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State tournament

Relay for Life event set for Aug. 9-10, Waseca County Relay for life disbanded

The Relay For Life events in Mower County and Waseca County have disbanded, but the spirit of community and support continues as members from these areas join the Freeborn County Relay For Life event—now officially named, Relay For Life of Freeborn-Mower County. The event is scheduled for August 9-10, 2024 at the Freeborn County Fairgrounds, and welcomes participation from all locations. Groups and individuals from Freeborn, Mower, and Waseca Counties are invited and encouraged to be represented.

Night at the Twins Aug. 12 at 6:40 p.m.

It's Lutheran Night at the Twins Monday, August 12, 2024 at 6:40 p.m. The cost is \$60 per person paid in advance - no refunds. The price includes a coach bus leaving from behind Hy-Vee in Albert Lea at 4 p.m. Home plate view tickets with eight bus people who want to go out to center field to help lead in singing the national anthem. Deal or no deal prizes on the way to the game, plus coupons for all.

Your name on the score board if your birthday is August 12th. The bus is parked nearby. Cash back of \$10.00 per bus person after 57 tickets are sold (a full bus). For reservations call: Bob and Genie Hanson at 507-373-8655 or Wayne and Bev Indrelie at 507-286-3267.

NR Summer Burst Concert Series returns Aug. 11

The concerts in the park series will continue for a third season of music for New Richland area communities. Concerts are held at the New Richland City Park (114 1st St. SE) on Sunday afternoons with free admission. (Free will offerings are accepted.) An additional concert is held prior to each park performance at the New Richland Care Center for its residents.

August 11th: Gold Star - Come and listen to this local band from Mankato who plays a variety of music, including classic country, 50s/60s music, and classic rock!

A food truck will also be available at each concert for your eating pleasure! Please bring a chair &/or blankets to sit. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a Legislation appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund.

Thank you to the State Bank of New Richland, KEEN Bank, and Arcadia Bank for their generous donations to the Summer Burst Concert Series, and a special thanks to the City of New Richland for the utilization of their park and services for our events!

Keen Bank to sponsor blood drive, August 29 in Ellendale

Keen Bank is sponsoring a Blood Drive on Thursday, August 29, 2024, from 1 - 6 p.m. at the Ellendale Community Center at 507 2nd Avenue, Ellendale, MN 56026. To schedule an appointment or for more information, visit redcrossblood.org.

A word from

The Word

The sun and moon stood still in their place at the light of your arrows as they sped, at the flash of your glittering spear.

Habakkuk 3:11



Tyler Baumann and Amanda Weckwerth opened Matawan Landscape Supply this spring.

Star Eagle photo by Deb Bently

Starting small and growing

Matawan Landscape and Supply

By DEB BENTLY
Staff writer

Tyler Baumann, 37, opened Matawan Landscape Supply for a range of reasons. Perhaps lowest on the list is pulling in a large profit margin. “I like helping people,” says Baumann. “I like being outside.

“I love the feeling of gratification when a project turns out,” he says enthusiastically. “It can transform a whole yard.”

Residents of Matawan, Baumann and his partner Amanda Weckwerth have been working together all through the past four months to build their landscaping business. Posted on the garage, which is in the process of becoming their showroom, is a huge sign saying “Under Construction.” An additional note enthruses “Exciting improvements ahead.”

Their business is located in the far southeast corner of the county in the small, but once-thriving town of Matawan. Some of the company’s products can be seen displayed on a triangular piece of property along

Matawan Avenue which they believe was once a city park. Getting ready to open their business included revitalizing part of the one-acre area, since a former owner had left things in a bit of disarray.

The area now has regained its park-like appearance; mounds of various types of mulches, sands and soil display some of the materials Matawan Landscape Supply has to offer. Galvanized edging for raised garden beds glints in the sun; white cedar planter boxes sport a variety of thriving plants. However, Baumann and Weckwerth explain, there is even more to their business than can be seen from the street.

Their website, www.matawan-landscapesupply.com, lists a variety of landscaping equipment which can be rented at a flat fee for four hours at a time: trailers, tillers, a power broom, a pressure washer, pole saw, and more. Also not visible to a passerby are some of the items kept indoors, including grass seed, fertilizer, erosion control fabric, edging, and

“Our goal is to give them that same level of satisfaction we always feel when the job is done and the project looks good.” — Tyler Baumann

the like.

But perhaps the most significant offerings are the experience and goodwill of Baumann and Weckwerth themselves. The two have worked together “flipping” houses and also own some rental property. They explain landscaping has been a significant element of those enterprises, including as many as a dozen projects a year. They say they have already used the contacts, knowledge and experience they have gained in helping some of their customers who have less practice.

“We’ll give people whatever level of help they need,” says Baumann. “We can help them get a good price on the supplies, we can do some of the more labor intensive work and let them finish up, or we can do the

whole job for them.

“Our goal is to give them that same level of satisfaction we always feel when the job is done and the project looks good.”

Baumann says he loves the idea of being approached by a customer who has been told his or her project is “impossible.”

“I would just love to prove that wrong,” he comments.

Weckwerth and Baumann mention that, through the spring and first part of the summer, their business has been building only gradually. The year’s odd weather set a number of projects back, and kept Baumann busier than usual with his rental prop-

Matawan continued on 5



New Richland Farm and Home Supply owner Bruce Meyer has recently opened a laundromat next to his main street business.

Star Eagle photo by Deb Bently

Laundromat opens in New Richland

By DEB BENTLY
Staff writer

New Richland Farm and Home Supply, formerly Gambles, owner Bruce Meyer opened what he calls a “basic and efficient” laundromat along New Richland’s main street earlier this summer. He says he is glad it was an option for those who had extra cleanup to do after recent flooding, and for those whose washers or dryers may have been damaged. He points out customers can accomplish their work more quickly at the laundromat because they can use more than one machine at a time.

Entry to the facility is right next to the entry to the Gambles store. Inside are four high-capacity washers, four dryers, and a raised counter for folding laundry. Meyer has observed that, over the two months it’s been open, the amount of use it’s receiving has been increasing.

The retail store, which offers a broad line of products for household upkeep and repair, is open Monday through Saturday until 3 p.m.

The laundromat has its own hours, with doors which are automatically controlled to be open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Meyer warns, however, that the lock engages at 7:30 p.m.

He mentions customers may want to be careful of a situation encountered by one customer who carried the first basket of her laundry to her car, then realized 7:30 had passed and she could not re-enter the space. Getting back in was accomplished with the assistance of the police department, who got in touch with Meyer.

He also mentions there is no change machine in the space. He suggests

Laundromat continued on 6

Steele County Fair kicks off Aug. 13

The Steele County Free Fair is ready to kick off another year of great entertainment and fun August 13-18, 2024. The Steele County Free Fair, one of Minnesota’s Biggest County Fairs, has over 5,000 free exhibits – including 200 animals – to delight fairgoers, including the FFA Children’s Barnyard, the Great Outdoors Center, and the Thorni Ridge Exotic animals, sponsored by Community Bank Owatonna and R&K Electric. Free entertainment abounds on four outdoor stages as well as in Ye Olde Beer Garden. In addition, more than 300 indoor commercial exhibits and over 200 outdoor vendors, including more than 100 food stands, and up to 40 thrilling carnival rides on the GoldStar Amusements midway will be available daily.

Halls of Fame and Century Farm Recognition

The Equine Hall of Fame program, sponsored by Farmer’s Feed and Pet Supply, will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, August 13 in the cattle show arena. Honored and inducted into the Equine Hall of Fame this year will be the Albert Sr. and Marge Kath Family, and Tank the horse, a registered Dakota Clabber. Tank is owned by Monte and Nancy Mowry. The Livestock Hall of Fame and Century Farm recognition will follow in the show arena at 2:30 p.m., sponsored by Central Farm Service. Inducted into the Livestock Hall of Fame this year will be Jane and Allen Nelson, and Dr. Les Hansen. The Steele County Free Fair will recognize two Sesquicentennial Farms this year. James R. and Elaine Springer and Eugene and Carol Stoltman, all of Hill Crest Farm, and Mark and Ruth Pfeifer.

