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WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 41 Vol. III \$2

Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca

Thursday, October 10, 2024

Inside

Beers and Brats

Waseca Mayor pleads guilty to perjury

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

Waseca Mayor Randy Zimmerman entered a guilty plea for two counts of perjury in writing on Oct. 4, 2024. Zimmerman, who is running for re-election, completed a 2022 voter registration form claiming his residence was within Waseca city limits and thus implying he was eligible to run for elected office. The complaint originally filed against him in May was for felony perjury.

Court documents signed by Zimmerman read: "I am pleading guilty because on November 8, 2022, in the County of Waseca, and State of Minnesota, I committed the following acts:



Zimmerman

"I completed a voter registration application indicating that my address was within the city limits of Waseca, when my actual address was 36830 Lake Knoll Drive, which lies outside the city limits of Waseca. This was a false material statement in writing and under oath. Therefore, I voted in the wrong precinct."

Under the plea agreement, Zimmerman is charged with a gross misdemeanor; he will pay a \$175 fine and be placed on supervised probation for up to one year. He must promise not to again commit the same or a similar violation. Providing he follows all conditions of his probation, a possible one-year jail sentence will be stayed. This fall Zimmerman has moved into a newly constructed home located within city limits.

Zimmerman will be subjected to a pre-sentencing investigation. A sentencing hearing is scheduled for 11:15 a.m. Nov. 27. Zimmerman is represented by Thomas J. Kraus. Brian Mortenson, Rice County Attorney, is carrying out the prosecution.

* * *

Angel Val at Indian Island Winery 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11

The Indian Island Winery will host Angel Val from 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11. Angel grew up listening to her mom sing in an 80s rock band. She mixes rock and country music. She has been playing guitar since Jr. High.

Date Night on the Farm at Autumn Acres 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11

Autumn Acres Farm will host Date Night on the Farm at 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11. This is a couples event, hayride, community bonfires, music and lighting, pulled pork sandwiches, hot cider or cocoa. \$80 per ticket.

A word from The Word

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

John 21:25

Happy homecoming JWP celebrates September 30-Oct. 4



2024 JWP High School Homecoming royalty Luke Cahill, Sophia Coulsey, Ethan Born, Paige Walz, Prince Zander Wheelock, King Isaiah Berndt, Princess Lola Peterson, Queen Ellah Oliver, Gavin Marinenko, Lilly Strauss, Lucas Morsching and Onika Herme.

Week highlighted by coronation, parade

Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton crowned a new homecoming king and queen during a coronation ceremony on Monday, Sept. 30, kicking off the district's homecoming week. Ellah Oliver was given the queen's crown, while Isaiah Berndt was named king.

Homecoming candidates this year were Sophie Coulsey, escorted by Luke Cahill; Onika Herme, escorted by Lucas Morsching; Ellah Oliver, escorted by Isaiah Berndt; Lilly Strauss, escorted by Gavin Marinenko; and Paige Walz, escorted by Ethan Born. Crown bearers were Lola Peterson and Zander Wheelock. Emcees were seniors Ariana Aguilar and Eric Daschner. Junior assistants were Katie Olson, Mikayla Wheelock, Ellie Morsching, and Lily Quast.

Also part of the court were representatives from each class from grades 7 to 11. For the juniors, Tiera Anderson and Chase Gerdts; Annie

Fuerstenberg and Gavin Weedman for the sophomores; Anne Adams and Dalton Ling for the freshmen; MaKaela Westphal and Johnathan Balzotti for the eighth-graders; and Ava Place and Nathaniel Adams for the seventh-graders.

The cheerleading team started off the coronation with a fabulous number to the school rouser. Team captains shared a few words about how excited they were to have a cheerleading team dedicated to JWP for the first time since 2019.

As part of the coronation festivities, the JWP Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) sponsors the Mr. and Mrs. Lips competition. This involves all the candidates kissing a piece of paper anonymously with red lipstick and everyone voting on whose lips look best via a Google form. Ethan

JWP continued on 6



JWP's 2024 Homecoming King and Queen, Isaiah Berndt and Ellah Oliver.

Narcan distribution box meant to help save lives

By DEB BENTLY, BEN REVERMANN
News Editor, Staff Writer

"Fentanyl is a problem, and it's not going away," declares Marty Johnson, founder of the Waseca based non-profit organization "Keep on Fightin' Recovery."

To help fight the fentanyl crisis, Johnson has worked with a number of agencies, including local law enforcement, to make Narcan readily available to Waseca area residents. A sturdy red box has been mounted just inside the main entry to the Waseca County law enforcement building at 122 Third Avenue Northwest. The public has access to it 24 hours a day; inside are free doses of Narcan people can keep available for immediate use "just in case." A second box will be mounted after another accessible location is selected.

County Sheriff Jay Dulas confirms that fentanyl is used by area residents, and that local law enforcement and emergency medical service staff have used Narcan to revive in-

dividuals experiencing an overdose. He says he personally has done so twice.

Fentanyl is an opioid, a powerful pain reliever which can be legally prescribed by medical professionals, but can also be highly addictive. Its illegal use has attracted considerable attention in the past five or so years because, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, nearly 1,400 Minnesotans died of overdose in 2022 (the most recent available numbers), and more than 60 percent of those were due to fentanyl. In too large a dose, the drug kills by suppressing the body's impulse to breathe.

The substance naloxone, distributed under the name "Narcan" and others, can restore breathing if delivered in time. Narcan can be administered to an unconscious individual either using a nasal spray or by giving an injection.

According to the National Institutes of Health, the human central

Narcan continued on 7



Waseca County Sheriff Jay Dulas and area activist Marty Johnson show off the sturdy distribution box which makes Narcan available to all interested members of the public. Narcan is a substance which can revive a person experiencing an otherwise-fatal opioid overdose; the doses within the box are administered nasally. Below: A "one-stop shop" to combat addiction has been set up just inside the main entry to the Waseca County law enforcement center, located at 122 Third Avenue Northwest.



WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County seeks 'Joint powers' Agreement, receives 'Clean' audit report

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Since the legalization of cannabis use during the 2023 Minnesota legislative session, local governments have been promised a level of local control regarding how cannabis would be regulated within their boundaries.

Cannabis regulation has been the subject of numerous conversations at county board meetings for the past several months, including the regular meeting held Tuesday, Oct. 1.

Incorporated towns, townships and counties were initially instructed to wait as the state Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) was organized and began offering information. Even now, with licenses for growing, processing and selling cannabis due to be issued early in 2025, local agencies have many questions.

Waseca County commissioners met earlier this year with leaders from members of the county's 12 township boards, sharing current guidelines and asking townships whether they wish to become licensing agents, or would rather enter into a "joint powers" agreement with the county.

Despite having been warned of the approaching expectations, county administrator Michael Johnson said he had only heard from three townships to date.

Commissioners committed among themselves to follow up with township leaders. "We don't want things any more fluid than they already are," suggested board member DeAnn Malterer.

State law dictates that, if qualified agencies or individuals apply, licensing agents are expected to issue at least one retail license for each 12,501 residents. Area towns are also licensing agents and are expected to create their own locally-selected criteria regarding the location, number and types of licenses to be issued.

License requests would fall under the jurisdiction of the county or a township only if they are for a cannabis business located in the "unincorporated" portions of the county.

According to discussion at the Oct. 1 meeting, applicants for any of the 13 types of licenses associated with cannabis must be approved by the OCM before they can apply to towns, townships or counties.

Board members received a "clean" report from auditing firm Baker Tilly regarding a recently completed audit of the county's 2023 financial records. According to Tammy Spooner, who heads the county's department of property and election services, the audit process began in January of this year, with the firm reviewing and requesting information over the next few months.

"The audit process is very detailed as it is a protection for the taxpayers of Waseca County. We work diligently all year to ensure accuracy and compliance. I feel good about the process and the work of our team," Spooner told the Pioneer.

Commissioners approved pay-

County continued on 6



Compostings

by Al Batt

A memorable bag of peanut M&M's

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
It's a cold, dreary, miserable day. No, it's not. It's a beautiful day. Why do you always have to take the weather's side?

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. Election signs bloom. They are the closed captioning of the elections. Do they change anyone's minds? Kind of, sort of. We might have thought the neighbor was an imbecile until he put up a sign of a candidate we favor. It gives each of us a way to tell where our fellow geniuses live. I expect to see lawn signs reading, "No signs allowed" or "Space for rent."

Did you hear about the man whose birthday lasted only one minute? It was his sixty-second birthday.

I walked a trail when I met a man I knew a little but not a lot, who was walking his beautiful dog. He told me the canine was blind. I enjoyed a visit with a seeing-eye man.

Curt Krause was a farmer, an agriculturalist for Birds Eye and a devotee of Peanut M&M's. The line was lengthy (possibly crossing several states) at his visitation. Those waiting in line were offered a bag of Peanut M&M's for sustenance and in memory of a good man.

I spoke at a remarkable reunion of a class of 1969. Prizes were given to the ones who stayed awake throughout the entire meal. They had graduated without the help of Google and grew up when Spam, Wonder Bread and a Twinkie was a wholesome meal in the time before roundabouts were built around pot-holes. They had played flutophones, bad breath captured in musical instruments. Gas was 35 cents a gallon. Few people knew what mileage their car was getting. In 1969, Sager and Evans sang "In the Year 2525," a song predicting that technological advances would negatively impact man's thoughts, relationships and body. We have 500 years to deal with that because we don't want to wait until the last minute.

I'VE LEARNED
I'm thankful squirrels can't drive.

The rules for the 100-meter dash are pretty straightforward.

My archenemy is plantar fasciitis.

I can recall the numbers 33 1/3, 45 and 78 at a record speed.

The mascot for Eastern Michigan University is an eagle. It should be an emu.

The Flat Earth Society has members all around the globe.

Half a hole is a whole hole.
BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT
Did you hear the statistics joke? Probably.

Was Chuck Berry ever arrested for tossing small fruits?

What can we use to sit on, stand on and brush our teeth? A chair, a ladder and a toothbrush.

What does James Bond's doorbell sound like? Dong. Ding dong.

What do you call a typo on a gravestone? A grave mistake.

Only one thing makes me throw up. A dartboard on the ceiling.

Why did the baker fire his apprentice? Because he was a whisk taker.

If you walk like an Egyptian long enough, you'll need to see a Cairo-practor.

NATURE NOTES

The latest recorded measurable snow in Minnesota was 1.5 inches at Mizpah in Koochiching County on June 4, 1935, and the earliest documented snow in Minnesota was a trace that fell at the Duluth Airport on Aug. 31, 1949, with the earliest measurable being .3 inches at International Falls on Sept. 14, 1964.

I watched a long, twisting line of blackbirds flying on my way home from a church where I'd done readings and led prayers at a funeral. The deceased's wife hugged me and said she and her husband had been arguing over the identification of a woodpecker and a finch—red-headed or red-bellied, house or purple. "We each said, if Al were here, he'd know." She paused before adding, "Thank you for being here today."

Ruby-throated hummingbirds don't travel in flocks during migration. Each bird follows its instincts as to departure dates and routes.

Multi-colored Asian lady beetles and minute pirate bugs sampled me. They are biting beetles and bugs. I've not been stung by a wasp this year. Yellowjackets are hungry at this time of the year. They were well-behaved pollinators and beneficial predators until they lost their jobs and encountered food insecurity.

University of Minnesota research published in The Natural Areas Journal found that 2% of buckthorn seeds passed through goat guts intact, and of the seeds that appeared in the goats' feces, 11% were viable. For comparison, 63% of seeds not eaten by goats were capable of germination.

MEETING ADJOURNED
"A knife wound heals but a tongue wound festers."—Turkish proverb. Keep a kind word at the ready.

One big reason to welcome autumn

How is it that we spend so much of the year anticipating warm weather, yet we're glad to see it go when fall comes?

My thoughts started wandering through this topic after hearing Patty Burchell's talk about KICY radio station in Alaska. Those of us who attended the free salmon dinner at Real Life Covenant Church last Friday evening got to try some baked silver salmon—the filets were gigantic and very tasty baked with onion and tomatoes. We also heard that western Alaska spends November to May with the temperature somewhere between 20 below and 20 above zero.

Patty was quick to mention, though, that as far as everyone there is concerned, "anything above zero is downright warm." Her 40-minute talk didn't have much time for detail, but she described the winter months almost as a release: Because the sea, the rivers, and the marshes are frozen and because snow covers the short plants and brush growing on the open tundra, people are much more free to move around than in the summer, a time when they must work fast to collect and preserve enough food to make it through the winter.

While I do know of numerous local people who preserve summer's bounty for later use, I don't believe any of them do so for the sake of surviving the winter. I have tremendous respect for their desire to keep control over what they consume, but we



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

all have plenty of sources for sustenance.

That brings up one big reason to welcome autumn, of course: harvest. We reach the literal "fruition" of our summer's planting and nurturing. Pumpkin pie alone, I am tempted to say, provides an excellent lubricant to the internal "gear change" we must undergo.

Then we pull ourselves further in by anticipating the holiday season. Perhaps it could be said we're so busy dashing around and making plans, we gladly overlook the descent to the winter solstice and the freezing months which follow.

Once our temperatures are consistently below freezing, of course, our land of 10,000 lakes becomes a land of 10,000 campgrounds, with people disappearing into their snug, heated fishing shelters. I've only heard stories of what the fancier ones have become, with temperature control, televisions and toilets to keep everyone happy. Do they have automatic alarms which go off when there's a tug on the line?

Jokes aside, fish houses seem per-

fectedly normal to us, but they're a strange idea to folks who live further south. I keep thinking of the Sleigh and Cutter festival's giant kite show, held in February. Great American Kites is located in Missouri. Sleigh and Cutter organizer Ken Borgmann tells the story of the first time he contacted the company's owner, Sean Beaver, and suggested the company could set up its kite display on Waseca's Clear Lake.

The way I remember it, Ken told me he "practically had to sign an affidavit" to convince Sean—a good guy who likes to be flexible—that it would be safe to take all his equipment and materials out onto the ice.

