



FenceLines

by Mark Bernard

The sounds of changing seasons

More scant September precipitation only with July-like temps from the scurs and the Weather Eye. Is this the week we break through and get some fall recharge or are we still waiting? Starting on Thursday, mostly sunny with a good chance of rain by evening. Highs in the mid-80's with lows in the low 60's. Sunny on Friday with another fair chance of rain in the evening hours. Highs in the low 80's with lows in the low 60's. Mostly cloudy on Saturday with a good chance of rain. Cooler with highs in the mid-70's and lows in the low 60's. Sunday, mostly cloudy with a fair chance of forenoon rain. Highs in the low 70's with lows in the upper 50's. Mostly sunny on Monday with a slight chance of rain. Highs in the low 70's with lows in the low 50's. Tuesday, mostly sunny with highs in the mid-70's and lows in the mid-50's. Sunny on Wednesday with highs in the upper 70's and lows in the upper 50's. We'll see sunrise at 7 a.m. CDT on Saturday with autumnal equinox following the next day on the 22nd. We slide just under 12 hours of daylight on the 25th and won't see over 12 hours of daylight per day until St. Patrick's Day. The normal high for September 22nd is 71 and the normal low is 48. The scurs may have to remember where they left the axe to spit wood soon.

No shortage of heat this past week as daytime temperatures were more like mid-July than mid-September. Not unusual, however, as we've seen this happen several times before, usually about the time someone starts fretting that we're short on GDU's. The issue now is whether or not this weather has pushed the crop too hard, so they can worry about that instead. Fortunately we've cooled down nicely in the evening hours. Everyone needs a hobby, I guess. The milk line on the corn moved down quickly over the past week. There were some fields on Monday where it was barely showing. Soybeans, too, changed dramatically over the weekend. It will be a few weeks on most fields before harvest yet in these parts. Still a lot of variability in maturity here. On a recent trip to SE MN, it appeared there soybeans were significantly ahead of here and ripening more evenly. Many fields will likely see the combines rolling this week in parts of Dodge and Olmsted Counties.

It has not been a fun year to do corn yield estimates. The amount of variability makes it almost impossible to come up with a number that's remotely close to representative. In a good year, yield estimates should be done about every 40 acres to be considered accurate. In a year like this one, probably more like every 20 acres. Each sample takes approximately 15 - 20 minutes. No one has that kind of time, nor wants to pay someone for it if they did. Recently the experience has been hampered by warmer than normal temperatures. Wearing shorts helps, but it also opens you up to collecting all the woolly cupgrass and barnyardgrass seeds from the poor weed control in your boots and socks. Now, you're not only hot and sweaty, but your feet are also uncomfortable as well. And you're still in all likelihood not a

lot closer to knowing what the final yield on the field will be anyway.

It most certainly has pushed things in the garden faster than we can keep up with. It was a good thing I'd picked several grocery bags of string beans when I did. With all the social obligations and everything else, the string beans quickly got ahead of me. Same with the sweet corn, although there gets to be a point where I've had enough to suit me. Right now the tomatoes are prime time. One can see them ripening on the vines when driving up on the ranch. They've been nothing short of spectacular, despite all the rain they endured. The peppers on the other hand have been an absolute bust. It's looking grim for seeing any after a bumper crop last year. There is a fair amount powdery mildew starting to affect the vine crops, particularly the pumpkins. That's okay. Now we can actually start to see what's under those heavy vines. Surprisingly, it looks a lot better than I ever imagined it would back in June and July. I had serious doubts that we'd get any vegetables at all.

The birds continue to provide entertainment and tell us subtly that the seasons are changing. The hummingbirds have been just nuts. It's hard to tell just how many there are sometimes as quickly as they move from one spot to the next. The flowers continue to provide plenty for them to feed on along with keeping the nectar feeders clean and filled. One pleasant surprise was the discovery that there was still an oriole at the jelly feeder on Monday the 16th. It looks like an immature male given the size and he showed up periodically over the weekend. This gave me a chance to empty the last of the bargain brand jelly into the feeder for him. There's lots of help in that department as the red-bellied woodpecker and blue jays like to help themselves too. The color on the male goldfinches is fading fast. It won't be long, and their drab olive winter plumage will be their standard attire.

Poppy shows signs of becoming an adult dog, although there is still plenty of puppy in there to remind you she still isn't. On the adult side, she's become trustworthy enough to go long stretches in the house outside her carrier when we're not home. On the puppy side, there are still lots of zoomies indoors and out telling you she really isn't very old yet. We had a batch of kittens this spring that eventually wound up with a 100% mortality rate. Feeling good that the cat population was being held in check, we suddenly had a tame stray kitten show up that was lost, or someone must've dumped off. The only saving grace to this kitten is it's become Poppy's new favorite playmate. Her prior little buddy grew up and now spends more time fighting with the other cats. This newest addition keeps her occupied for the duration at chore time. After Poppy play time usually comes Poppy nap time. In fact, sometimes when she gets nestled in her little dog hole, it's tough to get her to budge. That has to be the adult in her coming through.

See you next week...real good then.

Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na, Batman!

I apologize if you now have the theme song for the old Batman TV show rolling through your head. The funny thing is that, even if you've never watched one single episode of that show, you know who Batman is and that the show was more corny than the fields in our area.

Batman is ubiquitous. You could stop 1000 random people on the street and show them a picture of the Dark Knight, and I'm sure nearly all of them could identify him. Superman might be the only superhero who is more widely-known.

Batman debuted in Detective Comics #27 in March 1939. That makes him 85 years old, but he still manages to patrol Gotham and fight crime. DC Comics publishes more Batman comics every month than any other character, and it's not a close race. You will find upwards of ten or more titles with him in them at all times.

Why should you care about Batman on some random day in September? Batman Day is coming up! It's celebrated on the third Saturday of September, so September 21 is the day this year. Bookstores and comic book shops have parties and giveaways. People dress up as the Caped Crusader or one of his many colorful villains to recognize the Bob Kane and Bill Finger creation.

And what a rogue's gallery of villains there are! The Joker is probably the best known, especially with



Whatever Flips Your Waffle

by Mark Domeier
Contributing Writer

another movie arriving in November. There's also Catwoman, the Riddler, Two-Face, the Penguin, the Scarecrow, Mr. Freeze, Poison Ivy, Harley Quinn, Clayface, and many more. I would argue that only Spider-Man can compete with Batman in original and recognizable villains.

What is it about Batman that has made him so popular? A few weeks ago, I wrote about why we like bad guys. Batman is not a bad guy, but he also does live on the edge between darkness and light. He doesn't kill, and he abhors guns since his parents were shot to death in front of him as a child. But he sometimes engages in some questionable behavior by dangling people from the tops of buildings or beating a ruffian to a pulp.

Batman resonates with people because he doesn't have any super powers. Folks look at him and say, "With enough work, I could be Batman." Bruce Wayne, Batman's true identity, is trained in many martial arts and fighting skills. He is at peak fitness, though in recent comics, they're recognizing that, even though

comics work on sliding timelines, he's probably in his 30s. His body has taken a beating over, probably, a ten-year span of fighting crime.

I was first introduced to Batman, not through comic books, but when he and Robin, his sidekick, appeared on Scooby-Doo and teamed up with the canine detective. I was enthralled by the Dynamic Duo, more so than any other guest stars that visited the Mystery Machine crew. I was reading Marvel Comics for about a decade before I explored anything from DC, but when I did, I latched onto Batman right away.

The actors who have played Batman have certainly been a varied lot. Adam West played him in the television series with all the Bam! Pow! Biff! involved. Michael Keaton stepped into the first movie role in the 80s; he also reprised that role in the recent Flash movie. Val Kilmer and George Clooney did not endear themselves by putting on the Batman costume. But Christian Bale played the role in a 2000s trilogy and was excellent.

Cilantro is as divisive as lutefisk

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

Max owned a little house in Portland. He gave it to his son.

That was a nice thing for him to do.

Yes, he's an Oregon donor.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. I enjoy cilantro. I don't want to eat it by the bale, but it's tasty. The herb is a member of the same family as carrots, celery and parsley. It's as divisive as lutefisk. People either love it or hate it.

The packed gymnasium had been told to put a sock in its collective mouth as the homecoming queen was being crowned. We all sent hopes telepathically as last year's royalty moved the crown from one head to another. It became so quiet, I could hear a cellphone drop. And a bunch of them did.