Old Time Music

Fairgoers who enjoy listening to some great polka music will want to be in Fair Square Park on Thursday, August 15. The Charlie Sticha Band will take the stage at 12 p.m., followed by the iPolka Band at 2:30 p.m. And at noon on Friday, August 16, the Dan Stursa Band will play some great old-time music on the Wenger Fair Square Stage while you enjoy lunch from one of our fabulous food vendors.

The Dan Stursa Band will return to entertain fairgoers at 1 p.m. Sunday, August 18 in Ye Olde Beer Garden. The Dan Stursa Band is sponsored by Ritchie Brothers.

The Village Stage in the Village of Yesteryear will also feature toe-tapping old-time tunes throughout the week.

Ride Specials

GoldStar Amusements Midway will feature daily ride specials again in 2024! We’ll start at the beginning with Power 96 Radio Night on Tuesday when all rides are only \$2.00 each from 5-11 p.m. Wednesday is Horizon Eyecare Professionals Kid’s Day and features a \$25.00 ride pass for unlimited midway rides from noon to 5 p.m. Gold Star Amusements will honor Senior Citizens (62+) with a super-special from noon to 5 p.m. on Senior Day (Thursday) when seniors can enjoy Carousel & Ferris Wheel rides for JUST ONE COUPON! Culver’s brings us Moonlight Madness on Thursday! Bring your Moonlight Madness coupon (available at Culver’s Owatonna location) and enjoy unlimited midway rides from 5-11 p.m. for only \$27.00; \$30.00 without Culver’s coupon.

Friday is North Risk Partners/TPS Insurance Family Fun Day and features unlimited rides

Fair continued on 5



FenceLines

by Mark Bernard

A certain sheep's favorite time of year

The scurs and the Weather Eye were on the mark with a steamy week prior. Do we see glimpses of September this week or are we stuck with the summertime blues? Starting on Thursday, partly sunny with a modest chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the low 70's with lows in the low 50's. Mostly sunny on Friday with highs in the low 70's and lows in the low 50's. Sunny on Saturday with highs in the low 70's and lows in the mid-50's. Sunday, mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-70's with lows in the upper 50's. Mostly sunny on Monday with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-70's with lows in the mid-60's. Tuesday, mostly cloudy with a good chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70's with lows in the low 60's. Cloudy on Wednesday with a fair chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80's with lows in the low 60's. On August 8th, our loss of daylight goes over two minutes and 30 seconds. August 14th we drop to 14 hours of daylight for the first time since April 26th. The normal high for August 14th is 79 and the normal low is 60. The scurs will open the windows, let the sweet, cool air and the good times roll. Good sleeping weather has arrived.

The heavy rain that ushered in August 1st took most of us by surprise. With forecast amounts of well under an inch, people were shocked to look in their gauge that they had received amounts up to 5", with amounts of 2" - 3" being common. It came hard and refilled the potholes and replant areas. Much of it initially ran down the large cracks that resulted from the dry conditions prevalent after July 4th. There had been rain, but nothing widespread. That one and the encore performance Monday night came at a good time. Grain fill was well underway in corn and the soybeans were setting and filling pods. Both crops responded with minimal damage. Some of the early planted, earlier maturing soybean varieties are actually nearing the end of their flowering period, showing large clusters of blossoms on top of the plants. The intangible is what the rain will do to soybean size. Aphids entered the conversation last week with some fields near large concentrations of buckthorn requiring insecticide. Scouting should continue, but wholesale, widespread treatment is not anticipated.

As if on cue the cannas planted in mid-June suddenly began to bloom. This should be to the delight of the migrating hummingbirds as they begin their trek south. Plenty of morning glories to fill in around the edges as well. Their ascent up the power pole, slowed by drier conditions, suddenly got a boost from the recent rains. The four o'clocks have struggled mightily this year for whatever reason. They came up sporadically and after some of the volunteers from last year's planting were transplanted to fill in the gaps, it dried up. Watering them seemed to perk them up and there were subtle signs that last week's surprise rainfall was beginning to help them make a move. I have no doubt when September rolls around, however, that they'll provide plenty of blooms to satisfy not only the hummers, but the nocturnal sphinx moth population. Hopefully the wet weather hasn't put the damper on them as it has some insects this year.

With talk about school starting,

it was 60 years ago that we moved from the Pleasant Grove farm to the farm near Spring Valley. Initially, we were to move into a house remodeled in Spring Valley within walking distance of Dad's insurance office downtown. I don't recall how, but soon there was another remodeling project underway. This time it involved a massive farmhouse east of Spring Valley. It sat on a dooryard including an old granary, a chicken coop, and a large red hip-joint roof barn. It was a kid's paradise, big yard, oak trees, places to explore with a woods to the south and an old gravel pit to the north. I'd missed going to country school by a few years. I went to kindergarten in Chatfield. There must've been too many of us boomers to fit in the main school. We met in the basement of the post office, across the street east of the Tastee-Freez. When Mom took me to kindergarten orientation, they showed Bugs Bunny cartoons. If this was school, I was down with it. Imagine my shock when Bugs Bunny cartoons weren't part of the curriculum. It was an even greater shock when we moved to Spring Valley and attended a then new elementary school full of kids. Was as if I'd been born in a basement and never brought up.

It's one of the sheep's favorite times of year. Recent rains have greened up the cool season grasses such as brome, red top, and reed canarygrass, especially where they have grazed them off earlier. There are also plenty of areas with native prairie grasses for them to nosh on. These warm season grasses include big bluestem, little bluestem, switchgrass, and yellow Indian-grass. They add additional forage that comes in handy during the drier summers when the cool season grasses tend to shut down until we get the fall recharge rains. Of course there is a constant supply of garden goodies such as sweet corn cobs, husks, cucumber peelings and overgrown zucchini. Recently there have been some major leafy branches and tree limbs from the yard for their dining pleasure. Once tossed over the fence, the ewes become like piranhas, making short work of the leaves. It makes the branches much easier to deal with without all that vegetative material. There's a reason very few trees survive in a sheep pasture without tree guards.

Poppy had a week where her people time was somewhat erratic. With Mrs. Cheviot at the Freeborn Co. Fair, it left me to be primary Corgi care provider. It made me wonder how folklore ever came up with the notion that fairies used Corgis as their trusty steeds. I mean I get that there's a darker colored patch of fur behind their shoulders where a fairy's saddle supposedly sat. All I can say is it must've been one heck of a ride if they were anything like Poppy. Squirrel? Needs chasing, then climb as far up the trunk as the stubby little front legs will allow. Hang on, pilgrim! Ditto with kitties. How about a few dozen zoomies while we're at it, there cowboy? Oops! Lost focus. Something needs sniffing over here. Hey! It's dead and it really stinks. Better roll in it. Should perfume the house nicely once back inside. Not your scent, fairy? How about we go to the garden and rustle up some string beans? Should help keep you regular, little buddy. Even a fairy would need a nap after a ride like that. I know I sure would.

See you next week...real good then.

Wrecking perfection in life

During a recent baseball tournament, one of my jobs was prepping diamonds between games. Depending on time, that might mean a quick raking around home and the bases and redoing the batter's boxes and foul lines with chalk. Other times, I could do a full reset, where I'd completely drag the field and redo everything.

I'd get done, gaze upon the perfection that is a newly-prepared field, and then watch it get destroyed within one inning. Darn those kids!

Isn't it strange how much effort we put into making things look pristine, knowing full well that it won't last? How often do you dust at home? How long until you notice dust again? And try having a shedding pet like our cat - good luck keeping the fur, along with all the litter, from inundating your house!

We once, foolishly, let a vacuum cleaner salesman in our house. We had an ulterior motive since we had young children who tended to spill and stain the carpet. He had promised a free cleaning of one room, and we almost rubbed our hands together in glee, thinking our problem was, at least temporarily, solved.

During the hour-long spiel, he asked, "Don't you want your carpet perfectly clean?" I responded in the negative, saying a little dirt was okay. I still believe that since it's important to be exposed to germs and build immunity to diseases. You certainly don't want to hear the grit as you tread on your carpet, but vacuuming every other day seems excessive.

