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Summer Ball

NR Summer Burst Concert Series returns June 23, July 21 and Aug. 11

The concerts in the park series will continue for a third season of music for the 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.

June 23rd: The Whiteside-walls - The upper Midwest's premier doo-wop, rockabilly and rock and roll band, known for 50's and 60's music, will perform the songs we all remember!

July 21st: Just Friends Gospel -The well-known group of singers from the surrounding areas of New Richland, Owatonna, Wells, and Austin.

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

Ellendale Legion and VFW to perform flag retirement ceremony June 29

The Ellendale American Legion and VFW posts will be performing a patriotic flag retirement and disposal ceremony that will be held after the Ellendale Day's Parade June 29th and is open to the public.

The ceremony will be held in front of the Veteran's Memorial Area next to the Village Hall and across from the Post Office. This ceremony is meant to instill a feeling of respect for our flag and a proper method for retirement and disposal.

Thanks to all who would like to attend.

Thirty-fourth annual FCA Sports Camp set for July 30 - Aug. 1

The thirty-fourth annual Waseca Fellowship of Christian Athletes Jr. Sports Camp is set for July 30 - Aug. 1 for athletes entering grades 3-8. Registration online at www.minnesotafca.org/waseca-jsc.

Lutheran 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.

A word from

The Word



Live as people who are free.

1 Peter 2:16

Complications for farmers

Showers bring third-wettest May in Waseca County history

SROC's Hoverstad talks rain

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

According to records kept at the University of Minnesota Southern Research and Outreach Center (SROC), this past May was the third wettest since record-keeping began in the county.

May of 2024 delivered 7.5 inches of rain; in 1991 the area received 7.76 inches. The all-time record-setter was May of 1945, with 7.78 inches.

SROC scientist Tom Hoverstad points out though, that the center's practice is to record the rainfall from a 24-hour period on the following morning. Close to 2 inches of rain, 1.84, fell during the hours of May 31, but was recorded on June 1.

"If that had been one day sooner, 2024 would have been the record holder," he said. As it is, the difference between the three records is less than three tenths of an inch.

Along with receiving about three inches more rain than normal, the area also experienced 18 days with measurable rainfall amounts. "That didn't leave much of a planting window," Hoverstad said.



A group of cattle waded in and drink from a pool of standing water on a patch of land that is normally grassy pasture.

Coupled with that was 4.5 inches of rain in April, 1.23 inches more than normal, now being followed by an unusually wet June. The first 13 days of the month brought 8 days with rain, shrinking planting opportunities even further. "Area farmers have been fighting that wet soil all spring," Hoverstad observes.

As a tour of area fields shows, the majority of farmers managed to get seeds in the ground only to have fields soaked and sometimes left with large areas of standing water.

According to Hoverstad and area agronomist Mark Bernard, this creates different complications depending on the individual circum-

stances.

In some fields, the water drained away relatively quickly, leaving the crop standing in very wet soil. In this case, according to the two scientists, the root systems of the plants may not develop as they should for continued growth and optimal yield. Corn roots typically reach 2 to 3 feet into the ground to support the plants' height and to find nutrients. With so much water available near the surface, they might not reach that optimal depth as they are developing.

Even in fields where the water drains away without pooling, farmers



Muddy water covers a patch of cornfield for the third time. According to crop scientists, plants can survive as many as five days underwater if the water temperature remains low.

Star Eagle photos by Deb Bently

May continued on 2

Delacruz and Shaw take on challenges of foster parenting

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Last fall, New Richland residents Kelly Delacruz and her partner Robert Shaw recognized a gap they were willing to help fill.

"There's a desperate shortage of foster homes," Delacruz comments. "And we knew about someone who needed some help."

After checking with the four children of their blended family living with them, the two went through the process to become licensed foster care providers. Given the home inspection, background checks and required paperwork, the process takes about three months; the pair first received their license last October.

Delacruz comments she is grateful she worked with the Lutheran Social Services office out of Mankato, saying the agency offered guidance and support each step of the way.

Candy Picka, the agency's statewide program manager for therapeutic foster care, confirms there is a need for additional foster families. In 2023, she reveals, 6,150 Minnesota children experienced "out of home" care.

Both Picka and Delacruz mention encountering the misconception that children in foster care are there because of their own behavior.

"Pretty much all the children," said Picka, "are in the system because of circumstances beyond their control." She mentions parents who must be absent from the home to seek medical care or treatment for addiction; children have sometimes been the victims of abuse or neglect and are removed from the home for their own safety.

"Nearly all the children in foster

care are there because of something the parents or family members need to work on," observes Picka.

Another common misconception is about what it takes to be qualified to provide foster care. Picka says the Lutheran Social Services (LSS) office out of Mankato works with 24 foster homes. She mentions one which has been part of the system for 25 years. "We have married couples, singles, young adults. We have families with and without a stay-at-home parent.

"If your family has the room, time, patience and love to take care of them, foster children could live in your home," she says.

County government agencies determine which children must be placed out of their homes based on child protection rules and practices. Once a placement is decided upon, county employees begin looking for a place which can care for the children. Some counties, Picka explains, have placement agencies of their own. Others contact services like LSS to find homes; Picka estimates area counties may have working relationships with three to five agencies like hers.

It is a general practice to try and keep siblings together and to keep children as close to home as possible, but circumstances may not always allow doing so.

Delacruz comments that she and Shaw have learned a great deal over the past few months. This has included practical, everyday details such as the proper way to install and use car seats to procedural life lessons like being ready for anything and keeping track of details.

When their home is being considered for a placement, Delacruz ex-



New Richland residents Kelly Delacruz and Robert Shaw made the choice to become foster parents last fall.

plains, a call will come from LSS checking to see whether there is a possibility the numbers and ages of children can be accommodated at her house. "We can always say no," she points out. "But we also want to help kids whenever we can."

"After all, it's a safe bet they're experiencing some sort of crisis."

Foster children may be scheduled to stay a day or two, a few weeks, or even to be "permanently" placed in a home. The length of the stay is also something Delacruz and her family take into account when deciding whether or not to accept a placement.

Once her family consents and the children arrive, Delacruz says, they may have suitcases packed with everything they need, or they may have only the clothes on their backs.

"You work out a system for times like that," says Delacruz lightly, mentioning New Rich-

land's Lady Bug thrift shop has been supportive and helpful. She is also quick to point out the county and philanthropic organizations also provide needed items.

When it comes to keeping track of details, Delacruz mentions children may need to be transported to medical appointments, family visits, court appearances and other events. When she or Shaw are available, they can take care of it and be reimbursed for their expenses; otherwise county representatives ensure it is taken care of.

"There are a lot of supports in place to make it all do-able," she observes. "The longer you do it, the better you get to know those supports."

"But no matter how well you know them, it's really beneficial to be working with an agency like Lu-

Parents continued on 6

Celebrate Flag Day every day

Available for purchase at businesses throughout NRHEG

The New Richland Area Foundation invites the public to join them in honoring the United States Flag during Flag Day, Independence Day, and every day.

Flags can be purchased for \$1, or any amount a person wishes to donate. You can then write your name, and/or a comment on the flag and it will be hung up at the business you purchased it from.

Flags can be purchased at the following establishments: Hartland University in Hartland, RJ's in Ellendale, State Bank of NR, The Willows, Red Leaf Cafe, Wagner Foods, N.R. Liquor and Riverview Golf Course.

The funds raised will be put in the NRAF fund and used to grant monies to support programs/projects within the NRHEG School District as well as other non-profit groups.

"Make sure to always honor your flag and thank a veteran for your freedom," the NRAF states. "God Bless America!"

"The New Richland Area Foundation thanks you for your donation and continued support!"

This promotion ends the week of July 8th.



FenceLines

by Mark Bernard

A slight window of opportunity

Another trip to the Nash Rambler dealer is in the offing for the scurs and the Weather Eye. Does the heartbreaking rainfall stop soon or continue for perpetuity? Starting Thursday, mostly cloudy with a good chance of rain. Highs in the upper 70's with lows in the mid-60's. Partly sunny on Friday with a good chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-80's with lows in the upper 60's. Mostly cloudy on Saturday with a good chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80's with lows in the low 60's. Sunday, mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70's with lows in the mid-50's. Mostly sunny on Monday with highs in the low 80's and lows in the low 60's. Tuesday, cloudy with a good chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70's with lows in the upper 50's. Sunny on Wednesday with highs in the mid-70's and lows in the mid-50's. On June 20th we'll see the summer solstice, marking the longest daylength of the year at 15 hours and 28 minutes. Our Full Moon for the month occurs the next day on the 21st. The normal high for June 20th is 80 and the normal low is 60. The scurs know that with the shorter days that lie ahead, rainfall will lessen. Then it will snow.