I believe I've gone to three giant kite shows sponsored by the Sleigh and Cutter festival now—the first one was ideal: a "warm" temperature for February, just the right amount of wind for the kites, there wasn't much snow so folks could drive and park very freely. The second year there was more snow, so vehicles had a bit less freedom of movement; it had also been warmer, so walking was made tricky by soft, sticky-wet snow,

and even some puddles. My recollection is that the wind was biting and somewhat intermittent, but Sean made the best of it by "bouncing" the kites—that is, keeping them inflated by the wind, but purposely bringing them down to ground level for a while. He's told me more than once that he usually does that so children at the show get a chance to touch the fabric kites. If you've seen them, you know they come in an astounding variety of shapes.

Last year, of course, there was no ice at all, and the show was held behind Waseca's secondary school. The kites were still great fun, and I suppose having a designated, pre-marked parking lot helped with traffic flow. There were definitely a lot of people there: Their amazement was perhaps equally divided between the beautiful kites and the confusingly warm temperatures.

When February is over, of course, we are back where this essay started, yearning for warm temperatures and anticipating summer. I find it entertaining that my definition of "warm" starts with anything above 40 degrees at that time of year. Even if the windchill makes it feel cold, I still take pleasure in realizing the temperature is starting to melt the snow.

It's interesting to have taken this full circle tour of the seasons. After all this introspection, I think it's time to go out for a walk and enjoy the fall colors. After all, they only last for a few weeks.

Hope for Minnesota football fans everywhere

Hello lovely people. I hope you all are doing well as the cold is welcomed, swept in by chilled winds and pumpkin lattes. It also means we are in the full swing of football season, both college and professional.

For those of you who follow football and are Vikings fans, a wholehearted congratulations. Being 5-0 is an incredible accomplishment for the Vikings and possibly a once-in-a-lifetime event. But this is our year; I can feel it! I know some people who traveled to London to watch the game last week: That is above and beyond dedication, so props to you guys. I mean, I guess any excuse to go to Europe is a good one.

As for college, and those who are Gopher fans, we haven't been able to have as much luck. The Gophers did upset the first-ranked University of Southern California Trojans in their game last week—That was a place to be! The Gophers, to be blunt, suck. So this game was huge in restoring their spirits and hope. Adding to the victory was the excitement of being able to storm the field.



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

For those of you who have not witnessed or experienced a storming of the field, it basically just means that as soon as the game ended, mere seconds after the clock had counted down, students and spectators alike jumped the wall and ran into the field to join the football players, spirit squad/cheerleaders, and everyone else to celebrate the sweet, sweet victory. For this game, I was standing on the higher section above, so it took me a minute to make it down to the field, but it was crazy to be on the turf surrounded by maroon and gold. What was crazier was looking over and just seeing the Gopher football players! At one point I thought I had seen Darius Taylor, our star run-

ning back, but it was someone else, unfortunately. I still can't get over how tall and quite large those football players actually are. Looking out onto the field, they look like normal-sized men. Up close, they tower heads above me and seem to be thrice my size.

I learned later that quite a few people got injured trying to jump down the wall into the field. My friends and I were using the rails to climb back out instead of waiting to use the stairs when a security guy came over and strongly encouraged (I don't want to say yell, we're all adults here) us not to do that. He told us he had personally witnessed a guy break his leg climbing (Probably what he really meant was

"falling") down the wall. He went on to tell us what it looked like in detail. I'm sure his motive was to scare us from climbing the wall, but it was too late. A different security guy in neon had been standing there at the wall in the stands watching us do it the whole time, so none of us were actually concerned.

Either way, it was a lot of fun; if you ever get the chance to storm a field, I highly recommend it. Being on the same level as PJ Fleck was a wild thought.

I did other stuff that weekend, but it seems that was the only thing of note. You know how life gets. As a college kid, I am required to do all my homework last minute and late into the night and writing this column has fallen into that category, so apologies for the state of it. I should be asleep. My bed is beckoning me like a siren to a sailor and soon I hope to be snoring like one because I didn't get my nap today.

My Determination: "I think everyone in this world thinks they're either blessed or cursed." - American Horror Story



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**Christ the King Baked
Potato Bar Friday
October 11 from 11
a.m. until 1 p.m.**

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Women of the Word (WOW), will be holding a Baked Potato Bar luncheon with all of the delicious toppings--plus dessert, on Friday, October 11, from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at 309 6th St. NE, in Waseca. Cost is \$8/person. Proceeds will go to Missions. A drawing will be held for a mission quilt that has been donated by the Ctk Quilters. Supplemental funds provided by Thrivent. All are welcome!

**Family Tradition at
Waseca American
Legion Friday, Oct 11**

The Waseca American Legion will host the band Family Tradition from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11. This family trio performs both old and new hit country music.

**Farmamerica Fall
Festival from 10 a.m.
to 3 p.m. Sat., Oct. 12**

Farmamerica's Fall Festival will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, October 12 at the Farmamerica grounds. There will be tram rides to view historic sites, a corn maze, concessions, bounce houses, puppies and farm animals. There is a \$7 entrance fee, members get in free.

**Pub & Grub Comedy
Tour at Starfire Event
Center 7 p.m., Oct. 12**

Andrew Wegleitner will be performing his comedy show beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, October 12, at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca. Also performing will be Dave Kousgaard. Ticket info is available at www.BarComicTix.com

**Comedy show at St.
Ann's Parish in Janesville 5 p.m. Oct. 12**

St. Ann's Catholic Church in Janesville will host a comedy show starring Trinity Church Ladies-Up from the Basement followed by Mary Mack. From 5 to 6 p.m. will be happy hour/food; 6 to 6:30 p.m. will be Trinity Church Ladies and 7 p.m. will highlight Mary Mack. This is a family friendly show. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased at Gadgets in Janesville, Janesville Bank or at the door. Mary Mack has been on The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon.

**"Flavors of Fall" at
Pleasant Grove Pizza
Farm Sat., Oct. 12**

In collaboration with Hilltop Garden Olive Oil, the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm, 41142 160th Street, Waseca, will have its Flavors of Fall Festival from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 and Sunday, Oct. 13 from 1-7 p.m. The weekend includes live music, fall flavored beers and wines, face painting, wagon rides and apple cider bar.

**Outdoor Halloween
Movie at Aspyr Acres
7:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 12**

Watch a Halloween themed movie outdoors at Aspyr Acres Farm with the animals rescued and being rehabilitated at the site. Spooky movie choices currently listed on Facebook with a chance to vote. Suggested entry fee is \$5; more information available online. Aspyr Acres is at 41251 135th Street north of Waseca.



From Left: Kialyn Quillen Fundraiser attended by his family, Tonia, Cyrus brother, 11, Koltyn brother, 17, Natalie mom, Taniyah sister, 10, Nalyce sister, 13, Khadija sister, 18, Charlyze sister, 11, MyKiah sister, 15 and Zaeveon, 12, were at the Legion on Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024.

Legion holds fundraiser for Quillen family
Family, friends gather to remember, celebrate and honor the life of 'Ky'

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Hundreds of people attended a fundraiser for the family of Kailyn Terry Quillen held Sunday, Oct. 6 at the Waseca American Legion. Kailyn Quillen, or "Ky" for short, was 21 years old when he died of cancer on August 21. Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church put on the fundraiser, serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee and juice.

Ky's mother, Natalie K. Quillen, and father, Charles J. Johnson, greeted those in attendance. "Ky was a big boy," his mother said. "At 6 foot 2 inches tall he was hard to miss. At one point he had gotten up to 400 pounds but at the end he was closer to 200." In 2017 he started to have

seizures and had to see the doctor. That's when they found the tumors. Radiation treatment produced favorable results in the beginning but in the end were unsuccessful. In his life, Ky had only three jobs, one for 1.5 years at Pizza Ranch; one as a life-guard at a Holiday Inn waterpark lifeguard in Clinton Falls, and one as a dishwasher at the Starfire Event Center. Although originally born in Meza, Arizona, he attended school in Waseca. Extremely active in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ky took part in youth mission trips to help the poor. He sang in the church choir and taught Sunday school. His family says he was a swimmer, he enjoyed time around a campfire, appreciated spending time with family, and had

many friends. A full-time resident of Waseca, Ky rented a house for the last year of his life and his mother was able to move in with him to help as he got worse. His journey through cancer also brought him in touch with the love of his life, Demi Lovato through the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

He has ten siblings, Koltyn Quillen, 17, Nalyce Quillen, 13, Ta-Shaun Johnson, Charlene Johnson, Khadija Johnson, 18, NaTaya Johnson, Charles Johnson, Mykiah Johnson, 15, Charlyze Johnson, 11, and Cyrus Johnson, 11.

His mother remembered he performed at a Waseca High School talent show in February of 2019, "He sang Solo by Clean Bandit and Demi

Lovato and he was so proud and I was so proud." Lovato mentioned Ky in a commercial for the Make-a-Wish Foundation once and he also got to meet with her via Zoom one day for an hour; He posted news of the event online. In fact, family members say, almost every post Ky put online is of him singing a Demi Lovato song or saying how good a performer she is.

His mother says the family is following Ky's directive that as much of himself be donated as possible. This included retina tissue and his brain, bone marrow and skin to cancer research. Portions of each of his organs were also donated in hope that they will help lead to earlier detection in the future.

Family Fun Fest
Autumn Acres hosts annual event

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The parking lot was full, with more people showing up non-stop. A young girl was directing people as they arrived while an older gentleman guided those who were exiting. Despite a brisk wind, Autumn Acres Farm was operating at full force on Saturday, Oct. 5. The sun was shining and an 85-degree high was forecast. Since it was still early, some visitors were wearing hoodies. Parents pulling kids on wagons made their way inside.

Established in 2009, Autumn Acres is located West of Janesville along County Line Road. The Oct. 5 Family Fun Fest offered hayrides, cornhole, face painting, caricature drawings, and the chance to pet and feed goats for an \$11 entry fee. There were drawings to enter for prizes and a kids' scavenger hunt. There was Big Scotts Logging Camp, live music from the bands, 'In a Bind' and 'Family Tradition.' Produce buyers could visit a giant pick-your-own pumpkin patch or choose among more than 150 varieties of clean and fresh produce available. A

gift shop offered samples of four different types of pickles, as well as various barbeque sauces, rubs and shakes. Clothing items with Autumn Acres Farm was available, as were food vendors Inspire, B-Lo Zero Snow Cones and Mini Donuts.

Owners Chad and Cheryl Bleess along with their adult children Cody, 24, Autumn, 22, and James, 20, organized the events. Haley Schaff, 26, is currently engaged to James, and works in the gift shop. She says she "adores" working at the venue. "I absolutely love the small town feel with so many different things to do. It's just growing and growing." She's right, back in April Chad and Cheryl purchased an 1800s built Janesville School house and put it on their property; the process was covered on KEYC television. The building is slowly undergoing renovations and is housing the gift shop.

According to Chad, the business has been selling pumpkins for the past 15 years. Activities and special events including cornhole, pumpkin ring toss and pumpkin tic-tac-toe were added six years ago. Originally Cheryl's grandparents were the



From left: Patty Rieff, Cheryl Bleess and Haley Schaff working the gift shop for Autumn Acres Farm's Family Fun Fest on Saturday, October 5, 2024.

owners of the land, but Chad and Cheryl purchased some of that land for Autumn Acres. This is a full family business with numerous family members from both sides working the fall season. Having married into the family, Chad still feels a lot of pride in working land his wife's ancestors worked. "Both of our families come and help out, my parents for example. That, plus community support is great. To get to work where my wife's family has worked for so long means something."

Cheryl remembered the humble

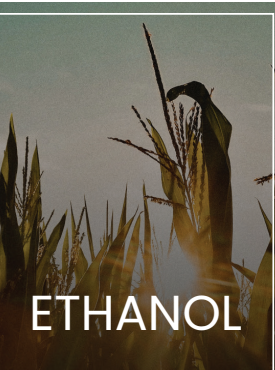
beginnings of Autumn Acres Farm, she said about their start, "Janesville and St. Clair were our first supporters when we were just selling pumpkins. They have been loyal customers then as well as now." So far, the majority of advertising for Autumn Acres has been either Facebook or word of mouth and a little newspaper, but that's worked out great with more and more people showing up every year. The family is already making plans for next year's fall season. More information is available at the <https://www.autumnacresfarm-minnesota.com/>.



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**WASECA
CITY COUNCIL**

**Council
hears local
updates**

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff writer

During their Oct. 1 meeting, Waseca's city council members heard from a local resident who stated concerns regarding parking on the 400 block of Second Avenue Northeast. The resident, who has lived on the street for 12 years, told the council she "would like to see the block go to parking only on one side" - namely, the south side during school days and hours.

After a brief discussion, City Manager Carl Sonnenberg agreed to look into the matter, which will include discussions with the school superintendent regarding school staff parking, as well as the chief of police.

Also present for the Oct. 1 meeting were two representatives from SMART Transit, including Don White, operations manager for Steele and Waseca Counties. He and his colleague explained the SMART Transit program in Waseca and how it has grown in its eight years of local operation. The organization is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year and has provided transportation for over 10,000 passengers lduring 2024.

"We're very appreciative of the support that the city of Waseca provides us each year," said one of the representatives.

In regular business, council members approved the consent agenda, which included minutes from the Sept. 17 council meeting, payroll and expenditures, final payment for the 2024 sidewalk improvements project, Resolution 24-60: Construction Engineering Contract Amendment for the Waseca Airport 4-Unit Hangar Project, Resolution 24-61: Engineering Contract for the Waseca Airport CD 39/45 Tile Replacement Project; Ordinance No. 1119: Set the Date for a Public Hearing on an Extension of the City's THC & Cannabis Moratorium. The council also approved Resolution 24-62: Amending and Ratifying General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2024A.

In the city manager's report, the city's ash tree removal project was discussed. Grant requirements for the project require obtaining bids for service; the low bid was submitted by Morsching Tree Service of Waterville. The project will take place from October to December.