I don't think he'd ever heard



Whatever Flips Your Waffle

by Mark Domeier
Contributing Writer

that response since he was, at last, speechless for a moment. And when you have young children, you really just try to keep up. You're looking for a C grade on cleanliness since it's just going to get messed up again. You might try for an A grade when the grandparents are coming over, but I always thought it made more sense to do a thorough cleaning AFTER the party. But we always default to how it appears to others.

When we moved into our home, our neighbors promptly showed up where the property lines were, and one offered us the use of their mower since the grass was getting a little long. It didn't take long to figure out that keeping our lawn mowed was expected. And it didn't take long for me to buy in.

When I was growing up, living in the country, a freshly-mowed lawn wasn't as big a deal since you didn't really have neighbors. But in town, it shows if somebody is a week behind. And life happens at times, not allowing you to get it done quite as often, but I usually look at my lawn a couple days after I've mowed and think, "I might have to mow again soon." There's that darned perfection, ruined again.

The same goes outdoors with landscaping. I try to keep up with

weeding and keeping that area clean. And then I'll walk by something with some huge weed that there was no way it grew since I walked by here two days ago, at least not to the six-inch height it's currently at. Good luck keeping the landscaping perfect; weeds tend to win, at least temporarily.

Working at a grocery store in high school and college, I would often have to build displays of products that were on sale. There was pride in putting together a perfectly symmetrical display on the end cap or on the sale wall. And then I'd walk by five minutes later and it was undone by those darned customers who wanted to buy the sale item. I still recall a soda display that I kept refilling for my entire eight-hour shift, just trying to keep up with the pop in the shape I had created originally. I failed.

We try so hard to be perfect at times. We'll almost always fail. There have only been 24 perfect games in MLB history, times in which the pitcher has not allowed a single baserunner in all nine innings of a professional game. There have been almost 239,000 games played to reach that number in 154 years.

Setting realistic goals is important. I was on a committee at school some years back while

forming strategic goals. The presenter said we should never use 100% as a goal since it's nearly always unachievable. For example, schools want to shoot for 100% of all students graduating. It's a laudable goal; that's what we're there for, to help kids succeed and be ready to move into the real world. But it rarely, if ever, happens. There are circumstances outside the school's control that keep that number from being reached. Yet, you'll still see that perfection as a goal.

In 28 years of teaching, I have had five "perfect" speeches. The students who achieved this didn't make mistakes, didn't stutter, didn't sway around or play with their hair, looked up 90% of the time, and spoke with emotion, not just like robots. This has become a coveted accomplishment since Mr. Domeier is known as a harsh grader on public speaking. And for three of the people honored on my bulletin board, they gave speeches after their perfect ones and couldn't replicate it.

We need to accept reality in so many areas. It's important to work hard, even if we know it won't last. My ballfields will always get wrecked, but the perfection right before gametime is worth it!

Word of the Week: This week's word is ept, which means competent or skillful, as in, "No matter how ept the student was in English, they never quite reached the 100% plateau." Impress your friends and confuse your enemies!

Oh, so many punches in the stomach

Deb Bently wrote an entire column once about a single mistake she made in the newspaper.

It's my turn. But my mistakes are too numerous to list here.

One of my writers failed to show up for an event this week and there's nothing I can do about it. I've already disappointed the folks I made a promise to.

Another gut punch. This past month the city clerk in Ellendale resigned and now appears to be resigning and simply taking a step back. Steve Engel tells me three members of council/mayor are not seeking re-election.

Likely because they, too, feel like they've been punched in the stomach one too many times.

I had another conversation at length about this with a friend, Dave Zika. He mentioned Deb's column and it got us talking. Every error published in the newspaper falls back to me. I don't pass along these errors to my staff unless I deem it beneficial. If they can't do something about the mistake and if there is little to learn, why subjugate them to the same pain?

It means I take shots to the chin every week.

The difference, however, is for everyone of those punches and gut checks, there are many, many positive comments; thank you's; and 'attaboys.'

Or this week, a hand-written letter from Grandma Sharon Eckart.

Or multiple letters included on subscription renewals with folks telling me how much they value the paper.

Or a phone call where a gentleman in Faribault called and asked me to start a newspaper in that town because he enjoys ours so much. He even offered to help pay for it. I unfortunately told him my greatest resource right now is time. And I'm simply not interested at this time.

Members of the city council and, frankly, a lot of my staff are not reminded when they do a good job. They don't get hundreds or thousands of "attaboys" throughout the year. I imagine, without all of the positive reinforcement, I would not continue in my current profession.

I am continually reminded that the work I do has value and meaning to many.

I can imagine what it's like not getting that positive reinforcement. I just have to pretend all of the com-



Just a Thought...

by Eli Lutgens

plaints I hear continue without a break.

And all of these people, including myself, have personal lives outside of our jobs/careers with additional stresses.

I've found myself saying numerous times this week, "It costs me nothing to be kind."

I was at Walmart this week buying some groceries.

The checkout lady was quick and kind. But she rang me up for one too many of an item.

I decided I didn't care as I had caught it after I checked out.

As I left, I thought, "I bet the receipt lady stops me."

She did. She was kind.

As she looked at my receipt, I said, "It's ironic, we both checked the receipt and what you will find is I'm missing an item."

She looked mortified.

I then felt bad and immediately smiled and said, "I'm not mad. I want you to have a wonderful day. You did nothing wrong and I don't want you to do anything."

This woman, Sue, immediately says, "There needs to be more people like you in the world."

She offered to help me get my \$5 back and I assured her it was okay.

We had a nice conversation and I said again, "It costs me nothing to be kind."

This business between the city of Ellendale and Daniel Petsinger has caused a great deal of stress on a great many people. I've spent about a dozen hours talking to the city, Daniel, and others about the situation. Please be kind. And please remember I am a journalist and resident of the NRHEG community who intends to live here for the rest of my life. I care about each and every person involved in this situation and would like to see an amicable, safe, solution.

P.S.

Reed, our production manager, has essentially retired. I care about him and love him as family. I have known him since I was seven years old. He

has some damage to his brain from a series of strokes/seizures. The doctors tell me they have identified the cause and it is being treated. But the damage done is done. Reed has a hard time speaking these days. He has one living family member, a cousin in her 80s. I am there for Reed as much as I can be.

I have transitioned our subscription software to the same software I use for the Pioneer and the same kind my mother uses in Janesville. Doing so has taken more than three months. Going through the system Reed built from scratch took a long

time. More than 100 expiration dates were lost. Thankfully we have a print backup with all of the addresses, so no official subscriber addresses were lost. In the past three weeks, we sent out renewal notices to more than 600 subscribers. Many of you, really everyone, has been kind when calling, emailing, texting or stopping in person to help me correct the date of your subscriptions.

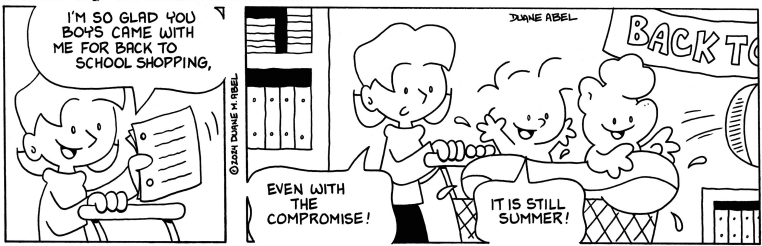
Forgive me. Helping Reed while trying to manage everything else in life, including the death of my grandpa Ray has been trying. I simply try to be kind to people, hoping they understand.

Truly, we never know what people are going through.

I believe myself to live an incredibly blessed life and say my prayers of gratitude every night before I go to sleep.

"Who indeed can harm you if you are committed deeply to doing what is right?" — I Peter 3:13

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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Compostings

by Al Batt

‘Give people flowers while they’re still here’

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS’ CLUB MEETING
I’m going to see a different audiologist.

What’s wrong with your current audiologist?

He keeps telling me I need a heron egg.

