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Marching Band

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

Flooding study results revealed

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The Mankato office of Houston Engineering recently completed a comprehensive hydrology study regarding flooding problems in and around New Richland; the company's conclusions were presented during the New Richland City Council meeting on Oct. 28.

The city is planning a future public hearing to receive input from citizens regarding the best path forward.

Over the past 20 years, New Richland has experienced numerous high water flooding incidents.

"The purpose of our study is to quantify that flood risk—how high, how often," Houston Engineering's Joe Lewis said. "The study looks at different projects or alternatives to reduce that flood risk throughout the city."

"There isn't an expectation that [this problem] will go away on its own," Lewis added.

Lewis began his presentation discussing how water moves through the current system.

During a normal rain event, water moves through ditches at about 400 to 600 cubic feet per second (CFS). During a "100-year flooding event," that amount is tripled to as much as 1,300 CFS, or about 10,000 gallons per minute.

"Once excess water comes out of the channel, you start having impacts," Lewis expanded. "Our purpose is to identify the next steps for the city to look at to create a permanent solution."

The current water drainage systems—channels, ditches, and their ability to deliver outflow into natural streams—have been in place a long time, and were installed with the intent to serve agricultural needs. Their purpose was for drainage, Lewis said, not

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New Richland Library adult bingo Wednesday, November 13

The New Richland Public Library will sponsor a Friends of the Library FOL adult bingo event at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 13. Winners will be allowed to select one book from the FOL bookshelf. Blackout winner gets \$15 NR Bucks. To anyone interested, please bring at least one food item for the NR Food Shelf day of event.

DNR update on St Olaf lake November 14.

Craig Soupir - DNR fisheries supervisor, Waterville will speak at the NRAS (New Richland Area Sportsmens) Club on Thursday November 14 at 6:30. Craig will discuss and review St. Olaf Lake management Reports - past test Net results, New Northern Pike regulations etc. Bring your questions you may have. Burgers will be available @ 6:00. Public welcome.

A word from The Word

For many are called, but few are chosen.

Matthew 22:14

Veterans Day 2024

Marriage, military, and Turkey

Local veteran talks time as cryptographer

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

From Minnesota to Georgia, Colorado, and even Turkey until his eventual return, Norman Eckart served our country as a cryptographer for the United States military.

Eckart, 80, was drafted into the service in 1965 during the heart of the Vietnam War.

"Uncle Sam interrupted our wedding," Sharon Eckart, Norman's wife, remembered.

The loving couple, high school sweethearts, wanted to get married before Norman's military career began. Next year on August 21 of 2025, the couple will be celebrating their sixtieth wedding anniversary.

"Norman was the first guy I ever dated—when I was 15," Sharon said.

"After you eat lobster, who the heck wants to eat hamburger?" Norman asked pointedly. "She couldn't date until she was 16, but her dad let her date me."

"Then we just dated forever," Sharon added.

Getting married, however, meant Norman didn't begin service until March 1966. At the time, newlyweds were given a six-month deferment.

After a physical, Norman left for basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. A six-week crash course taught Norman discipline, respect, how to



Local veteran Norman Eckart and his wife Sharon will celebrate 60 years of marriage next year on Aug. 21, 2025.

Star Eagle photo by Eli Lutgens

shoot, who and who not to salute, and much, much more.

"And a lot of PT [physical training]," Norman added.

After a couple months leave, Norman went to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for officer candidate training. He signed up for communications.

"I wanted to go to crypto school," Norman explained. "Coding and decoding. I take everything

communicated and put all of that into codes, so we can read and send messages."

With the use of special machines, Norman says an entire message can be typed in and later decoded without enemy combatants knowing what is said.

"Cryptography is all memory work," Norman

Eckart continued on 4

Ibberson, Ellendale Vietnam Veteran

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Jerry Ibberson, 72, is a Vietnam veteran. A native and resident of Sleepy Eye for his first 48 years—aside from his stint in the Army from 1972 to 1975—he currently resides in Ellendale with his wife Karen. Ibberson has two children, Paul, 40, who lives in St. Louis working for Channel Seeds and his daughter Jackie, 42, who is married to a minister and lives in Aurora, Colorado.

Ibberson's military training included US Army Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, Fort Devens in Massachusetts, and Vint Hill Farms Station in Virginia. Vint Hill Farms was closed down in 1997. He served a lot of his time in the Army on the Japanese island of Okinawa. This island, which houses military bases, is only 66 miles long and 11 miles wide. It's located 900

miles south of the main island of Japan and is used by all four branches of the United States Military. Ibberson says he worked in communications and electronics which were used to support troop movements. Although he signed up for a four-year term, he was given an early out when the Vietnam War ended April 30, 1975.

Retired for the past 14 years, he likes to joke that he's now a "full-time volunteer." His last paying job was at Lowe's, where he worked for five years. Ibberson is currently the Emergency Management Director for Ellendale. He's also an instructor for the Steele County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). He likes to be prepared for emergency situations and search and rescue. Emergency management isn't just storms, said Ibberson; "We live in Minnesota. We don't just have tornadoes. When the highway gets shut down during a

blizzard, Ellendale is right next to I-35 and that would mean a lot of people don't have anywhere else to go." He then added that there isn't really a "shelter," but there are three churches in town. He helps get those ready as a space to keep people safe. He teaches a gun safety course, and one of his hobbies is to help people whose cars get "stuck" during the winter months. He observes that, for someone stuck in the snow, seeing someone approach and get out of their vehicle to help can be a godsend. He also teaches a gun safety class.

Ibberson maintains the Veteran's Memorial in Ellendale, and is a member of the honor guard. Although not an officer in the legion, he has helped get the Ellendale American Legion Post 296 close to the number one spot in Min-

Ibberson continued on 3



Vietnam Veteran and Emergency Management Director for Ellendale, MN Jerry Ibberson

A spooky good time



The photo at top right is Nicole Kohnert, the winner of the 2024 Halloween Decorating Contest held at New Richland City Hall. The remaining pictures in this set are of families and youngsters participating in Halloween celebrations.

Photos by Deb Bently

KidFest draws enthusiastic crowd

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

"I love seeing the creativity and the energy," commented NRHEG Community Education Director Macy Whiteside. "This is what early childhood family education is all about."

Whiteside was supervising the fourth Halloween "KidFest" her department has put together. The event took place in the community room at the New Richland City Hall from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Halloween. She said she planned for about 120 people, with the activities and games focused on preschoolers, but also suitable for the older brothers and sisters who came with them.

"This is the largest turnout we've ever had," she observed enthusiastically. "It's been a busy night. I'm pretty sure we surpassed the 120."

Whiteside expressed gratitude to the city for loan of the space, explaining set-up at the school would not have worked because drivers' education classes are underway in

the early evening at this time of year.