In the commission report, a county ditch replacement was discussed, along with Treats on the Streets which will once again take place at the end of the month. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

**Kenneth Brae prison
camp survivor at 6
p.m. Oct. 13**

Missionary Kenneth Brae was held prisoner in a North Korean prison camp and will share information about his experience beginning at 6 p.m. Oct. 13 at Christ Community Church, 2200 Fourth St. NE, Waseca. Korean snacks will be available. Admission cost is a free will donation.

**Farmamerica will host
MEA Day Camps
October 17-18**

Farmamerica will host an MEA Day Camp for kids in kindergarten through fifth grade Thursday and Friday, October 17-18 from 8 a.m. till 3p.m. They will meet live animals, enjoy outdoor exploration and hands-on crafts. Lunch will be provided, cost is \$60 and spots are limited.

**Family Tradition band
at Indian Island
Winery Sat., Oct. 19**

The band Family Tradition will be performing at the Indian Island Winery from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. An online source says they will be, "Performing old and new hit country music."

OBITUARIES

Edward Wheelock

EDWARD LEO WHEELLOCK, of Janesville, died unexpectedly on October 4, 2024, at the age of 60.

Born on September 6, 1964, he was the youngest child born to William and Theresa (Klug) Wheelock. Ed attended Janesville Public Schools where he participated in football and wrestling, graduating with the class of 1983. He continued his education at the University of Minnesota in Waseca. Throughout his career, Ed worked for Associated Lumber in Waseca before relocating to Windom, where he worked for Lamperts Lumber. He later drove truck for Tow Distributing and worked for Taylor Corp while working construction alongside his brother Mike which he continued for many years. Most recently, he served as a school bus driver for Palmer Bus Services.

On April 24, 2008, Ed was united in marriage to DeAnna Hooppaw and together they made their home in Janesville where they welcomed their son, Jason, into their blended family. Ed was proud of being a part of his high school wrestling team who was recently inducted into the JWP Athletic Hall of Fame. Always staying busy, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and helping out his kids with their home projects. His family will remember Ed as the most loving husband, dad and grandpa. He will be missed!

Ed is survived by his wife of 16 years, DeAnna of Janesville; children: Troy Wheelock of Mankato, Jessica (Adam) Ritter of Water-



Edward Wheelock

ville, Andrew (Rosita) Wheelock of Faribault, Matthew Wheelock (Hailey Blom) of Janesville, Jason Wheelock of Janesville, Patrick Tarrant of Janesville, and Abby Tarrant of Chicago; grandchildren: Nicholas, Ethan, Carter, Parker, Reese, Kalie, Olivia, Mason, Wil-low, and Levi; siblings: Dave (Karen) Wheelock, Gary Wheelock, Bruce (Martha) Wheelock, Keith (Gwen) Wheelock, and Betty (Chris) Schmidt; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Mike; nephews, Dave and Dan Wheelock.

A Gathering of Family and Friends will be from 4:00 – 8:00 PM on Friday, October 11, 2024, at the Janesville Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service.

Private family services will be held.

Mayone Byron

MAYONE ANN (MILLER) BYRON, age 96 of Waseca, died on the evening of Saturday, October 5, 2024 at her home at Oak Terrace in North Mankato.

Born December 23, 1927, Mayone was the oldest child of George and Gertrude (Garrihan) Miller. Growing up, Mayone enjoyed helping her father on her family's farm. In 1945 she graduated from Waterville High School and went on to work as a nurse after attending St. Mary's School and Creighton University. When Mayone met Paul Byron, she was struck by the kindness she saw in his eyes. The two were married on April 2, 1956 and built a life together spanning 68 years.

Mayone had many talents. Her china paintings beautifully captured scenes of local wildlife and were treasured by her family and friends. Mayone was also a celebrated cook. Her biscuits and chocolate chip cookies were popular amongst her children and grandchildren. Mayone

knew everyone's favorite food and would make it for you if she knew you were coming over. It was one of the many ways Mayone made everyone feel special.

If Mayone wasn't at the kitchen table solving crossword puzzles in the newspaper, you could find her in the garden tending to her vegetables and flowers, which she shared with everyone she knew.

Throughout her life Mayone cared deeply for the people she loved. Her generous spirit and giving heart were what made her an incredible sister, nurse, wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Her family and friends cherish the memories they made with Mayone and feel blessed to have been loved and cared for by her. The family extends their sincerest gratitude to the caretakers at Oak Terrace and Mayo Hospice Service for the genuine support and compassionate care they gave May-one.

Mayone is survived by her husband and eight children, Vince (LeeAnn) Byron of Cave Creek, AZ,

Paul Byron of Waseca, Edward (Anne) Byron of Waseca, Marie Byron of Maple Grove, Leo Byron of Waseca, Don (Jollette) Byron of Waseca, Joan (Tim) Biegert of Owatonna, and Carrol (Murray) McCartan of Richfield; seventeen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; four sisters, Sister Janice Miller, Donna Murphy, Ethel Kotchevar, Cathy (Jerry) Collins; sister-in-law Christina Miller; brother-in-law Jim Byron. She was preceded in death by both parents; daughter, Patricia Byron; brother, Harry Miller; daughter-in-law, Pamela Byron; brothers and sisters-in-law, Jack Murphy, Jim Kotchevar, Mildred Marple, Rita Byron, George and Mary Jane Byron, Ray and Helen Curran, Sister Colleen Byron, and Bill and Mary Ann Byron.

Visitation will be held Friday October 11, 2024 at State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes from 4-7 p.m. followed by a prayer service. Funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 12, 2024 at Sacred



Mayone Byron

Heart Catholic Church in Waseca with Father Glenn Frerichs officiating. Interment will follow at Calvary Cemetery. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral Homes and Crematory is handling the arrangements. dennis-funeralhomes.com

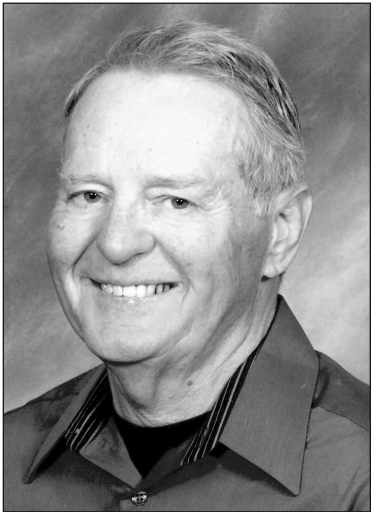
Stanley Dimmel

STANLEY (STOSH) DIMMEL, of Janesville, died at the age of 81, on Friday, September 27, 2024, one day after his 55th wedding anniversary. Stan was born on July 29, 1943, to Victor and Dorothy (Worrell) Dimmel.

Stan is survived by his wife, Marlene; son, Derek (Tabitha); three grandchildren: Brendan, Darian, and Draven; three great grandchildren: Jayda, Paisley and Nova; other relatives and friend.

He is preceded in death by his parents; son, Dustin; sister, Janice (Swede) Johnson.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 12:00 PM on Saturday, October 19, 2024, at St. Ann Catholic Church in Janesville with Fr. Robert Schneider as Celebrant. Visita-



Stanley Dimmel

tion will be one hour prior to the Mass at church on Saturday. DSOFuneral.com

Les Moat

LES ALLEN MOAT, age 69, of Waseca, passed away peacefully on October 4, 2024, at the New Richland Care Center, surrounded by loved ones.

Born on August 20, 1955, he was the son of Lester Dean and Letta Ann (Rosen) Moat. Les received his education at Russell Public School, graduating with the class of 1973. Following his education, he enlisted into the United States Navy, serving his country during the Vietnam War. While Les was on leave from the Navy he met Susan Lynn Hawkins through mutual friends and they were united in marriage on March 13, 1976. They began their married life together living in Japan where Les was stationed. When Les was transferred from Japan, they made their home in California and welcomed their first son, Jesse. Following his honorable discharge in 1979, Les and Susan lived in Minnesota for a short time, where they were blessed

with their second son, Jeremy. The family then moved to South Dakota where Les worked for the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. There Les and Susan added two daughters to the family, Rebecca and Elisabeth. While living in South Dakota Les was hired with the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Yankton, and was later transferred to Pekin, Illinois where he led a team in building a new prison. Les then accepted a position opening the new prison in Waseca. It was always Les and Susan's desire to return to Minnesota to raise their family. Les continued to work there until retiring in 2008 as the General Foreman of the prison. Together Les and Susan shared 35 years of marriage before Susan passed away on April 21, 2011. Les enjoyed gardening, dancing, playing bingo and cards, and always looked forward to attending rodeos. More than anything though, he loved spending time with those he cared about. He was actively involved in his children's ex-

tracurricular activities, and never passed up an opportunity to share wisdom, knowledge, or a good joke. He was a member of the Sweet-Sommers VFW Post 1642, where he had served as commander, Waseca American Legion Post 228, Owatonna Eagles Club, Tuscan Lodge #77 in Waseca and the Owatonna Area Shrine Club.

Les is survived by his children: Jesse (Sydney) Moat of Virginia Beach, VA, Jeremy Moat of Scranton, PA, Rebecca (Bart) Bauer of Missoula, MT, and Elisabeth (Tim) Sargeant of Grand Forks, ND; four grandchildren: Daphne Bauer, Juniper Bauer, Oakley Moat and Andrew Sargeant; girlfriend, JoAnn "JoJo" Storlie; siblings: Larry Moat, Lori Taveirne and Lance (Linda) Moat; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents Lester and Letta, and wife Susan.

Visitation will be from 4:00 – 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 10, 2024,



Les Moat

at the State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca. Visitation will continue for one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

Funeral Service will be 12:00 PM on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at Grace First Parish in Russell, Minnesota. Interment will be in the Russell Cemetery.

DSOFuneral.com

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October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Burger nite 5-7pm	2 6pm BAR Bingo	3 7pm HALL BINGO	4 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	5
6	7	8 Burger nite 5-7pm	9 6pm BAR Bingo	10 7pm HALL BINGO	11 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	12
13 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Waseca Fusion Volley Ball	14 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	15 Burger nite 5-7pm	16 6pm BAR Bingo	17 7pm HALL BINGO	18 WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm	19
20	21	22 Burger nite 5-7pm	23 6pm BAR Bingo	24 7pm HALL BINGO	25 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	26
27 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Waseca Chorus	28	29 Burger nite 5-7pm	30 6pm BAR Bingo	31 7pm HALL BINGO		

HOURS OF OPERATION
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TUE.- WED.-3pm to 11pm Tue. Is Lady's nite 2 for one-Men Busch light \$2.50 from 4 to 6pm.
THUR.—1pm to 11pm
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Member FDIC

History Center “Snake Oil” Show 6:30 to 8 p.m. October 19

The Waseca County History Center is offering a “Snake Oil” show from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on October 19. The program will demonstrate both the “dark” and the “entertainment” sides of medicine around the start of the twentieth century. Fee is \$20.

St. Paul Lutheran Oktoberfest starts at noon October 19

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Waseca Oktoberfest with live music, and bean bag and “Hammerschlagen” tournaments. Food and beverages for sale. Proceeds support youth mission trip and “Higher Things.” Located in church parking lot, 314 Fourth Ave. NE.

Waseca City Council candidate debates 6:30 p.m. Oct. 22

Debates among candidates for City of Waseca wards one, two and three will begin at 6:30 p.m. October 22 at the Waseca High School performing arts center. Ward one candidates Adam Jensen and Stacey Schroeder and ward two candidates Gary Conrath, Marty Johnson and Nicholas Meister will be on deck from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Ward 3 candidates Mark Christensen, Theresa Riecke, Chad Schlueter and Koby Wright will speak beginning at 8 p.m.

Aspyn Acres Halloween Trick or Treat Trail 6 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 25 & 26

A Halloween Trail through the Haunted Forest will begin at 6 p.m. on Oct. 25 and 26 at Aspyn Acres Wildlife Rehabilitation and Farm Sanctuary. Suggested entry payment is \$5 per child. Facepainting and specialty treats also available. Aspyn Acres is at 41251 135th Street north of Waseca.

In a Bind at Indian Island Winery 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25

The Indian Island Winery will host band In a Bind from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. This all lady trio plays a variety of hit music and has been seen all over southern Minnesota.

Halloween Bash at The Mill Event Center 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25

Celebrate a Halloween Bash at The Mill Event Center at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. Spooky drink specials, costume contest with cash prize and musical guest Johnny Holm Band. Tickets are \$10. Band starts at 9 p.m.

Great Fall Get-Together from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26

The Waseca Art Center will have its biggest event of the year, the Great Fall Get-Together from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. This year will be, Midnight in the French Quarter. There will be appetizers, a full bar, silent auction, games and door prizes.

Briefs continued on 6



This Bluejay-themed fire ring is one of the items being raffled during the "Tackle Cancer" event during this Friday's home football game. The Jays will be taking on the Albert Lea Tigers.

‘Tackle Cancer’ Oct. 11 event

The Waseca Bluejays will not only be working to tackle Albert Lea’s Tigers during their October 11 faceoff, but thanks to the football players, cheerleaders, football parents and many Waseca businesses and organizations, they will also be out to “Tackle Cancer.”

This year’s honorary captain for the yearly observance is Todd Altman, a Waseca resident who, with his wife Patty, has two children—Jordan and his wife Kaylee, and daughter Kaitlin. Todd, 59, was diagnosed with stage four prostate cancer in August of 2023.

Money raised during the event will go to the Randy Shaver Cancer Research and Community Fund. Football parents will greet fans near the stadium entrance, where they will be accepting donations and selling raffle tickets for an array of prizes including two Vikings tickets, half a hog, a “Bluejays” fire ring, a cooler filled with snacks, a “pamper yourself” packet, a leaf blower, and possibly more. To win any of the raffle prizes, folks must purchase the

Event continued on 6

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

Dean of Students speaks with board

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

Waseca Junior Senior High Dean of Students Jake Nelson spoke to the Waseca School board first at their October workshop, joking that he would try to “keep it under seven minutes” as he shared some of his typical daily duties. “Yep, I deal with attendance, with discipline, I’m a master at opening jammed lockers. I can interpret the dress code to adapt to the ever-changing trends in women’s fashion. I can do all those things,” Nelson said, “but the reality is, my job is about keeping the school culture healthy and having the kids feel like they belong.”