DRIVING BY BRUCE’S DRIVE
I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. I bobbed and weaved my way through a crowd at a county fair to get to my parked car, which had become an Easy-Bake Oven. It wasn’t frying eggs on a flat rock hot, but it was sizzling. The temperature was 87, but it was humid, which made it feel hotter than the hinges of Hades. I can hear a resident of Yuma, Arizona, saying, “Oh, so you think 87 degrees is hot. That’s so cute.”

I attended the funeral of a legendary domino-playing lady, Lois Bushlack, where I was served a fine funeral fare—scalloped potatoes and ham (I call them “funeral potatoes,” a title often given to potato casseroles involving cheese, cornflakes or crushed potato chips), coleslaw, dill pickles and dessert bars. I call them funeral potatoes because they’re often served at funerals. For that, I am most thankful. Lois and the late Donna Ferguson played the piped tiles with gusto, each accusing the other of cheating. As a boy, I was told that the one who complained the most about cheating was typically the biggest cheater. Lois and Donna held themselves to a higher code of ethics than a Supreme Court Justice. Neither cheated nor thought the other had.

A family elder used to dismiss another by saying, “I wouldn’t give him the time of day.” Someone asked me the time. I’m rarely asked for that. I gave him the time of the day. Why not? I’d found a cart with good wheels and pushed it merrily from store aisle to aisle, working conscientiously on the shopping list my wife had entrusted to my care. Everything was copacetic until I ran over a squirrel. It rattled my cart. I looked for a pancaked squirrel. There was none. What I had hit was an ink pen.

I’VE LEARNED
Hands down, the best time for anything is 6:30.

Don’t blame a clown for acting like a clown if you keep going to the circus.

Hors d’oeuvres prove we have no willpower.

I petted a porcupine in Alberta. Always pet a porcupine with the

grain.

I never complain about the long lines to a men’s restroom.

I’m glad that I knew Ryan “Juner” Johnson, who used spoonerisms on stage to tell the tale of Rindercella, who lived with her mugly other and her two sad bisters. The storl of the mory is this: If you ever go to a bancy fall and want to have a pransom hince loll in fove with you, don’t forget to slop your dripper.

BAD JOKES DEPART-MENT
Two conspiracy theorists walk into a bar. You can’t tell me that’s a coincidence.

How do you catch a squirrel? Climb a tree and act like a nut.

Do they use seahorses in water polo?

NATURE NOTES
“I know a chickadee and a killdeer call out their names. Do any other birds?” Some bird names are imitations of their songs/calls, yet there isn’t a single bird species named chirp. Some onomatopoeitic names are the phoebe, peewee, to-whhee, cuckoo, jay, bobwhite, kis-kadee, willet, curlew, whip-poor-will, chuck-will’s-widow, hoopoe, kittiwake and chachalaca. A crow might be imitative of the bird’s cry.

“What’s an easy way to tell a raven from a crow?” Check the range maps. The much larger common ravens can be distinguished from American crows by their massive bills; by their tails, which come to a V (like the V in raven) behind them; and by their croak compared to a crow’s caw.

“Do monarch caterpillars use dogbane as a host plant? Dogbane’s name refers to its supposed toxicity to dogs. The perennial plant’s strong fibers have made it prized for cordage and threads. Young dogbane plants are often mistaken for milkweed. Injured dogbane oozes a white sticky sap with the consistency of latex paint. It’s native to Minnesota and was once thought to be a larval food for monarch butterflies, but research has shown that while female monarchs occasionally lay eggs on this species, their offspring will not mature on it. Dogbane grows 5 feet tall and blooms in white flowers in June-August. I enjoy seeing the iridescent dogbane beetles on dogbane. The gold, blue, green, yellow and red insects are stunners.

MEETING ADJOURNED
“Never admire quietly. If I admire something about someone, I tell them. We humans are so fragile. It’s important we give people their flowers while they are still here.”—Chimamanda Adichie.

Crossword Theme - Political Spectrum

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14					15			
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29					30			31		32			
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	49				50					51			
52								53					
54						55	56				57	58	59
60						61				62			
63						64				65			

ACROSS ➡

1 It surrounds a pupil

5 "Be patient!"

9 Head position in a kitchen

13 Project Mercury org.

14 Eyebrow shape

15 Really stood out

16 Extreme extent (In this answer, note the last 4 and first letters)

18 Hair lines?

19 Boating hazard in the Arctic

20 Music categories

21 Asana expert (... last 3 and first letters)

26 Totally awesome

27 Pigpens

28 Hosp. areas

29 "Tall" stories

31 Like secure communities

33 Under the weather

34 Poker variant with two winning hands (... last and first 3 letters)

37 ___ Leppard ("Pour Some Sugar on Me" band)

40 Forbidding words

41 Give up, as rights

43 Texter's "I'd say..."

45 Starting squad

48 Feature of a certain evening gown

49 Boozy-sounding baking extract (... last 2 and first 4 letters)

52 Neighbor of Romania

53 Some Dogfish Head brews

54 Electric toothbrush brand

55 Post-filming celebration ... or each set of noted letters?

60 Stacks of stuff

61 Despire

DOWN ⬇

62 The Hawkeye State

63 Back talk

64 Had a debt

65 "Indiana Jones and the Temple of ___"

1 Roadside lodging

2 Squealer

3 "Sorta"

4 :(

5 Vehicles that children pull

6 Take into custody

7 Water cooler?

8 Off ___ cuff

9 Made some noise as a crowd

10 King's realm?

11 Goes in

12 Own (up)

15 On ___ (without a contract)

17 NFL analyst Manning

20 Enthusiasm

21 Purported Himalayan being

22 October birthstone

23 Underwater "lung"

24 Make less loose

25 ___ Madrid CF

30 "Yellowjackets" network, briefly

32 "Gross!"

35 "Dancing With the Stars" judge Carrie Ann

36 Attend

37 Herb in tzatziki sauce

38 Apt anagram of "vile"

39 Greek salad cheese

40 Multiplies by 58-Down

42 "Again ..."

43 Southwestern European peninsula

DOWN ⬇

44 Fables' lessons

46 Take to the skies

47 ___ out (planned the details of)

50 Smokehouse specialty

51 Go out for a little while?

52 Soaks (up)

55 Doctor on the BBC

56 Rarer than rare

57 Kanga's child

58 Binary base

59 Root vegetable with a purple variety

Key

W	O	O	D		D	E	M	O		S	S	V	S	
V	M	O	I		E	L	V	H		S	E	T	I	
A	L	R	V	d	d	V	M		S	T	V	R	O	
				S	V	I		V	I	B	E	S		
V	T	I	N		V	A	N	O	B		O	B		
L	I	T	S		W	V	E	L	V	O	W	I		
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E	N	O	H	S		H	C	R	V		V	S	V	N
F	E	H	C		L	I	V	M		S	I	R	I	

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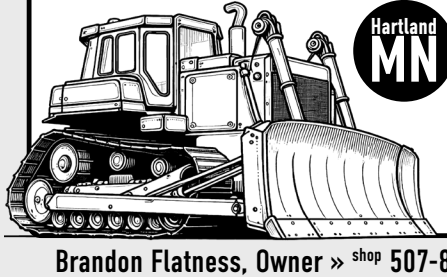
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OBITUARIES

David Newgard

David Strand Newgard, 83, of Owatonna passed away on Tuesday, July 30, 2024 at the Traditions of Owatonna II with his loving family by his side.

The son of the late Ove and Gilma (Strand) Newgard, David was born on February 4, 1941. He was raised on a farm outside of Hartland and spent his teens in Lead, South Dakota, alongside his brother Gerald. A veteran of the United States Air Force, David proudly served from 1959 to 1962.

Throughout his life, David honed his skills as a meat cutter, initially learning the trade during his military service while stationed in Hawaii. During his service he also was involved in the Air Force Judo Team as well as riding in the Rodeo.

After returning home he met Beverly Krause (through his sister Caroline) and they were united in marriage on November 9th, 1963. They had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. In the company of his wife Beverly, David built a life filled with love and laughter. Their family flourished under David's guidance, and he was known for his strong work ethic, adventurous spirit, and innovative mindset. He was a man who truly lived life to the fullest.