Along with welcoming families as they arrived, Whiteside took photos of children in costumes, letting them know the images would be posted on Facebook. The pictures which received the most "likes," she told them, would win the prizes displayed on a nearby table.

There was a ring toss game using inflated witches' hats, ball toss games with skeletons for targets, a suspended cauldron with (plastic) bones, and a table full of ingredients for making "magic potions."

Small, straight-necked bottles waited to be filled with glitter, colored water, leaves, and a wide variety of other options, then labeled. Some participants claimed their potions would bring "luck," and "cast spells."

"What I like best about that activity," observed Whiteside, "is that it brings the parents and the children to the table side by side. They work to

KidFest continued on 2



FenceLines

by Mark Bernard

Winter is inching ever nearer

The scurs/Weather Eye combo predicted the first measurable precip of October and it primed the pump for November. Do our above normal temps continue or are we living on borrowed time? Starting on Thursday, mostly sunny with highs in the low 50's and lows in the low 30's. Sunny on Friday with a slight chance of an evening shower. Highs in the mid-50's with lows in the upper 30's. Mostly cloudy on Saturday with increasing clouds and a good chance of showers. Highs in the low 50's with lows in the low 40's. Sunday, partly sunny with a slight chance of forenoon showers. Highs in the low 50's with lows in the low 40's. Sunny on Veteran's Day Monday with highs in the mid-50's and lows in the low 40's. Tuesday partly sunny with highs in the upper 50's and lows in the low 40's. Mostly sunny on Wednesday with highs in the low 50's and lows in the mid-30's. On November 8th the sun will rise at 7 a.m. CST. The normal high for November 8th is 45 and the normal low is 36. The scurs will honor all those who served on Monday. The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

Our fall recharge has seemed to follow that mantra as well. After going through an extremely dry September and October, we seem to have caught stride once again in November. Rainfall recorded on Halloween, plus what has been received thus far in November appears to be moving the dial somewhat. It may postpone some of the fall fieldwork somewhat, but it provides some needed moisture to bind fall applied ammonia to the soil where it was needed. Prior to the rain, some ammonia applications had been attempted with varying degrees of success depending upon the situation. On heavier soils as one went west, anhydrous seemed to go on better as there was moisture from 3" - 6" in the profile. Where the ground rolled more, getting the toolbar in the ground was a challenge and it wasn't covering well as a result. In addition, there was a lineup at the welding shops with applicators and rippers needing repairs before operations could resume. A wise man told me you might want to look closely at used rippers for battle scars before purchasing.

At least the fire danger has lessened. Lord knows there were abundant opportunities for a blaze to get out of control in the blink of an eye. Many, myself included, were amazed there weren't more fires than there were given the tinder dry conditions. I know at the ranch we have lots of brush piles that have been accumulating for quite some time. Now if I get my burning permit from the People's Republic of Steele Co., that will only be good for two months before it needs to be renewed. I can do battle with all that raccoon, skunk, and opossum habitat. Judging by all the road kill recently, we have plenty of all of the above. But opossums eat ticks, right? They might, except where the grass is kept short in the lawn and pasture, there are no ticks. They can go eat ticks somewhere else. We definitely don't need them in the barn eating cat food

and defecating in the hay, spreading disease. We have plenty of that to contend with already.

Winter is inching ever nearer, even though we appear to be avoiding Old Man Winter so far. Most don't miss the curmudgeon. Like here at the ranch, there are plenty of things to get under wraps and functioning before the inevitable. Repairing livestock equipment has been at the top of the list as of late. The electric fence at both pastures had issues that consumed a lot of time during the week and Saturday forenoon. Afternoon meant fixing the two troughs we use to feed the brood ewes. I don't know how many times I've repaired them, but if I couldn't design something better than that, I'd hang it up. One rule about sheep, or any livestock, if they find a weakness in equipment or a fence, rest assured they'll work on it until it breaks. They have absolutely nothing better to do. The crowning touch was when they snapped a T-post off that held a gate shut. I repaired that one in the dark when it was too dark to see. More fun than a person should be allowed to have.

Grinding the leaves up has been on hold since the rains came. The oaks, hackberries and the Norway maple are all still stubbornly clinging to their leaves. That and the leaves that are down are pretty soggy yet. It'll take a few days for them to dry out. The oak leaves in particular are leathery and the drier they are the better. Pretty sure I won't be lucky enough for them to all blow out of the yard. Burning them really isn't a good option either. About the time they're dry enough to burn, a burning ban is put in place. There are too many places to get into trouble doing that anyway. Over the years, I've had several close calls and an instance that meant sheepishly calling the insurance company who kindly told me, why yes, we do have insurance for your stupidity. Just don't do it again.

Poppy and I will be operating unsupervised starting next week for a ten-day stretch. It looks like we'll have plenty of projects to stay busy. Most of the leaves are off the bushes, so she can help me with the bunny guards. Appears the snap peas are likely done for the season, so they can be yanked out and tossed over the fence to the sheep. The garden is where this Corgi likes to hang out anyway. She could also help me manufacture sweet corn bundles and build a corn shock if she gets really ambitious. And there's always junk to sort through and throw away too, until the dumpster gets full anyway. By then it'll be getting dark and time for chores. Lots of popcorn, cheese, crackers, kippers, and winter radishes to be snacked on once our two days are done. After daily activities such as these, we'll probably need a nap. Poppy glues herself to my leg when I sit on the couch. Within seconds she's fast asleep, reminding me we need to pace ourselves. A lot of short days lie ahead. More naps will follow, guaranteed.

See you next week...real good then.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send your letters of comment to Star Eagle, P.O. Box 248, New Richland, MN 56072 or email us at steagle@hickorytech.net.

Dear Editor,

Happy Veterans Day to all the brave men and women who served our country and fought for our freedom. To all veterans out there, we honor, respect and support you. We don't know them all, but we owe them all. Thank you to all of our NRHEG area veterans—we care and we remember. God Bless You and God Bless America.

New Richland Legion Auxiliary Members.

Dear Editor,

I want to express my extreme thankfulness for my friends and family for helping me celebrate my 80th birthday. It's a milestone I never thought I'd see. Thanks again!

My best regards,
Norman Eckart.

Let's just smile and wave

Have you ever smiled and said hello to a complete stranger? What was the reaction? Were they startled? Did they return the hello, even if it was a bewildered response?

At times, you may have thought it was someone you knew when you did that. Or maybe you weren't sure, so you wanted to hedge your bets. Either way, a random hello or smile or wave can make a difference in someone's day.

When this is published, it is possible someone will have been declared the winner in the Presidential election. Even if that has been done, there still might be some court cases on it, just like four years ago. No matter the result, we know that about half the people who voted will probably be mad.

How can we overcome this angry polarity in our country? Here's a possible solution: Just smile and wave.