The Full Moon is on Friday and goes primarily by the Full Strawberry Moon. Most agree that this summer delicacy is among their favorites. Few things better than strawberry shortcake with fresh ripe strawberries and real whipped cream. On ice cream, cereal or in jams, it's hard to beat this sweet, juicy red fruit. Depending on whose info one accesses, the alternate names for this full moon include The Flowering Moon, The Green Corn Moon, The Honey Moon or the Rose Moon. The Ojibwe and Sioux who agreed on little at least could agree that this was The Strawberry Moon. At the ranch it has been the Full Lawnmowing Moon. Without a good mowing every four of five days, the ranch starts to look like the place has been abandoned.

More rainfall adding insult to injury this past week. Our rainfall amounts are on a record pace thus far. With 8.4" falling in May in Bugtussle and over 7.6" so far in June, we're only two months into the official growing season. At the SROC in Waseca, the May - Sept. precip for the past 30 years is 23.72". With three months remaining, the odds are pretty fair that we'll give that a run for its money. Crop conditions here in South Central MN have suffered as a result. Some of the replant areas are back underwater again. In the corn, odds are against them replanting anything that will make corn even though there are some early hybrids that would still make corn given an extended growing season and no more drown outs. On the soybeans, past experience indicates we can still expect adapted soybean varieties to make it, planted up through about July 10th. Let's hope we don't have to wait that long.

Looks like the corn rootworm hatch is underway. On the 11th, I spied the first fireflies of the season which roughly coincides with the emergence of corn rootworm larvae from overwintering eggs. Unlike corn rootworms however, the fireflies cause no economic crop injury and are pleasing to the eye when they make their appearance each year. Those I saw that first night had a very rapid flashing cadence. Looking at it from inside the house, I thought at first it was an

airplane off in the distance. Closer observation brought a smile to my face. Looking forward to another season of viewing these unique insects through much of August. Unlike some reports of their demise, our fireflies continue to flourish. If anything, numbers have increased over the years with some nights approaching surreal when gazing across the dark backyard and pasture.

One insect that didn't make us smile this last week were the earwigs. Mrs. Cheviot had mentioned something was eating the potted dahlia and salvia. She'd mentioned earwigs as a possibility although none were seen on the plants. After finding earwigs in a birdfeeder full of damp seed, I investigated further. I lifted up one of the flowerpots on the patio and voila! There were dozens of earwigs underneath, seeking shelter from the daylight where it's nice and damp. Earwigs are wet weather insects and can appear almost anywhere. I've even found them occasionally in soybean fields, especially near building sites. Their erratic shaped leaf feeding looks like nothing else and staying under a moist canopy is to their liking. We improvised and dealt with the bunch at the ranch harshly. Looking again later in the day, there was no sign of them. Since the insecticides we used had little residual, repeat treatments are likely. I'm guessing others may also be seeing these pests, so a link is included below on earwigs.

<https://extension.umn.edu/nuisance-insects/earwigs>

A slight window of opportunity opened early last week to till some garden after using another dose of burndown on the weeds last Monday. Early Wednesday morning I took advantage of it and planted much of the plot. Eight rows of sweet corn went in first, followed by eight hills of squash, 16 hills of pumpkins, and 18 hills of gourds. Since everyone was in spray mode with rain heading in, just before lunch, I snuck home to put the 16 hills of cucumbers, 4 hills of zucchini, and two rows of string beans in. I'd hoped to plant two more rows of beans, but it rained me out. A few days later I managed to squeeze those two rows in and plant six rows of four o'clocks for the sphinx moths and hummingbirds. On Saturday, with help from my friend, we planted the canna bulbs, placing the last of them in the trenches just as the rain began to fall. This Tuesday morning, several of the hills of vine crops were starting to emerge thanks to the warm wet weather. Timing is everything.

Poppy's week was inhibited at times by all the rain but anytime there was an opportunity, we had her outside with us. The garden is still one of her favorite spots. She actually stays around fairly well when planting or picking vegetables. Her favorite veggies from last year were the string beans. The short stature of a Corgi worked perfectly as she'd nearly disappear between the dense foliage, while eating pods to her little heart's content. The sunflowers were a favorite place to get cooled down. Their large leaves created a shady spot to hide and stay cool while doing it. Getting her to the garden has been more the issue this year. Poppy's low undercarriage drags in the wet grass so keeping the lawn mowed has been a top priority. No one likes their tummy tickled by long wet grass or to be bothered by mosquitoes when they're looking for place to relieve themselves.

See you next week...real good then.

Inspiring star stories, week 2

Summer break is here, which means it's also time for a break from pontificating, so I'll look to my creative writing pen for a time. Some of my students gave me the first and last lines of a potential story; my job is to fill in the middle! This week's inspiration comes from Jackson Woodham.

One day I woke up to the scintillating sounds of Hank Williams, Jr., on my radio. Yes, I'm old enough to still use a radio alarm to wake up instead of using the ubiquitous cell phone. As I rolled over to hit the snooze, I felt my cat, Miss Fury, leap off the bed and prance toward the door, expecting me to follow her.

I groaned and flopped back onto my pillow. I had gotten home late from the lab where I worked the previous night. I was a chemist, working with others to create a formula to easily remove fat globules that caused bumps in people's skin. Many people tended to panic when they had a bump, and we hoped our creation would save money on doctor visits.

It was then that I was reminded how my cat got her name. Miss Fury did not like to be ignored, and she demanded that I arise at my first alarm each morning, no snooze button for this guy. She showed her displeasure at my continued presence on my pillow by springing back up and nudging me toward the side of the bed.

"Okay, okay, I'm moving," I grumbled as I flopped my feet to the floor and hoisted myself to go meet the day.

Miss Fury guided me through my morning routine of shower, dress,



Whatever Flips Your Waffle

by Mark Domeier
Contributing Writer

breakfast, and, most importantly, fill her food bowl. Once that was all done, I was allowed to leave for work at Thompson Laboratories.

When I arrived, it appeared I wasn't the only one who was tired. Ginger and Beck, my co-workers, looked just as thrilled to have heard their alarms as I was.

We took the first half hour to review where we had left off the previous evening. Since we had been bleary-eyed at 9 p.m., we knew how important it was to double-check any progress we thought we had made. After all, when mixing chemicals, one can never be too safe. With three of us checking our numbers, we rarely had to start over from scratch.

We did disagree at times, though. Beck was really unsure of the direction we were heading. He thought we were relying too much on a chemical compound with which he had had a bad experience on another project. Plus, he had always been a bit of a pejorist.

However, Ginger and I both thought this was the right direction for the experiment. And when Ginger tossed her long, brunette hair, Beck tended to melt a bit. I just rolled my eyes, glad we didn't have to argue anymore and that Ginger's wily ways got us moving in the di-

rection I had envisioned.

But dissension arose again later that day. We had just come back from lunch and were looking, once again, at our numbers. We had also left part of our formula to cook a bit while we were out of the lab for an hour. We got different readings from the concoction on the second try as opposed to the first. It wasn't a lot, but it was enough to be concerning.

We decided to make two more mixtures and check them against the original. This was something we would do anyway, but since the current combo was fluctuating, it was more important than ever.

After an hour of cooking, we took some fresh readings and found that both of the new ones were identical to the first reading of the original batch. Just on a whim, Beck took a third reading on the first concoction. This was different from the first two. This strengthened his argument that we were headed down the wrong path.

But I was stubborn, convinced that we were moving in the right direction. When the two afternoon formulas followed the same pattern as the morning one, I thought that proved my point. But at this point, even Ginger looked unsure.

The other two left the lab before

me after we agreed that we'd take a fresh look in the morning. I glanced back at the stoppered vials on the counter, hesitated, then grabbed one and put it in my jacket.