His entrepreneurial spirit led him to venture into an array of businesses, including the Geneva Steakhouse, Geneva Store, and Geneva Meat Locker, as well as meat lockers in Moose Lake and Adams. This also led to catering and food trucks. His family and friends benefited from his love of cooking on holidays and special occasions. David had a lifelong passion for raising and showing horses, particularly Arabians and



David Newgard

Thoroughbreds. This passion led to forming NBS Arabians and many close friendships and adventures.

In addition to his wife of 60 years, Beverly, those left to cherish David's memory include three children, Kellie (Ken) Petranek, Karrie (Paul) Moen, and Christopher (Linda) Newgard; a nephew, Randy (Linda) Ahren; six grandchildren, Nash (Jenna) Petranek, Dylan (Brooke) Moen, Seth Petranek, Brady Moen, Bodie Newgard and Cruz Newgard; two great grandchildren, Beau and Banks Petranek; two sisters, Caroline Sorenson and Donna Gaul; a brother, Chuck (Nancy) Newgard; numerous nieces and nephews; many extended family members; and countless friends.

In addition to his parents, Ove and Gilma, David was preceded in death by a brother, Gerald.

A memorial service was held at Community Lutheran Church in Geneva. The service was livestreamed and is available at www.BonnerupFuneralService.com

Joan Y. Bluhm

Joan Y. Bluhm, age 88, of Bloomington, MN died on July 15, 2024 at N.C. Little Hospice, Edina, MN. She was born on March 19, 1936 to Edward & Evelyn (Voigtlander) Bluhm in Waldorf, MN. She married Adrian A. Tolzmann on Sept 20, 1956. She is survived by her daughters, Joal (Mark) Lillegard and Kara (John) Sprengeler; 8 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law; cousins, nieces & nephews. She

was preceded in death by her parents, siblings & former husband.

Funeral service was held Saturday, August 3, 2024 at 11 a.m. at Bloomington Lutheran Church, 9350 Portland Avenue S., Bloomington, MN with visitation one hour prior. Interment followed at First Lutheran Cemetery, Waldorf, MN. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Bloomington Lutheran Church and N.C. Little Memorial Hospice.

www.davideefuneralhome.com

Joe Staloch, DFL candidate for Minnesota House District 23A

My name is Joe Staloch and I'm running to represent district 23A in the Minnesota house this November. I want all Minnesotans to live better lives, to improve access and affordability of services, and to grow our rural communities.

I grew up on a family farm outside of Wells with my three siblings. I graduated from USC High School, earned a degree in geology from Winona State University, and spent ten years working for a company in St. Paul on public health and safety, natural resources, and national security projects.

Returning to greater Minnesota wasn't my plan. Health and family issues led me to move back to Wells and eventually Albert Lea where my long-term partner Danielle and I now live with our five cats, three of them rescues. Moving back was the best decision for my health and my relationships. There's less pres-

sure to "keep up with the Joneses" and there's a sense of community throughout the region. Some of this is economically driven, but I also credit schools, churches, and non-profits in our communities for creating a sense of togetherness and belonging that is hard to replicate in the big city.

Moving back was the right decision for me, but I've been reminded that we face challenges that I believe are stifling opportunity and growth. When I moved back, I had a hard time finding a healthcare provider and I recently lost my father when he was unable to reach a hospital in time. While we continue to invest in healthcare, small town clinics close, hospitals cut back or eliminate services, and ambulances struggle with staffing and funding. It's been less than a year since my father passed and I miss him dearly. My family is important

to me and, although I'm not a father myself, I am an uncle. My sisters and brother have young and growing families and have been lucky to have our mother, who has always been willing and able to provide childcare when they've needed it. I'd like to go to work on behalf of working families and ensure that healthcare and childcare are given the attention and support they deserve.

I have an opponent in this race, a long time incumbent who's a nice enough person, but is not doing enough to push back against the worst impulses of the base of her party and, with some votes, actively works against improving everyday Minnesotans' lives. So I ask you to look past the flag waving this election season, and support the party that is protecting your freedom and working in the interest of you and your family. I am a Democrat and I



Joe Staloch

believe in freedom from hate and from fear, the freedom to vote, and the freedom to control our own bodies. I believe that fair wages, affordable services, and human rights are Minnesota values worth voting for.

Election day is Nov 5th. I'd be honored if you would vote for me to represent you in St. Paul.

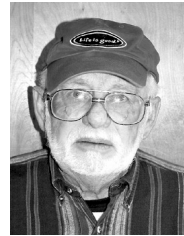
31st year of Lutheran night at the Twins

As I sit on a chair in my office on a Saturday morning at 9 a.m., I look at my window thermometer showing 79 degrees!! I know this will be an inside day with a fan and air conditioning while watching the Twins beat the other team. The Twins are an exciting baseball team with the great ability to come from behind and win. When the Twins are behind after six innings, "Don't Panic." The seventh, eighth and ninth inning are Twins comeback innings of exciting baseball. Today was different, "No Comeback!!"

An example of how much enthusiasm the Twins are creating this year was shown by:

This is the 31st year of Lutheran Night at the Twins with a bus Sponsored by Central Freeborn Lutheran Church to the game. This game (August 12th, 2024) the bus was full the earliest so far with a stand by list of 12 wanting to go.

One of the interesting events at



FACT OR FICTION

...you decide

by Bob Hanson, Emeritus

"If you repeat what you have read here, it may be used against you."

the Twins is honoring those at the game if the birthday person is present and gives permission by saying, "Happy Birthday," on the scoreboard. Genie's birthday is Thursday, August 12th when she is on the bus Sponsored by Central Freeborn Lutheran Church. Guess what Genies is looking forward to seeing on the scoreboard!!

Over the years, Genie has found many other celebrities sharing the same national holiday of August 12. For example:

Cynthia Crabtree by beaver lake, Richard Eastvold of NRHEG fame, Paul Hanson of Beaver Lake, Gale Nelson Albeart Lea, Jess Nelson of New

Ulm, Cherrie Schiltz of Albeart Lea to name a few big heads on August 12th.

The following was published in a South Dakota Municipalities Brochure:

"Thank god for small towns" You know you're in a small town when: Third Street is on the edge of town. You know you're in a small town when: You don't use your signals because everyone knows where you are going.

You know you're in a small town when: A baby born on June 14 receives gifts from local Merchants as the first baby of the year. You know you're in a small town when: You speak to each dog you pass by name and he

wags his tail at you.

You know you're in a small town when: You drive into a ditch five miles out of town and the word gets back before you do.

You know you're in a small town when: you dial a wrong number and talk for 15 minutes anyway.

You know you're in a small town when: You can't take a walk for exercise because every car that passes you offers you a ride.

You know you're in a small town when: You miss a Sunday at church and receive a get well card.

You know you're in a small town when: someone asks how you feel and listens to what you say.

"Thank god for small towns and the people who live in them."

Bob is a retired AAL (Aid Association for Lutherans) agent, currently working on his master's degree in Volunteering. His wife, Genie, is a retired RN, currently working on her doctor's degree in Volunteering. They have two children, Deb in North Carolina, and Dan in New York. Bob says if you enjoy his column, let him know. If you don't enjoy it, keep on reading, it can get worse. Words of wisdom: There is always room for God.

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Cookie Delivery



Wednesday, July 31 New Richland Girl Scout Troop 47967 donated 12 cases of cookies to the New Richland Food Shelf! They want to thank the community for helping to make this happen! Pictured: Alexis Olson on left and Violette Botten on right. Hazel Botton not pictured.

3 CDs to perform Aug. 13



The Clarks Grove Historical Society is sponsoring the 3 CDs singing group to appear at the Bob Hanson City Park pavilion in Clarks Grove on Tuesday evening August 13 at 6 p.m. The CDs stand for choir directors as each has been a choir director and they love to sing together. This event is open to the public and all are invited to attend!



