay Dulas requested that the board give official acceptance for up to $9,800 of funding from the national Toward Zero Deaths initiative. To be used in 2027, the funds can be used to provide pay for deputies when they carry out targeted patrols. Money can also purchase enforcement equipment, including portable breath testing and window tint meters.

County information technology supervisor Judy Hiller asked the board to officially acknowledge county participation in a statewide cybersecurity initiative by the Association of Minnesota Counties. She explained that cybersecurity workers in numerous Minnesota counties offer their time on a volunteer basis to a response team which will assist when any one participating county experiences a "cyber incident." An example of a time when the team would assist is when a hacker might find a way to isolate and lock part of a county's records, offering to return access only after the county pays "ransom." A number of counties have experienced such incidents. Hiller said representatives from those counties might be among the team members who assist in future occurrences.

County public health nurse Sarah Berry shared with the board that the county opioid advisory committee has decided to award $2,500 earmarked specifically to benefit Waseca County residents taking part in Spero's "Restore" program, which works with the families of children ages 11 to 17 years old who are exhibiting low attendance in school.



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.

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

iWealth
Your Dreams Become Our Goals
Planning • Investments • Insurance

Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center

Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advice offered through iWealth Financial, LLC, a Registered Investment Advisor. iWealth Financial, LLC and iWealth are separate entities from LPL Financial. WANSC, iWealth Foundation and LPL Financial are separate entities.

STOP the MADNESS!

RE-ELECT GENE DORNINK FOR STATE SENATOR



SINCE 2016, OUR STATE POPULATION HAS INCREASED **6.2%**

WHILE THE STATE BUDGET HAS GROWN **73%**

THIS IS MADNESS!

Whether you are an Independant, Republican or Democrat, you have to agree this **SPENDING IS OUT OF CONTROL!**

AS YOUR **DISTRICT 23 SENATOR**, I WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR:

VOTE GENE DORNINK NOV. 3

- ✓ Lower taxes for all Minnesota families by identifying commonsense spending priorities. You can't over spend your checkbook, why should the state?
- ✓ Stopping ALL fraud, but also penalizing those who stole billions from Minnesota families, and get our money back!
- ✓ Making Healthcare more affordable for all Minnesotans!
- ✓ Fully eliminate the state tax on Social Security. You have already paid more than your fair share in taxes to Minnesota!
- ✓ Making vehicle license tab fee reductions permanent!
- ✓ Eliminating unfunded state mandates on our schools, cities, and business communities which lead to higher property taxes for everyone!
- ✓ Adequate funding for Minnesota nursing homes so our most vulnerable adults have the quality of life they deserve!

IN SHORT, I WANT YOU TO KEEP MORE OF YOUR HARD EARNED MONEY AND LOWER THE COST OF LIVING FOR ALL MINNESOTANS!

Paid for by Dornink for Minnesota Sate Senate Committee District 23