I was confident that the formula wasn't dangerous. I knew we just needed to test it on a human subject. As I took my jacket off at home, I glanced at a tiny bump on my arm.

I was just going to do it. I would down the mixture and see if it impacted that fat bump. If there was anything bad, the amount I had would be too little to do much in the way of side effects.

However, before I could do the deed, Miss Fury was weaving in and out of my legs, demanding her supper. She really loved some lickable bisque packets I had purchased, especially the tuna and shrimp mixture. I set the vial on the counter, grabbed a bowl and a serving of the bisque, and set her feast before her.

As Miss Fury lunged toward the bowl, she tripped me up a bit. I grabbed for purchase on the counter and knocked the stopper off the vial from the lab, watching helplessly as the mixture dripped down into the bisque just as my cat started to eat.

Needless to say, that chemical concoction was not the correct form for what we were hoping. But that is how my cat's tongue turned purple.

Word of the Week: This week's word is pejorist, which means a person who believes the world is getting worse, as in, "Chicken Little was an example of a pejorist, always saying the sky was falling." Impress your friends and confuse your enemies!

Summer ball



The QCBA 13U team played in the Burnsville 13AA Invitational June 7-9. The team finished 3rd out of 8 teams, going 4-1 for the weekend. The team finished 1st in their pool. Games were QCBA (11) vs. Summerset (2), QCBA (16) vs. Burnsville (15) and QCBA (19) vs. Prescott (4). On Sunday they entered the champions bracket, losing the first QCBA (5) vs. Wayzata (8), then went on to win the third place game QCBA (6) vs. Summerset (5).

13U Team: Gus Bethke, Mack Gilliland, Preston Hanna, Eli Hendrickson, Wyatt Hendrickson, Brock Holland, Jacob Klaras, Andy Nelson, Mason Pederson, Tyler Piepho, Aiden Routh, Owen Schlaak, Memphis Schlaak. Mathew Williams, Alec Wyrum and Coaches Aaron Gilliland, Eric Hendrickson and Todd Piepho.



The QCBA 10U - Red team played in the Owatonna 10A Tournament June 7-9. The team finished 4th out of 6 teams, going 2-2 for the weekend. The team finished 1st in their pool. Games were QCBA (11) vs. Owatonna Blue (1) and QCBA (13) vs. Northfield (3). On Sunday they entered the champions bracket, losing the first QCBA (2) to TCU (14) and second game QCBA (8) vs. Northfield (20).

10U-Red team: Lake Anderson, Ruxin Anderson, Brexton Bartsch, Jaxson Hove, Beau Howe, Wesley Jensen. Giovanni Johnson, Brixton Johnson, Jordy Kloczek, Laik Krohn, Preston Misen. Kenneth Nelson, Harvey Root, Hunter Schultz, Anchor Skuster, Jacob Sommer, Marvin Tolzman and Coach Jon Bartsch.

■ May

from Page 1

may lose the expensive nitrogen fertilizers they have applied to their soil. Corn is especially dependent on sufficient levels of nitrogen for continued development: nitrogen in the soil tends to bond with water, and thus is prone to leach away as the water drains. Exposure to water can also cause the nitrogen to undergo a slight chemical change and become prone to a form of evaporation. This leaves farmers with decisions to make about cost-to-benefit advantages of applying additional nitrogen—which will entail not only the cost of the fertilizer, but the time and resources to apply it and potential damage to plants which might occur during the application.

Yet another complex choice confronts farmers who have fields with pools of standing water. Hoverstad explains that, in cool weather, plants can survive even up to four or five days of being submerged. If the water warms, however, bacterial growth accelerates and causes irreversible damage. Farmers with areas where no crop remains must weigh a surprising number of factors as they make decisions about replanting.

Among their choices, agronomist Mark Bernard jokes, are "so many decisions it could make your head explode."

Many farmers have a "prevent plant" clause in their crop insurance. "They're guaranteed a certain level of income from that," Hoverstad observed. "But they don't like to use it."

Based on what he saw in the wet year of 2013, he speculates that it goes against a farmer's nature to give up on a crop. Farmers must weigh the likely sale price of any crop to be harvested from the replanted portion of the field against the costs and time needed to do the replanting.

They must decide whether there is another hybrid of the corn or soybeans which will mature fast enough to "catch up" with undamaged areas.

For any who decide not to replant drowned-out sections, "They're going to want a cover crop," says Hoverstad. "There's a rule of thumb about what happens when you let part of a field grow wild unchecked: 'One year's weeding equals seven years seeding.'" In other words, farmers might consider planting soybeans or some other dense crop on the open part of the field simply so the cultivated plants will take over the space and prevent weeds from thriving.

"There's nothing wrong with planting soybeans as a cover crop," said Hoverstad, mentioning there are also other choices.

Agronomist Mark Bernard mentions insects and pathogens as another factor which may have been affected by the unusually wet soil. For example, he says, the mild weather probably allowed soybean aphids to overwinter in strong numbers giving them "the potential to be a problem." However, if soybeans should reach canopy over unusually wet soil, "It is likely to create advantageous conditions for pathogenic fungi which help keep aphid numbers in check, in conjunction with beneficial insects such ladybird beetles, lacewings, syrphid flies and parasitic wasps."

He also suggests, "The wet conditions are definitely favorable for disease development as the season wears on." Among the diseases he names are stalk rots and leaf disease in corn and white mold and sudden death syndrome in soybeans.

Bernard can't help mentioning that weather patterns in early April had given the impression the spring would be relatively dry.

"Nobody saw this coming," he comments.

Just as they must every spring, farmers had made decisions about what crops to plant on which fields at what time. As the surprisingly wet year materialized, some of those decisions turned out to be "lucky," while some did not.

"We know there's been damage done. Now farmers have to decide

how they're going to respond," said Bernard. As to whether this next set of choices will be "lucky," Bernard says the only time those factors can truly be weighed is during harvest, when the results are measurable.

"They've seen this before," he says somewhat philosophically. "Farmers use what they know from past experience with all the variables—the seeds, the contour of the land, the fertilizers and herbicides they use.

"They have to hedge their bets and go with their gut."

At this point, Bernard suggests, farmers can do essentially nothing while the fields and soil remain so wet. "I think their approach is, 'We'll get through this. We can't do anything about it right now, but we will take care of things when we can.'"

NRHeg Star Eagle

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Compostings

by Al Batt

I have no idea what everyone else is thinking

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING
Someone robbed me at the gas station.
Oh, no! Do you know who the robber was?
Yes, it was Pump 6.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. I had provided fine dining opportunities to multitudes of female mosquitoes, but it was still a good day. I'm sure it'd be in the top 10 days of the week. I headed to town. It would be 8 miles if I turned one way or 24,901 miles if I turned in the opposite direction. It was the first 8 miles in a journey of 237 miles. On that journey, I stopped at a convenience store to get gas and some fruit for lunch. There were roller dogs available. Hot dogs on a roller grill; sausage in a logrolling competition. I read something a few years back saying that Minnesotans eat 197 hot dogs per capita per year while Iowans eat 207 per capita annually. I passed on the roller dogs.

It rained most of the day, but in the early afternoon, the sun peeked out. That was the highlight of the day until I reached my workplace, wishing I'd been wearing a T-shirt reading "Before" on the front and "After" on the back.

I'VE LEARNED
The good old days were when I had no idea what everyone else in the world was thinking.
I can't remember the last time I said "rhombus."

Cargo pants are important because you never know when you might get a job as a cargo ship.

Life is getting used to doing things you'll later need to get used to not doing.

When I tipped the canoe, I discovered it was cap-sized.

The sign said, "Employees must wash hands," but I washed my own as I couldn't wait for them.

IN THE NEWS
Man walks into a bar and loses limbo contest.
Mime arrested for doing unspeakable things.
Jeweler charged with making a customer's ear ring.

Local woman gets new car for her husband. She considered it a good trade.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT
He called his horse Mayo. Sometimes Mayo nays.

What looks like half of a Twinkie? The other half.
Is a child who is in pre-K in J?

What word is always spelled backward? Backward.

Be prepared—read a step-by-step guide to falling down the stairs.
Ducks ate my neighbor's dog. I warned him not to get a purebred dog.