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Ellendale Geneva Class of 1959



Ellendale/Geneva Class of 1959

A 65th class reunion for the Ellendale Geneva class of 1959 was held on July 25 at the Timberlodge Steak House in Owatonna. Attending were: First row; Roger Utpadel, Jerry Thompson, Bev (Christensen) Rietema, Joan (Nielsen) Mast, Carolyn (Scrabeck) Weller, Jeanette (Motz) Reichle. Back; Larry Paulsen, Jim Kenny. Unable to attend: Ken Christensen, Jerry Hemmingway, Gail (Thurston) Johnson, Lily (Harpel) Neitzell, Millie (Taylor) Dingham and Judy Wagner.

Keen Bank celebrating 150 years

Customer appreciation event August 22

Keen Bank is celebrating 150 years of serving the financial needs of Waseca and surrounding communities with a Customer Appreciation event on Thursday, August 22 at our Waseca location, 101 State Street N, from 4-6 p.m. Keen Bank will provide food, live music and giveaways while supplies last to say thank you to customers and the community.

"We are very excited to celebrate our 150 years of continuous community service and are especially proud of being the only locally owned and managed community bank in Waseca," said President and CEO, Bernie Gaytko. "I want you to join us for our celebration, learn more about our history, and enjoy some food, fellowship and entertainment with the Keen Bank team."

Additionally, Keen Bank has unveiled a history wall dating back to 1874 that the public is invited to view, highlighting the important milestones of the family-owned bank.

For more information visit [keenbank.com](https://www.keenbank.com).

Fair

from Page 1

from noon to 5 p.m. for just \$25.00! Saturday is Profinium Inc. Ride Day, where a \$30.00 wrist band entitles the rider to unlimited rides from noon to 5 p.m., PLUS a chance to win one of eight bicycles being given away by GoldStar Amusements Midway. The

fair wraps up on Sunday with Hy-Vee Family Day, when a \$30.00 wrist band entitles the rider to unlimited midway rides from noon to 9 p.m.

The Gold Star Amusement Mega-Ride ticket is \$60.00 and is on sale from 8 a.m. July 15, 2024 to 5 p.m. August 13, 2024, the opening day of the fair at Hy-Vee in Owatonna only. The Mega-Ride ticket is redeemed for a ride wristband/lanyard, which entitles the holder to unlimited midway rides all week. The Mega-Ride ticket can be redeemed at the midway entrance starting at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 and may be redeemed at a midway ticket office during midway hours throughout the fair.

For the Senior Fairgoers

On Senior Day (Thursday), all seniors ages 62+ coming to the fair BEFORE NOON, may park FREE in the general parking lot on the ball diamonds. Shuttle service will be available from the parking lot to the west side of the fairgrounds. The Steele County Senior Citizen Volunteers of the Year, Diane and Dale Hendricks, will be recognized at 11:30 a.m. on the Wenger Fair Square Stage. Gold Star Amusements will also honor Senior Citizens (62+) with a super-special from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. when seniors can enjoy Carousel & Ferris Wheel rides for JUST ONE COUPON! There will also be senior citizen discounts available from many of our vendors between noon and 5 p.m.

Matawan

from Page 1

eries.

Still, Baumann says, they have helped quite a number of property owners with a range of projects. He and Weckwerth are happy with their progress so far and intend to keep ex-

panding. Their 24-foot by 32-foot garage, for example, is on its way to becoming a showroom where even more products will be displayed.

"It's a long-term goal to be more full service," Baumann speculates. "We would like to have seasonal employees who go out and do these projects all over the area."

By this time of the year, Baumann says, many people have either completed their intended projects or the end-of-summer temperatures have led them to postpone them to next year. Grass seeding or fertilizing to take care of bare spots will be best left to fall, since grass does not propagate well in the heat.

"We're here for people who still have projects," he assures. "And we'll have even more to offer next spring."

"I'm excited," observes Weckwerth. "We're open. We're helping people, and we have an even bigger future ahead."

At this time, Matawan Landscape Supply is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sundays. Baumann is also open to receiving phone calls both during business hours and at other reasonable times: available numbers are 507-340-1247 or 507-200-4674. He also encourages folks to visit the [matawanlandscapingsupply.com](https://www.matawanlandscapingsupply.com) website to find out more.

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Woods and Water

by Dick Herfindahl
Outdoors Writer

The lazy, hazy days of summer are fading away

It is good to be back home and taking a break from the heat that I was broiling in while at the cabin. I actually cannot remember a week at the cabin that was that hot. It was like when I was a kid when there was no air conditioning. I did have two fans at the cabin, which was one more than we had at our house as a kid. The upside was that the mosquitoes were not as bad as earlier. Never fear, there was an abundance of deer flies to take their place.

On the last day there, as I was closing up the shed, a large deer fly decided to go under the brim of my bucket hat and bite me on the ear. After jumping around and swatting at my ear, I finally got rid of it. I expected nothing less than a huge welt on the side of my head, but, to my surprise, the hurt eventually went away, and everything was good. It was a good time despite the heat as I actually got quite a lot accomplished.

I put my fishing on the back burner until I had finished what I wanted to accomplish. So that meant fishing on the last day. I drove around to a few smaller lakes where I had planned on doing some shore fishing. The shore was lined with lily pads and/or weeds, so there was little room for casting without catching a weed. I enjoyed visiting these little area lakes and next

time I will be sure to bring my boat. I filled my bird feeders on the first day and the only birds that showed up were the hummingbirds. I can always depend on them for entertainment. On my last full day, the other birds started to appear. This is not unusual when I have not been at the cabin for a while.

I read in the paper where the final leg of the dredging of Fountain Lake has hit a snag. The DNR will not okay the permit because they do not feel that dredging Bancroft Bay is a necessary thing. If you do not finish a project completely, then it seems to me that the eventual outcome will end up going backwards. A good amount of the water that flows into Fountain Lake originates from there. The bonding for the final leg has already been approved, so all they need is for the permit to be okayed. It would be a shame not to finish this project when it is so close to completion. Fountain Lake is a beautiful body of water, and it is there for all to enjoy. I am an old guy and have enjoyed this lake since I was a kid. Fishing on Fountain Lake as a kid gave me great joy growing up. Roaming the slough on both sides of Bridge Street was my domain. I could go east to Goose Lake and stop at "skunk hill" along the way. If you ventured west, you would end up at Bancroft Bay.



Shown here are some pictures of my mother, her cousins and friends enjoying the local swimming hole at Bancroft Bay. One picture shows the swimmers helping someone who was in distress. My mother always referred to it as Coney Island, I would guess that it was because this was their summer entertainment.



My mother told me that, when she was a kid, she and her cousins would go there to swim and play. She said that they always referred to it as Coney Island. As a kid, I myself spent my fair share of time at Bancroft Bay. I would go there to fish and explore. When I look back at those days, I remember all of the good times that us kids had there. We would ride our bikes down that gravel road to the Mink Farm and then fish along the shores of the bay. Those were good, carefree times when kids entertained themselves with the simplest of things without a worry in the world.

I sometimes wish that we could go

back to the days when things seemed so much simpler. I know that is but a pipe dream, but sometimes it is good for you to dream.

Until next time: Summer is nearly over, if not by the calendar, but the end of the fair always signaled the end of summer to me as a kid. Get out and enjoy the rest of the good weather and, with any luck at all, it will be cooling down soon.

Please show your support for our troops who are now deployed. These service men and women are making that sacrifice, so that we may have the many freedoms that we enjoy today.

■ Laundromat from Page 1

customers arrive with the needed combination of coins to pay the \$2.75 per washer load and \$1.50 per

dryer load. They can, of course, also get change at the Gambles store. He says he intends to install a dispenser offering single-use packets of detergents and other laundry products sometime in the relatively near future.

Meyer, a 1987 graduate of NRHEG, says he hopes the new laundromat will increase traffic in

the hardware store, and perhaps help increase people's appreciation of the value of having local retail stores like his. He stocks a wide range of tools, equipment and supplies for customers working on their plumbing, electrical, lawn and garden and painting projects. He also has a line of pet supplies. He expresses a willingness to expand his available pro-

ducts if folks let him know of their need.