Nelson spoke about interactions he might have with ‘elevated’ students; “We have to learn that we don’t always agree, but we can still be friends and we’re all Bluejays.” Nelson said bigger schools have extra pools of funds for extra staff to help mitigate misunderstandings, but in Waseca, it’s just him. “We navigate it on our own and help our staff and our students with these challenges as well. It’s frustrating we don’t have those resources. It’s nobody’s fault, but just how things work.”

Nelson summed up his presentation; “I’m a problem solver and a calmer-downer, and in between deal with attendance and discipline and what happens in the parking lot. But we’re people people, and we coach our kids and our staff to be better.” Superintendent Eric Hudspith added that the dean position allows the principals to complete other tasks such as instructional leadership support or teacher evaluations. “We’re supporting all of our kids through all the different roles.

Hudspith next gave a fall operational update as the first of October is used by schools as the enrollment measure for the year. K-12 Enrollment is at 1739 students, up 35 students at the elementary level. The district assessment committee has seen some gains with students in fall assessments, and the process for determining the next two school year calendars is underway.

The next item on the agenda was Hudspith’s recap of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) board meeting he attended in September which included legislative updates, long-term Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act planning, budget and funding issues, and Minnesota State High School League items.

The final agenda item covered was a look at the school board’s three-year governance plan and discussion about possible future professional development opportunities for the board, including the levy process, how curriculum development occurs, or long-term facility maintenance. The next regular board meeting is Oct. 24.

Beers and Brats in the books

Annual event held Oct. 3

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Waseca’s yearly “Beers and Brats” night began at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3, and continued either until 7 p.m. or until the food was gone. This annual event happens on the first Thursday in October and includes five area saloons and taverns. It is a unique Waseca staple. Welcome to Barden’s Bar and welcome to Beers and Brats.

There’s a cash register from the 1930s sitting in front of a large mirror surrounded by liquor bottles. Early participants were sitting at tables or waited for serving to begin while bellied up to the bar; all had beers in their hands. Out on the sidewalk, tables were being set up with steam cookers full of brats and a grill to get the meat close to perfection. Plastic Tupperware containers waited over ice with sauerkraut. Onions or tomatoes were further down the line next to plastic bottles of ketchup and mustard. Shane Wendland, who acquired Barden’s Bar from his parents in 2001, remembers Beers and Brats night as far back as 1974 when Barden’s was the first to hold the event; his recollection is that Katie O’Leary’s soon took up the celebration, as did Damon’s. “Yeah, I was single digits old, but I remember them doing it, I’m pretty sure that was the year.” Wendland, along with sister and co-owner Carrie, continues the tradition to this day, 50 years later. When asked what the best toppings on a brat are, his assessment is, “The works: sauerkraut, tomatoes, onions, ketchup



At a stand for the annual "Beer and Brats" event in front of Barden's Bar of Waseca's State Street business district, (from left) John Wabner, co-owner Shane Wendland, Griffin Hager, and co-owner Carrie Wendland were setting up for a busy night. This marks the fiftieth year since the bar first celebrated the now-annual event.

and mustard.” Pioneer photo by Ben Reveramann Barden’s, was getting the behind-the-bar area ready for the rush, which can be impressive on

Brats continued on 6

Nordmeyer joins county S.W.C.D.

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Cammi Nordmeyer joined the Waseca County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) this summer as its new soil health technician.

Nordmeyer, 25, is a recent graduate of Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she earned a degree in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services with an emphasis on resource management. Her training included work on geographic information systems—computer software which makes use of global positioning systems to manage data concerning specific units of land.

Her job as a soil health technician has her working closely with farmers who are interested in trying soil conservation methods in their fields.

Certain programs available through SWCD, Nordmeyer explains, create a

“cost sharing” system which helps minimize the financial risks farmers take as they incorporate reduced-till planting, cover crops, or other crop management methods which emphasize soil health and erosion control.

“Maybe they’ve seen something their neighbor is trying and they’re intrigued,” offers Nordmeyer. “Maybe they heard about a system during one of the soil health field days.

“My job is to advise them about methods which might work well in their setting, and to guide them through the process of getting a cost sharing contract.

“I inform them about what resources are available to them. I answer their questions and help with the paperwork. I make sure they understand what they’re agreeing to.”

The idea behind the cost sharing program, Nordmeyer explains, is to

encourage farmers who are interested in conservation methods, but uncertain about whether the expense and uncertainty of changing their practices is worthwhile.

“Contracts differ depending on circumstances,” Nordmeyer says, “but the idea is to give the farmer one to five years of experience with the new system, see its benefits, and recognize the value of continuing even after their cost sharing contract ends.

“We hope farmers will come to us if they’re curious, if they’re interested in trying something new, or even just to find out some of the science behind a new method.



Nordmeyer

“Even a small change can have a big impact on soil health and preventing erosion,” she says.

Since joining the S.W.C.D. in July, Nordmeyer says she has helped a fair number of farmers change over to new soil health practices.

“I’m really pleased and excited to have an impact this way,” she comments. “I’ve seen some farmers make some really valuable changes away from the traditional planting and tillage methods.

“The research shows those changes can have important, lasting impacts for generations to come.”

Nordmeyer encourages anyone with questions about soil management practices or SWCD programs to visit the department’s website at www.wasecaswcd.org, call 507-835-0563, or contact her directly at CammiN.swcd@wasecacounty.gov.



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The Pastor's Column

The perfect time of year for sunrise

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

It was dark when I woke up this morning. I love it. I love watching the Sun rise and set, during the summer I just can't enjoy it as much as I want to(something about the sun rising too early and setting too late). Right now we are in the perfect time of year where it is nice and cool during the mornings and evenings and we get to watch the changing of night and day.

I have some friends that moved to Minnesota from Southern Mississippi for a few years, they did move back, but we still talk about how beautiful the weather and colors of the area are as well as the sunrise and sunset. I have visited Mississippi in the winter, it was hot and sticky, even in February. I much prefer the four seasons and shorter days during winter and longer during summer.

As we head into deep fall and the snow will come in the next few weeks, we can't help but think about what it will be like. The anticipation of what will come next in the weather brings about a number of different feelings, some people like the snow, others won't go out into it. So often what we like or dislike about the weather is exactly what we will get out of it.

That is generally what we find in life as well, what we expect will happen often does. Imagine going to the store and seeing someone you don't like, how is that interaction going to go? At best you don't notice one another, at worst your frustration shows and it turns into a negative conversation. I am not one to say that what you put out is what you get, but your attitude does matter in how your interactions with others will go.

I am reminded of how Jesus told us to deal with people we may not

like or even hate. Matthew 5:43-48 says:

43 "You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. For He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing out of the ordinary? Don't even the Gentiles do the same? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. That prayer is a tough assignment, because you need to deal with your own emotions to ask God to work on behalf of your enemies. We pray for ourselves and others, which changes our perspective on the whole situation. Once we realize that God cares for all people, we look at people with new eyes, to love others because they are people and they need Jesus is the starting point. As that love grows our hatred diminishes to the point that we can share the love of Jesus with people that don't like us.

This change of heart that God works in us is the same one that changes the seasons and causes the sun to rise and set. God is in the business of transformation. He takes hot summer days and brings the snow in its season. If He can change the weather let Him change your heart and give you the ability to love those that hate you. In that miraculous transformation He will change the heart of your enemy so that you may call them brother and sister in Christ.

■ Event

from Page 5

affle ticket and be present during third quarter when the winning numbers are drawn.

Donors for the event include Ace Hardware, American Legion Post# 228, Britton Plumbing & Heating, Dennis Steffel Omtvedt Funeral Homes, Greener World Solutions, Hagen Farms, H & R Block, Hy-Vee of Owatonna, Jesse Hoffman, Morgan's Meats, M. Peters Enterprises, Pizza Ranch, Star Sports & Apparel, Wenger's, Ameriprise Financial- Kevin Walters, Boat House Grill and Bar, Beschnett & Harvey Chiropractic, Cassie's Classic Cuts, Deml Ford,

■ Brats

from Page 5

Beers and Brats night. Three years ago, it rained, last year it was really windy. This year, however, everyone is anticipating a pleasant 70 degrees, no rain, and only a light wind. Every Beers and Brats night, Wendland says he makes it a point to be here. "I always look forward to this," he says. Also present to help hold down the fort for Barden's is Ava Wendland, server; Griffin Hager, grill master and bartender; Katie Bluhm, bartender and brats; and Shelby Barber, bartender and brats. A note about Hager, by the end of the night the whites of his eyes were

red because of all the smoke from the grill, but not one word of complaint came from him all night.

Beers and Brats traditionally goes till about 7:30 or 8 p.m., unless the brats are gone before then. "Once," Wedland said, "I got 800 brats and we were out of them by 6:30, ain't nothing you can do about it." But even if that happens, he continued, "It's always fun to see the people out and about getting together and having a good time." Stephanie England, who was going to be one of the first people to eat said, "It's a great night for Barden's, I always look forward to it."

Melissa Nelson said when the dust settled on Beers and Brats Thursday night, "There were about 40 brats left I think...but don't quote me. Until next year Waseca.

■ Briefs

from Page 5

photo booth and music by Waseca High School Jazz Band, costumes encouraged. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Contact the Waseca Art Center for tickets.

St. John Lutheran

Church Fall Festival 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 26

St. John Lutheran Church of Waseca will have its Fall Festival beginning at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26. A luncheon which includes soup, a sloppy joe and pie will be available for \$9. Also featured will be a sale offering craft items, baked goods and quilts. St. John Lutheran is at 401 Third Avenue Northeast in Waseca.

"Snake Oil" show Oct. 19 at Historical Society

The Waseca County Historical Society will host "an unforgettable night of thrills and wonders" at Violet McNeal's Medicine Show World, a recreation of an old-fashioned Snake Oil Show at

6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. The evening will be hosted by an actor portraying Violet McNeal, a Midwestern girl who ran in the medicine show circuit at the turn of the century.

Featured during the show will be thrilling, real-life performances similar to those that appeared on McNeal's stage, including "Kazimir the Hungry," a real modern-day sword swal-

lower, and the "Human Snake Woman, Alive!"

Pre-registration is required at wasecacountyhistorycenter.org/events. Cost is \$20.

■ JWP

from Page 1

Born and Sophia Coulsey were chosen as this year's Mr. and Mrs. Lips. They were awarded small pillows in the shape of lips and Hershey's kisses...how fitting.

During the coronation, FCCLA president Sophia Coulsey gave a few updates about upcoming happenings, including the Trick or Treat Halloween event FCCLA sponsors each year.

FFA president Ellie Morsching provided on update on happenings for the JWP chapter, including building to a new record number of

members, 63. The group will also be attending the National FFA Convention in Indiana this October.

Representatives from the three fall sports teams talked briefly about their seasons. While on an 0-4 start, the football team scored a huge victory against St. Clair.

JWP volleyball team members were up next, with captains Lilly Strauss, Presley James, Brielle Bure, and Aubrey Weedman sharing how the team has turned things around with an even 9-9 record. They also auctioned off a 2023 volleyball poster, which was sold for \$65. The cross country team also gave brief updates, with team members Onikia Herme and Lydia Huelsnitz sharing results from the team's recent home meet at Prairie Ridge. Eric Daschner

kindly reminded them they had a signed jersey to auction, which they sold for \$45.

Shortly after all the coronation activities concluded, the high school girls faced off in a powder puff football competition on the football field.

Homecoming festivities this year included dress up days. The first, Monday, Sept. 30, was "'Merica Monday" with high schoolers showing off their best red, white, and blue fashion combinations. Next came "Throwback Tuesday," with the seniors having a special "senior sunrise" planned for them on the JWP football field at six in the morning. The junior high team hosted St. Clair for a football game at 4:30 p.m.

"Wacky Wednesday" called for the weirdest, wackiest, wacko, off-the-

wall clothing students could find. Bingo was the lunchtime activity for high schoolers that day.

Thursday's dress-up called for high-schoolers to wear colors assigned to their specific grade level; elementary students found "country" outfits to wear. Cross country competed at Waseca at 4 p.m., with the volleyball team hosting NRHEG for their homecoming game at 7:15 p.m.

Friday was designated as school spirit day. The high schoolers had an afternoon pep fest followed by a homecoming parade along Main Street at 2:45 p.m. The football team lost to United South Central in the homecoming game at 7 p.m. A 5 p.m. tailgating event preceded the game.

■ County

from Page 1

ing \$30,000 to continue work by Houston Engineering to find a solution for flooding problems experienced in the city of New Richland at times of high rainfall. Many structures in the town experienced damage this June; serious problems also occurred during high-water events in 2011 and 2016.

The city has already paid for earlier phases of the study. There are numerous county ditches in the watershed upstream from Boot Creek, which runs through New Richland. Board members also observed that county ditch 47 is scheduled for some repairs which may be affected by work done downstream.

Commissioners stated the hope engineering recommendations could be ready soon so that any large-scale project in New Richland could be submitted to both state and federal agencies by January to request supplementary funding.

Board member Doug Christopher-son, who represents that area of the county, thanked his fellow commissioners for their support of the city's request.

Tina Wilson, the county's community development coordinator who works with Economic Development Authorities (EDAs) for the county as well as the cities of Janesville, Waseca, and New Richland, approached the board regarding the possible sale of 10.4 acres of land owned by the Waseca County EDA; the parcel is located south of Janesville along Highway 14.

Wilson received permission to list the land for sale in its "as is" con-

dition. Because of proximity to wetlands, Wilson said about 220,000 square feet of the property would be usable for development; the land is zoned for industrial use. A condition of the sale, Wilson told commissioners, would be that progress toward development would be expected within one year or a "claw back" clause could be invoked.