Where do you see yourself in five years? In mirrors, in other reflective surfaces and in selfies.

NATURE NOTES
Kathryn Tollefson of New Richland asked why she sees pigeons in the same place near the Le Sueur River Lutheran Church frequently. With humans and other animals, the attraction to a particular place is often food. Maybe there is something to eat there—pigeon chow. Pigeons, like us, are creatures of habit and adhere to traditions. They have better homing instincts than we do, so they can find where they want to be without a GPS. Perhaps they are waiting for an invitation to attend church services.

I watched a couple of turkey vultures make Venn diagrams in the sky and spotted hoofed ruminants that are deer to us. A crow dipped a colorful snack bag in the water of a pond. I don't know what was in it. Crows are notorious for soaking food in water. They're not cleaning it, and it's more than softening the food to make it more palatable. Baby crows rely on their parents to provide food containing enough moisture to prevent dehydration, and moistened food helps.

Serviceberry, also called juneberry, shadbush or Saskatoon berry, is a small tree or shrub native to Minnesota. Ripe fruit can be eaten fresh or used in jams, jellies and pies. Serviceberry is attractive to pollinators, birds and other animals. One story maintains the first settlers in New England planned funeral services at the same time the tree bloomed, a sign the ground had thawed sufficiently to dig graves. The tree became known as the serviceberry. That origin is disputed.

Wild ginger is sometimes called woodland ginger, Canada ginger, snakeroot, colic root, coltsfoot, namepin and sturgeon potato. It has fuzzy, green, heart- or kidney-shaped leaves and below them is a small brown to burgundy, bowl-shaped flower. The color and scent of the blooms attract early spring gnats, flies and beetles. The flowers smell like rotten meat, although the scent isn't noticeable to me.

MEETING ADJOURNED
I flipped a switch and a light came on. I'm most grateful for that and for all the people who made that possible. Be kind.

Panther press writers reflect on year

NRHEG Panther Press Overview of the 2023-2024 School Year:

Clara Buendorf: One of my favorite things from this past year was getting to learn Spanish. I love learning a different language. Another favorite thing from this school year is I got to go to Maui, Hawaii. It was such a fun trip! Lastly, getting to make ice cream in Mr. Macha's room was fun.

Caden Conklin: My favorite thing this year was welding. I've wanted to weld for a long time. Getting the chance to weld with help was fun. It helped with grades, so I knew that I was doing them correctly.

Khaiden Madson: One of my favorite things from this past school year was wrestling. The reason why wrestling is my favorite thing this past school year is because it was something new that I tried, and I ended up really enjoying it. Another reason is because it was really fun hanging out with everybody on my

wrestling team. The final reason is because my wrestling team was always making me feel like I was included, and it felt like I was part of a family.

Kylie Olson: I have had so many great things happen to me this past school year. I think my favorite thing was when I played in the varsity girls basketball, and it was my birthday. Every time I made a shot, the student section sang happy birthday. I think they liked the end because they got cupcakes.

Caden Christopher: So far my favorite thing was watching the Lion King in biology. I also enjoyed watching Toy Story 3 and Monsters Inc. I have found my favorite book this year as well. I have also gotten a job. I have also done the best this year.

Trevor Selover: My favorite thing about this year is getting my driver's license. I like the freedom I gained when I got it. It allowed me to do

many things I could not before. It was also a responsibility that I earned.

I haven't been able to do things to have a favorite thing. Ever since the night my parents died in that alley, I have spent my life fighting crime. I guess you could say my favorite thing as of lately has been fighting in Gotham. Life has been boring and very tiresome, especially since I haven't slept for days, and I rarely get sleep. I am Batman. (One student has enjoyed turning journal prompts into a way to write about Batman, often in very creative ways.)

Ava Schember: Getting my WSI certification was my favorite thing this year. Being able to continue on my path of human services is exciting. I enjoy helping people learn safety in medical emergencies and teaching kids to swim while being safe in and around the water. I am so happy that I am moving forward in a job that I am happy in.

Olivia Johnson: I don't have a favorite part of the school year. I liked all parts of it. During choir, I do like the Choir Olympics we do. This is a fun activity that everyone enjoys. This year, we are even getting a trophy.

Kaitlyn Bauleke: My favorite thing this year was poems in English. They were so fun! This school year went by so slow, but it also went by fast. This was an okay school year though.

Brody Mudgett: Hanging out with all of my friends was fun. I liked hanging with friends. I liked getting good grades in classes. I was able to get and maintain good grades. I have tried my best in trap. I had good places in conferences, and got 25 straight. I also got 48/50 in a shot or a week of being top shot.

Evan Berg: He is very proud of his extremely short journal: "I love steak. It's good. I like it medium rare. I love it on the grill. That is my opinion."



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OBITUARIES

LeVine Paulson

LeVine Raxine (Loken) Paulson passed away on June 13, 2024 at the New Richland Care Center. She was 98 years old. LeVine was born on January 30, 1926 to Clarence and Palma (Olson) Loken at the Norby farm in Ellendale, MN. She was baptized at First Lutheran Church in Ellendale, started Wednesday school at the church at the age of three years, and was confirmed at LeSueur River Lutheran in 1940. LeVine attended first grade at District 53 country school in Lemond Township as well as several other country schools before graduating from New Richland High School in 1944. After graduation, she attended the Naeve School of Nursing in Albert Lea, MN, graduating in the Class of 1947. LeVine was employed as a registered nurse at Naeve Hospital in Albert Lea, Birds Eye in Waseca for 25 years, and Country Neighbors in New Richland for nine years.

LeVine was united in marriage to James Paulson in 1948 at LeSueur River Lutheran Church. James and LeVine farmed the Paulson farm east of St. Olaf Lake for nearly 50 years. They traveled extensively, setting foot on six continents. LeVine enjoyed gardening, genealogy, history, and above all—her family. She especially loved to watch her great-granddaughters performing music and dancing.

LeVine is survived by a daughter, Ranae (Niel) Berg of Hartland, five grandchildren: Evan (Kerry) Berg of New Richland, Tait (Lindsey) Berg of New Richland, Kellen (Hannah) Berg of Minneapolis, Mandy (Pat) Sutherland of Eagle



LeVine Paulson

Lake, and Ryan Paulson of Sioux Falls, SD; four great-granddaughters: Lily Sutherland, Ada, Lyla, and Mina Berg; two step-great grandchildren: Cora Sutherland of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Owen Sutherland of New York City; daughter-in-law Linda Paulson of Mankato, nieces: LeAnn (Dean) Buendorf of New Richland, Marsha (Bob) Heers of Owatonna, nephews: John (Cheryl) Herbst of New Richland, and Kevin (Lori) Herbst of Albert Lea as well as several great nephews, nieces and cousins. LeVine was preceded in death by her husband James in 1995, son Randy in 2000, sister-in-law Doris Herbst in 1991, and brother-in-law Stanley Herbst in 2018.

A private family service was held at LeSueur River Lutheran Church in New Richland. Expressions of sympathy may be shared by visiting www.BonnerupFuneralService.com

Milton Nelson

Milton (Mickey) Norris Nelson, 103, WWII Veteran, passed away on May 14, 2024.

Milton was born June 27, 1920 to Norman and Alice (Anderson) Nelson in his Clarks Grove home. He attended Clarks Grove School to 8th grade, then graduated from Albert Lea High School in 1939. Milton married Dardanella Anita (Camp) at the First Baptist Church in Clarks Grove on June 15, 1941. Milton has lived on Main Street in Clarks Grove his entire life, building two homes across the street from his birthplace and then moving back into his birthplace upon retirement. Dardanella (Dardie) preceded him in death on January 10, 2008. He married Marguerite (Margie) Christensen, a lifelong family friend on July 27, 2008 at the First Baptist Church in Clarks Grove, and they enjoyed 12 years of marriage before she passed away on December 22, 2020.

Milton was a lifetime member of the First Baptist Church of Clarks Grove, serving as church moderator, Sunday School teacher, Deacon, singing in the choir and helping with various projects, pulpit committees and a Bible study group. In his 90s he spoke many Sunday mornings, and offered a “Minute with Milt” during the 150th anniversary of the church.