He describes having taken over ownership of the store with the intent of supporting the community. "I can keep the doors open as long as people support me by shopping here," he observes.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

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
Wednesday - 5:15 p.m. Supper; 6 p.m. Bible Study

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
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 (first Wednesday)

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

CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN
Hartland, Minnesota
Rev. Marcia Pedersen
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship

Tuesday - Council meeting (First Tuesday)

WEST FREEBORN LUTHERAN
Hartland, Minnesota
Rev. Marcia Pedersen
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
Tuesday - Council meeting (First Tuesday of the month)
Quilting meets 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, see newsletter for dates.

HARTLAND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
Hartland, Minnesota
Pastor Phillip K. Lepak
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship

MANCHESTER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
Manchester, Minnesota
Pastor Phillip K. Lepak
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship

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

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN
Geneva, Minnesota
Pastor Leandra Anderson
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship (times vary for holidays)
Monday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting

SIMPLY CHURCH
105 Second Street North East
Geneva, Minnesota
Todd Lundgren, Pastor
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. Worship

VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
Ellendale, Minnesota
Pastor David Modder
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Kids

church
Check the website for additional updates
www.vibrantlifecg.com

FIRST LUTHERAN, AFLC
Ellendale, Minnesota
Pastor Kyle Smith
Saturday - 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
Monday - 7 p.m. Call to prayer
Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 6 p.m. Confirmation; 7-9 p.m. Youth Group (No confirmation during summer)

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST
Ellendale, Minnesota
Randy Cirksema, Pastor
Sunday - Summer Service time is 9:30 a.m. Worship; 9:15 a.m. Sunday school. (No summer Sunday school)
Worship is at 10:30 a.m. beginning after Sept. 3. Food shelf is open every Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

CENTRAL FREEBORN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Matt Griggs
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
FM Transmitter is used for those wanting to listen through their car radios at FM 90.7

EAST FREEBORN LUTHERAN
Pastor Matt Griggs
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
FM Transmitter is used for those wanting to listen through their car radios at FM 89.3

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
LCMS
Hollandale, Minnesota
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship

HOLLANDALE REFORMED
Rev. Neal Ooms
101 East Park Avenue
Hollandale, Minnesota
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Worship; 10:45

a.m. Sunday School
ZION LUTHERAN, ELCA
Rural Ellendale
Deacon Billie Jo Wicks
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN, ELCA
Meriden, Minnesota
Deacon Billie Jo Wicks
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN
Leonard Township
Pastor Dave Klawiter
Sunday - 10:15 a.m. Worship

FIRST LUTHERAN, LCMC
Hope, Minnesota
Pastor Sandra Miller
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Youth/Adult Study

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Clarks Grove, Minnesota
Pastor James Cameron
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
Father Peter Schuster
Sunday - 8 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation; 8:30 a.m. Mass with Children's Church; Preschool Sunday School during Mass
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. - Faith Formation classes for grades K-Confirmation
www.litomysl.webs.com
www.sitsidorecschool.webs.com

FIRST LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
Waldorf, Minnesota
Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
Minnesota Lake, Minnesota
Rev. Michael Matthews, pastor
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PAUL UNITED
Minnesota Lake, Minnesota
Interim Pastor
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship

PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Minnesota Lake, Minnesota
Interim Pastor
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9 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 - 10 a.m. Worship (summer) and 10:30 a.m. (winter)

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

NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE STAR EAGLE.

LOOKING BACK

100 Years Back

-Today the village that has been dead for 40 years was laid away in peace when the Waseca county board wrote an order dissolving the charter of the village of Wilton. Wilton was a city, once with a volunteer fire company, newspapers, lodges, county offices, and a wealth of real estate dealers and a rosy future. Now all that is left is a gaunt frame building, once the Wilton hotel.

-A new firm engaged in automobile repairing is making a bid for trade beginning this week. Ben Smith and Ernest Kroeger have formed a partnership of Smith & Kroeger and have rented the buildings and repair department of the Lewer, Woodhall Co.

-An argument over a Rochester-Austin basketball scrap of last winter resulted in a free-for-all fight between Rochester and Austin base ball fans at the Jefferson Cafe at Albert Lea Thursday. Dishes were broken, chairs flew across the room, tables were turned over, perfectly good steaks, potatoes, gravy, bread, butter, and other delicacies skidded across the floor as waitresses skidded from the room. Three arrests were made when the cops called.

-If the engine of your car is missing you will not be able to recover it at the Star office. A variety of accessories and tags have been left, however, that may belong to you. Read them in the Star's "Want" column.

-N. E. Lowery of the Matawan neighborhood returned Tuesday after a stay of two months in the vicinity of Browns Valley, Minn. Corn, he states, is showing the effects of the drought in that territory, more so than in Waseca county.

77 Years Back

-Gene Mobley, Red Cross swimming instructor, is urging parents to continue sending their children to the regular swimming lessons and not to fear that poliomyelitis will result from the contact with other children.

-It was definitely decided by the Waseca County Fair board that everything at this year's 4-H fair is to be free, including the gate and grandstand. The entertainment is to be principally by the Red River Gang and clowns to supply free acts Tuesday afternoon and evening. There will be a fireworks display the first and third evenings.

-Last Thursday the Waseca Jaycee nine were soundly trounced by the local American Legionnaires 14 to 2 in a softball game at Skelly field. Billy Bell pitched creditable ball for 4 innings allowing but two hits. Kenny Finseth tossed the final three innings and shut out the visitors with two hits.

-Mr. and Mrs. Thorvold Shelby of Minneapolis and Halvard Langlie of Waterville visited at the Reuben Jacobson home Monday afternoon.

-For the past two weeks Mrs. Leonard Mortenson and son, Benny, visited relatives at Bemidji, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Krueger at Blackduck, and Mrs. Ralph Hayward at the cities. They returned Friday.

-“It's a grand and glorious feeling,” was Earl Lange's comment on moving into their new dwelling the middle of last week. The new home in the west part of town is not completed on account of the shortage of material, but it is in livable condition.

-We wish to extend our thanks to the New Richland fire department and the neighbors who responded so promptly to our fire call Sunday. We appreciate your efforts, although there was no fire.--Mr. And Mrs. John Kelleher.

50 Years Back

-In a story in the Minneapolis Star Monday about the demise of Lea College, Albert Lea, Reed Waller, a student at the college, was quoted. In the interview, Waller said he stayed on at the school this past year because “Other schools I've been to won't let you be a person. I needed an education, but I wanted it to be personally meaningful. I found that Lea College was the only school which could provide that.”

-An estimated \$50,000 in non-negotiable checks, \$250 in cash and several other checks were taken in a burglary at Hartland Elevator sometime early Saturday morning. The thieves gained entrance to the elevator through a rear window and peeled the safe. According to Mrs. Lawrence Knutson, bookkeeper, they were neat, moving several knick-knacks and books from one desk to another.

-Well, folks, I discovered something while away. Upon arriving home I read “Unofficial UFO Landing??” I wondered who had written the article and discovered that it was Tim Flor and LaJean Berg. From now on, when I “ain't got” a power of imagination, I will tell Tim to write the sports and LaJean to write the feature stories.--E. H. Engesser

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Call your local newspaper or MNA 800-279-2979 to find out how you can save money by placing your advertisement here!