Once upon a time, I was the proud owner of a Chihuahua. If someone asked me what kind of dog he was, I told them he was an Alabama Airhead. The dog thought he was half-pit bull and half-Rottweiler. Whenever someone asked me what I did for a living, I told them I was my dog's best friend.

HE'S ON THE ROOF

She said, "He's over 80 years old



Compostings

by Al Batt

and he's still up on the roof of the house, patching things."

The subject of her complaint winced a little.

I told her that my brother's neighbor had called me one day to inform me that my brother was up on the roof of his house and added that he was too old to be up there. I thanked her for calling, but I knew I wouldn't be able to talk him down.

The over 80-year-old man who liked to be up on the roof perked up. "How old is your brother?" he asked. I replied, "Sadly, he died."

The man said he was sorry and asked what the cause of death had been.

"He fell off the roof," I said.

The latter answer was a fib given on behalf of the woman who wanted the man to keep both feet on the ground.

I'VE LEARNED

Eye drops are blinker fluid. President Millard Fillmore is credited with installing the first flush toilet in the White House in 1853. Roughly 19% of people have dropped their smartphones into toi-

lets. Believe it or not, Fillmore never did that, not even once.

I'm trying not to say "Gee, whiz" each time I walk by a container of Cheez Whiz in a store.

A skunk lets a smell be its umbrella.

I bought a radio at a thrift store. It had no volume control knob, but I couldn't turn it down.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

Greek mythology has always been my Achilles' elbow.

To whoever stole my limbo stick:

How low can you go?

What do you get when you cross the Atlantic with the Titanic? About halfway.

NATURE NOTES

Monarchs can travel between 50-100 miles a day. The farthest-ranging monarch butterfly recorded traveled 265 miles in one day.

"Do bees sting hummingbirds?" Bees could sting hummingbirds, but it would be a rare occurrence, as both creatures are too focused on gathering nectar to start a fight. Hummingbirds avoid bees by being agile and using quick flight movements,

Ben Affleck and Robert Pattinson have been the most recent actors to put on the spandex. Pattinson was surprisingly good. But the two actors who really stand out are Kevin Conroy and Will Arnett. If you're scratching your head, know that Conroy provided the voice in a cartoon series in the 90s and is considered the definitive voice of Batman. Arnett is the voice of Lego Batman and is quite entertaining.

Batman has a new cartoon on Prime called The Caped Crusader. It's really good and makes it out as if Batman was in the 1930s, when he was first created. The settings and characters' dialect makes it feel like it's in the past. Batman doesn't really have all the gadgets we see in later decades. He swings around, investigates, and punches bad guys, with nary a batarang in sight. It's a very enjoyable view into the original iteration of Batman.

So work on your deep, gravelly Batman voice. See if you can sneak up on people. Get a utility belt. Batman Day is almost here!

Or if that's not your thing, you can celebrate Talk Like a Pirate day on September 19 instead. Ooh, how about a pirate Batman? Ahoy, Battie!

Word of the Week: This week's word is fulgent, which means shining brightly, as in, "The Bat Signal was fulgent in the Gotham sky, calling Batman to help." Impress your friends and confuse your enemies!

tail flicking or aggressive displays. Hummingbird feeders attract both and bees feed alongside the hummingbirds, but will chase them if they feel threatened. When many bees are at a feeder, the hummingbirds opt to leave and find other nectar sources. Red attracts hummingbirds, while yellow attracts wasps and bees. Avoid feeders with yellow insect guards or flower accents to make your feeder less attractive to insects.

"Why are there tiny holes in acorns?" It's because acorns are tiny. If the holes were big, there'd be no acorns. Acorn weevils chew a small hole in the acorn while it's attached to the tree, lay an egg in the hole and plug it to camouflage their activity. After the eggs hatch, the larvae feed on the inside of the acorn, which can make the acorn non-viable. When the acorn falls to the ground, the weevil larvae chew their way out, creating a perfectly round hole, and burrow into the soil to spend the winter underground. The reason you find many holey acorns under trees is because the squirrels leave them behind.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"I expect to pass through life but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, as I shall not pass this way again."—William Penn.

■ Council

from Page 1

the EHS.

"On behalf of the Ellendale Heritage Society and the mural committee, we would like to present to Ellendale the Mural that is now complete," Mrotz stated. "With reservation that there be a formal presentation during the 125th anniversary celebration... We thank you for your decision."

"Thank you to the committee for all of your work," Bartsch responded. "It does look great. I look forward to seeing how it changes over the year."

Prior to the regular meeting of the council, a public hearing in regards to a \$50 fine imposed on Daniel Petsinger for a camera mounted to a tall structure on top of a trailer located at his property was held.

Petsinger loudly argued the ordinance does not apply to his structure because the camera is on top of a structure which sits on a trailer. The council and the city's attorney agree the zoning ordinance states an accessory used on the property must first be permitted.

"Anything you decide from here on will have ramifications," Pet-

singer told the council.

"Is that a threat?" Mayor Bartsch asked.

"No, it's not," Petsinger answered. "I will take it on to the next (legal) level."

After the hearing concluded, the council decided to move ahead with the fine of \$50 along with ordering a court abatement to ensure Petsinger takes down the camera.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Petsinger, Keith Haskell and Sue Asplund spoke.

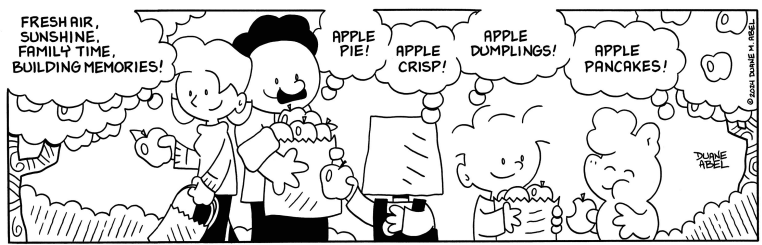
"Thank you for all being on the city council," Sue Asplund said. "I know it's a horrendous job. It's hard. Especially now. I don't think someone should be able to come before you and bully you and threaten you. I think each person who comes up and says there's gonna be repercussions or you're going to pay, they should say what those repercussions are. Thank you."

Petsinger registered a formal complaint against Councilor Bartsch and asked the city to "censure" him for leaving a "1-star" business review at Petsinger's Radio Link Internet business despite never having been a customer.

The council took no action regarding the complaint.

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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Public input wanted on hazard mitigation

Waseca County residents, community leaders, business owners, area agencies and organizations now have an opportunity to share how severe weather events impact their property and lives. There is also an opportunity to share their ideas on how to reduce local impacts in the future.

The Waseca County Office of Emergency Management is working with U-Spatial at the University of Minnesota Duluth to update the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The plan assesses the natural hazards that pose risk to the county, such as tornadoes, straight line winds, ice storms, blizzards, wildfire, flooding, and extreme temperatures, and identifies ways to minimize the damage of future events. As the county works to update the plan, it wants to hear from the public.

The Waseca County HMP is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers Waseca County, including all cities and townships within the county. The Waseca County HMP also incorporates the concerns and needs of school districts, watershed districts, and other related agencies, organizations, or businesses participating in the planning process. The plan will be updated by a planning team made up of representatives from county departments, local municipalities, and other key stakeholders. When completed, the plan will be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval.

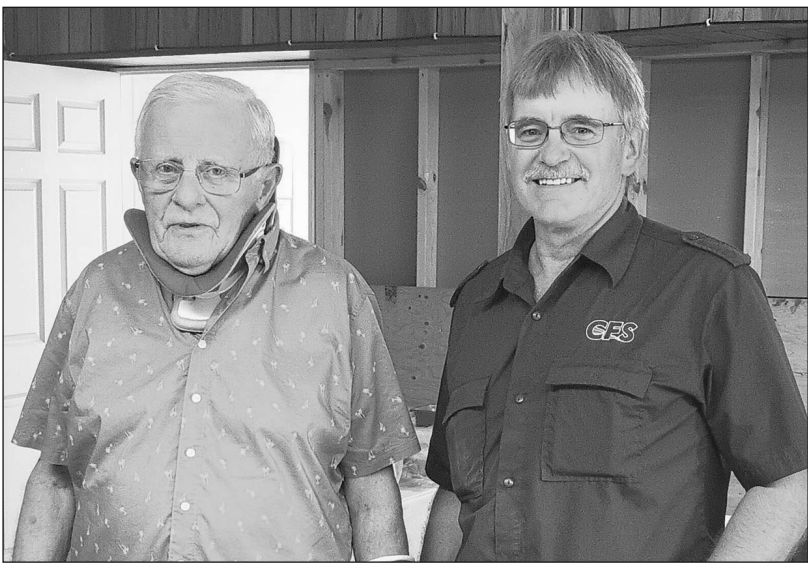
"Hazard mitigation planning is a central part of our emergency management program," said Denise Wright, Waseca County Emergency Management Director. "Understanding the natural hazards that can cause serious impact to our communities and taking action to reduce or eliminate the impact of future disasters makes us more resilient. Hazard mitigation helps us to break the cycle of damage and repair caused by things like flooding, ice storms, and severe wind events that can damage property, stress economies, and threaten life safety in our county."