At the age of 17, Milton started his first business driving kids to school in a wooden bus which was built onto an old gravel truck chassis. The seats were along the sides and faced the middle, holding 20 kids. The next year, he traded off for a 36-passenger bus. Then he upgraded it for a 71-passenger bus, eventually becoming Nelson Bus Service. He drove school bus for over 58 years and remembered many of the kids who were on the bus.

During the summers to earn a liv-

ing, he would mow lawns as well as haul gravel for his father’s company, Nelson’s Gravel. He spent two years in Canada building the ALCAN Highway with the Army Corps of Engineers, working long days, often from the seat of a D8 Caterpillar, which his dad provided to help build the roads.

From there he enlisted in the United States Army and was stationed at Fort Knox, Camp Hood, and Camp Roberts. He did work in the Armored Division on new large tanks and other heavy equipment that were being sent overseas. During his two-year tour of Service, he had hitchhiked home and back to base many times with one of those times for when his son, Ken, was born. He had many stories of the people who stopped to pick him up along the way over those years. While he was at Camp Roberts in California preparing to leave for the Pacific Theater, the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan. As Japan surrendered, he was honorably discharged from the US Army and arrived home as WWII ended in 1945.

He continued with his bus company and worked with his dad in the gravel business and eventually took over his dad’s business. He expanded the business into a cement plant and dug basements with a dragline. The Black Sunday tornado on April 30, 1967 destroyed his gravel business. He kept the school bus business until his retirement in 1984.

His hobbies were square dancing, camping, being dedicated to his purple Martin bird houses, spending the winters in Arizona for 25 years, (enjoyed working as a bagger at Basha’s Grocery Store in Lake Havasu City), rock and gem club and fishing, especially in Canada and Lake Winni (Winnibigoshish). Milton was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 56 in Albert Lea, Minnesota.

When Milton was about to turn 100 years of age, he was encouraged to walk 100 miles to raise money for the local Salvation Army food shelf. He wanted to give back, because as a young boy growing up during the Depression, he saw many people in lines for food as they could not provide for themselves. In August of 2020, he met his goal of 100 miles and walked the last half mile with the support of a large group behind him. His goal was to raise \$5,000 in walking 100 miles, but far exceeded that goal by raising over \$110,000.

Milton is survived by three children, Kathy Jensen, Clarks Grove; Ken Nelson, Clarks Grove, Michelle (Paul) Kelm, Faribault; grandchildren Cindy (David) Callahan and their children Logan (Kylie Wachlin) and Dakota; Chris Jensen and his children, Travis and Alyssa; Colette (Cory) Bauers and their children Nathan (Fiance Tamara Lopez-Turru-biartes), Aaron (Carissa Nelson) and Sabrina; Troy (Kelly) Nelson and their children Ashley and Stephanie; Wayne (Kate) Nelson and their children Sasha (Hunter) Pankratz, and Nicholas; Jessica (Ross) Pearson and their children Jude and Lane; Amanda (Jonathan) Anderson and their children Everett and Levi; Brianna (Mark) Cronk and their children Oenn and Harley; step daughters, Carol Cox (Bill) Herr and Peggy Evenson; children Jackie (Travis) Olson and their children Lillian (Finance Tucker Eriksmoen), and Luke; Stacy (Ricky) Ferguson, Anthony (Courtney) Zanghi and their children Hadlee and Brian; Denise (Kevin) Wilson and their children Audrey and Kyler; Shane (Kelly) Christensen and children, Alexa, Bradon and Trenton; Andy (Lisa) Christensen and children Sam, Sophie, and Alex (Des) Madson and their child Alyssa.

He is survived by sister-in-law Rather Sanders and by many nieces



Milton Nelson

and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Norman and Alice Nelson, a sister Eunice who passed away before he was born at the age of six; Dardanella and Marguerite; father and mother-in-law, Albert and Nettie Camp; son-in-law, Irvin D. Jensen Jr.; sister and brothers-in-law, Avalon (Lonnie) & Harold Murphy, and Andy Sanders; stepson and step daughter-in-law, GTalen and Linda Christensen; stepson-in-law, Kenny Evenson.

Thank you to Kathy Reed, Nancy Anderson, Skip Cromwell, and John Jacobson for all their help and kindness given to our dad.

Per Milton’s wishes, his memorial service will be held on what would have been his 104th birthday, Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 3 p.m. with visitation from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Clarks Grove. Pastor Jamie Cameron will be officiating. Memorials may be given to the Albert Lea Salvation Army Food Shelf, First Baptist Church, or the Clarks Grove Baptist Cemetery.

2024 Friendship Wagon Train is headed this way

The 2024 Friendship Wagon Train is just around the corner. This is the 36th year of the Friendship Wagon Train. This group of volunteers will be traveling for a week (June 22-29) through southern Minnesota, collecting donations for Special Olympics. All members of the wagon train are volunteers. 100% of everything raised is donated to Special Olympics. Anyone who is interested in making a donation is welcome to. We receive donations in many ways: individuals, businesses, Lions clubs, American Legion Posts, 4H Clubs, civic organizations, and others.

We encourage everyone along the route to come out to see us as we travel through the countryside and come to visit in the evening camps. Stop by our Peddler Wagon to buy a souvenir or two. Feel free to walk through camp to get a look at the animals and wagons that they use to travel during the day. With the permission of the animal owners, you are likely to be able to pet some of the horses and mules, as well.

Assembly day is Friday, June 21, at Gamehaven Scout Reservation (GSR) on the east side of Rochester, MN. After leaving GSR the morning of Saturday, June 22, our overnight camps will be the Donley property (northeast of Hayfield), Blooming Prairie (next to the nursing home), Hope (in a field on the

north end of town), Waldorf (in town), Mapleton (in a lot near the baseball fields), and in Good Thunder (west end of town, near Anderson Trucking). We will be camping in Hope the evening of June 24 and all day June 25. The evening of June 25, the group will hold an informal auction, where all items donated will be sold, with all proceeds going to Special Olympics. Organizations along the route who will be working with the Wagon Train include Lions Clubs, 4H Clubs, Churches, and American Legions. These groups will be providing meals for the wagon train participants, whether it be serving breakfast, lunch, or evening meal.

On Saturday morning (June 29) the wagon train will have a final ceremony in Good Thunder. Staff from the Special Olympics will greet the wagon trainers, and the 2024 Friendship Wagon Train group will deliver to them the donations collected during the week of the Wagon Train. In past years they have raised \$20,000 to \$25,000 for Special Olympics; they are setting their goals at being just as successful (possibly reaching a higher amount) for their 2024 trek

For more information, you may contact John or Monica Davis (507-365-8064). The 2024 Friendship Wagon Train looks forward to visiting your communities.

Bruce Byron

Bruce William Byron passed away at his home in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Saturday, May 25, 2024.

Bruce was born in Wells, Minnesota on June 4, 1955 to George W. and Mary Jane (Munsch) Byron. He was raised on a farm in Byron Township near New Richland, Minnesota. Bruce graduated from New Richland-Hartland High School in 1974, earned an associate of arts degree from Waldorf College (Forest City, Iowa), and then attended St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minnesota. He lived in Washington, D.C. and Minneapolis during his adult years and worked in various clerical and service roles. Bruce was a member of St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral in Minneapolis.

Bruce appreciated and practiced art in many forms. He was a visual artist at a very early age. If there was

a pencil and blank space on a piece of paper, Bruce was drawing. He also enjoyed the beauty of music and musicals, especially The Wizard of Oz, Wicked, and The Sound of Music. Bruce had a good voice and loved to sing, especially hymns. Later in life Bruce learned to play the mandolin, which helped him create a more direct connection with the show tunes he loved.

He enjoyed the beauties of nature, such as Gull Lake sunsets, walking around the lakes in Minneapolis and coming down to the family farm. We will always think of Bruce when we see a beautiful flower garden and the blossoms of early spring.

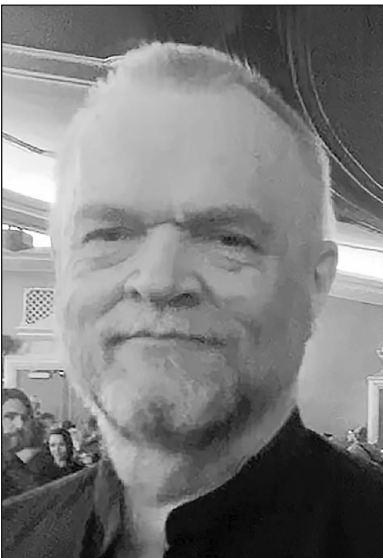
He played Scrabble voraciously with his family and enjoyed trivia and word games. His sense of humor and consequent chuckle often revolved around a good word play.