Southern Minnesota Area Rural Transit (SMART) regional operations manager Don White offered board members information regarding the area bus service which provides service in Austin, Albert Lea, Owatonna, Waseca, and more.

Regarding local impact, White reported that the Waseca service has more than 10 full- and part-time employees, usually has one "route" bus and two "demand" buses in operation in town, has been operating in Waseca since 2016, and provides service for riders coming into

Waseca from nearby towns (or the reverse) almost daily. In response to board questions, White clarified that route buses operate from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. "Demand response" buses are available from 10 to 5 seven days a week.

Individuals interested in more information regarding using the service can contact SMART at 855-762-7821.

White mentioned the agency receives funding from state and federal sources. Thanks to funding allocated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, SMART has plans to build its own facility in Waseca in 2026. He also told commissioners the largest challenges the service faces at this time are finding enough staff members, along with the cost and availability of replacement buses.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH
2200 4th St NE, Waseca
507-835-2235
Service times 9:30 a.m.
* * *

4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH
605 4th St NE, Waseca
507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
Worship Sundays 10 a.m
* * *

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.
* * *

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 6th St NE, Waseca
507-835-9176
Worship Sundays traditional 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship; 10:45 a.m. contemporary service
* * *

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
* * *

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-2647
Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
* * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net)
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.
* * *

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 E Elm Ave, Waseca
507-835-1709
Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
* * *

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
111 4th St NW, Waseca
Father Glenn Ferichs
507-835-1222
Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m.
* * *

REAL LIFE CHURCH
620 W Elm Ave, Waseca

507-607-8245
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
* * *

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca
507-833-4640
Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m.
* * *

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
1221 8th St SE, Waseca
507-835-2213
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
* * *

CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
900 14th Ave SE, Waseca
507-833-1082
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m.
* * *

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir; 10:30 a.m. Worship
Monday - 1 p.m. Quilters
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Worship
* * *

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Mary Iverson
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee
Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting
Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting
* * *

LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting
* * *

VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship

* * *

VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Brian Schanil Pastor
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesdays: The Shepherd's Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark
* * *

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Father Glenn Ferichs
Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays p.m. Mass
Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m.
* * *

FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod
Waldorf, Minnesota
Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Larry Sipe
Sundays: Worship 8 a.m.; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and adult bible class
* * *

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship
* * *

ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Waldorf, Minnesota
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
* * *

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
Waldorf, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Wilton Township
Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor
Sunday - 8 a.m. summer worship; 10:45 a.m. Worship starting Sept. 1
* * *

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Brad Donner, Branch President
Waseca, Minnesota
www.lds.org
Sunday - 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18
* * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
412 N. Main Street, Janesville
Interim Pastor
Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:15 a.m. Worship
* * *

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

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Morristown
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter)
* * *

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 W. 2nd St, Janesville
10 a.m. - Mass
* * *

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St., Janesville
Pastor Sarah Krolak
* * *

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Alma City, Minnesota
Pastor Robert Harting
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Smiths Mill, Minnesota
Pastor Robert Harting
Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA
404 30 120th St. Waseca
Pastor Sarah Krolak
507-234-6463
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; Second Sunday "Young at heart"
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. confirmation
* * *

NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.



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Janesville

100 Years Back

On Friday the editor was privileged to look over the new and splendidly equipped garage recently completed by Christenson Brothers. The location is the former Rickerman livery barn, which has been, through a complete process of transformation until it now assumes the attire of a highly polished and strictly up-to-date business establishment.

The first football game of the season ended rather disastrously for the local team Saturday afternoon, when the fast Mankato high school team took the long end of sixty to nothing score. The Mankato school has an exceptionally strong team this year and the light, green Janesville team was no match for them. The Janesville lineup: Swanson, L. E.; Miller, L. T.; Trahms, L. G.; Joyce, C.; Hess, L. G.; Glynn, R. G.; Strunk, R. E.; Glynn, H. B.; Hartwich, H. B.; Foley, Q. B.; Paddock, F. B.

Mr. Chas. Reynolds has purchased, through the L. W. Converse Land Co., a 120 acre farm of Mr. Fred Strouss.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Gruber, Edith Gallagan, T. A. Simmons and J. Bignal of Elysian were in Janesville Monday.

Herman Arnoldt has been engaged the last week or two in erecting a fine bee house for Emil Hofmann. It is reported to be the finest in the state, or for that matter in the United States.

Walfrid Nyquist, son of Hon. Nels Nyquist, who has been in Janesville several weeks on a leave of absence, left Friday for New York to resume his duties as ensign on one of America's big battleships.

Otto Rippe, who operated a grocery store in Janesville and who was recently succeeded by W. I. Booth, left Friday for Wells, where he goes to take charge of the Farmers Cooperative store in that place.

75 Years Back

The Janesville Hearty Workers 4-H clubs No. 1 and 2 met with Keith and Lou Ann Born on Monday evening, Sept. 27. Election of officers was held as follows: Joan Gardner was reelected as president; Kathryn Galler, secretary; and Lou Ann Born, treasurer.

A group of relatives and friends gathered at the Garold Probach home on Sunday to help Mr. and Mrs. Probach celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary with a picnic dinner. Those present were; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest More, Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. Art More and family, Mrs. Jessie Johnson of Mapleton, Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Jones, Mrs. Etta Jones, Mr. and Mrs. R. Kogle and Mr. and Mrs. William More of Mankato, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Minkle of Good Thunder and Mr. and Mrs. George Roeker of Alma City.

Mrs. C. T. Cook, Mrs. Emil Kraske, Mrs. Fred Rollins, Mrs. Fred Rosenau and Mrs. Elmer Lentz went to the Harold Rosenquist home on Friday to visit Mrs. Victor Severson.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Zimmerman returned home Thursday evening from East Aurora, New York, where they spent the past three weeks visiting their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Danielson and family.

The Janesville Busy Fingers Home Demonstration Group will meet with Mrs. John Koehler on Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 13.

Mrs. Arnold Arndt and daughter, Margie, of St. Mary's and Mrs. Herbert Kopischke of Alton township called on Mrs. Henry A. Kopischke Thursday afternoon.

50 Years Back

The six standing girls will be vying for the title of 1973 Homecoming Queen next week. They are, left to right: Vicki Wolff, Helen Jewison, Deb Erdman, Carol Bergmann, Sheryl Westphal and Judy Osborne. Their attendants, kneeling, are Betty Wheelock, Beth Lundquist, and Cheryl Erdman.

Lloyd Simon, owner of Simon Pharmacy, will officially take over the presidency of the Janesville Area Chamber of Commerce October 24. Simon succeeds Dave Pope in the position.

Mrs. Max Miller and Mrs. Clara Schneider of Wheaton, and Mr. and Mrs. Art Stankey visited Charles and Irene Wandrie. They also visited Alfred Miller at the Janesville Nursing Home and Mrs. Marie Wandrie at the Colonial Manor at Waterville.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Schwab of St. Peter were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Klinkhammer. Other afternoon visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Francis Schwab and Mary.

Jeff Peterson of Minneapolis was a Sunday afternoon guest of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James Jensen. They all attended the chicken supper at the United Methodist Church.

25 Years Back

On Thursday, Oct. 1, Eileen Jewison became the new owner of Grass Roots Floral and Gifts located at 110 N. Main St., Janesville.

The Federal Reserve began issuing redesigned \$20 notes on Thursday, Sept. 24. The new notes will be available to the public in the days and weeks to follow.

The JWP girls' cross country team swept the top three spots in winning the Montgomery Fun Run Thursday, their fourth straight win this season.

Narcan from Page 1

nervous system, including the brain, survives only 4 to 6 minutes after breathing stops, and the longer into those minutes the deprivation continues, the more likely it is the individual will experience life-changing brain damage.

For all those reasons, Johnson says it is important that people have quick, ready access to Narcan. He suggests that persons who interact with people they believe to be drug users may wish to have one of the small, nondescript packets readily available. Narcan can also be effective against some other opioids, including if someone is overdosing on OxyContin, Vicodin or heroin.

"You never know when you will have a chance to save a life," Johnson comments.

The packets available in the red boxes are nasal spray. According to numerous sources, Narcan is harmless if administered by mistake or misunderstanding.

Located near the red distribution box in the county law enforcement building are a "Take it to the Box" collection unit and one for safely disposing of injection needles. The "Take it to the Box" container, Dulas explains, is helpful because those who are addicted to opioids

frequently acquire substances by searching medicine cabinets, purses, and other locations where pain relievers are likely to be kept.

By properly disposing of unneeded medications, individuals can help reduce the availability of potentially addictive substances. All materials collected in the Take it to the Box location are disposed of safely and according to regulation: Dulas reports that more than 400 pounds of substance have been destroyed so far.

"We think of it as a kind of 'one stop shop' when it comes to combating substance abuse," Dulas said of the location.

The wall-mounted Narcan distribution container is made possible by support from the Mankato office of the Minnesota Harm Reduction Team (MHRT); a community meeting was held at the Waseca Area Senior Citizens' Center the evening of Oct. 2 to introduce the distribution box and provide information about using Narcan, including walking any interested individuals through the process of administering it. Representing the Harm Reduction Team were Molly Kortuem, an outreach specialist for the organization, and Dave Rednour, who, like Marty Johnson, is a certified peer recovery specialist.

Funds for the boxes and for the Narcan inside them are made available through the Linkage to Care grant fund and the Minnesota Department of Health.

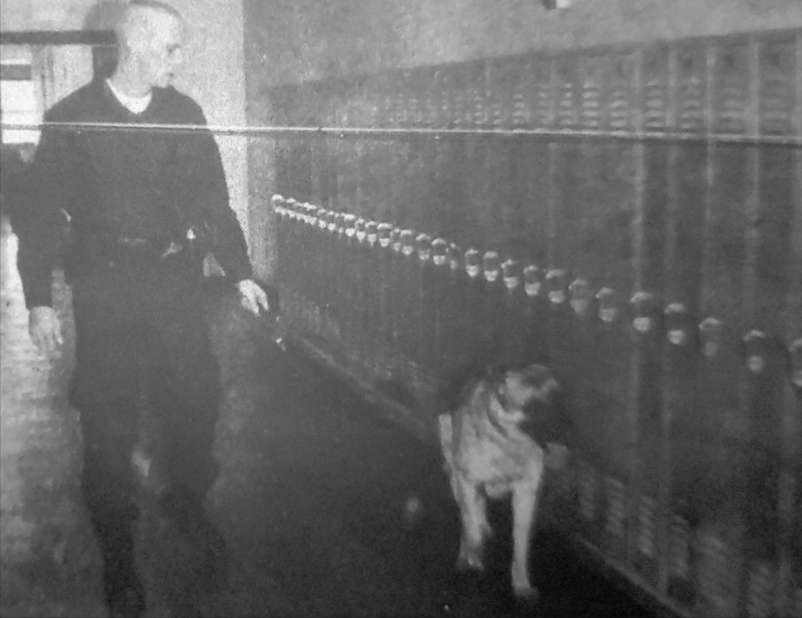
Waseca

25 Years Ago

-DNR officer Joe Frear patrols Lake Jefferson, a route to the DNR becomes familiar with during duck hunting season. Frear said there are between 2,500 to 3,000 licensed hunters in Waseca County, however not all of those hunters hunt in the county.

-Be careful, be smart and wear a life jacket. This is the message of local Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) officer Joe Frear as the calendar turned to October signifying the beginning of hunting season and harvest in Minnesota. Duck season began in earnest Saturday and harvest is underway and local enforcement are urging hunters, farmers, and the public to do everything they can to make this hunting and harvest season a safe one.

-Waseca High School Youth Service Leadership (YSL) student Chris Denz spent a sunny fall afternoon listening to Waseca Central Intermediate School fourth grade student Adam Oeltjenbruns read as part of a mentor partnership program at the Waseca Intermediate School.



-The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School District is using all the tools available to fight for a safe school environment. On Tuesday, Sept. 21, the school district enlisted the help of the Janesville Police Department and Lake Crystal Police Department's K-9 unit to make a general search of the high school's lockers and parking lot. Above is officer Jim Johnson.

50 Years Ago

-Farm skit – MEMBERS of the Waseca County Fair Bureau participated in a skit entitled "More Truth Than Fiction" Tuesday afternoon at a program held for Farm Bureau women in surrounding counties. Women in the skit were: Irene Kahnke, Ellen Holmquist, Leona Collins, Mrs. Armin Tesch, Eunice Gasner and Marie Groskreutz. Over 90 women attended the program.



-Harvest moon hunger – BRAD BATTENFELD, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Battenfeld was among the hungry shoppers devouring bratwurst Tuesday night during Waseca's third annual Beer 'n Bratwurst-Moonlight Madness promotion. Downtown streetlights remained off for the event but a full harvest moon (background) came on as scheduled.

-Homecoming candidates for Waseca – QUEEN CANDIDATES have been selected for Homecoming festivities at Waseca High School this weekend. Five senior girls will be vying for the crown when ceremonies begin Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. Pictured left to right: Jane Arvesen, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Arvesen, 209 10TH Ave. N.E.; Catherine Gahler, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gahler, 603 2ND St. N.W.; Debbie Hart, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hart, R. 4; and Nancy Markus, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Markus. Missing from picture is Catherine Driessen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Driessen, 610 N. State St.

75 Years Ago

-Joe Nelson opened his new Maid Rite sandwich shop at 110 Second Ave. S.W. yesterday. He has moved one door west from the old Sexton café into the building which housed the Eddie Sweet Place. It'll be breakfasts and lunches for patrons of Joe's newly decorated sandwich shop. He will not be serving meals.

-The second district convention of Women's Relief Corps auxiliary to the GAR was held in Waseca Saturday, October 8. This was the 50TH convention of the second district. Mrs. Neola Young of Waseca was elected as the district president for the coming year.

-The Waseca Concert association's second annual campaign for members was given a rousing send-off last week at a kick-off banquet in the dining room of the Hotel Waseca. Over 100 volunteer workers from Waseca and several neighboring communities were present.