Examples of hazard mitigation include:

- Conducting public outreach on severe weather awareness and preparedness
- Improving stormwater management systems to better handle high-rain events
- Removing existing buildings from flood or erosion prone hazard areas
- Increasing defensible space around homes in high-risk wildfire areas
- Constructing tornado safe rooms in vulnerable areas such as mobile home parks
- Burying overhead powerlines that may fail due to heavy snow, ice, or windstorms

Some mitigation activities may be eligible for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

Input continued on 5



From Left: Roger Johnson, former head of the feed department, joined Bob Wenzel for his 37-year retirement party from Central Farm Service on Sep 13. Star Eagle photo by Ben Revermann

Wenzel celebrated for nearly four decades at CFS

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Central Farm Service CFS in New Richland held a retirement party from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. for Bob Wenzel, 63, Friday, Sep 13. The event marked 37 years of uninterrupted service to the company. When asked how many days until he's officially done, Wenzel replied, "I'm done today." To affirm his words, he said earlier he tried to load a few things, but his coworkers quickly took over and left him with nothing to do. CFS was working hard to make sure Wenzel's last day was an

easy one. Friends and family were there to send him off to the world of retirement, including his wife, Cindy, who works for Johnson-Doerhoefer Accounting out of New Richland along with his mother-in-law, Ona Meyer, who used to be a secretary at NRHEG but retired in 1998. There was a table with a very complete lunch spread: sandwiches, chips, sodas and water, bars and cookies. No one walked away from Bob Wenzel's retirement party hungry.

Wenzel continued on 5

Marching Classic Saturday NRHEG to participate for first time in multiple years

Director talks preparation for weekend

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

"We pretty well hit the ground running," observes NRHEG Secondary School band director Seth Schaefer. "We had a lot to do, and we couldn't let the complications get in our way."

The "complications" of which he speaks are a disassembled band room, the need to store instruments and music in alternate locations, and the lack of a place to keep marching band uniforms.

"Trombones and saxophones definitely will not fit in a student's locker," he says with a shake of his head. "And as for drums, well, they've got to have their own space."

The tasks he refers to are getting the band as a whole, along with each musician as an individual, ready for rapidly approaching performances.

First up is the Waseca Marching Classic set to take place in Waseca this Saturday. The 22 members of the band will appear in the event's noontime parade. Schaefer says he will also encourage his musicians to watch the 5:30 field show competition, but the Panthers will not be competing in it.

"It's good background for them to see what other groups are doing," comments Schaefer, saying he hopes to put together a field show to be performed during one or two home sporting events later this fall and during the indoor marching band concert.

Overall, he observes, "September is bananas in music education." In addition to any competitions like the Classic, musicians must come up to speed for pep band performances at sports events, including football and volleyball games; over the course of the year, he says, those are likely to average about one a week.

Homecoming with coronation, the parade and



NRHEG band instructor Seth Schaefer and drum major Grace Starman among band equipment and instruments stored on the secondary school stage while work continues to reconstruct the band room. Band members have been preparing to take part in the Waseca Marching Classic since the first week of school. Star Eagle photo by Deb Bently

the pep band, will be the week of Sept. 23 to 27. The band will appear in all three. Schaefer mentions the school vocal music department is working to prepare a number for coronation.

Neither Schaefer nor drum major Grace Starman were taken by surprise as the school year began and the band room remained unfinished. The extra-large space with its tiered layers of floor and many shelves across the back was disassembled to allow for removal of asbestos right away in June.

During the project, workers discovered some underlying structural problems not related to asbestos. The school district applied for a permit to repair them during June, according to district su-

perintendent Michael Meihak, and has yet to receive approval. At this time, the framework for the raised floors is in place, but the room is impassable.

Percussion instruments and other large items are stored on the school's stage. The junior high and senior high bands have been practicing either outdoors or in one of the gymnasiums.

Starman mentions it has been traditional for the Panthers to take part in the Waseca Marching Classic, although the group missed last year because Schaefer had only recently been hired as the new director.

"We'll be ready," she says confidently. "We know what to do, and we'll get it done."

Jacobson joins New Richland council

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

During the Sept. 9 meeting of the New Richland city council, Brandy Jacobson was sworn in as the newest council member. She replaced council member Janda Ferguson who became acting mayor after Loren Skelton stepped down for health reasons. Resident John Mrozek was appointed to the city's housing and redevelopment authority; he will serve a five-year term.

City ambulance director Sarah Sundve was not present at the meeting, but submitted a report letting council members know a mock crash has been scheduled for the morning

of Sept. 20 along Ash Avenue South, near the secondary school. Participating agencies will include the New Richland ambulance, the city police, the county sheriff's office, and North Ambulance service. The event will even include a mock helicopter transport.

Sundve's report also recommended changes to her department's policy manual. She suggested new expectations for emergency medical technicians (EMTs) working for the service should now require them to work a minimum of 60 hours a month; 30 hours to be scheduled on weekdays, 30 on weekends: EMTs would also be expected to work at

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

least 60 hours on designated holidays each year. Each team member would be required to sign up for their hours by the first day of each month.

City police chief Tanyce Bruegger let council members know her staff responded to 147 calls in August. Total calls for August: 1,653. She classified the "Night to Unite" as a big success, mentioning nearly all the give-away items were distributed. Print paper was purchased for the squad cars. Bruegger requested that the department receive funding

to purchase three or four "Taser 10" weapons in 2025 at an estimated cost of about \$16,522. The price includes an instructor sent to certify officers in Taser 10 use. These tasers have a shooting distance of about 45 feet, almost double the 25 feet of current equipment.

Schwickert's Tecta America will inspect the roof of every city-owned building in New Richland for \$1,900, this is an annual cost. All council members voted in favor of upgrading the city-issued electronic equipment they use. New tablets for

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WALDORF CITY COUNCIL

Majeski sworn in

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The first order of business at Waldorf's monthly city council meeting the evening of Monday, Sept. 9, was to swear in the newest council member, Jim Majeski. Majeski takes the seat of former member Jay Longenecker who moved out of town.

With the state office of cannabis management pressing for local communities to establish rules and laws surrounding cannabis use, Mayor Rob Wilkening suggested the city might follow the same system as that recently implemented in the town of Hutchinson. Namely, adding cannabis into the already existing laws regarding tobacco use. For example, no smoking indoors, no use of the substance near a school, and use only in designated locations. There will be a public hearing for this issue during the next council meeting at 7 p.m. Oct. 15.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, a resident told council members the emerald ash borer problem in Waldorf has been growing worse and claimed the city should not keep ignoring the situation. Another matter regarding trees was also discussed Sept. 9; tree stumps in the ballfield and park should be scheduled for removal at a cost of \$220 each. Council members were also told of various projects around town which must be looked into, including concrete repair in sidewalks and around street lights as well as a few street repairs. Mayor Wilkening reported city staff is working to get cost estimates.

Regarding the replacement of one streetlight, Wilkening suggested taking part in a pilot program to install a unit which stores solar energy for use overnight, an Evergreen Series solar paneled streetlight by Sunna Design. Wilkening reported the city has already submitted an application to take part in the pilot program; he expects there to be only minimal cost to the city for the new light.

Council members were also told the number of citizens dumping their grass clippings is increasing, it was suggested a tax to clean up the street be introduced, or that a \$25 fee be charged to residents who leave clippings in the street.