Bruce was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his

siblings: Jane (Joe) Scheidnes of Roseville, MN; Mary Pat (Ed) Zabinski of Grand Rapids, MN; Dennis (Wendy) Byron of Elysian, MN; George (Bob Menchini) Byron of Palm Springs, CA; Raymond (Byron Beerbower) Byron of New York City, NY; and Colleen (Gary Rodman) Byron of Ripon, WI in addition to numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

A funeral service for Bruce was held at St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral, 519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis on Tuesday, June 11, at 1 p.m. A visitation preceded the service at St. Mark’s from 12 p.m. To 1 p.m. He will be buried at a later date in New Richland Calvary Cemetery, New Richland, Minnesota.

Contributions in memory of Bruce can be made to the Hennepin Theatre Trust(<https://hennepintheatrust.org/support-us/>), Minnesota FoodShare ([https://gmcc.org/minnesota-food-](https://gmcc.org/minnesota-food-share/)



Bruce Byron

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Collaboration, planning lead to outreach position

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Waseca County Commissioner Doug Christopherson is in his third and final year as chair of the six-member joint powers board which oversees the Minnesota Prairie County Health Alliance (MNPrairie). The alliance is the result of a cooperative venture among Waseca, Steele and Dodge counties to continue delivering human services, many of which are mandated by state law, while finding ways to be more cost effective. Human services departments are located in all three counties, while many administrative tasks are handled by a consolidated leadership group. Christopherson, fellow Waseca County representative DeAnne Malterer, and two commissioners each from Steele and Dodge counties comprise the board which helps steer MNPrairie's activities and its more than 170 employees.

Christopherson admits that, with the interests of nearly 80,000 area residents across three settings as diverse as the three counties, being chair of the board sometimes places him at the center of controversies.

He is grateful, however, that he was also in place to help find a beneficial response to the growing difficulties area law enforcement agencies have been experiencing because of the mental health crisis referenced repeatedly in national government communications.

"I had been hearing about the difficulties and frustrations they were experiencing, especially when it came to repeat calls about the same individuals who didn't

fit into any of the programs that might help them," Christopherson said in an interview.

At an Association of Minnesota Counties convention, Christopherson attended a session which described a community outreach position in Stearns County; he says he asked himself almost right away, "How do we do something like that with a three-county entity?"

Upon returning, he met with MNPrairie staff, described what he had learned, and asked whether they could find a path forward. Along with a certain amount of state funding for programs of this type, money from the "community support program" of the Southeast Minnesota Adult Mental Health Fund Initiative – Community Support Program made it possible to get the program going.

Amanda Zwart was hired to fill the position late last year. Among her first tasks, she was to build community connections, work to eliminate barriers to resources and expedite access to services. So far, she tells of having received 50 referrals from numerous community entities, including law enforcement; she currently has a caseload of 28 individuals across the three MNPrairie Counties.

"This program is for individuals trying to build a sense of well-being in their lives," Zwart says of the individuals she works with. "I find it fulfilling to see how much of a difference this program has already made for so many people."



Christopherson



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

Watching a concept become reality

The yellow lady slipper flower was only a concept to me until this past weekend.

I have taken a fair number of pictures of our state flower, the pink lady slipper. I have challenged myself to capture its subtle shading from a strong pink at the tip to white at the stem. I have been amazed by its shape, almost like a tiny inflated balloon. It is a wild orchid, and since I am used to thinking of orchids as delicate, sensitive flowers which require careful attention, I am entranced that the wild plant can flourish as it does.

So when it comes to the pink lady slipper, I had met some in person at least eight or ten times, and found it a privilege to make their acquaintance.

This year, I received a texted photo from a friend. In the picture, which was taken in the woods alongside her driveway, were at least 100 yellow lady slipper blooms in two large clusters a few feet apart. My response, to deliver the essence of the message, was "I'll be right

over."

As I arrived in the vicinity of my friend's house, I came across some scattered clusters of two or three flowers. They were right alongside the road—fortunately for me, a rather narrow, isolated gravel road which sees relatively little traffic.

I moved from flower to flower, repeatedly getting down on my knees to try and get a picture from the direct front of the blooms, whose stems were probably 18 inches tall.

If any drivers had come along, they might have been concerned for my sanity, since, even though I was alone at the time, I kept commenting out loud about how unusual and beautiful the flowers were. I asked them questions like, "How do you do that?" and "Can you be transplanted?"

The familiar "tiny inflated balloon" shape (I'm told the correct term is "labellum,"), was identical to the pink versions I had photographed before. Familiar, but continually fascinating.

What was different was that,



A yellow lady slipper growing in the wild.

Photo by Deb Bently

where the pink version has three broad white petals up behind it—like a tiara on a beauty queen—the yellow flower has narrow, spiraling appendages which, rather than a crown, are reminiscent of curly sideburns and a beard. Or maybe braided pigtails, since they hang down rather than fanning upwards. Their beautifully symmetrical twists extend quite a bit below the bottom of the flower.

Online descriptions refer to the spiraled parts as "sepals and petals." Me, I had trouble looking away. The spirals did not have the graceful elegance of the pink lady slippers' petals; instead they had an insistent independence about them. "I choose not to look like other flowers," they seemed to declare. "Appreciate me."

When I caught up with my friend, she showed me the robust collections from her along-the-driveway photographs. They took my breath away. I was on my knees again, looking for angles and lighting that would help the two-dimensional pictures in representing the physical—and even spiritual—reality of what was in front of me.

I was deeply grateful to be there, and equally grateful to have learned that not all lady slippers are alike.



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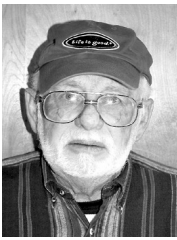
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FACT OR FICTION

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by Bob Hanson, Emeritus

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

It's time for another running of the words column.

A. Per two young Sunday School students talking about God: "What do you think is God's favorite color?" Says one to another as they're coloring a picture of God in their coloring book. "I think His favorite color is green, 'cause everything is so green this time of year," Is the reply.

B. At this time last year, we were praying for rain. This year we're praying for "no" more rain.

C. The Vikings have announced they will have a white uniform this next fall. The decision must be based on: "White is easy to get dirty, thus the players will look mean and tough to their opponent every game!!" Go Vikes!!

D. Many water bodies look terrible with a scum on the surface. Look at Fountain Lake in Albert Lea to see what I'm referring to.

E. As I'm writing this column, the weather man called it a Bluebird Day (a day of low seventies in the day with low sixties at night). The sky is a beautiful blue with a few fluffy clouds during the day. The sky is clear at night with the Big Dipper

and other bright stars seen with the naked eye.

Per Reverend Matt as he spoke in referring to today, "This is the day the Lord has made, be glad and rejoice in it."

7. The older you get, the faster time goes by. Is that statement true or false? If you said false you're under age 60!!

6. We have a female bunny in our yard. Unfortunately, the bunny has a bad case of the fleas. So bad, she has lost a lot of her hair.

7. I know most of you have seen a cattle crossing sign on a road. Can you find a turtle crossing sign on the Bath Road from Ellendale into Albert Lea?

H. What is my definition of a good neighbor? A good neighbor doesn't let their dog(s) roam.

H. What is my definition of a bad neighbor? A bad neighbor lets their dog(s) roam. (We have four good neighbors and one bad neighbor.)

I. Genie and I lived at Beaver Lake summers from 1976-2012, a total of 36. I am a graduate of New Richland. Genie is a graduate of Clear Lake High School, Clear Lake, Iowa. She is also a graduate of Naeve School of Nursing in Albert Lea. We are both octogenarians (a person in their eighties). With this background you can understand why we enjoy the "Looking Back" articles in the Star Eagle Newspaper. Thank you, Star Eagle. "Keep up the area history."

J. I watched as President Biden gave his speech at Normandy. I listened to President Reagan as he spoke at Normandy 40 years ago. The similarity was just great regardless of one being a Democrat and the other a Republican.