As I drive to work every day, I sometimes note the same cars going the other direction on their way to their own jobs, sometimes fellow teachers. Angie Gehrke is teaching in Ellendale this semester and told me she waves furiously at me, but I just don't seem to see it. I should pay more attention, but I'm also on the constant lookout for those pesky deer.

Maybe we should all just wave to every car coming the other way, especially when we're on our country roads. There are a variety of ways you can wave. You can actually



Whatever Flips Your Waffle

by Mark Domeier
Contributing Writer

physically lift your hand from off the steering wheel and shake it back and forth. You can raise it up in a full-hand salute.

Or you can do what many Minnesotans do: the one-finger wave. You know the bit, right? The pointer finger flicks up because you notice someone you know, or think you know. (Again, the hedging your bets thing comes in here.)

The one-finger wave sometimes happens as a result of seeing someone you recognize at the last second. Shoot, I need to wave! You can also do the head bob in this scenario, but that's not as easily seen and could just as well have been you hitting a bump in the road. Still, the brain sometimes struggles with focusing on the importance of safe driving while also seeing who's coming the other way.

Maybe we should just wave to everyone as we drive. That friendly gesture could make someone smile when they're having a tough day. Maybe their news feed raised their blood pressure, but your kind wave made them forget it, if even for a moment.

When did we become so angry? When did our candidate not winning become something to make our blood boil? Yes, we should care about who wins an elected position; they will be helping steer the course of our lives for a time. But have things ever become so despicable after someone wins that our lives are irrevocably harmed?

We survived four years of Donald Trump. We survived four years of Joe Biden. Whichever way your compass tilts, that's reality. Neither man had four wonderful years as the leader of the free world. Both had ups and downs. Both had good things they did and both had struggles that led to things not being ideal in our country. Contrary to popular belief, neither one really controlled gas prices during their tenure.

So as I drive, I'm going to choose to be positive. I'm going to wave and smile. The gas prices will keep changing based on a lot of factors, no matter if it is Donald Trump again or Kamala Harris. Not much I can do about it except smile and wave.

I was so proud of my 7th and 8th graders recently. Surrounded by a

world where people say mean things about political candidates in-person and online, they took the path of respectfulness in a recent blog where I asked them to write their feelings about the upcoming election. Some favored Trump and some favored Harris and some didn't really care, which is just fine when you're 12-14 years old. But they all wrote without having to bash on people or write mean things about a candidate they don't support. There is hope for the future!

But wait, there's more! I mentioned earlier about saying hello to random people. Why not? It shouldn't matter if I know somebody or not, just say hello. A smile helps, too. It could be the same thing as someone driving - Your smile and greeting could turn their day around.

Or they could think you're a weirdo. Either way, it might take their mind off something negative going on.

Let's try it! Let's smile, wave, nod, gesture, whatever, to acknowledge that other people are okay and deserving of our friendliness. We seem to be a pretty angry nation right now. Maybe we can change that one wave at a time.

Word of the Week: This week's word is avuncular, which means kind and helpful, as in, "The avuncular girl was always a welcome sight at the care center." Impress your friends and confuse your enemies!

An in-depth look at newspaper construction

The last few newspaper editions have been what I describe as 70-email and 100-missed-phone-call days.

Every day I wake up to anywhere from at least 50 and up to 70 or more emails. Of those, only a dozen or two usually require responses. I have a system. I drag emails to various boxes for their intended purposes. I have an inbox for the Star Eagle, the Pioneer and the Golden Link and under those inboxes I create sub-boxes where I can drag emails based on my designation. I need boxes for advertisements—one with approvals, another with questions still needing input. I get many questions about pricing, subscriptions and invoices. I have a box for that.

As I put all the pieces in place to create the week's edition, I refer back to those boxes. If everything were not categorized for quick recall and reference, I would spend hours just looking for information and input.

Many people may not be aware that the amount of paid advertising dictates how many pages will be cost effective for the week's edition. Because of this, advertisements go onto the pages first. When it comes to legal advertisements, I create the ad and place it on the appropriate page, then send a "proof" (a copy of the ad), along with the cost to the advertiser. Every advertisement you see in the paper, I have communicated with that advertiser at some point regarding its content. All of the articles for that matter, I've discussed with our writers.

It's a lot of information. With this being an election year, last week I woke up to 60 emails on Monday and another 70 on Tuesday. Today, a week later, I again woke up to numerous emails and missed calls.

I miss many calls on Mondays and Tuesdays: I generally answer only if I see the number and feel confident a conversation with the caller will advance the work at hand.

There's just so much to go through.

Recently, I started working on Saturdays in addition to Sundays. It has made my weeks, my life, infinitely easier. I put together the Star Eagle (as much as I can, that is) on Saturday. On Sunday I do the same for the Pioneer. (I also put together the Golden Link Shopper on Saturday.)

With the general framework in place, I can use Monday and Tuesday



Just a Thought...

by Eli Lutgens

to tackle the stack of emails, missed calls, text messages and in-person messages needed to refine the details.

Once I finish going through the pile of messages, I prioritize them, then tackle each one in turn. After I'm done, usually hours later, I finish putting the new bits of information, ads, and more in the paper. Late Monday evening, I send the assembled pages in electronic format to my respective editors for review. I do not read every article in the paper. (For context, this week's Star Eagle had more than 10,000 words. The Pioneer 20,000. A novel is usually at least 40,000 words.) By the time Monday is done, I've put in a full workday on Saturday, anywhere from 8 to 14 hours on Sunday and another 8 to 16 hours on Monday.

Tuesday is spent making corrections—those from my editors regarding the news items and headlines, and those from any advertising proofs sent out Sunday and Monday. There are also inevitably last-minute changes and additions.

There's no way to prepare in advance for what can't be predicted, so I have to be ready for anything from restructuring pages because of a news story or ad, or even adding pages.

In one recent case, I received a request for a full-page advertisement (delight!) after the submission deadline (disservice!). But because of the way papers are printed, I can't add only one page, I have to add two.

So in addition to the requested full-page ad, I also had to assemble an unanticipated page of news copy and photos.

Thankfully, because of my hard-working writers, we were not lacking in available content. A good average time for physically constructing a newspaper page is an hour, so, along with the extra challenges, I now had to devote an extra two hours to assembling a paper which otherwise would have been essentially complete.

plete.

All right, so by Tuesday morning (barring surprises) I have organized and reviewed nearly a novel's worth of information, and have placed it all out neatly on model pages—still all in electronic format—in preparation for printing. I have sent the completed pages for my editors to review, and am now receiving their observations, suggestions, and occasional ribs. It's now time to begin making corrections to both the Star Eagle and Pioneer. The corrections can be a bit of an Easter egg hunt: they may be in the text of stories, in the information printed under the pictures, in the headlines or in other text in various nooks and crannies. Sometimes they regard photographs themselves—maybe the wrong one was used by mistake, or maybe there is some aesthetic element that needs attention.