Concern was raised about the origins of a \$4,000 payment for overtime to city maintenance worker Ron Fisher. Council members expressed displeasure that Mayor Wilkening never brought the amount before them for approval, even implying that proper protocol had been overlooked. During the heated discussion, two members of the audience spontaneously spoke in defense of Fisher, saying he is a trustworthy individual who would not overcharge the city.

The Christmas light situation was tabled until next meeting. The city's website is still under construction. The exhaust fan in the fire hall needs an update because when fire trucks go on a call, exhaust is seeping into a city office and the library. It was suggested that the exhaust fan be given a carbon dioxide sensor or

Waldorf continued on 6

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OBITUARIES

Gary Johnson

Gary took his flight home at the age of 73 after a strong battle with an infection along with his fight with Lewy Body Disease.

Funeral service will be 10:30am Friday, September 20, 2024 at Trinity Lutheran Church, New Richland with burial at the St. Olaf Cemetery, New Richland. Visitation will be 4:00-7:00pm Thursday, September 19th, and 9:30am Friday, all at the church. To leave a condolence for the family or view the service livestream, visit www.saintpeterfuneralhome.com.



Gary Johnson

He was born to Raymond and Mildred Johnson and raised and lived on the family farm all his life. He met the love of his life and married Jackie on February 14th 1976. They blessed their marriage with two sons. After having his heart attack Gary lived with his son Jeff and Jennie in their home still on the family farm until he needed more care with his Lewy Body Disease. He was then moved to New Richland Care Center where he was until he flew home.

He attended school in New Richland. After graduation he served in the Army Reserves and attended trade school in Austin Minnesota. Gary lived on the family farm with his family helping his father farm and later farmed himself, he then in his later years proudly watched Jeff farm. Gary also worked at OMC, Mustang, and Viracon in Owatonna for a few years while farming. He enjoyed driving truck with Jeff hauling Peas, Sweet Corn, Corn, Beans, and many other things. He enjoyed helping with the animals on the farm, especially the mini donkeys that magically appeared! He was most recently excited about earning the

title of great bumpa to his first great granddaughter arriving in October.

Left here on earth to miss and grieve him are his sons and daughters-in-law Jeff & Jennie Johnson and Joe Johnson & Emma Schneider, grandchildren Samuel (Gretchen) Jewett and Robert (Addy) Jewett and Olivia & Paige Johnson, Sister and brother-in-law Barb & Dayton Draheim, Sister-in-law and husband Kathy & Ken Ryks, Brother-in-law's wife Sue Stark, four nieces (Nicole, Chantell, Ashley, & Toccara), eight nephews (Nathan, Ryan, Charlie, Jeremy, Joe, Josh, Mike, & Matt), fourteen great nieces and nephews (Gennie, Miles, Caleb, Brianna, Adrianna, Christian, Addison, Haley, Levi, Criox, Hannah, Hunter, Hazel & Callum)

Flying home before him was his wife Jackie, his parents Raymond & Mildred Johnson, his father and mother-in-law Marv & Bev Stark, his sister and brother-in-law Marie & Delbert Johnson, his brothers-in-law Roger, Wayne, and David Stark, and his great nephew Daniel Piepho.

Vista

from Page 1

lowed church members to volunteer their time and save on costs.

Swenson remembers traveling to Kansas with fellow construction committee member Reuben Youngberg. The two visited a recently-constructed church building and decided its design could suit Vista Covenant's needs. Swenson began taking measurements and recording notes when the members of the church simply offered him a copy of their blueprints.

Another astounding timesaver was the process of ordering the laminated arches needed to support the church's high, open interior. Swenson says that, when he went to an Albert Lea company which specialized in the process, he was informed someone else had placed an order for arches meeting the needed specifications and then canceled: the company had the needed materials on hand, ready to deliver, saving the project a four-month wait.

Another example of what members regarded as divine intervention was the range of skills represented among the congregation. Reuben Youngberg coordinated the construction of the pews with a company in Mankato. Lloyd Peterson, an electrician, was able to lead that phase of the project. Bricklayer Darold Steen had the knowledge and skills to coordinate the raising of the walls. Church member Floyd Calhoun was familiar with using fiberglass in construction, a skill needed to build and connect the church's steeple.

"Do you think God wanted to see our building built?" asked church member Paula Hansen during a special anniversary celebration held at the church on Sept. 15. "God knew what we would need in 1964, and began putting it in place years ahead of time. We only had to follow the path that had been laid out for us."

Another remarkable coincidence

was the weather. Hansen described the harvest season as providing opportune, even "beautiful" fall weather, making it possible for farmers to spend the necessary time in their fields and also have free time to volunteer. She mentioned that on the December day workers were about to finish putting shingles on the roof, they were in a race against a snowstorm forecast to reach the area any time.

"Soon after they nailed down the last shingle," Hansen said, "it began to snow."

About 50 people were present in church for the Sept. 15 celebration and for a dinner which followed.

Gratitude was expressed to the construction committee members who are still church members: Carol and Rolland Swenson, Harriet and Ken Eaton, and Lloyd Peterson.

Hansen also pointed out that many "youth" members of the church performed unskilled tasks to assist in 1964, including cleanup projects around the site and unloading sod for the new building's lawn the next spring. Hansen asked those youth members, including herself and sister Pam Coyer, to raise their hands: about 10 individuals, now in their 60s and older, made themselves known.

Hansen also mentioned an observation shared by the still-living construction committee members. "They said the enthusiasm, the collectedness, and the dedication of the volunteers was truly a blessing," stated Hansen. "They said it was a blessing to be part of the work." Thanks to the many remarkable coincidences and to the dedication of the workers and volunteers, the 1964 structure was completed in less than 10 months, holding its inaugural open house in August of 1965.

That original building was expanded with an addition completed in 1977.

Planning committee members for the Sept. 15 observance were Hansen, Coyer, Laurie Hendrickson and Sharon Robran.

slightly more than \$1,775.

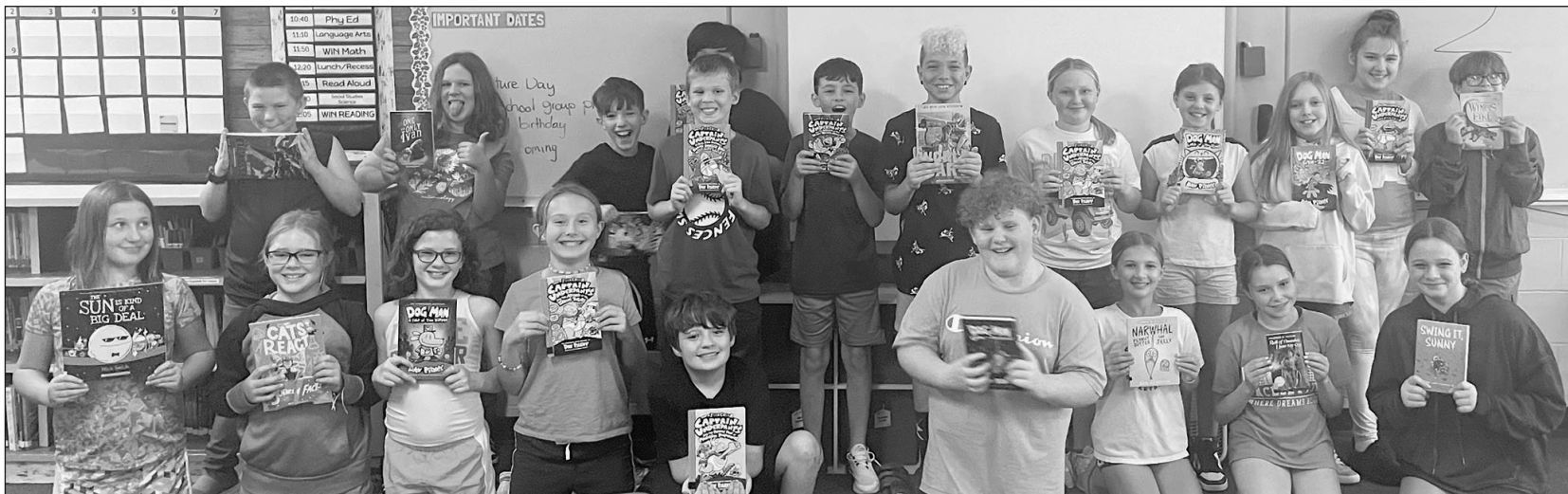
The next city council meeting will be Monday, Sept. 23. The focus of a September 24 council work session will be the evening of Tuesday, Sept. 24, will be the city's worker compensation insurance policy.