100 Years Ago

-The silo is a life saver for corn farmers in Waseca county this year, according to a report just issued. "With late corn almost certain to be caught by frost while still unripe, use of the silo offers a means of saving the farmer huge sums of money in feeding values. It is highly important to save the maximum from the present crop, as official reports declare the corn condition in this state is only .61 per cent, while the total yield will not run over 118,900,000 bushels as compared with 154,692,000 in 1923."

-High prices for both wool and mutton have kept the sheep industry in the limelight the last two years and have caused a strong demand for breeding stock of all ages. Some farmers who have no experience as shepherds are rushing into sheep.

-The long dull winter days of bread, meat, potatoes and sweets are past. The thoughtful, up-to-date housewife right now is canning and storing foods to make winter meals this year wholesome and satisfying. Her boys and girls will come through this winter freer from colds and illness and with rosier cheeks and brighter eyes than they would under the old-time kinds of winter food.

New Richland

25 Years Back

•Ryan Hasting, a graduate of St. Cloud State has joined the staff at New Richland. Ryan is the special education teacher for junior and senior students. He received his degree in the spring of 1999 as a special education instructor for K-12 licensed for learning disabilities and mild to moderate handicapped learning. Ryan is a graduate of La qui Parle Valley High School in Appleton, Mn. Ryan has an older brother and sister.



• Michelle and Nathan Jacobson. Michelle Leigh Raines and Nathan David Jacobson were married Friday, July 23, 1999, on the Stillwater Riverboat by Pastor Phillip Lewison. Parents of the bride are Gary and Dianne Raines of White Bear Lake. Parents of the Groom are David and Karen Jacobson of New Richland.



•Tiffany Wayne (w/Haley) showing the awards they won at the Regional Dog Show. On October 11th the southern Regional Dog Show was held in Fairmont. The Bath-Geneva 4-H Club had 8 participants attending. Tiffany Wayne received a Grand Champion in *Beginner Agility, a 6th place in *Junior Open Showmanship, a white in Junior Novice Obedience (w/Haley), and a 2nd Alternate in Beginner B (w/Lassie). Ben Payne received a Reserve Champion in *Beginner Agility, a 4th place in *Junior Novice Showmanship, and a red in Junior Novice Obedience (w/Jaycee).

50 Years Back

• The girls varsity basketball team added another Conference win to their record Tuesday night by defeating Medford, 39-19. The Raiders jumped out to an early lead and a strong defense to be ahead at the end of the first quarter, 14-2. They slowed down the offensive pace in the second quarter and still led at half, 18-6. Again the girls came out and took charge in the third quarter and extended their lead to 34-16. Both teams were cold in the fourth quarter, but the Raiders managed to score two more than Medford and ended up with the 20 point victory.



•Mr. And Mrs. Richard King. The Naval Station Chapel on Thirty-second Street in san Diego, CA was the Nov. 29 setting for the wedding ceremony of Patricia Simon and Richard King. Chaplain Crossan officiated at the double ring ceremony. Kristine and Eric escorted their mother down the aisle. Nicole escorted her father to the altar. Attending the couple were friends, Bob and Mary Macko of Dublin, CA. The couple was honored with a six-Navy-man sword salute as they came out of the chapel.

SCOREBOARD

Football		
South Central - White		
	Conf.	Ov.
Waseca	3-0	5-1-0
Jordan	2-1	2-4-0
Albert Lea	1-1	2-4-0
Belle Plaine	0-2	1-5-0
Tri-City United	0-2	1-5-0

South Central - Red		
	Conf.	Ov.
Fairmont	2-1	5-1-0
Marshall	2-0	5-1-0
Worthington	1-1	1-5-0
New Ulm	1-2	4-2-0
St. Peter	0-2	3-3-0

Mid Southeast - West		
Norwood Young America		6-0
Lester Prairie		5-1
Randolph		5-1
WEM		5-1
Cleveland		3-3
NRHEG		3-3
United South Central		3-3
Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop		2-4
Mayer Lutheran		1-5
JWP		1-5
St. Clair/Loyola		1-5
Medford		0-6

Class 3A Minnesota Football Ratings		
Compiled by Star Tribune As of Oct. 7, 2024		
1. Stewartville		6-0
2. Dassel-Cokato		6-0
3. Pequot Lakes		6-0
4. Albany		6-0
5. Waseca		6-1
6. Fergus Falls		6-0
7. Fairmont		5-1
8. Morris Area/CA		6-0
9. Pine Island		5-1
10. Annandale		5-1

Class 4A Minnesota Football Ratings		
Compiled by Star Tribune As of Oct. 7, 2024		
1. Becker		6-0
2. Totino Grace		6-0
3. Orono		6-0
4. Princeton		6-0
5. Byron		5-1
6. Providence Academy		4-2
7. Marshall		5-1
8. Rocori		4-2
9. Hill-Murray		5-1
10. Hermantown		5-1

Volleyball		
Big South East		
	Conf.	Ov.
Belle Plaine	5-0	15-5-0
Waseca	6-1	14-7-0
New Ulm	3-4	4-16-0
St. Peter	2-1	14-7-1
Tri-City United	2-3	8-8-0
Blue Earth Area	1-4	4-12-1
Fairmont	1-4	4-14-0
St. James Area	0-3	2-10-0

Big South West		
	Conf.	Ov.
Marshall	6-0	18-4-0
Redwood Valley	4-1	20-6-0
Jackson Co. Cen.	3-2	9-12-0
Windom	3-2	13-7-0
Worthington	1-4	11-15-0
Luverne	0-4	5-18-0
Pipestone	0-4	4-18-0

Gopher Conference		
	Conf.	Ov.
Kenyon-Wan.	7-1	16-5-0
Bethlehem Ac.	6-1	10-9-0
WEM	5-2	14-7-0
NRHEG	4-4	10-10-10
Triton	3-4	10-8-0
JWP	3-3	10-8-1
Medford	2-3	7-11-0
United So. Central	2-3	10-7-1
Hayfield	2-6	2-12-0
Randolph	3-4	10-8-1
Blooming Prairie	0-7	3-14-2

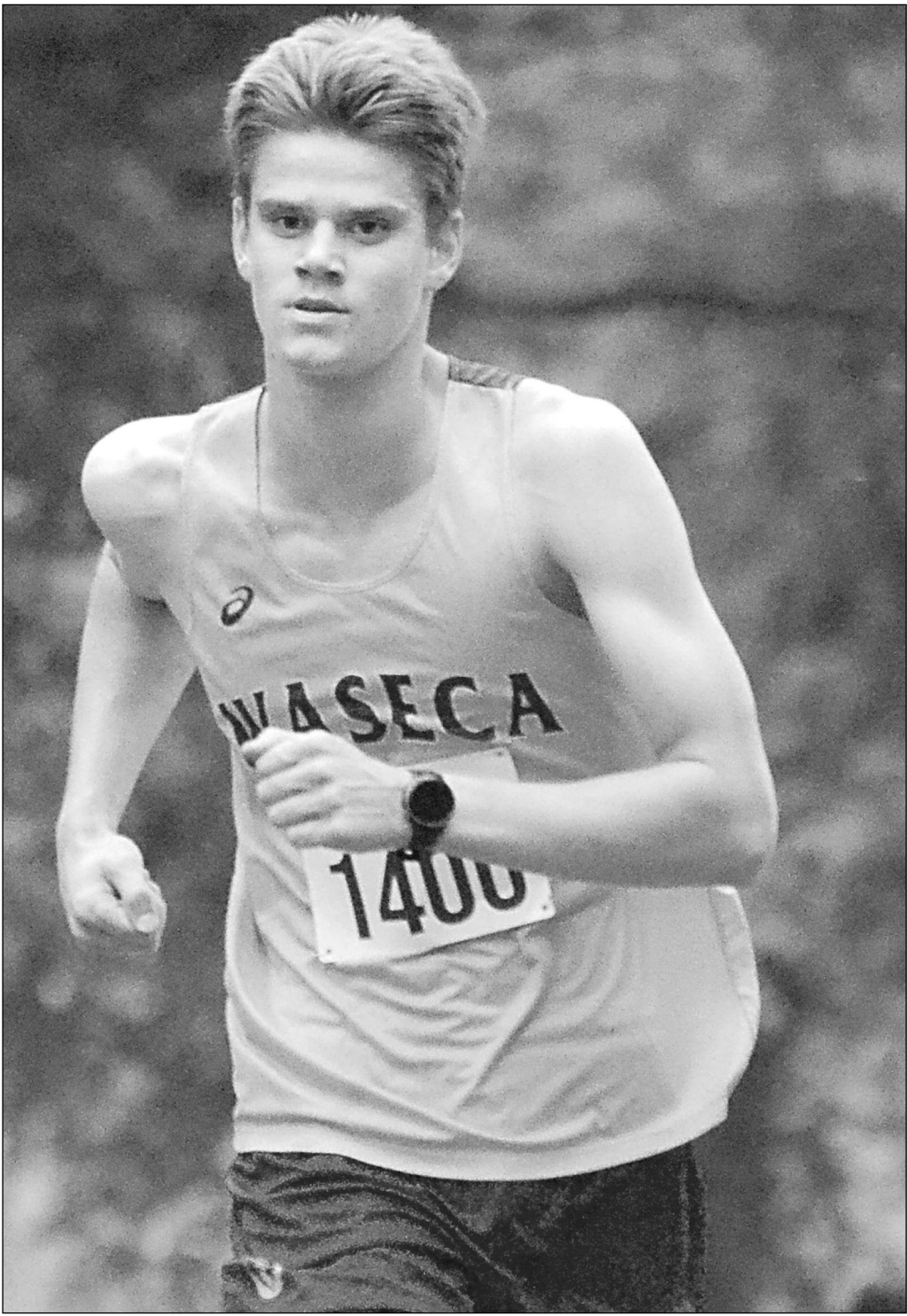
Boys' Soccer		
Big South Black Division		
	Conf.	Ov.
New Ulm	6-0-0	11-4-1
Tri-City United	3-2-1	10-4-2
St. Peter	2-3-1	8-6-2
Waseca	0-6-0	2-12-1

Big South Gold Division		
	Conf.	Ov.
Marshall	5-1-0	10-2-2
Worthington	5-1-1	9-4-4
Fairmont	1-4-1	3-7-3
Wings United	0-5-1	3-10-1

Girls' Soccer		
Big South Black Division		
	Conf.	Ov.
St. Peter	5-0-1	11-2-3
Waseca	3-1-1	8-3-3
New Ulm	2-4-0	6-9-1
Tri-City United	0-5-0	2-11-1

Big South Gold Division		
	Conf.	Ov.
Fairmont	6-0-0	12-4-1
Marshall	4-2-0	6-7-2
Worthington	1-5-0	2-13-0
Wings United	1-5-0	2-13-1

Girls' Tennis		
Big South Conference East		
	W-L	
St. Peter		6-0
Blue Earth		5-1
Waseca		3-3
Fairmont		3-3
Belle Plaine		3-3
Tri-City United		1-5
New Ulm		0-6



LEADERSHIP — Senior Isaac Feldkamp, left, and senior Callie Dufault, right, led the Bluejays in last week's Waseca Invitational, placing first and fifth, respectively. Below right, Waseca's Ella Kopischke and Maren Schimming.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

Bluejay boys nipped for 1st in Waseca CC Invitational

Isaac Feldkamp cruises to boys' individual title

It was a down-to-the-wire finish for the boys' team title in last Thursday's Waseca Cross Country Invitational.

The individual winner was without question. Bluejays senior Isaac Feldkamp ran a strong race throughout while finishing first with a time of 17:18.50 for 5,000 meters at the golf course in Waseca.

The Bluejay boys, meanwhile, were edged for first by a single point, totaling 35 to Faribault's 34. TCU totaled 64, United South Central 91.

Feldkamp's victory was his second straight. Following for the Bluejays: Tristan Godwin, eighth, 18:28.10; Tanner Hanson, 10th, 18:53.0; Tyler Jellum, 11th, 19:03.20; Wyatt Hager, 14th, 19:44.3; Ryan Yoder, 25th, 21:21.9; Michaiah Grannis, 32nd, 22:28.1.

NRHEG's lone entrant in the boys' division, Jacob Karl, finished sixth in 18:10.10.

Teagan Mulder of WEM/JWP led the Grizzlies, taking 12th in 19:23.4. Others: Jaxon Hilley, 36th, 23:26.0;

Wesley Heinz, 37th, 24:10.8; Maddox Moreno, 38th, 24:38.1.

The Waseca girls took second behind a deep and talented Faribault squad, totaling 40 points to the Falcons' 27. TCU had 83, WEM/JWP 94.

Places and times for the Bluejays: Callie Dufault, fifth, 20:13.0; Ellie Kopischke, eighth, 20:48.3; Maren Schimming, 11th, 21:17.1; Stella Omtvedt, 12th, 21:19.2; Jenna Yoder, 13th, 22:01.7; Taylor Markeson, 16th, 22:12.4; Ava VanDenHemel, 17th, 22:12.5.

WEM/JWP finishers: Mackenzie Westphal, 10th, 21:14.5; Onikia Herme, 26th, 23:49.5; Madeline Hoehn, 27th, 23:49.5; Emma Huelsnitz, 29th, 24:44.9; Kwynn Krause, 30th, 24:54.9; Mady Miller, 31st, 25:03.9; Lydia Coulsey, 33rd, 26:16.4.

Julieann Wobbrock of NRHEG placed seventh in 20:40.8.

The girls' overall winner was Sophia Stencel of Maple River in 18:48.8.



WHS tennis girls seeded atop section

The Waseca High School girls' tennis team drew the No. 1 seed in the Section 1A tournament.

The Bluejays, 13-4, had an opening-round bye as the rest of the section played Tuesday, No. 4 seed Rochester Lourdes vs. No. 5 Winona Cotter, and No. 2 Cannon Falls facing No. 3 Lake City or No. 6 St. Croix Prep.

Waseca will play in the semifinals Friday, Oct. 11 at 8 a.m. at the Rochester Athletic Club against the Lourdes-Cotter winner, with the championship match to follow.