After all of these corrections have been incorporated, I review the appearance of each page to make sure the spacing is correct, that the references to "jumped" article continuations are consistent, and just

generally that I am satisfied with the nearly-finished version of the week's edition.

With all that done, I do some of my own proofreading. I read stories I feel must be read (if I hadn't already).

I generally read my own articles two or three more times to make sure I said what I intended.

I check the headlines, double check names and other details in the obituaries, confirm all of the advertisements are accounted for and triple check that I have read all of my emails.

It's usually at this point a last-minute obituary is submitted and I must take a piece of content out of the paper to make room for it.

Once I'm finally done proofing and correcting, I send the final electronic version of the paper to the printer; because of time schedules for the presses, this must be no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday. (If I am late, the paper is late, which sometimes happens.)

Wednesdays are the closest thing to a day off I get.

I wake up and immediately go to the post office, after I prepare some paperwork, to deliver our forms to allow the paper to be mailed.

I then relax—at least as compared to the days before—and start tackling some of that "to-do" list from my email box. In three days, the cycle starts over.

NRHEG Star Eagle

SERVING THE NEW RICHLAND-HARTLAND-ELLENDALE-GENEVA AREA and the communities of Waseca, Otisco, Hope, Clarks Grove, Matawan, Freeborn and Waldorf

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DEADLINES: STAR EAGLE: Noon Monday
GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

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KidFest

from Page 1

gether to make the potions, and they talk about each one.

"That's the exact kind of family interaction we aim for."

As groups of children filtered in, they would have their picture taken, then spend however much time they wished on the various activities. All were invited to take a treat from a giant spider-shaped bin as they left.

"This event helps draw attention to our [early childhood family education] program and is just generally meant to be a safe, fun way for families to interact," said Whiteside. "I've been really pleased with the turnout and with the time families can spend together."

Compostings

by Al Batt

I met a pumpkin named Gourdon

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS’ CLUB MEETING
I got a postcard from my doctor.
What did it say?
He said he’d be right with me.
DRIVING BY BRUCE’S DRIVE
I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. Everything was nearly copacetic. I’d asked my wife, my SEO (search engine optimization), for the shopping list I’d misplaced after writing a phone message on the back. She found it, and I found the store all by myself. A store clerk asked me if I’d found everything OK. I asked her to define OK. I’d found things I needed more than I wanted.

As I had driven to town, I remembered riding along in a car and playing games to pass the miles. We’d put “butt” at the end of the names of businesses. We’d say, “I spy with my little eye—corn.” We drove around Iowa a lot. We played the game where my mother said things like, “Whatshisname? You know, that guy from that movie about the detective with a poor attitude that I think looks like your Uncle Vern.” We looked for out-of-state plates and improvised reasons for their appearance in the Gopher State. An Ohio plate meant the giant ice cream store in Cleveland had lost its power. It flooded the state with ice cream. Ohioans were fleeing, searching for a dry and unsticky land to begin new lives. Fun memories that digital devices and social media wouldn’t have made.

FRONT THOSE THRILLING DAYS OF YESTERYEAR
Bobbing for apples was a thing when I was a boy. I’d stick my face into a tub of water and try to catch apples floating in the water with my teeth. The apples were bigger than my big mouth. My nose filled with the water other noses and mouths had been in. Life gets small when you’re bobbing for apples, but not small enough. We should have been bobbing for crabbles.

I ate pillowy Wonder Bread. It helped build strong bodies 12 ways. According to the Wonder Bread Cookbook, the 12 ways were muscles, bones and teeth, body cells, blood, appetite, growth, brain, energy, red cells, vitamin B12, protein digestion and tissue respiration. I don’t eat Wonder Bread today. I sometimes rode in a Pontiac while eating Wonder Bread. They no longer make Pontiacs. Thank goodness I still have lefse. Lefse is a meal in

itself. I put butter on it and it’s bread. I put brown sugar and butter on it and it becomes dessert. And, of course, it can be used as a napkin. I’ve even put peanut butter and/or honey on it. My grandchildren dislike lefse so much they won’t even try it. They have no reason other than they know they wouldn’t like it.

HALLOWEEN EXPERIENCES
Halloween offered some scary things. A phone call from an unknown number. A home with all its lights on (I’ve become my father). The 2.4 inches of snow that fell at my secret location in Minnesota. I met a pumpkin named Gourdon.

I’VE LEARNED
The roof of my mouth is actually my mouth’s ceiling.
Jim Simser, hall-of-fame football coach and good man, died recently. As I shook the hands of his sons and gave his sister Carolyn a hug filled with years and tears, I realized once again that I know the best people on earth.
I threw a boomerang once that never came back. I live in constant fear.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT
Want to make a quick buck? Raise deer for racing.
Who said, “Coming are British the. Coming are British the”? Paul Reverse.
The world would be a butter place without margarine.
Why did the pirate walk the plank? Because he didn’t have a dog.

Why is dark spelled with a “k”? Because you can’t “c” in the dark.
NATURE NOTES
There are about 225 owl species and about 50 possess feathered ear tufts (plumicorns). They aren’t used for hearing. The exact function is uncertain, but there are theories galore. They may be for camouflage, helping a roosting owl blend into a tree by breaking up the owl’s shape. They might make the owl look like a broken branch. The tufts could be used for communication with others of its species—courtship, recognition, display aggression or territorial behavior. Perhaps the presence of ear tufts gives an owl the look of a mammal and appear more menacing to mammalian predators. If the last were true, why wouldn’t all owls have plumicorns? It continues to amaze me that great horned owls begin nesting in January or February.
MEETING ADJOURNED
Be kind and acknowledge another’s existence by asking, “How are you?”

NRHEG selected for federal safety grant

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer
The NRHEG school district will be receiving nearly \$203,000 through the School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) offered by the federal Department of Justice. The grant program offered \$73 million nationwide for school districts looking to improve safety and security. According to information shared at the Oct. 21 school board meeting, 1,008 schools applied; 203 were awarded funding. NRHEG was one of three districts in the state of Minnesota whose applications met with success.
The specified use for the grant award is a project the school has been anticipating for some time: an upgrade to security cameras, entry-way technology, and the public address system—all of which are vital



elements of safety and emergency response—in both the Ellendale and New Richland buildings. According to district technology coordinator Angie Aaseth, those systems will benefit from an overhaul. “We didn’t know what kind of a chance we had at getting the grant, but knew with a project this big, we needed to try,” she said.
“We were pretty excited when we got the news!”
An expectation of the grant is that the district will pay 25 percent of the cost to complete the projects applied for.
Aaseth worked with district community education director Macy Whiteside to complete the required paperwork; they reported during the board meeting the form was roughly 30 pages long. Whiteside’s assistance was helpful not because the

entities within our communities, [to] which we would like to extend a ‘Thank You’: to the New Richland police department and the City of Ellendale.”
Now that the district has received the grant, Aaseth said the next step is assessment and planning. “We are currently in the process of doing a site walk-through with a few companies and will be looking to hopefully start the project this winter,” she said, pointing out the district has up to 36 months to complete the covered upgrades.
Since the district has been aware of the need for the project for some time, Aaseth suggests, progress should advance quickly. “We have been pretty much working on this project for over a year. We are anxious to get moving on it,” she said.