NR Council

from Page 3

all five council members will cost

Never Too Many Books



It was done on a whim.

Teachers receive hundreds of emails every week, many of them trying to sell a product. But when NRHEG English teacher Mark Domeier saw an email that flashed "Free Books," he took a second look. And he's glad he did.

The non-profit group Teach AAPI (Asian American/Pacific Islanders) is a new organization, and they decided to give out grants for 500 new books as a library refresh for school districts across the country. All that was needed was a 1-2 minute video about the need for multicultural books in a school.

Domeier's video entry was about life in small, rural communities without much diversity and the need to introduce kids to the different cultures in our country and around the world. He was surprised and excited to get an email saying that he was one of six winners in the United States.

After that, the work began. Domeier teamed with elementary teacher Sara Ihrke to select the books from a lengthy list, including books from Simon & Schuster Books and Scholastic Books. As a result, both buildings in the NRHEG district now have about 250 new books each; some have been placed in the media centers, while others have found homes in different classrooms.

It may have seemed like a daunting number of books, but there is never such a thing as too many books. Now students have more to choose from in finding books they enjoy, and they have more chances to learn about the world while learning to enjoy reading.

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Newest Lion



Sharon Peterson has joined the Ellendale Lions Club. She has become a member of the largest organization in the world with over 135,000 members. We welcome her to a club that serves others.



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Ellendale class of 1957



Front row: Howard Wayne, Zetty Claire Nelson, Yvonne Spinler, Jeanette Theuer and Iris Jensen. Back Row: Ellen Aller, Mary Lou Deml, Janet Motz, Melvin Schewe, David Nelson, Darryl Flim, and Dave Jellum. Missing from the photo is Ron Thompson.

The Ellendale High School Class of 1957 held a reunion of their graduation on Saturday afternoon, September 14 at the Geneva Bar & Grill. Zetty Clair Nelson organized the reunion this year and a total of 13 classmates were in attendance: Ellen (Moser) Aller, Mary Lou Deml, Darryl Flim, Dave Jellum, Iris (Christensen) Jensen, Janet (Kenny) Motz, David Nelson, Zetty Clair (Bailey) Nelson, Melvin Schewe, Yvonne (Brekke) Spinler, Jeanette (Jensen) Theuer, Ronald Thompson and Howard Wayne.

The classmates along with their spouses or guests, ordered dinner from the menu, and enjoyed a nice selection of bars and cookies prepared by Zetty Claire. Those in attendance for the reunion spent a great deal of time visiting and sharing stories before their afternoon came to a close. It was noted that classmates Dwayne Anderson, Dale Bartness, Lyle Bowen, Kermit Grosland, Marilyn Hanson, Laurel Hendrickson, Dick Jensen, Shirley Johnson, Edith Lund, Duane Olson, Mary Jane Peterson, Stanley Thompson, Michael Waage and Lorna Zeman had passed away. Classmates, Sandra Disher, Jeantte Grimstad, Keith Hartly, Betty Jiroushek, Dale Johnson, Donald Johnson, Patricia More, Darrel Nelson, Lyle Olson, Corlyn Paulsen, Ovanna Utpadel, Gerry Wagner, were not in attendance this year.

The Ellendale High School Class of 1957 graduated a total of 39 Seniors on May 24, 1957. The Superintendent was Gordon Anderson, and Albert P. Lee served as Principal. Named as Co-Valedictorians of the class were Lyle Olson and Dale Johnson

The class chose "Climb Far, your goal is the sky, your aim the star," as their motto, Dusty Ruse and Pearl, their Class Colors and Baby Rose their Class Flower. Chosen as their Homecoming King and Queen were Corlyn Paulsen and Jeanette Grimstad.

The classmates of the Ellendale Class of 1957 in attendance for the reunion this year remembered those members no longer able to be them, and hope that many more of their classmates will join them for their next reunion.

Fastpitch Reunion



A Reunion of Southern Minnesota Fastpitch Softball players was held at RJ's in Ellendale on Thursday afternoon, September 14, 2024. The players enjoyed dinner together, shared events in their lives over the past year, and memories from many years of playing Fastpitch Softball. Before the afternoon came to a close, the men gathered on the back patio of RJ's for a photo.

Front Row: Marly Kronberg, Tony Anderson, Gus Courrier, Billy Disher and Terry Peterson. Second Row: Gene Zeise, Al Lee, Fritz Kendrick, Larry Peterson, Jim Beech, Daryl Paulsen, Dan Richards and Ron Bergstrom. Third Row: Fred Kindschey, Scott Christensen, Hank Thompson, Craig Bailey, Jim Bermeister, Jeff Krekling and Larry Zevenberger. Missing from the photo are Ron Matthews and Larry Dammers.

Also in attendance for the afternoon reunion were some of their loyal fans over the years, including: Julie Courier, Judy Zeise, Sandy Peterson and Kathy Paulsen.

The softball players have been gathering for a number of years now and look forward to their upcoming reunions in September each year.

■ Wenzel

from Page 3

In Wenzel's tenure he's seen the company's name change five separate times. When he began working for CFS, it was called Hunting, which changed into Terra, then Agro Distributing, then Watonwan Farm Service before it was finally called CFS.

CFS has four focus areas: Agronomy, which is the science and technology of producing and using

plants; grain and the production of it in the most efficient manner possible; feed quality at competitive prices; and Energy and responsive energy service.

The New Richland CFS moved from the elevator a block away to the current location back in 2017. Wenzel considers himself very lucky because in those 37 years he's never been in or seen any major accidents. "There was that one fire, but I had just cleaned out the dust the day before and I must've done a really good job because there was just that first blast of heat and flame and it was done. I took off running, but it was able to come back right away."

Bob and Cindy have two children, a girl and a boy. Amanda (35) is married, works for US Bank and lives in Virginia with her husband, who is in the military and has three deployments under his belt. They are working on having kids. Logan (30) is an agronomist and runs a farm near Hartland.

Friend, mentor, former coworker and former head of the feed department, Roger Johnson showed up in good cheer wearing a neck brace and cast on his arm. The elderly gentleman was kind enough to pose for a picture with Wenzel.

His father served in the US Army during the Korean War. Wenzel's

parents moved to New Richland when he was two from Minneapolis. Wenzel has one brother, Tim Wenzel, who is a partial owner of Winegar in Waseca.

When asked what he will be doing with all his spare time now, Wenzel replied, "I live in the country and will be working with a few of the farmers around me off and on. I'm also thinking of converting one of my sheds into a woodworking area. I also want to go west and check out the mountains." He also has an interest in books by Louis L'amour, who is considered to be one of the best western writers in the world.

■ Input

from Page 3

grant funding.

Public input is an essential part of the plan update. As part of the planning process, Waseca County is seeking feedback from residents and businesses to incorporate into the

plan. Your input will be recorded and incorporated into the planning process:

- What are the natural hazards you feel pose the greatest risk to your community?
- Are there specific populations or assets in your community that you feel are more vulnerable to future storm events?
- What concerns do you have, and what sorts of actions do you feel would help to reduce damages of fu-

ture hazard events in your community or the county as a whole?

Your feedback is wanted. Comments, concerns, or questions regarding natural disasters and your ideas for mitigation projects should be submitted to Waseca County Emergency Management by phone, email, or by posting a comment via a social media posting of this article.

There will be additional opportunities for public feedback throughout the planning process. A draft of the

plan will be made available for public review prior to submission of the plan to the State of Minnesota. Future news releases will be shared with the media to notify the public of these opportunities.

The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires counties to update their plan every five years to maintain eligibility for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs.

A week in the woods is medicine

With the hint of fall that we have experienced the past week, I felt rejuvenated. Alas, we did have some temperatures in the 80's, but it still cooled down nicely at night. I am not telling you anything that you don't already know, but I love having the best of both worlds.

I am looking forward to spending a week up north with my son Brad and his son Dylan. I know that we will be doing a lot of fishing, which I am really looking forward to.

I have spent some time going through my tackle boxes searching for that "magic" lure to bring along. So many options, not enough time to use them all. It's a good problem to have, but I need to use them wisely. Ha! Ha!

There is no better feeling than when a fish attacks your lure just as it hits the water. Those are times that dreams are made of if you are an angler. I am looking forward to basking in the colors of fall. I can imagine buzzing down the lake with a cool mist hitting my face as those wonderful colors paint the shoreline.