Why can't the two parties realize their party activities will cause voters like me to vote against their party. At this time as a Republican, I am voting Democrat.

K. The Twins powers to be are trying to figure out how to prevent the Twins playing the Yankees the rest of the season.

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State Parks have a lot to offer if you like the outdoors

About four years ago, I was alone at the cabin and decided to take a little trip to explore a State Park that was not too far from there. Scenic State Park is a little east and south of Marcell, MN. With its pristine lakes, virgin pines, swimming beach, and wilderness-like setting, Scenic State Park is well deserving of its name. Here, visitors can hike the Chase Point Trail for hypnotic views of Coon and Sandwick Lakes and listen to the wind whistle through the giant pines. The park's overnight facilities include campsites (boat-in, drive-in, backpack), and a cabin. The historic lodge houses interpretive displays.

More than 40 species of animals inhabit Scenic State Park, including bald eagles, ospreys, loons, jays, pileated woodpeckers and a variety of songbirds. Birders consider this one of the best places in the state to see the hard-to-find spruce grouse. Along the lakes, marshes and streams, you may come across frogs, toads or even snakes. Otters, beavers and an occasional moose share this 3,360-acre habitat.

History - Although the Ojibwe used this area as part of their hunting grounds, there is little evidence that it was heavily used.

During the last glacial period,



Woods and Water

by Dick Herfindahl
Outdoors Writer

Imagine a sheet of ice hundreds of feet high slowly creeping and gouging the earth. As the climate changed and glaciers began to melt. The retreating glaciers left behind depressions, ridges and deposits of soil that formed the rolling hills throughout the area.

Scenic State Park protects the entire virgin pine shorelands of Coon and Sandwick Lakes, plus part of the Lake of the Isles, Tell Lake, Cedar Lake and Pine Lake. Coon and Sandwick lakes are the most popular places in the park and offer great fishing for walleyes, northerns, bass and panfish. The park is located in the Laurentian Mixed Forest landscape region, abundant with aspen-birch, white and red pine, jack pine and mixed hardwoods.

On my next visit to the cabin, I plan to visit Scenic State Park and do a little more exploring. I may try a little fishing from the fishing pier on

one of the lakes. I plan on exploring some of the places where I can fish from shore. I have a couple of boats that I can use, but, I am not as flexible as I was a few years ago, fishing alone doesn't seem quite as safe.

There are two drive-in campgrounds at Scenic State Park. Chase Point campground is on a hill above the lake, which can be accessed by steps that lead to a boardwalk. Non-electric sites in this campground have a moderate screening between sites. The electric sites are more open. Chase Point campground is closest to park office. The Lodge campground sites are predominantly open under a canopy of huge white pines. Lodge campground is closer to the beach and fishing pier.

21 electric pull-through sites are located in the Chase Point campground.

Camper cabins are rustic, one-room, 12 by 16 foot wooden cabins

containing a table, benches, and wooden bunkbeds with mattresses. Most cabins have a screened porch, heat, and electricity. All cabins have an outdoor picnic table and fire ring with a grate for cooking or grilling over the fire. No cooking is allowed inside the cabins, except for crockpots and coffee pots. Only approved firewood is allowed.

Camper cabins hold up to six people, or up to five people in accessible cabins. Sorry, no pets allowed.

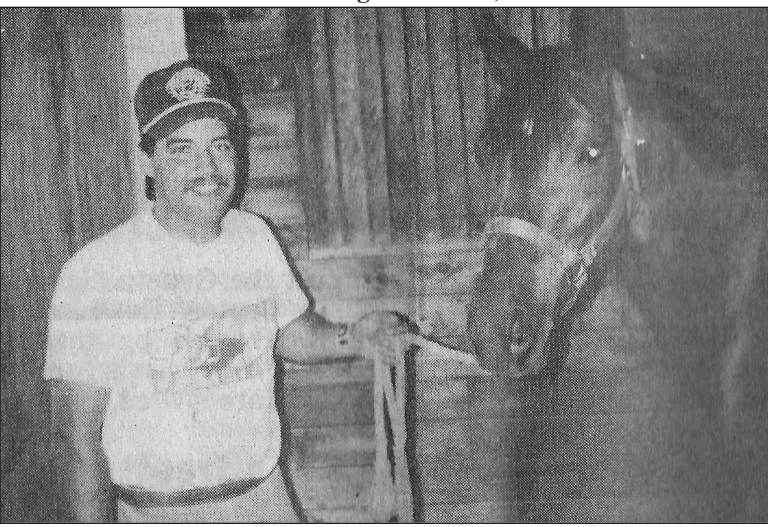
Camper cabins do not have indoor plumbing. They are located in or near the park's campground, where seasonal restrooms, showers, and drinking water are available. Primitive toilets are available year-round at all locations.

Until next time: There are still some walleyes being caught on Albert Lea Lake. According to the Shell rock River Watershed, the weeds that are growing along the shoreline on Fountain Lake will start to disappear by the end of June. We can only hope that that will open up more shoreline for fishing.

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

LOOKING BACK

25 Years Ago - June 17, 1987



- Geneva resident Troy Utpadel won \$21,000 in Iowa's lottery, the first to do so. Utpadel, who is a truck driver for his father Vern, was on his way back to Minnesota when he picked up a ticket in Iowa for the lottery. His ticket added up to '21' with \$21,000 written beside it. He had to have the attendant re-add the sum as he couldn't believe he could be so lucky. How will the money be spent? Well, the government got their share first, he spent some on his home, and the rest will be placed in the bank until he decides what to do with it. Said Utpadel, "I don't believe it happened!"

- Ellendale-Geneva high school principal Paul Chilgren resigned after one year of employment at the Thursday night board meeting. He said in an interview he did not feel under pressure to resign and that he did not want his leaving to create additional controversy in a district that "needed some calm." Chilgren said he saw his role with staff and students as one of peacemaker and a facilitator of cooperation in the district. He said the year was rewarding professionally for him because of some progress in gaining staff cooperation. "The staff really did a bang up job designing the new educational program for next year and I don't think most people in the community are aware of that," he said. Chilgren alluded to personal reasons for resigning but chose not to state them.

- Jim Sanberg, Bruce Busho and Bernie Soukup, representing the Eagles Club of Owatonna, presented the City with \$2700.00 for playground equipment and landscaping in Ellendale Park at Thursday night's meeting. The council expressed the City's sincere thanks for this generous gift.



- School Patrol Pins were handed out at Elementary Field Day. Front, l-r: Michael Olson, Scott Koeck, Mike Nesdahl, Sarah Woodland, Lisa Nechanicky. Middle row: Mark Dobberstein, Missy Misen, Colette Holmes, Ryan Strand, Matt VanHal, Natalie Reiss. Back: Stacey Seath, Greg Schimek, Jane Northern, Nathan Sapnde, Jill Anderson, Keven Larson, Harlan Buelow.

■ Parents

from Page 1

theran Social Services." Delacruz is highly complimentary regarding how accessible and helpful Picka and others have been.

She says an important element of being a foster parent is providing stability, structure, and attention to the children's individual needs, which can be widely varied depending on the circumstances of their home lives.

When behaviors are difficult, she says she reminds herself not to take it personally.

"I have barely any idea what that child may have been through," she points out. "Just like with any children, they need time, patience, love and understanding."

She says the rewards of the work are seeing the children become comfortable in their new setting. She also enjoys seeing the children's pleasure when they have a chance to try something that hasn't been part of their lives in the past.

"Even a simple walk with the family or an afternoon playing in the park can be really profound," she observes.

Both Delacruz and Picka make clear that, when children are removed from their homes, the goal is to reunite the family. While children

are in placement, parents may be taking part in activities meant to help them manage their everyday lives in a way that assures the children's needs will be met.

Delacruz mentions that some people have an impression being a foster parent is a way to make money. "Yes, the costs for caring for the children are met," she says. "You're not losing money, but you're not making money, either."

"The reason to do it is because you know you're doing something to help children who have likely had some very rough stretches in their lives, and you're trying to be part of a path to improvement."

"The kids may be confused and uncertain about what's going on.

They may have trouble recognizing their role in the new circumstances.