The Bluejays wrapped up the regular season last Tuesday with a 6-1 victory at Winona Cotter. The JV won 4-1.

Takya Schoenrock was victorious at No. 1 singles, 6-2, 4-7, 10-6. Maddy Benson won 6-1, 6-1 at No. 3 and Pearl Moore prevailed 6-0, 6-2 at No. 4. Vivian Mader dropped a 6-4, 6-1 decision at No. 2.

At No. 1 doubles, Addie Pfeifer and Mia Kanewischer teamed to blank their opponents 6-0, 6-0 while Layla Keith and Kennedy Lynch won 6-0, 6-0 at No. 3. Paige Dufault and Ava Miller were dominant at No. 2 doubles, dropping only one game.

The winning team in the section tournament advances to state.



SET FOR SECTION — Vivian Mader of Waseca, right, prepares to return a serve as coach Kyle Collins, left, looks on. The Bluejays drew the No. 1 seeded in the Section 1A tournament.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

Volleyball team rallies at BEA, 3-2

The Waseca High School volleyball team, which has already won more than people expected this season, displayed a remarkable comeback ability at Blue Earth Area last week.

The Bluejays found themselves down 2-0 after two games, falling 25-22, 25-16.

That's when the comeback began, and coach Krissy Plonske's Bluejays won 25-19, 25-21 and, in the deciding game, 18-16.

"We had a slow start and I needed to switch things up and it worked," said Plonske. "We are missing a key player due to injury so we are just working on those small kinks. It was a W in the end."

Siri Kuhns totaled 44 set assists and 25 digs for the Bluejays, who got 20 kills and 15 digs from Ellie Hoehn. Kalea Sartori registered 13 kills, six assisted blocks and two solo blocks. Katy Eldeen had 11 kills, Kendall Bowers 21 digs.

The Bluejays improved to 6-1 in the Big South East and 14-7 overall. The Bucs fell to 1-4 and 4-12-1.

The Bluejays face LCWM at home tonight at 7:30. The sec-

Turnovers lead to loss by JWP football team

Turnovers turned out to be troublesome for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School football team at United South Central last Friday.

The Bulldogs fumbled the ball five times, losing three of them, and threw an interception in an 18-0 loss.

The Rebels took control of the line of scrimmage, taking the opening kickoff and driving 92 yards in seven plays.

The Bulldogs' best drive came in the second quarter, when they drove 58 yards before running out of time in the first half.

Two more promising JWP drives in the second half ended with fumbles, and their final possession ended with an interception.

The Rebels drove 70 yards in 16 plays in the fourth quarter.

USC outgained the Bulldogs 244-139 in total yards, and they ran 50 plays to 37 for JWP.

Lucas Morsching led the Bulldogs in rushing with 35 yards on 13 tries. The Bulldogs were held to 44 rushing yards. Quarterback Daulton Bauer was 13-for-19 for 95 yards.

The Bulldogs travel to face rival NRHEG Thursday at 7 p.m. The regular-season finale is Wednesday, Oct. 16 at home against Medford.

United South Central 18, JWP 0

USC	6	6	0	6	18
JWP	0	0	0	0	0
First Quarter					
USC — Byron Getchell 1 run (run failed)					
Second Quarter					
USC — Dylan Bonsack 34 pass from Getchell (pass failed)					
Third Quarter					
No scoring					
Fourth Quarter					
USC — Getchell 1 run (run failed)					
	USC		JWP		
Total plays	50		37		
First downs	16		9		
Rushing Yds.	42-165		20-44		
Passing	5-7-1		13-19-1		
Passing Yds.	79		95		
Total Yds.	244		139		
Third Down	7-10		2-7		
Fourth Down	0-1		0-1		
Fumbles lost	1-1		5-3		
Turnovers	1		4		
Penalties	11-117		5-47		
Punts-Avg.	2-31.0		1-43.0		
Time of poss.	37:38		10:22		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — JWP: Lucas Morsching 13-35; Chase Gerdts 4-16; Daulton Bauer 1-2; Ethan Born 1-1; **USC:** Getchell 15-68; Gavin Bird 13-60; Dylan Bonsack 6-37; Kolt Bullerman 5-5; Isaiah Gonzalez 1-1

Passing — JWP: D.Bauer 13-19-1, 95; **USC:** Bullerman 4-7-1, 45; Getchell 1-1-0, 34

Receiving — JWP: Caleb Quast 10-76; Isaac Gahlon 2-18; Morsching 1-1; **USC:** Bonsack 3-56; Getchell 3-23

JWP Defense — Quast 4 assists; Davien Weiz 6A; Michael Walker 1 tackle, 7A; Gahlon 3T, 2A; Isaiah Berndt 1T, 1A; Born 2T, 2A; Gerdts 1T, 7A; Morsching 1T, 6A; Peyton O'Brien 3T, 13A; Jaxon Miller 1T, 4A; Luke Cahill 2A; Aidan Rider 1T; Max Davis 2T, 1A

Soccer squads seeded 7th, 6th in section tourney

Seedings have been announced for the Section 1AA boys' and girls' soccer tournaments.

The Bluejay boys are seeded No. 7 out of seven teams, and opened the tournament Tuesday at No. 2 seed Northfield. The winner plays Thursday at the site of the higher seeded team. The section title game is Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. at JWP High School.

The Waseca girls are seeded sixth out of eight teams, opening tournament play Tuesday, Oct. 8 at No. 3 Northfield, with the winner to play Thursday at the high seed. The girls' section championship game is Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. at JWP High School.

Panthers beat up front at WEM

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The streak is over for the NRHEG High School football team.

The Panthers, riding high while winning three consecutive games after an 0-2 start, were upended 28-12 by a tough WEM crew at Waterville last Friday.

"It was a hard fought game," said NRHEG head coach Marc Kruger.

The story of the game, according to Kruger, was how the Buccaneers were able to control the line of scrimmage and keep the NRHEG defense on the field.

All told, the Bucs ran for 316 yards on 55 carries while the Panthers were held to 50 yards rushing. For the game, WEM outgained the Panthers 358-167 in total yards, totaling 21 first downs to the Panthers' 10.

After falling behind 14-0 in the second quarter, the Panthers cut into the deficit on a 5-yard run by Harbor Cromwell. WEM scored again in the second, making it 21-6 at halftime. The Bucs added a third-quarter touchdown. The Panthers found the end zone again in the fourth on a 22-yard touchdown pass by Alden Dobberstein, who finished the night 6-for-13 for 177 yards. He did not throw an interception. Dobberstein was also the Panthers' leading rusher with 25 yards on 12 tries.

Jordan Brouwers led the defense with nine tackles. Cromwell had eight tackles and two assists, Ryan Schlaak seven tackles and four assists.

"WEM's offense was able to really control the ball and line of scrimmage," said Kruger. "We had a hard time getting off the field on defense, with them creating some long drives. They really beat us on time of possession that way. We were able to throw the ball some, and saw two scores. As

a team, we are looking forward to learning from this."

The Panthers fell to 3-3 for the season, all six games coming in the Mid Southeast West Conference. WEM improved to 5-1.

The Panthers play tonight at 7 p.m. at JWP and finish the regular season Oct. 16 at United South Central. The section tournament starts Oct. 22.

WEM 28, NRHEG 12

NRHEG	0	6	0	6	12
WEM	7	14	7	0	28
First Quarter					
WEM — 3 run (kick successful)					
Second Quarter					
WEM — 3 run (kick successful)					
NRHEG — Harbor Cromwell 5 run (kick failed)					
WEM — 4 pass (two-point conversion successful)					
Third Quarter					
WEM — 1 run (kick successful)					
Fourth Quarter					
NRHEG — 22 pass by Alden Dobberstein (two-point conversion unsuccessful)					

	NRHEG	WEM
Total plays	42	67
First downs	10	21
Rushing	50	316
Passing	6-13-0	5-8-0
Passing Yds.	117	42
Total Yds.	167	358
Third Down	1-8	8-11
Fourth Down	2-4	1-3
Fumbles lost	0	1
Turnovers	0	1
Penalties	6-40	4-30

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — NRHEG: Dobberstein 12-25; Owen Bartlett 1-11; Cromwell 3-7; Ryan Schlaak 5-0; Rest of team 3-7; **WEM:** 55-316

Passing — NRHEG: Dobberstein 6-13-0, 117; **WEM:** 55-316; **WEM:** 5-8-0, 42

Receiving — NRHEG: Bartlett 2-58; Cromwell 1-21; Knudson 1-5; Rest of team 2-33; **WEM:** 5-42

NRHEG Defense — Jordan Brouwers 9 tackles, 3 assists; Cromwell 8T, 2A; R.Schlaak 7T, 4A; Seth Staloch 5T, 1A; Jayden Fleming 3T, 1A; Jace Ihlre 2T; Wyatt Larson 4A; Cole Hutchens 1A



STRONG SUPPORT — Above, JWP's Aubrey Weedman, right, is congratulated by teammate Isabelle Rider (10), after reaching the 1,000 set assist milestone in a victory over NRHEG last week. Below, fans show their support. Photos by LeAnn Kavitz



Weedman reaches 1,000 set assists as Bulldogs sweep visiting NRHEG

It was a big night for Aubrey Weedman, and a big win for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School volleyball team.

With fans packing the gym carrying signs, Weedman recorded the 1,000th set assist of her career as the Bulldogs blanked NRHEG 3-0 at Janesville last Thursday.

For the match, Weedman totaled 27 set assists, six kills and six digs. She also served up two aces.

Others: Brielle Bure 1 ace, 1 kill, 1 assist, 29 digs; Ava Appel 3 digs; Nevaeh Weimert 16 assists, 8 digs; Paige Walz 6 kills, 3 digs; Claire

Walz 9 kills, 3 digs; Ellah Oliver 4 digs; Presley James 17 kills, 5 digs; Katie Olson 10 kills, 1 dig; Brielle Dessner 4 digs; Hope Dimmel 3 kills, 3 assists, 2 digs.

The Bulldogs enhanced their record to 3-3 in the Gopher Conference and 10-8-1 overall while NRHEG fell to 4-4 and 10-10-1.

The Bulldogs host Triton Saturday at 1 p.m. and finish the regular season Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. at United South Central. The section tournament starts Oct. 21.

NRHEG spikers split with Hayfield, JWP

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School volleyball team was coming off a busy week that included Homecoming activities and a weekend tournament.

It did not hinder their play.

The Panthers blanked visiting Hayfield last Tuesday, winning 25-17, 25-13 and 25-22 in New Richland.

"Overall, we played well tonight against Hayfield," said NRHEG coach Bethany Tennis.

It included plenty of hustle on the part of the Panthers.

"Our defense was working on keeping plays alive by covering our hitters and playing each point with

intensity," explained Tennis. "Our players at the net also did their job well attacking with a swing consistently. Setter Addy Stadheim racked up 35 assists while Izley Boerner and Libero Chloe Riewer each had 10 digs. As a team, we had positive communication throughout each set which is key to our success. We take on JWP later this week and expect a good conference battle."

Total individual statistics: Gabby Schlaak 13 kills, 8 digs, 1 set assist, 1 ace, 1 block; Camryn VanMaldeghem 9K, 8D, 1A, 4B; Anika Ladlie 3K, 1B; Mallory Schlinger 3D, 1A; Izley Boerner 10D, 1SA; Nora Flatness 2D, 2B; Addy Stadheim 1K, 7D, 35SA, 1B; Aspyr Stenzel 2D; Chloe Riewer 10D, 1SA; Chloe Stork 4K, 4B;

Meela Budach 6K, 1D.

As predicted, Thursday's Gopher Conference match at Janesville was close, but the Bulldogs prevailed 3-0 as JWP setter Audrey Weedman reached the 1,000-set assists milestone. Game scores were 26-24, 25-18, 26-24.

Schlaak and VanMaldeghem led the offense with 12 and 10 kills, respectively. Boerner led the defense with 11 digs.

"We took on JWP for their Homecoming tonight," said Tennis. "JWP played well and played tough defense throughout the sets that led to their success in three."

Full team stats for NRHEG: Schlaak 12K, 4D, 1SA, 2A; VanMaldeghem 10K, 4D, 1SA, 2A, 1B; Ladlie 2K, 2A; Schlinger 4D,

1SA; Boerner 1K, 11D; Flatness 1SA; Stadheim 2K, 2D, 27SA, 1A, 1B; Riewer 3K; Stork 4K, 4B; Budach 3K, 1D, 1A.

The Panthers' record fell to 4-4 in the conference and 10-10-1 for the season. The Bulldogs improved to 3-3 and 10-8-1.

"Looking forward, Panther volleyball aims to regain consistency in our serve receive and defense so that our offense can go to work," said Tennis. "The girls thrive on positive energy and momentum, so, as a team we plan to continue to push and create this energy when faced with challenging opponents."

The Panthers host Maple River tonight at 7:15 and end the regular season Oct. 15 at Randolph. The section tournament starts Oct. 21.

Karl 6th at Waseca

NRHEG cross country runners Jacob Karl and Julieann Wobbrock had a good outing in last Thursday's Waseca Invitational.

Karl, a junior, finished sixth among the boys, clocking 18:10.10 for 5,000 meters.

Wobbrock, an eighth-grader, took seventh in the girls' race in a personal-best 20:40.8.

"Jacob Karl continues to be a top-tier performer," said NRHEG coach Larry Nydegger. "He continues to flirt with that sub-18-minute race. He ran well against some strong competition from some larger schools."

Wobbrock bested her previous best time by nearly 30 seconds.

Also placing for NRHEG: Sierra Misgen, 35th, 27:04.10; Amelia Duryee, 37th, 28:30.67; and Holly Bartness, 39th, 31:01.5. Misgen and Duryee recorded personal bests.

The Panthers' Ella Jeno suffered an injury early in the race and did not finish.