I will leave it up to Brad and Dylan where we fish first. I only have one request and that is to make a trip to Spider Lake. Which is a lake that we all look forward to fishing. Visiting this lake will fulfill my summer wish



Woods and Water

by Dick Herfindahl
Outdoors Writer

list and make the winter go by much faster.

The 2024 fall colors forecast
Fall colors in Minnesota typically peak in mid-to-late-September through mid-October, starting in the northwest and working toward the southeast corner of Minnesota. Peak fall color usually persists in a location for two weeks, but can vary widely depending on location and weather.

Many factors play into the timing and brilliance of the fall color season in Minnesota, including day length, temperatures and rainfall. Weather impacts fall colors both before and during the fall season.

"Brilliant fall color occurs when early fall days are sunny, nights are chilly and there is adequate rainfall throughout the growing season," said Brian Schwingle, a DNR forest health specialist.

In contrast to recent years of drought, this year's growing season has been much wetter, which is overall better for trees. However, the abundance of moisture has also promoted fungal leaf diseases on species, including aspen and oak. While not concerning for the health of the tree, the diseases might reduce the overall brilliance of the landscape due to early leaf shedding or dead spots and blotches on leaves.

The main driver of leaves changing color is the decrease of daily sunlight. Photosynthesis, or the production of sugars that depend on sunlight, begins to slow down in response to shortening days. This leads to lower levels of chlorophyll, the pigment that supports photosynthesis and gives leaves their green color. When chlorophyll is reduced, other color pigments in the leaves begin to show, like yellow and oranges.

"The DNR's fall color map has been reliable in recent years," Schwingle said. "An earlier, lighter frost will shift peak fall color earlier in the fall color window, so pay attention to the forecast if you can be flexible with your travel timing. Regardless of conditions, there should be plenty of beautiful foliage to enjoy."

"Fall is a magical time in Minnesota when nature puts on a beautiful show for all to see," said Ann Pierce, DNR Parks and Trails director. "The crisp air, the vibrant colors and the serene landscapes create the perfect backdrop for outdoor adventures. Whether you're hiking, biking, camping or simply enjoying the view, fall is the perfect time to connect with nature and enjoy the beauty of Minnesota state parks and other state lands."

Until next time: In a few weeks we will be having the colors of fall right here in our area. It will be a great time to take a drive in the country. Always be aware of farm machinery which will be on the roads later in the fall.

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 we enjoy today.

■ Waldorf

from Page 3

have a control system others in the building can access.

The Twin Cities based design and consulting firm Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) was to have given an update regarding about \$8000 worth of repairs needed in the basement of St. Joseph Catholic Church on Third Avenue, but no one from SEH was

present. Contractor "Work Completed Form" certificates were mailed to residents/businesses along with a letter of explanation. Residents: out of 36 total, 26 done. Businesses, six total, six done. A grace period was allowed if someone had a contractor lined up but unable to complete work before 9/1/24, there were three of these.

Council members were told the Waldorf Fire Department's sweet corn and burger feed was well attended. It was mentioned that, although 500 cookies were too many

last year, 300 were not enough this year. So many people came that pretty much all of the food was served. The Waldorf Fire Department won the evening's "Water Wars" competition. The car show was a big hit, and the band Red Dirt Road performed.

A motion was made to open a bank account to hold \$20,000 earmarked for the park. -This item was tabled until the next meeting.

The area in town known as "Veterans Park" is now owned by the city. There is a plan to build a gazebo

on the property next year.

Council members learned that more than \$2,000 in water and sewer bills had not been paid at the end of August. Seven residents made no payment whatsoever; two paid only part of what was owed. One city residence has had its water cut off; another will also be cut off if payment is not received by Sept. 15.

August documents including city council minutes, the fire department summary and workshop minutes for August 26 were approved.

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.vibrantlifeag.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. Sunday School from Oct through May from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. 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
Lemond Township
Pastor Dave Klawiter
Sunday - 10:15 a.m. Worship

FIRST LUTHERAN, LCMS
Hope, Minnesota
Pastor Sandy 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

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Father Peter Schuster
Sunday - 8 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation; 8:30 a.m. Mass with Children's Church; Pre-school Sunday School during Mass
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. - Faith Formation classes for grades K-Confirmation
www.litomysl.webs.com
www.stsidoreschool.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

25 years back

● Karen Chicos is the new Superintendent Secretary at NRHEG High School. Karen Chicos was hired as the new Superintendent Secretary at NRHEG High School.

Karen graduated from Mankato Technical College in the secretarial program and specialization in Data Processing. She also attended a two-year program at Rochester Community College specializing in Nursing.



● Sara Ihrke is the new Kindergarten Teacher in Ellendale. Sara Ihrke joins the staff at NRHEG as the new kindergarten teacher in Ellendale. Sara is a native of the area. She attended and graduated from NRHEG. Sara attended St. Olaf for a year and six months. She then transferred to Gustavus Adolphus College and graduated with a B.A. degree in Elementary Education in 1998.

● The following local students are among the 688 full-time first-year and transfer students who have accepted an offer of admission and are coming to Gustavus Adolphus College. This year's total enrollment of 2,450 at Gustavus Adolphus is the second highest in college history. The 138th academic year at Gustavus began Wednesday, September 8. Local students include, from Ellendale, Cassandra Hill, and from New Richland, Cambria Halgren. Gustavus Adolphus College is a residential, liberal arts college that grants undergraduate degrees in 65 majors.



50 years back

● Herdina, Toft wed July 26. Andrea Herdina and Timothy Toft were married Saturday, July 26 at St. Columbanus Catholic Church in Blooming Prairie. The double-ring ceremony was performed by father Donal Zenk at 3:30 p.m. Soloists were Kristin and Karla Ressler, and Anita Bunne, sister of the bride. Karla Ressler also was the organist. Russell Aldinger, uncle of the bride, was the lecturer.

● There will be an open house bridal shower honoring Connie Anderson, bride to be of Craig Miller, on Monday, September 8 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of first Lutheran church in Ellendale.

● A son has been born to Steve and Rhonda Christensen of Geneva on Sunday, August 24 at Health Central of Owatonna. He has been named Nicholas Jon and joins brother Mathew in the Christensen family. Nicholas weighed a little over eight pounds.



● Bates Celebrates 40th Anniversary. Marvin and Joyce Bates, rural Blooming Prairie, will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on September 7 with an open house at the Hayfield Country Club from 2:30-5:30, hosted by their children and grandchildren.

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Royal Villa has a subsidized one-bedroom apartment for rent to a qualified applicant. Call 507-463-8515 or stop by the office at 221 1st St NE, New Richland for an application.

50ffc

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e-mail steagle@hickorytech.net

The city of Waldorf will be holding a public hearing on October 15, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the Waldorf Community Center to discuss adopting ordinance 87 Fees and Charges. The public hearing will also discuss adding cannabis to the existing tobacco ordinance.

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Downtown New Richland

NOTICE

Berlin Township Board Meeting

Monday, October 10, 2024

7:00 p.m. in the Ellendale Comm. Bldg.
(in the Board Room)

Helen Schmidt, Berlin Township Clerk

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY WASECA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 81-PR-24-586

In Re: Richard E. Sorenson aka Richard Sorenson
Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on November 6, 2024, at 9:15 PM, a hearing will be held via Zoom, see notice of remote hearing, in this Court at 307 North State Street Waseca, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, April 2, 2014, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Linda C. Sorenson, 525 SW 6th St., Waseca, MN 56093 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED ☐ SUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to

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Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT
Dated: 09/03/2024, 03:49:11 p.m.
/s/Carol M. Hanks

Judge of District Court
Shannon Asselin
Court Administrator
Byron Law Office, PLLC
Molly Byron
MN# 0163843
122 North State St.
Waseca, MN 56093
Telephone: 507-835-3355
Fax: 507-835-3303
Published in the Star Eagle September 12 and 19, 2024

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What do Smokey the Bear & Norm Eckart have in common?

They're both turning 80!