Waldorf public library autumn art project

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer
The Waldorf Public Library offered an “autumn art” project aimed at children ages 4 to 7. Rescheduled because of a conflict, it took place the afternoon of Friday, Nov. 1.
Cheryl Marquardt had the 6-seater table lined with a plastic tablecloth to keep the table itself clean. For the project, Marquardt had chosen autumn colors, red, orange, brown, yellow. There were bunched up Q-Tips rubber-banded together, and they made for excellent makeshift paint brushes; foam brushes were available for those bigger strokes. Serving as “canvas” for the project were sheets of paper printed with the leafless design of a tree. Ready for service were many, many, many wipes to keep little hands clean.
Marquardt has been working at the Waldorf Public Library for the past 20 years. Before that she volunteered at the Janesville Library and sometimes still does for its story time hour. She also occasionally volunteered in Elysian, but now focuses her time on Waldorf. Said Marquardt, “Twenty years ago this job became available and I was so excited.” She provides a range of ideas why she loves the job: “This past summer was



From left: Alayna, 5, Cheryl Marquardt, Juniper, 11, Inara, 9, and Jenny, 7, were having fun at the Waldorf Library Autumn Art Project on Friday, Nov. 1, 2024.

■ Council

from Page 1

for the sake of preventing flooding.
“The source of flooding is from runoff conveyed to the city by County Ditch 47 (CD 47) and Joint County Ditch 6 (JCD 6), public drainage systems from the upstream watershed,” the hydrology study reports.
The criteria used for flood mitigation by this study sets the objective of eliminating or minimizing flood damages during rain events which drop up to 7.66 inches during a 24-hour period, the standard for a “100-year” flood.

Council members noted, during the presentation, that at least one rainfall event this summer delivered 11 inches during a 24-hour period.
Houston Engineering provided four plans with alternatives to help address the flooding problem: increasing culvert capacity, widening ditch channels, redirecting water, and constructing structural protections such as levees or floodwalls. Elements of the techniques can be intermingled.
Houston Engineering provided what they called a “soft recommendation,” an option likely to provide the best “value.”
This option, referred to as the “northern diversion,” routes flood water from about 70 percent of the local watershed around the city. Doing so, the company reported,

would require the installation of new culverts and the purchase of 25 acres of land needed for the route. Council members observed Houston Engineering’s estimated purchase price of \$6,200 an acre for the needed land was much too low.
Waseca County Land and Water Resources Director Chris Howard was present during the meeting and contributed numerous observations. He also indicated the County of Waseca will work on CD 47 in conjunction with the City of New Richland.
“An important thing for you as a council [to know] out of this, no one measure will solve the problem on its own,” Howard directed. “We will have to wade through what we take a la cart to achieve a value and the desired outcome.”

City Administrator Anthony Martens said the next step for the city is a grant application necessary for the planning to continue.
“The County has pledged some money to help with this project,” Martens stated. “I think the council’s next step should be some sort of public sharing session with a more detailed presentation for the community.”
Houston Engineering is expected to be present at that future meeting.
With anticipation of a larger meeting on this topic, the council approved up to \$1,000 for technology necessary to hold and record meetings in the large room of city hall.
The regular meeting concluded at 7:55 p.m. Council members will meet again at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12.





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■ Ibberson

from Page 1

nesota when the organization’s new member monthly sign-up totals surpassed every other legion in the state. He spoke fondly of Larry Otto, who was the president of the Ellendale Legion up until his death in 2022.

“Larry was a jack of all trades. He held everything together while the legion was in transition. He also did all of the accounting back then too.”
Ibberson doesn’t like how the Army has been lowering the standards for today’s soldiers. “The training standards and things like that aren’t getting these guys ready to fight a war. Some of the specialty units are keeping them sharpened, but the guys in standard infantry are

not being well prepared. The specialty units still have very high standards, so it’s not all lost yet.” Ibberson also wanted to point out that, “When you sign up for the Army and go into boot camp, you leave being an individual behind. No questions, just do your job. You need to be sharpened to serve; it’s the mental toughness they are lacking.”

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OBITUARIES

Clifford Tesch

CLIFFORD WARREN TESCH, age 75, of New Richland, died on Saturday, November 2, 2024 at the New Richland Care Center.

Clifford was born on March 1, 1949 in Mankato to Harold and Marie (Brown) Tesch. He was baptized as an infant and confirmed in his faith in his youth at First Lutheran Church in Waldorf. Cliff grew up on a dairy farm in rural Waldorf and received his education at Waldorf-Pemberton Public Schools. In his youth he was active with the Waldorf Peppy Peppers. Throughout his life he worked various jobs, which included Fritz Young Tiling, Polar, which later became Cenex, Brown Printing, B & S Grain in Waldorf, Crystal Valley, and Canterbury Downs. He also owned and operated his own gas station, which was called "Cliff's Deep Rock." Cliff was a member of the Waldorf Fire Department and enjoyed volunteering during Waldorf Days for many years. He was also a member of First Lutheran Church in Waldorf. He enjoyed toy collecting, especially replica NASCAR cars, spending time with friends and family and watching NASCAR racing and All Star Wrestling. Cliff had a beautiful sense of humor and loved children. He had a fun-loving spirit no matter what he was doing. He cherished his nieces and nephews, and they would fondly refer to him as "Uncle Cliffy."

Cliff is survived by his siblings: Audrey Bruender of Waseca, Cur-



Clifford Tesch

tis Tesch (Sara Roemhildt) of Waseca, and Diane (William) Radil of Montgomery; nieces: Angie Swanson, Lori Bruender, Allison Tesch, and Amanda Schuldt; nephews: Jim Bruender, Dan Bruender, Jacob Bruender, Drew Tesch, Jeremy Lindeman, and Matt Lindeman; other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law, Doug Bruender.

Funeral Service will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 9, 2024 at the Waldorf Community Center in Waldorf. Interment will be at First Lutheran Cemetery in Waldorf. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service at the community center on Saturday.

Memorials are preferred and can be directed to St. Croix Hospice or the Waldorf Fire Department. DSOFuneral.com

A season of many changes

Fall is the season of many changes. For example:

A. The migration of birds, ducks and geese. The last hummer at our juice and grape jam feeder was September 26.

Pelicans, geese and ducks can be seen in flocks until mid to late November depending on ice conditions.