"But as far as I'm concerned, they're part of my family for the time they're with us. I hope someday they'll have the perspective to look back and know they had a place in our lives and our hearts."

Candy Picka shared a note she received from another person who has been a foster parent: "I feel fortunate to play a small part in each foster child's story by giving them a temporary loving home and family. It is amazing to watch my own children build relationships with every child who they see as a sibling. My family has become more patient, stronger, and empathetic by providing foster care to children in our community."

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)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Pamela Jensen
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship

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 Cirkse, 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
Lemond Township
Pastor Dave Klawiter
Sunday - 10:15 a.m. Worship

FIRST LUTHERAN, LCMC
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

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; Pre-school Sunday School during Mass
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. - Faith Formation classes for grades K-Confirmation
www.litomysl.webs.com
www.stsidore.school.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.

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CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



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We would like to thank
everyone for your prayers,
thoughts, cards, kind
words, visits and food.

We hope we can thank
everyone in person.

I am doing better every
day. Life goes on.

God Bless you all.

Gordon & Brenda Elbnet

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO
VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT
AND IDENTITY OF THE
ORIGINAL CREDITOR
WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED
BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY
THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:
That default has occurred in the
conditions of the following
described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 28,
2009

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL
AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE:
\$132,560.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Christopher W.
Nelson and Melissa Nelson,
husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank,
N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING:
Recorded on June 2, 2009 as
Document Number 280110 in the
Office of the County Recorder of
Waseca County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF
MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF
PROPERTY: East 55 feet of the S
1/2 of Lot 11, Block 9, First
Addition to the Village, now City of
Waseca, Minnesota, according to

the Plat thereof on file and of record
in the Office of the County
Recorder in and for said County and
State.

STREET ADDRESS OF
PROPERTY: 605 3RD AVENUE
SE, WASECA, MN 56093

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY
IS LOCATED: Waseca County,
Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE
DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON
THE DATE OF THE NOTICE:
\$116,897.43

TRANSACTION AGENT: None

NAME OF MORTGAGE
ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank,
N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells
Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION
NUMBER: 17.276.1120

TRANSACTION AGENT'S
MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION
NUMBER: None

THAT no action or proceeding has
been instituted at law to recover the
debt then remaining secured by
such mortgage, or any part thereof,
or, if the action or proceeding has
been instituted, that the same has
been discontinued, or that an
execution upon the judgment
rendered therein has been returned
unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale
contained in said mortgage, the
above described property will be
sold by the Sheriff of said county as
follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July
11, 2024 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Waseca County
Sheriff's Office, 122 3rd Ave. NW,
Waseca, MN 56093.

to pay the debt then secured by said
mortgage and taxes, if any actually
paid by the mortgagee, on the
premises and the costs and
disbursements allowed by law. The
time allowed by law for redemption
by said mortgagor(s), their personal
representatives or assigns is six (6)
months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE
PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage
is reinstated or the property
redeemed, or unless the time for
redemption is reduced by judicial
order, you must vacate the premises
by 11:59 p.m. on January 13, 2025.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW
FOR REDEMPTION BY THE
MORTGAGOR, THE
MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVES OR
ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED
TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL
ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER
MINNESOTA STATUTES,
SECTION 582.032,
DETERMINING, AMONG
OTHER THINGS, THAT THE
MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE
IMPROVED WITH A

RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF
LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE
NOT PROPERTY USED IN
AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION, AND ARE
ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED
FROM FINANCIAL
OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:
None

Dated: May 16, 2024

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By: _____/s/
*N. Kibongni Fondungallah,
Esq.*
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sung Woo Hong, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(22-0755-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION
FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
Published in the Star Eagle May
23, 30, and June 6, 13, 20, and 27,
2024

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Waldorf will be holding a public hearing concerning adoption of Minnesota Basic Code, Code of Ordinances, from American Legal Publishing, on June 25, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the Waldorf Community Center. Persons wishing to appear and present comment may do so at that time.
Published in the Star Eagle on June 20, 2024

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY WASECA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No.: 81-PR-24-258

In Re: Estate of Chad Ryan
Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEAR-
ING ON
PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJU-
DICATION OF
INTESTACY, DETERMINATION
OF HEIRSHIP,
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND NO-

TICE TO
CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given
that on July 31 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,
a hearing will be held in this Court
via Zoom, see notice of remote
hearing, at 307 North State Street,
Waseca, Minnesota, for the adjudi-
cation of intestacy and determina-
tion of heirship of the Decedent,
and for the appointment of Corrina
Ryan whose address is: 504 7th Ave.
SE, Waseca, MN as Personal Repre-
sentative of the Estate of the Deced-
ent in ☒an UNSUPERVISED ☐a
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 admin-
ister 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
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 Ad-
ministrator within four months after
the date of this Notice or the claims
will be barred.

BY THE COURT
Dated: 06/13/2024, 10:30:23 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 June 20
and 27, 2024

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Spring Sports Awards



NRHEG softball players pose with their awards during the spring sports banquet held Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the high school gymnasium.



NRHEG golfers pose with their awards during the spring sports banquet held Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the high school gymnasium.



NRHEG baseball players pose with their awards during the spring sports banquet held Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the high school gymnasium.



NRHEG track competitors pose with their awards during the spring sports banquet held Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the high school gymnasium.



NRHEG seniors pose during the spring sports banquet held Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the high school gymnasium.



NRHEG track competitors pose with their awards during the spring sports banquet held Tuesday, June 4, 2024 in the high school gymnasium.

NRHEG holds spring sports banquet

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

NRHEG Activities Director Dan Stork extended many thank-yous as he opened the 2024 Spring Sports Banquet ceremony Tuesday night, June 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym in New Richland.

All NRHEG Spring sports were recognized, and coaches and representatives from the team spoke.

All of the senior athletes were recognized. Many deserving awards were handed out during the evening. A sense of gratitude encompassed the room as speakers, coaches and players reflected on their memorable seasons, and for some, entire careers.

The banquet concluded with photos and good conversation among the hundreds of

students, parents, family, and coaches in attendance.

The following awards were handed out:

Golf

Most Improved - Braydon Rollag, Elsie Schultz

MVP - Hudson Chrz, Meela Budach

Captains Award - Shan Hansen, Meela Budach

Sportsmanship Award - Shan Hansen

Honorable Mention All Conference - Meela Budach

Honorable Mention All Conference - Halie Schultz

Sportsmanship Award - Olivia Wilkenson

Baseball

Golden Arm - Jared Lee

Golden Glove - Carter Martens

Golden Bat - Alden Dobberstein

Most Improved - Jordan Brouwers

Captains - Alden Dobberstein, Jared Lee

Plaque

1st Team All Conference - Jared Lee

3rd Team All Conference - Alden Dobberstein

Honorable Mention All Conference - Carter Martens

Sportsmanship Award - Wyatt Larson

Softball

Golden Glove - Isabel Stadheim

Golden Bat - Preslie Nielsen

Oil Can Award - Erin Peterson

Most Improved - Izley Boerner

MVP - Preslie Nielsen

All Conference - Faith Nielsen, Isabel Stadheim

Honorable Mention All Conference - Izley Boerner

Sportsmanship Award - Payton Bunn

Track and Field

Most Valuable Track Events - Levin Kitzer, Quinn VanMaldeghem

Most Valuable Field Events - Jaylin Raab, Malonna Wilson

Most Valuable Track and Field Events - William Tuttle, Evelyn Nydegger

Most Improved - Harbor Cromwell, Chloe Riewer

Rookie of the Year - Gavin Lewison, Julieann Wobbrock

Captains - Will Tuttle, Malonna Wilson, Levin Kitzer, Evelyn Nydegger and Parker Bunn

All Conference

Will Tuttle 4x100

Evelyn Nydegger 100 LH

Will Tuttle 110HH

Sierra Misgen 4x200

Will Tuttle 300 IH

Clara Buendorf 4x200

Levin Kitzer 4x100

Sierra Misgen 4x200

Jaylin Raab 4x100

Chloe Riewer 4x200

Jaylin Raab Long Jump

Harbor Cromwell 4x100

Honorable Mention All Conference - Gabby Schlaak, AnikaLadlie, Julieann Wobbrock, Parker Bunn, Jacob Karl and Gavin Sletten.

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