BLUEJAY FOOTBALL

PLAYER of the WEEK

Deron Russell

4 catches for 67 yards on offense and an interception on defense

Bluejay Football Player of the Week Sponsored by:

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ONE-SIDED WIN — The Waseca High School football team won handily at Tri-City United’s Homecoming last Friday. At left, Kellen Klinger runs the football. At right, Damarius Russell splits the defense on his way to a touchdown.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

Jays run wild at TCU, 42-7

Waseca makes it five straight

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

It was Homecoming at Tri-City United High School in Montgomery last Friday.

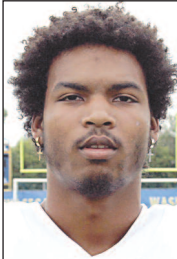
They might have picked the wrong opponent to schedule.

The Waseca High School football team wasted no time in displaying its dominance, taking a 35-7 halftime lead and coasting to a season-high points total while winning 42-7. It was the fifth consecutive victory for the Bluejays, who improved to 5-1 after dropping the season opener to top-ranked Stewartville. TCU fell to 1-5.

“We saw good energy from the kids,” said WHS head coach Brad Wendland. “We were better in and out of the huddle and at the line of scrimmage on offense. It was our best special teams performance of the year. “We’re very happy about that.”

The Bluejays took a 21-0 lead after one period as freshman quarterback Kellen Klinger ran for a 6-yard score and threw touchdown passes of 34 and 23 yards to Damarius Russell.

Micah Allen-Haas ran for a touchdown in the second quarter and, after TCU’s lone score of the night, the Bluejays called time out with seconds remaining until halftime. They



Allen-Haas



Selthun

scored again, this time on a hook-and-ladder play with Ethan Hiller laterally to Russell, who streaked into the end zone from 35 yards out.

Carson Ohnstad scored on a 14-yard pass from Klinger in the third quarter.

Klinger, who set a school record for passing yards the previous week, had another big night, going 15-for-25 for 307 yards and one interception.

Russell also had another fine outing, catching five passes for 130 yards.

Deron Russell got into the act with a leaping interception as the Waseca defense dominated, holding TCU to 181 yards and seven first downs.

“We’re looking to take a big step forward in performance this week,” said Wendland, whose team hosts Albert Lea Friday at 7 p.m. The regular-season finale is Wednesday, Oct. 18 at home against Fairmont.



DOWN AND DIRTY — At left, the Bluejays’ Carson Ohnstad (18) strips the ball from a Tri-City United ball carrier. At right, Bennett Ludwig (2) strives for extra yards.



Waseca 42, Tri-City United 7				
WAS	21	14	7	0 — 42
TCU	0	7	0	0 — 7
First Quarter				
WAS — Kellen Klinger 6 run (Owen Rupe kick)				
WAS — Damarius Russell 34 pass from Klinger (Rupe kick)				
WAS — Da.Russell 23 pass from Klinger (Rupe kick)				
Second Quarter				
WAS — Micah Allen-Haas 3 run (Rupe kick)				
TCU — Nathan Blaschko 58 run (Rafael Balcazar kick)				
WAS — Da.Russell 35 run on lateral from Ethan Hiller (Rupe kick)				
Third Quarter				
Carson Ohnstad 14 pass from Klinger (Rupe kick)				
Fourth Quarter				
No scoring				
First downs				
Rushing Yds.				
Passing				
Passing Yds.				
Total Yds.				
Penalties				
TCU	7	30-102	18-44	8
WAS	8	8-20-1	18-29-1	333
TCU	79	79	333	377
WAS	181	181	377	377
TCU	2-30	2-30	3-30	3-30

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — WAS: Titan Rahe 2-23; Bennett Ludwig 4-9; Aydan Kath 1-4; Koltyn Quillen 1-4; Allen-Haas 1-3; Cyrett Long 1-3; Deven Parpart 2-2; Kamerine Ferch 1-1; Klinger 4 — 5; TCU: Blaschko 5-63; Brody Factor 3-12; Kellen Jirik 4-10; Keegan Omeara 3-9; Christopher Estrada 4-8; Jacob Neubauer 1-5; Dylan Fink 7-5; Toren Kelly 1-4; Parker O’Malley 1 — 5; Brendan Frederick 1 — 9

Passing — WAS: Klinger 15-25-1, 307; Kath 2-3-0, 22; Long 1-1-0, 4; TCU: Jirik 8-19-1, 79; Frederick 0-1-0, 0

Receiving — WAS: Da.Russell 5-130; Parpart 2-71; Deron Russell 2-47; Ohnstad 4-

40; Ethan Hiller 1-15; Owen Rupe 1-13; Hayden Stencil 1-9; Jett Rohl 2-8; TCU: O’Malley 1-37; Gavin Sherman 4-34; Elan O’Keefe 2-11; Neubauer 1 — 3

Waseca Defense — Long 1 tackle, 2 assists; Da.Russell 1T; Hiller 2T, 1A; Quillen 4T, 3A; De.Russell 1T, 1 int.; Caden Danner 1T; Ohnstad 1T, 1A; Max Wirtz 1T, 1A; Deven Parpart 2T; William Mansfield 1T, 1A; Allen-Haas 4T, 3A; Kyle McGuire 1T, 1A; Tauston Rupe 1T, 3A, 1 fumble rec.; Brady McKenna 1T; Lucas Selthun 3T, 1A; Kaden Garza 3T, 1A, 1 sack; David Hodgkins 1T, 1A; Julius Oviedo 2T, 2A; Max Howard 1T

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October 2, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of Waseca County Economic Development Authority has issued a Request for Offers of Purchase and Development of PID No. 01.003.1050. also identified as 3071 380th Avenue, Janesville, Minnesota. The proposed sale of property from the Authority is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.105, as amended.

The full Request for Offers of Purchase and Development documents and information can be accessed on the Waseca County Website Economic Development Authority page, <https://www.wasecacounty.gov/173/Economic-Development> , where the information packet may be viewed, or a copy may also be reviewed at Waseca County Planning and Zoning office, 300 N State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Offers for Purchase may be submitted in person or via email and will need to be received in the Planning and Zoning office located in the East Annex, (300 N State Street, Waseca, MN 56093) no later than 4:00p.m., Tuesday, November 12, 2024. Offers will be opened at the East Annex Small Conference Room on November 13, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. All offers will be reviewed by the EDA Board and evaluated based on several factors, including offer price and long-term community benefit. The Board may, in the best interest of the Economic Development Authority, reject any or all bids.

The Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of Waseca County Economic Development Authority will make a determination of acceptance at a public hearing scheduled for November 20, 2024, in the county meeting room located at 300 State Street N Waseca, MN 56093.

Questions regarding the properties may be submitted to the Community Development Coordinator, as noted below.

Sincerely,

Tina Wilson, Community Development Coordinator
300 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093
Tina.wilson@wasecacounty.gov or (507) 835-0538

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NOTICE
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

WASECA COUNTY LEASE OF PUBLIC LANDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Waseca County is soliciting bids for the lease of public land located in the Southeast Quarter of Section 5 and the Northeast Quarter of Section 8, Otisco Township, Waseca County. The land is located northeast and south of the Solid Waste and Recycling Center on parcels 080050300 and 080080200. The proposed leased property consists of four (4) sub-parcels totaling 112 tillable acres, more or less.

Bids will be received at the office of the County Engineer, located at 1495 5th St SE, PO Box 487, Waseca, MN 56093, until 3:00 pm, Friday October 25, 2024. Bids may be submitted in-person, by US Mail, or by email to jim.kollar@wasecacounty.gov. Bid forms and other pertinent information, including maps and the draft lease agreement, are available at the Office of the County Engineer, at the Solid Waste & Recycling Center located at 31080 State Hwy 13, Waseca, or by email request to jim.kollar@wasecacounty.gov or tammie.bramer@wasecacounty.gov.

Consideration of the bids and award of a lease agreement will be made by the Waseca County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held at 300 North State Street, Waseca, MN 56093 on November 5, 2024, at 9:30 am. The Waseca County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive defects.

Jim Kollar, PE, Waseca County Public Works Director/County Engineer
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer: October 3rd, October 10th, October 17th and October 24th, 2024.

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From left: Patty Rieff, Cheryl Bless and Haley Schaff working the gift shop for Autumn Acres Farm's Family Fun Fest

Music by candlelight

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm held a different kind of entertainment starting at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27. The sun had gone down but hundreds of candles aflame set around the stage made it easy to see. With a light, cool breeze blowing in off the mist-covered fields, and the smell of fresh pizza baking, singer Crista Bohlman and her son Jeremy, 13, took to the stage. Jeremy was seated behind a cello.

Bohlman doesn't just play violin, also teaches it. Said Bohlman, "As a musician you have to do all kinds of things, weddings, funerals, parties."

Emily and Bill Knudsen, owners of Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm, set out more than 500 candles for the evening, scattering them wherever ticket holders might be seated. Emily also offered wool blankets to anyone who wanted them, saying "People forget how cold it gets at night out in the country." Knudsen remarked repeatedly that the evening was going perfectly. "It was amazing, so beautiful, the weather was perfect, the ambiance was perfect, the lighting was perfect, the ticket holders were perfect, and they gave us so much feedback."

The crowd consisted of about 25 people. Knudsen commented "This

was our first time trying the candlelight thing, so it helped us to work out all the kinks. I know next time will go even better."

At one point Knudsen was almost overcome with the beauty of the moment, "I was sitting on a bench and wondering how this was happening, a beautiful place like this in our own little Waseca County." Another thing the owners learned about concert by candlelight was, "We could've started a little bit earlier, it gets dark so much sooner now than during the summer."

The September 27 concert is the last candlelight event for the Pleasant Grove Pizza Farm until next spring. Said Knudsen, "We're only open for another four weeks, so we can only plan for so much." She added, though, the farm will have events going on every weekend until they close.

Originally from Waterville, Bohlman can play a variety of instruments including the guitar and ukulele. She's also played the Surf Ballroom of Clear Lake, Iowa, and opened for Charlie Daniels in Bluffton, Iowa, back in 1999.

Information about Pleasant Grove Pizza farm is available by calling 715-523-0857; a schedule and menu can be viewed on the business website, <https://pleasant-groovepizzafarm.com/>.

Salmon dinner Promotes Alaska Christian radio KICY

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

About 60 people gathered at Real Life Covenant Church in the 600 block of Waseca's West Elm Avenue the evening of Oct. 4 for a free salmon dinner and information about KICY Christian radio station located in Nome, Alaska.

Presenter for the evening was Patty Burchell, station manager, who not only served the salmon personally, but took the stage to spend about 40 minutes sharing the story of her own journey to the organization's leadership, and information about the population the station serves.

Burchell shared that KICY radio was first incorporated in 1960 and has grown to broadcast on three frequencies—one AM and two FM—across an area in Alaska about the size of the state of Michigan. She referred to the music and Christian programming the station shares as "the background of life" for about 50,000 people who live in Nome, with a population of roughly 10,000, and many scattered coastline villages populated by indigenous peoples and the descendants of gold miners who arrived in Alaska early in the 1900s.

Burchell showed aerial photos of a number of the communities she was describing. Showing Nome, she mentioned that an individual could walk its length, parallel with the beach, in about 20 minutes, and its depth in about 5. She also pointed out that Nome is the only town organized on "a grid," in other words, with square blocks created by streets, since it is the only community KICY serves which was not originally a native village. The streets, however, are gravel.

"Nothing in Alaska has a solid base," she says. "The tundra moves, so anything rigid that gets built on it will get broken apart."

"Residents of the villages live a subsistence lifestyle," she revealed, showing pictures of open structures where pink salmon filets were hanging to dry. The salmon, she mentioned, is often smoked and then kept

for the winter.

Gardening is impractical for a number of reasons, she said, but the many miles of open tundra provide "incredible abundance." Individuals and families often spend much of the summer camping out in the open spaces where they can gather and preserve many kinds of indigenous berries and roots, including blueberries and chokecherries.

Buildings in Alaska tend to look very "weathered" on the outside because of the harsh environment, she said, but are well kept and cozy on the inside.

In the summer, she told audience members, high temperatures are usually in the sixties, with relatively rare incursions into the seventies and exceptionally rare occurrences of the eighties.

Winter temperatures range within 20 degrees either above or below zero. The Bering sea is usually frozen solid from November to May, as are the streams and rivers which crisscross the tundra.

As far as the people of western Alaska are concerned, Burchell commented, "anything above zero is downright warm."

She went on, "The snow fills in the uneven spots, and that's when people can travel between the villages. There are gatherings where people can share music, sing together, and spend social time." She showed images of a "midnight sun parade" and mentioned that the March Iditarod dog sled race leads to a whole week of celebration, since the mushers arrive in town day or night across about seven days. She said the town embraces the annual event: Schools are closed and people stay up late to greet arriving teams.

Burchell mentioned that she and her fellow volunteers are pleased to serve the scattered population of western Alaska. Much of their programming is Christian music in English, however, the station has a recording studio where local musicians can record translated or original songs for broadcast, since their



Above: KICY radio station manager Patty Burchell personally served the salmon to diners at last Friday's fundraiser. (Below) Burchell with Mike Cogan, pastor at Real Life Covenant Church where the fundraiser was held. Pioneer photos by Deb Bently



audience speaks mainly indigenous languages. The station also provides coverage of local basketball games, the Iditarod, fishing reports, and regional and state-wide church conferences, to name a few.

Referring to the station as a "holy flamethrower," Burchell revealed the AM frequency of KICY reaches as far as 2,000 miles into Russia, especially overnight and when transmissions are purposely aimed eastward.

She introduced the audience to volunteer Luda Kinok, formerly a citizen of Russia who had grown up listening to KICY and decided already as a child she wanted to work

there one day. In order to supply listeners in Russia with Christian programming, Burchell said, the station cooperates with pastors located inside the country who create and share recorded material.

Burchell invited those in attendance to support the radio station in a number of ways, including donating funds, praying, volunteering at the station for some of its summer projects, and even joining the staff. "Give us a year and we can teach you radio," Burchell commented. More information about the station and its services is available at www.kicy.org.



Jody Nelson
February 10, 1957 - October 6, 2022

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