B. The first frost of the fall this year was Monday, October 7, 2024 followed by a light frost on the 14th of October and a hard frost on the 16th of October with the morning low of 28 degrees. (It froze the water in our bird-bath).

C. Just before Thanksgiving is winter long john fitting time for Scandinavians. That is when they "try on" the ones they took off just before Father's Day in June. Why do they "try on" their old long johns first? Because they have learned there is a waist expansion sometimes when they put them on after Thanksgiving!!

D. Changing of the clocks before going to church on Sunday morning, November 3, 2024.

E. Is your vehicle ready for winter??

E. Have you gotten all your coats, shoes, head wear, etc. ready for winter?

F. This is the time of the year where I cover the ground where cats like to make deposits behind bushes



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

FACT OR FICTION

...you decide

by Bob Hanson, Emeritus

and next to our house. I put out coffee grounds and chocolate laxatives. The problem is solved shortly after the next full moon.

Interesting observations I've seen while driving:

A. Albert Lea police car right behind as the car ahead of it makes a right turn at a stop sign without stopping. Red flashing lights came on the police car!!

B. Minnesota personal license plate: Z MN - SRS (a white haired lady was driving with a bald man passenger!!)

An interesting thing about conversation at the table of men during coffee at Central Freeborn Lutheran Church Sunday morning: "Everything is talked about with one exception." (The exception is Politics.)

The turkeys like the turkey sign on the East side of the road just after the Albert Lea dump going North. How do I know This? Because four out of the last four times the turkeys have

been waiting for me to drive by.

Have you noticed in watching the world series baseball games the appearance of all the Yankee players? No long hair, no beards, I guess they all get higher pay than the other players to look good.

On Tuesday morning, October 15, Genie and I boarded a bus headed for Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin, arriving at the Queen Casino Marquette by 10 a.m. and leaving the Casino at 11:30 for lunch at Huckleberry's restaurant from 11:45 to 12:45. The afternoon was touring Historical Landmarks, a fish and cheese stop, an apple orchard and back to Albert Lea about 8 p.m.

The charter bus was through security at State Bank with Connie as the hostess and Dan the bus driver. They both gave excellent service. (Yes, the fall colors were almost in full color.)

Many thanks on a job well done by the Ellendale Heritage Society - mainly Barb Mroth and Brenda Dok-

ken.

They put together brochures, maps and pictures of all the country schools that were consolidated into Ellendale-Geneva School.

This was to become part of the New Richland School system that we now know as NRHEG. (New Richland, Hartland, Ellendale, Geneva)

My part of the history was being a student of Country School District S3 for eight years, on to High School in New Richland, graduating in 1954.

A social event in Rural America is defined as any gathering of people where two out of three attendees are related and the third one knows the other two real good.

Such was the event at the Wedgewood Cove in Albert Lea on Saturday afternoon, October 19, 2024.

The occasion was the celebration of the birthday twin sisters Marlene and Marilyn.

They met and greeted everyone entering.

P.s. I should tell you the two of them created a shortage of 90 year old Birthday Cards in Albert Lea.

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

Eckart

from Page 1

explained. "All of it must be committed to memory or you won't make it."

Once Norman completed advanced training at Fort Sill, he moved onto signal school at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

With his training finished, "they asked me where I wanted to go," Norman continued. "I put in for Fort Carson, Colorado."

In the heart of Colorado Springs, Norman was stationed at Army defense headquarters at Ent Air Force Base.

Upon arrival Norman was joined by Sharon; the two lived in a basement apartment of "The nicest man, Mr. Biele."

Sharon got a job in the surgery department at a nearby hospital; their total monthly income was \$129.

"We ate a lot of fish, mac and cheese, and venison," Norman said.

"Steak once a month, a quart of Coors beer and a bottle of olives," Norman said was their once-per-month payday treat.

Norman shared a story of a sergeant offering him \$10 to take his shift. "I worked a 20 hour shift that day," Norman said. "That was a lot of money in those days."

While in Colorado, Norman worked in a heavily guarded communication center. "Guards at the steps, every entrance," Norman explained. "My area was behind a two-foot-thick steel door. There were only two of us at a time doing all of

the coding."

Norman said he worked with a CW4 chief warrant officer and three-star general Robert Hackett.

"So you know who did all the work?" Norman asked, then answered. "Me."

"On duty it was 'yes sir,' 'no sir,'" he continued. "Off duty it was Bob and Norm. We got along very well."

Norman shared the story of one Colonel Gnomes who didn't respond quickly enough to a "flash message" that came through Norman's communication center. A flash message is urgent and top secret. This particular one needed a response in three minutes.

"He tried to say he was busy," Norman recalled. "He liked to read the paper."

It was Norman's job to take the messages, then, after reading and decoding them, determine whether they needed to go to the warrant officer or even the general at the top of Cheyenne Mountain.

At another time, the same colonel came storming to Norman's communications center and demanded Norman open the door. Gnomes did not have clearance to enter the room.

Norman said he grabbed his gun, cocked it, pointed it at the colonel and reminded him he didn't have clearance and therefore wasn't allowed inside.

"He'll never forget me," Norman said.

Gnomes could be seen "standing at attention" in salute for hours and hours later that day as punishment.

In January of 1968, Sharon gave birth, in a military hospital, to the couple's first of two children, Michael. Five years later the couple had

"On duty it was yes sir no sir. Off duty it was Bob and Norm." — Norman Eckart

Michelle.

Following Michael's birth, Norman was soon to be stationed elsewhere, but insisted he was going to drive his wife and one-month-old baby back home to Minnesota first.

"Specialist Eckart, he'll show up sometime in March," Norman said his commanding officer put in the report.

During this time Norman saw many of his friends drafted and sent to Vietnam. He really wanted to go there, but kept having to wait for his deployment. He was told he was being shipped "somewhere more important."

It turned out to be Izmir, Turkey, a communication center, 18 miles out into the mountains, a mile underneath the ground.

"It was huge," Norman remembered. "When you have a power failure a mile underground, you learn what dark really is."

Norman worked with the Turks, Greeks, Australians, British and "a couple Italians."

During this time, since Norman's work was classified, Sharon really didn't know what her husband was doing. Even if it weren't "need to know," the cost of a phone call to Turkey was \$67.

To get around this, Norman had friends from communications across the country connect calls from the Eckart home in New Richland, to New York, California, London and finally Izmer, Turkey. As he describes it, one party called from one phone line to the next as the call was transferred.

"Uncle Sam footed the bill," Norman said. "It pays to have friends."

Norman has many memories from his time in Izmer.

While there he learned of a Turkish foreign exchange student destined for the New Richland-Hartland School District, Mahmu Pilar. Norman spoke passable Turkish and tracked him down.