2023 ANNUAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Name of TIF Authority:

New Richland

Name of Municipality:

New Richland

The following information represents the annual disclosure of tax increment districts for the year ended December

NRHEG Star Eagle

(Name of the Newspaper)

on

8/8/2024

(Date of Publication)

	Name of TIF District	
		TIF 1-1
Current net tax capacity		\$ 26,626
Original net tax capacity		\$ 489
Captured net tax capacity		\$ 26,137
Principal and interest payments due in 2024		\$ 6,905
Tax increment received in 2023		\$ 45,049
Tax increment expended in 2023		\$ 6,905
Month and year of first tax increment receipt (MM / YYYY)		6 / 2007
Date of required decertification (MM / DD / YYYY)		12/31/2032

Additional information regarding each district may be obtained from:

Anthony Martens

Name of TIF Representative

203 N Boradway, New Richland, MN 56072

Address (Street, City, Zip)

(507) 465-3514

Phone

Steve Fields

Minnesota Attorney

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Seeking Bids

The City of New Richland is taking bids for Single Hauler waste and Recycling services. For RFP information and to bid, please contact Anthony Martens, City Administrator at 203 Broadway Ave N. New Richland, MN 56072 or at 507-465-3514. Bids must be received by no later than Friday November 15, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. Published in the Star Eagle Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024

Bath Township

NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2024

Polls Open: 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Voting Location: Bath Township Hall 29737 762nd Ave. Clarks Grove, MN

Lisa Dunn Bath Township Clerk

City of New Richland, Minnesota

Summary Financial Report

Revenues and Expenditures for General Operations

Governmental Funds

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	Total		Percent Increase (Decrease)
	2023	2022	
Revenues			
Taxes	\$ 697,889	\$ 636,101	9.71 %
Special assessments	35,290	53,939	(34.57)
Licenses and permits	19,271	17,486	10.21
Intergovernmental	546,175	494,084	10.54
Charges for services	270,982	234,241	15.69
Fines and forfeits	3,171	4,497	(29.49)
Investment earnings	9,846	4,354	126.14
Miscellaneous	311,223	190,139	63.68
Total Revenues	\$ 1,893,847	\$ 1,634,841	15.84 %
Per Capita	\$ 1,527	\$ 1,330	14.82 %
Expenditures			
Current			
General government	\$ 237,577	\$ 239,060	(0.62) %
Public safety	456,008	586,613	(22.26)
Streets and highways	226,836	227,058	(0.10)
Sanitation and waste removal	41,926	35,582	17.83
Culture and recreation	55,829	25,567	118.36
Economic development	-	150	(100.00)
Miscellaneous	162,160	95,269	70.21
Capital outlay			
Public safety	81,201	6,266	1,195.90
Streets and highways	119,298	128,699	(7.30)
Culture and recreation	103,616	6,950	1,390.88
Debt Service			
Principal	172,500	166,500	3.60
Interest	29,821	33,651	(11.38)
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,686,772	\$ 1,551,365	8.73 %
Per Capita	\$ 1,360	\$ 1,262	7.76 %
Total Long-term Indebtedness	\$ 786,000	\$ 958,500	(18.00) %
Per Capita	634	780	(18.72)
General Fund Balance			
Unassigned Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 688,229	\$ 450,563	52.75 %
Per Capita	555	367	51.39

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of financial information concerning the City of New Richland to interested citizens. The complete financial statements may be examined at City Hall, 203 North Broadway, New Richland, Minnesota. Questions about this report should be directed to the City at (507) 465-3514.

‘Flair for decoration’

Ford F-100 truck serves as greeting to Wilton passerbys

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer
For anyone driving south of Waseca on the Wilton Bridge Road, an old Ford F-100 pickup truck sits as a greeting to passerbys where County Roads 4 and 23 meet.

James Priebe lives close to the truck. In fact, he’s the one who put it there. His girlfriend Laurie Mariner helped him do it. At the time, Laurie wasn’t there to speak for herself, but Priebe said of her, “Yeah, it’s Laurie’s cup of tea to decorate.”
The two brought in the truck on June 1; the tires are flat, but they don’t look it. Black mulch was bagged in and spread around the tires to give the setting a ‘finished’ look. Taken from a little-used barn owned by Lyle Kuhns, it had nearly ended up in a junkyard. The antique gas pump sitting near the truck, James explains, was set there “to add to the ambience.” Up until this spring when it stopped working, the gas pump was actually still in use on the Lyle Kuhns farm.
James’s father, John Priebe, who is no longer with us, served in the US Army as a cook in the 1960s. James says he set a flagpole with an Amer-

ican flag waving over the scene in honor of his father’s service. The flag is still brand new.
Looked at from the road passing by on the south side of the property, the view of the truck includes a Wilton Township historical marker which reads: “This stone marks the site of the building where the First Official Records of Waseca County were kept.”
Other than the historical marker, James said there was nothing particularly special about the spot. Conversation between them allowed the plans for the site to grow: “[We] had the idea to put the truck in there, then the flagpole and then the pump for decoration.” He said he bought the flagpole at Fleet Farm.
Wiping the sweat from his brow, Priebe pointed to an old milk can in his garden and a cupola riddled with hundreds of bullet holes, which was removed from the top of an abandoned barn. Said James, “Laurie put a light inside the cupola, and it looks great at night.” A “cupola” is defined online as a structure set on top of a larger structure to help with air circulation in large spaces. Based on the clever touches, it becomes clear the



A rustic display catches the eye along Waseca County Highway 23 near the Wilton bridge. The nostalgic feature was made by Laurie Mariner and James Priebe, pictured here with grandchildren baby Charlotte Lund and Kenny Spiess.

two, “Especially Laurie” said James, “have a real flair for decoration.”
Not ones for sitting still, James and Laurie recently finished two projects: staining their house and adding stain to half a canoe destined to become

another yard decoration. On a brief tour, James remarked about the grass around his property and the old Ford F-100, “This huge, grassy area takes three hours to mow.” He gets landscaping help from grandson Kenny

Spies. “Luckily,” said James, “we haven’t had any vandals messing with the truck yet, so that’s nice.”
Anyone with some time to spare might consider a drive to the intersection of County Roads 4 and 23,

Star Eagle photo by Ben Revermann south of Waseca in Wilton Township, not far from the Wilton Bridge.

Another good showing at state

By MARK DOMEIER
Staff writer
The Quad Cities Baseball Association (QCBA) had yet another team make a strong showing at the MBT State Tournament on July 26-28. This time it was the 11U team that soared.
The 11U squad started pool play against Miesville and won 16-6. Miesville plated a run in the first, but QCBA answered with six runs in their half of the inning and the route was on. Trevor Gilliland, Parker Simon, Tate Michaels, and Collin Misgen each had two hits; Simon and Adler Bethke pitched for the team.
Next up was a matchup with Rogers Otsego. Once again, the opponents scored first, racing across home twice in the first inning. But QCBA came back with three runs of their own on RBI singles from Simon and Bo Holland. QCBA kept marching across the plate in future innings, including five runs in the fourth. Holland led the way with three hits, including a triple. Misgen and Kaeson Gehrke each gave up

two runs, but performed solidly from the mound.
The final game of pool play featured a battle with Minnetonka, which had QCBA leap to a five-run lead in the first, but then have to hang on to win 11-9. With QCBA up 7-4 in the fifth inning, Minnetonka came back to take the lead, at least briefly, before QCBA rallied in the bottom of the inning on a 2-RBI triple from Reed Budach and a single from Bethke.
Undeclared in pool play, QCBA advanced to the knockout round and saw Wayzata in that game, winning a thriller 14-9. Misgen hammered a home run in the first to help QCBA to a 3-0 lead, but Wayzata scored seven runs in the bottom of the first. However, QCBA wasn’t done and scored six runs of their own in the third inning, highlighted by a Holland grand slam. Gilliland, Simon, and Holland each threw scoreless innings in pitching relief to aid the cause.
The Elite Eight saw a game with Redwood, won by QCBA 4-1. QCBA found ways to score, includ-

ing on an error and a ground out. Budach toed the rubber to start, with relief shown by Gehrke and Gilliland.
The Final Four was when the magic came to a halt. QCBA met St. Paul Highland and fell 11-4. Holland had a 2-run bomb for QCBA in the sixth, but it wasn’t enough after five runs were scored by the opposing team in that inning. Simon also had two hits for QCBA.
QCBA played one more game and lost in the battle for third place to Duluth 15-5. QCBA led 4-0 right out of the gates, in part due to a 2-run double from Holland. But Duluth answered with seven runs of their own in the first and just kept rolling from there.
While the 11U QCBA team didn’t attain their ultimate goal, finishing fourth at state was a big accomplishment, facing strong competition from all around Minnesota. This group of young men worked hard, played hard, and knew they could be proud of a strong summer season of baseball.



The 11U Quad Cities Baseball Association (QCBA) had yet another team make a strong showing at the MBT State Tournament on July 26-28.

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