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CITY OF CLARKS GROVE, MINNESOTA SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGE IN CASH FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023				
	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Final Budget Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
DISBURSEMENTS				
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Mayor and Council:				
Wages and Salaries	\$ 17,600	\$ 17,600	\$ 17,600	\$ -
FINANCE-MUNICIPAL CLERK/TREASURER				
Wages and Salaries	56,700	56,700	61,920	(5,220)
LEGAL AND ACCOUNTING	12,500	12,500	28,016	(15,516)
OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Outside Services	3,550	3,550	7,237	(3,687)
Training	650	650	15,979	(15,329)
Publishing	-	-	100	(100)
Insurance	64,467	64,467	56,341	8,126
Repairs and Maintenance	13,700	13,700	5,359	8,341
Payroll Taxes and Retirement	29,725	29,725	21,703	8,022
Supplies	10,300	10,300	12,152	(1,852)
Gas and Oil	-	-	6,339	(6,339)
Telephone	5,800	5,800	5,640	160
Utilities	14,800	14,800	12,385	2,415
Elections	12,000	12,000	12,854	(854)
Miscellaneous	2,383	2,383	(10,241)	12,624
Total General Government	244,175	244,175	253,384	(9,209)
PUBLIC SAFETY				
Fire Protection	-	-	100	(100)

CITY OF CLARKS GROVE, MINNESOTA SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGE IN CASH FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023				
	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Final Budget Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
DISBURSEMENTS (CONTINUED)				
STREETS AND HIGHWAYS				
Streets and Highways:				
Salaries	\$ 66,450	\$ 66,450	\$ 73,783	\$ (7,333)
Rent	-	-	4,091	(4,091)
Repairs and Maintenance	15,000	15,000	7,757	7,243
Engineering Fees	3,000	3,000	12,613	(9,613)
Capital Outlay	10,000	10,000	33,134	(23,134)
Street Lighting	15,250	15,250	8,351	6,899
Total Streets and Highways	109,700	109,700	139,729	(30,029)
CULTURE AND RECREATION				
Parks and Boulevards	23,125	23,125	23,807	(682)
Total Disbursements	377,000	377,000	417,020	(40,020)
DEFICIENCY OF RECEIPTS UNDER DISBURSEMENTS	26,000	26,000	51,779	(25,779)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers Out	(26,000)	(26,000)	(5,000)	21,000
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(26,000)	(26,000)	(5,000)	21,000
NET CHANGE IN CASH FUND BALANCE	\$ -	\$ -	46,779	\$ 46,779
Cash Fund Balance - Beginning of Year			254,341	
CASH FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR			\$ 301,120	

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A reversal of fortunes

Football Panthers avenge last year’s loss to Mayer Lutheran

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

After starting the season 0-2, the NRHEG High School football team faced a team that defeated the Panthers a year ago.

This time, the results were different.

The Panthers played their best football of the year, defeating Mayer Lutheran 38-15 at New Richland last Friday.

“We had a great game,” said NRHEG head coach Marc Kruger.

From a big opening kickoff, the Panthers were off to the races.

“A big kick return from Alden Dobberstein set up an early touchdown,” said Kruger after the game. “We ran the ball extremely well and our defense really stepped up. They played lights out.”

The offense registered more than 300 yards on the ground and the defense forced three turnovers, limiting the Chargers to 77 rushing yards.

The Panthers’ opening drive ended with a 2-yard touchdown run from Owen Bartlett. Carter Martens was good on the PAT, the first successful kick by a Panther this season.

Following a four-play drive from the Chargers, the Panthers needed only one play to tally their second touchdown of the game, a 44-yard scamper from Harbor Cromwell.

A touchdown pass on 4th-and-2 from the Chargers cut the Panther lead to 13-7, the closest the score would be the rest of the way.

The Panthers answered two possessions later with a 19-yard touchdown scramble from Dobberstein.

The next Charger possession ended in a leaping pick by Seth Staloch at the Panther 40-yard line. It was capitalized on with another

“We ran the ball extremely well and our defense really stepped up.”

— NRHEG coach Marc Kruger

touchdown run, this time of 14 yards, by Dobberstein. It extended the Panther’s lead to 25-7 at half-time.

The Panthers added scores in the third quarter on big runs from Ryan Schlaak (63 yards) on a gorgeous cutback across the field, and another impressive carry from Cromwell of 26 yards.

The Chargers added a late 4th-quarter touchdown run of 8 yards and a safety, both with many bench players in for both teams.

Cromwell ran 12 times for 154 yards, Schlaak four for 84. Dobberstein, who gained 54 yards rushing on six attempts, only had to pass six times — and had the distinction of catching his own pass. The other completion went to Aiden Hanna.

Jordan Brouwers led the defense with seven tackles and two sacks. Cromwell had six stops.

The Panthers moved to 1-2 and the Chargers fell to 0-3.

Up next, the Panthers travel to face St. Clair/Mankato Loyola this Friday.

NRHEG 38, Mayer Lutheran 15									
ML	0	7	0	8	—	15			
NRHEG	13	12	13	0	—	38			
First Quarter									
NRHEG —	Owen Bartlett	2 run	(Carter Martens kick)						



RUNNING ROOM — Above left, NRHEG’s Seth Staloch goes high in the air for an interception during the Panthers’ 38-15 victory over visiting Mayer Lutheran last Friday. Above right, Harbor Cromwell (23) looks for an opening as teammate Owen Bartlett (11) throws a block. Above left, Seth Staloch goes high in the air for an interception. Below left, Bartlett celebrates a touchdown. Below right, Cromwell runs behind the blocking of Jace Ihrke.

Star Eagle photos by Eli Lutgens



NRHEG — Harbor Cromwell 44 run (kick failed)

Second Quarter
ML — 16 pass (kick good)
NRHEG — Alden Dobberstein 19 run (two-point conversion failed)
NRHEG — Dobberstein 14 run (kick failed)

Third Quarter
NRHEG — Ryan Schlaak 63 run (Martens kick)
NRHEG — Cromwell 26 run (kick failed)