"That was the first time I had Turkish coffee," Norman stated. "You

could stick the spoon in it and it just stuck in. It was that thick."

Norman recalled how friendly the village people were to him, despite warnings from his superiors to stay away.

"They couldn't understand tips," Norman recalled. "I'd hand them a dollar and they'd run around trying to find me the spare coins to make up the difference."

"No, it's fine!" I told them," Norman pleaded. "They had no concept of 'keep the change.' They were that honest."

At Sharon's insistence, Norman also shared a story of the "circumcision party."

A young man was turning 12 years old, becoming a man. "I bought the dad a magnum of champagne, a carton of cigarettes, fake Chanel number 5 perfume for his wife and for the young man, a bottle of Aqua Velva aftershave."

"They treated me like I was the king of Russia," Norman remembered. "I was a good American. I could go anywhere..." They treated me fantastic.

"I treated those people right and they treated me right," Norman continued. "I was probably the only American who went down to the village encampment and came back alive!"

With a young boy at home, Norman chose to retire from the service in 1969. His final title and rank, Sergeant E-5, his job, cryptographer.

The Eckart family states they have 19 close relatives, all veterans, including their son Michael.

Notably, the Legion Hall in Morristown is named after Sharon's great uncle, Roy Leader, who died in service to his country during World War I.

Norman said the biggest lesson he brought home with him from his time in the military was to recognize and appreciate the freedoms Americans enjoy.

"Thank the military," he observes.

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Shown here are a picture of my second-grade class at Hammer School. Another is of my son Brad and my grandson Dylan unloading wood for the cabin. The last one is of me down by the lake just checking things out. The boys called this one Bigfoot.



Old man winter is knocking on our door

It doesn't seem possible that it is almost time to break out the snow shovels and long Johns. I am wishing for another mild winter like we had last year. Sometimes that can turn into that old saying of, "Careful what you wish for," because less snow means less moisture. Last spring we had an abundance of rain, which meant the threat of drought was hardly mentioned.

I can remember one August when I was a kid when I had ridden my bike over to my friend, Jim Foley's house to hang out. We never were ones to sit around, so we decided to have another of our many adventures. We walked the little creek behind his place for quite a distance before we found that the water had quit flowing. The creek had actually began drying up, leaving pools of water with small fish, like bluegills, crappie, and small bullheads stranded. My main thought at the time was how can we save these fish. Of course there was no solution to that problem. I can remember that, at the end of the day I kept thinking



Woods and Water

by Dick Herfindahl

Outdoors Writer

about those fish and what would happen to them. I spent a few sleepless nights thinking about that and for a kid who spent a lot of his time outdoors, not sleeping was unusual.

Don't get me wrong, as a kid I would spend hours on the shore of a lake or stream trying to outsmart the fish. That was part of the fun of fishing and spending time outdoors. The difference between seeing those fish in a predicament that has no solution is a lot different than trying to outsmart a fish in its own environment.

I still get a warm feeling whenever I look back at the days of my childhood. We had neighborhood football and baseball games. There were

someone the wrong way for fear of retaliation.

Those days were ones that I will always cherish, and I am thankful for being able to grow up in those times. Times when life was simpler, and politicians told you what they would do for the country and not run each other down at every opportunity. I still have an "I Like Ike" button in a box somewhere in the attic. I wasn't old enough to vote yet, but my Uncle Orville gave it to me. It might have been because my dad was a Democrat and Orville was a staunch Republican.

Until next time: It won't be long until the firearms deer season is upon us. I know a few bow hunters that may be in a panic because, once the slug season has come and gone, the deer are pretty skittish.

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

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	Tuesday - Council meeting (First Tuesday) * * *	Check the website for additional up-dates www.vibrantlifecag.com * * *	Hollandale, Minnesota Sunday—9:30 a.m. Worship; 10:45 a.m. Sunday School * * *	Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * *
ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship	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.	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)	ZION LUTHERAN, ELCA Rural Ellendale Deacon Billie Jo Wicks Sunday—8:30 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. PAUL UNITED Minnesota Lake, Minnesota Interim Pastor Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 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)	HARTLAND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN Hartland, Minnesota Pastor Phillip K. Lepak Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	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. 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.	ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN, ELCA Meriden, Minnesota Deacon Billie Jo Wicks Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * *	PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Minnesota Lake, Minnesota Interim Pastor Sunday — 9 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	MANCHESTER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN Manchester, Minnesota Pastor Phillip K. Lepak Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship * * *	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	PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN Lemond Township Pastor Dave Klawitter Sunday—10:15 a.m. Worship * * *	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Rev. Larry Sipe Sunday — 9:15 a.m. Worship * * *
VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 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.	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	FIRST LUTHERAN, LCMC Hope, Minnesota Pastor Sandy Miller Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Youth/Adult Study * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 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	COMMUNITY LUTHERAN Geneva, Minnesota Pastor Leandra Anderson Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship (times very for holidays) Monday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting	HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL Father Peter Schuster Sunday—8 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation; 8:30 a.m. Mass with Children's Church; Preschool Sunday School during Mass Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. - Faith Formation classes for grades K-Confirmation www.litomysl.webs.com www.stisidore.school.webs.com	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Clarks Grove, Minnesota Pastor James Cameron Sunday—9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * *
CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN Hartland, Minnesota Rev. Marcia Pedersen Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship	SIMPLY CHURCH 105 Second Street North East Geneva, Minnesota Todd Lundgren, Pastor Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMC Hollandale, Minnesota Pastor Jesse Krusemark Sunday—9 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN Minnesota Lake, Minnesota Rev. Larry Sipe, pastor	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 * * *
	VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Ellendale, Minnesota Pastor David Modder Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Kids church			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

- The Geneva City Council gathered on Tuesday, October 12th at 7 for their monthly meeting. Mayor, Ron Christensen called the meeting to order. Council members Jannell Tufte, Steve Bailey, Doug Smith and De WayneJensen were all in attendance, along with City Clerk Nancey Cornelius; City Maintenance Steve Neilson; Fire Chief Greg Bartsch; Daryl and Kathy Paulsen; Jenny Wallerich and Lonnie and Jon Bartsch from the Bath-Geneva 4-H Club; Frank Thompson from Thompson Sanitation; and Marty Tufte, Waste System District Manager.



- One of the world's greatest trumpet players will be coming to NRHEG High School to work with and perform with the Concert and Jazz bands. On Tuesday, October 26, Vizzutti, who currently resides outside of Seattle, Washington, will be arriving in New Richland to spend the day with high school band members. The day's events include a master class, rehearsal time with both bands, and will conclude with a 7:30 concert, where Mr. Vizzutti will solo with each group. Dave Haugh, band director at NRHEG, commented, "It's always been a goal of mine to meet him." Dave e-mailed the agent about coming to NRHEG to perform. It took a while to get dates together, but they were finally able to come up with one. Mr. Haugh has been playing Mr. Vizzutti's recordings for the students to hear. They are excited to meet and have a chance to accompany him.