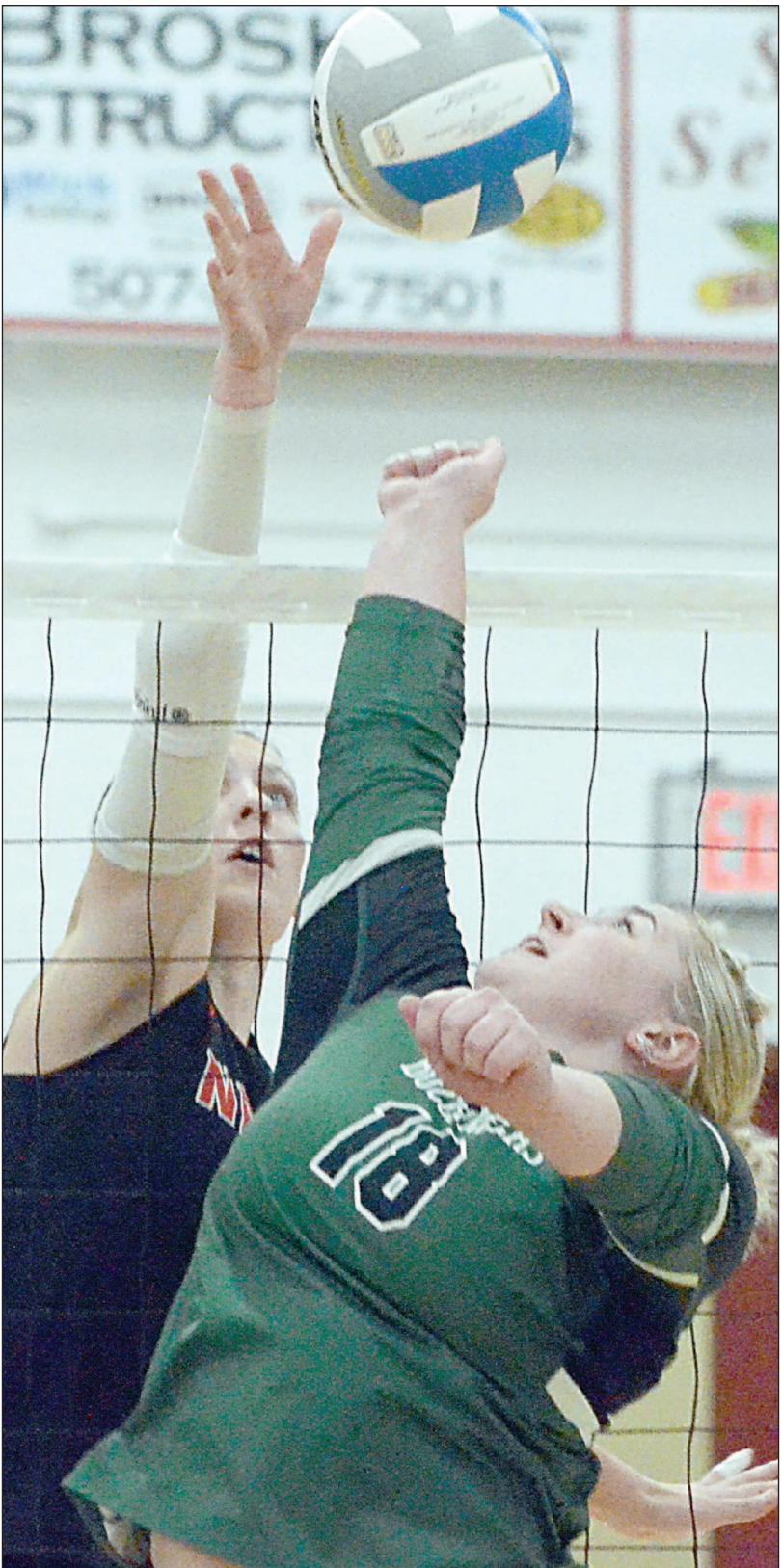
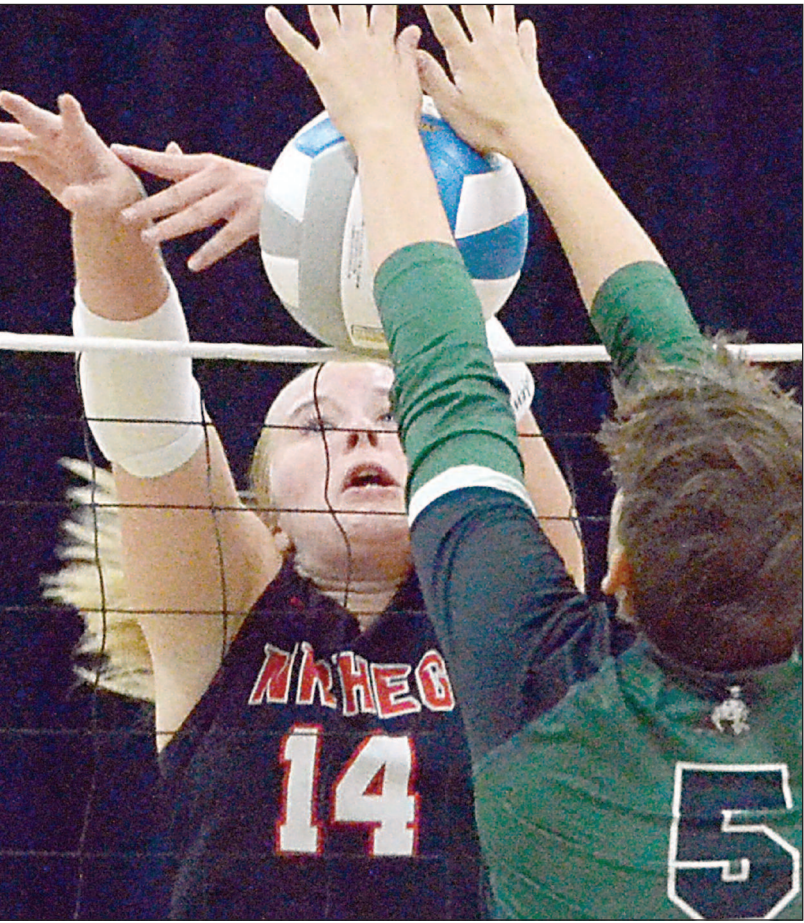
Fourth Quarter
ML — 8 run (two-point conversion failed)

Total plays	63	42
First downs	12	13
Rushing	77	334
Passing	15-27-2	2-6-0
Passing Yds.	101	8
Total Yds.	178	342
Third Down	3-15	0-4
Fourth Down	2-5	1-4

Fumbles lost	1	3
Turnovers	3	3
Penalties	3-20	2-15

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing — NRHEG: Cromwell 12-153; Schlaak 4-84; Dobberstein 6-54; Bartlett 1-2; Rest of team 11-41; ML: No. 88 2-4; C.Hayes 1-3; Rest of team 31-70
Passing — NRHEG: Dobberstein 7-15-0, 154; ML: 15-27-2, 101
Receiving — NRHEG: A.Hanna 1-21;

Dobberstein 1 — 13; ML: No. 88 3-14; Hayes 1 — 2
NRHEG Defense — J.Brouwers 7 tackles, 2 sacks; Cromwell 6 tackles; F.Baumann 5 tackles; Bartlett 4 tackles; J.Ihrke 4 tackles; J.Fleming 3 tackles; Schlaak 2 tackles; Knudson 2 tackles; Dobberstein 1 tackle, 1 interception; C.Hutchens 1 tackle; Martens 1 tackle; S.Staloch 1 interception; Z.Hanna 1 assist; Rest of team 16 tackles, 1 assist



ACTIVITY AT THE NET — Above left, the Panthers’ Addy Stadheim (14) battles at the net with WEM’s Tatum Richards during last week’s Gopher Conference volleyball match in New Richland. Below left, Camryn VanMaldeghem (2) spikes while Alenka Jans defends. Above, Gabby Schlaak goes up against Ashlyn Pelant (18).

Star Eagle photos by Jim Lutgens

NRHEG spikers keep it close, but fall 4-1 to WEM, USC

The competition got a little tougher for the NRHEG High School volleyball team last week.

The Panthers kept the games close but lost 3-1 both times, to WEM at home and at United South Central.

Against WEM last Thursday, the Buccaneers lost 25-21, 23-25, 25-22 and 25-15 in New Richland.

“It was another close match tonight against WEM,” said Panthers coach Bethany Tennis.

Individually for NRHEG: Gabby Schlaak 10 kills, 14 digs, 3 sets, 1 set assist, 3 ace serves; Camryn VanMaldeghem 7K, 5D, 8A; Anika Ladlie: 8K, 1D, 4A; Mallory Schlinger 6D; Izley Boerner 4D; Aryanna Howe 5K, 8D, 1SA, 2A; Addy Stadheim 1K, 10D, 34S, 3A, 4A; Chloe Riewer 17D, 1SA; Chloe Stork 3K, 14A.

“Stork and VanMaldeghem held a presence at the net,” said Tennis. “As a team, we need to be able to finish games stronger and with more intensity. The Panthers brought good energy to the court, but we need to practice sustaining that energy through the entirety of the match. Looking ahead, we have a lot of season left to make sure our team is running on all cylinders.”

Two nights earlier, the Panthers

“We have some game aspects to continue to improve upon.”

— NRHEG coach Bethany Tennis

traveled to Wells to face USC and fell 25-22, 21-25, 25-19 and 30-28.

“It was a tough loss,” said Tennis. “We lost our momentum after the first set and couldn’t quite get it back in time. Both teams battled hard in the fourth set. Addy Stadheim had 33 assists throughout the match and will continue to play a key role in our offensive success. We have some game aspects to continue to improve upon.”

Individually: Schlaak 12K, 6D, 2SA, 2A, 2B; VanMaldeghem 6K, 4D, 2A, 4B; Ladlie 5K, 2B; Schlinger 7D, 1SA; Boerner 6D, 1A; Howe 6K, 5D, 1A, 2B; Stadheim 2K, 6D, 33SA, 2A, 3B; Aspyn Stenzel 1K, 1D, 1A; Riewer 14D, 2SA, 5B; Stork 3K, 2D, 1B.

After playing Thursday at home against BA, the Panthers return to Wells for the USC Invitational Saturday at 9 a.m.

Karl, Wobbrock finish 2nd at Blooming Prairie

The NRHEG High School cross country teams were more than a little shorthanded for last week’s meet at Blooming Prairie.

Neither the boys or the girls fielded a full squad.

Jacob Karl was the lone entry for the NRHEG boys, finishing second with a time of 19:09 for 5,000

meters.

The girls had three runners. Julieann Wobbrock was second in 22:37.3, Ella Jeno 11th in 24:54.4, and Sierra Misgen 21st in 30:01.8.

After hosting the NRHEG Invitational Tuesday, the Panthers are off until the Sept. 26 WEM/JWP Invitational.