- Ron and Theresa Langlie of Ellendale, announce their engagement to their daughter, Nicole Langlie. Nicole is a 1992 graduate of New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva High School, and a 1996 graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, with a degree in Business Management. Matt is a 1991 graduate of St. Peter High School, and a 1995 graduate from Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, with a degree in Financial Economics. A November 6 wedding is planned at First Lutheran Church in Ellendale.

- The Panther Volleyball team claimed the second place spot in the Cannon Falls Tourney on October 16, 1999. "NRHEG had a really good showing at the Cannon Falls Tourney. It was good to see them playing so well together as we near postseason play," said Schultz. "As a team we hit 82% with 67 kills. Add to that is 15 tip kills. We had many "heads up" plays at the net, not only blocking, but just following the ball and being aware of overpasses. We served 92% on the day. More importantly, we dug at 71% which showed me a lot of "will" to go after some big hitters. We serve received at 72%," commented Schultz.

50 Years Back

- Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kasper are proud new parents of a girl born to them on Tuesday, January 27 at St. John East Side Hospital in St. Paul. She has been named Ashley Marie. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kasper of Ellendale and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Porter of Iowa.

- Mankato State University recently announced that Peter G. Dammel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dammel of Ellendale, had been placed on their honor roll for a grade point average of 3.5-3.99.



- Drew Vangen, one of the Raider boys basketball standouts, was recognized by KAAL Television as the Prep of the Week last week for his performance against New Richland. Vangen, son of Kenneth and Sandra Vangen, scored 22 points and pulled down 18 rebounds in the New Richland game, then put in another strong 20-point performance against Faribault, B.A.

- The E-G B squad girls basketball team had a sensational game Thursday night against BA. They were ahead at all quarters, 7-2, 9-5, 21-10 and 27-17. Angie Worrell was top scorer with 8 points followed by Gail Kaplan with 7, Tara Stollard 5, Teresa Knudson 3 and Shannon Peterson 2. The Raidersettes are now 7 and 6 for the season.

- A Honor Roll. GRADE 12: Sharon Deml, Gary Hanson, Roseann Kasper: GRADE 11: Kim Anderson, Mayro Leak, Jodie Lee, Deb Mucha, Julie Stieglbauer, Chris Thompson: GRADE 10: Sarah Deml: GRADE 9: Melanie Goslee, LaNell Leak, Peter Spande. GRADE 8: Brian Brekke. GRADE 7: Krista Lee. B Honor Roll. GRADE 12: Sarah Cerney, Dawn David, Chris Davidson, Lisa Holmes, MelodyKrenke, Stephanie Peterson, Tammy Reese, Fie Svenningsen, Lee Waage, Kim Weckwarth. GRADE 11: Sue Enzenauer, Deb Harding, Vonda Humburg, David Killian, Matt Kubiatowicz, Wendy Lerberg, Stacey Thompson, Tina Wangsness, Keith Wayne. GRADE 10: Angie Brekke, Dana Simonson, Tammy Stanton, Jennifer Zimprich. GRADE 9: Chris Deml, Sara Holmes, Scott Holmes, Gail Kaplan, Eric Lee, Troy Sommers, Patie Stadheim. GRADE 8: Stephen Granowski, Vicki Humburg, Brett Richards. GRADE 7: Michelle Granowski, Tracey Haddy, Vicki Hill, Nicole Langlie, Billy Nechanicky, Heather Peterson, Carolee Strand and Stacey Thostenson.

- The National Catholic Education Association has set the first week of February as Catholic Schools Week. St. Isidore's School, Litomysl, is taking part with a full week of activities. Activities throughout the week are a star search for talent, a staff-student appreciation day and an open house for parents and friends which will be held on Thursday. Mass will be at 11 a.m., followed by lunch for parents, grandparents, and friends and a talent show at 2 p.m. At 10 a.m., Mrs. Max Fleming will speak about her wagon train experience in Texas.

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Confirmed



Alexis Olson of New Richland was confirmed on Sunday, October 27 at Christ the King Lutheran Church of Waseca. Pictured is Alexis Olson with Pastor Eric Ishamaru

401(k) limit increases to \$23,500 for 2025, IRA limit remains \$7,000

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service announced today that the amount individuals can contribute to their 401(k) plans in 2025 has increased to \$23,500, up from \$23,000 for 2024.

The IRS today also issued technical guidance regarding all cost of living adjustments affecting dollar limitations for pension plans and other retirement-related items for tax year 2025 in Notice 2024-80, posted today on IRS.gov.

Highlights of changes for 2025

The annual contribution limit for employees who participate in 401(k), 403(b), governmental 457 plans, and the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan is increased to \$23,500, up from \$23,000.

The limit on annual contributions to an IRA remains \$7,000. The IRA catch up contribution limit for individuals aged 50 and over was amended under the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 (SECURE 2.0) to include an annual cost of living adjustment but remains \$1,000 for 2025.

The catch-up contribution limit that generally applies to employees aged 50 and over who participate in most 401(k), 403(b), governmental 457 plans, and the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan remains \$7,500 for 2025. Therefore, participants in most 401(k), 403(b), governmental 457 plans and the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan who are 50 and older generally can contribute up to \$31,000 each year, starting in 2025. Under a change made in SECURE 2.0, a higher catch-up contribution limit applies for employees aged 60, 61, 62 and 63 who participate in these plans. For 2025, this higher catch-up contribution limit is \$11,250 instead of \$7,500.

The income ranges for determining eligibility to make deductible contributions to traditional Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs), to contribute to Roth IRAs and to claim the Saver's Credit all increased for 2025.

Taxpayers can deduct contributions to a traditional IRA if they meet certain conditions. If during the year either the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse was covered by a retirement plan at work, the deduction may be reduced, or phased out, until it is eliminated, depending on filing status and income. (If neither the taxpayer nor the spouse is covered by a retirement plan at work, the phase-outs of the deduction do not apply.) Here are the phase out ranges for 2025:

For single taxpayers covered by a workplace retirement plan, the phase-out range is increased to between \$79,000 and \$89,000, up from between \$77,000 and \$87,000.

For married couples filing jointly, if the spouse making the IRA contribution is covered by a workplace retirement plan, the

phase-out range is increased to between \$126,000 and \$146,000, up from between \$123,000 and \$143,000.

For an IRA contributor who is not covered by a workplace retirement plan and is married to someone who is covered, the phase-out range is increased to between \$236,000 and \$246,000, up from between \$230,000 and \$240,000.

For a married individual filing a separate return who is covered by a workplace retirement plan, the phase-out range is not subject to an annual cost-of-living adjustment and remains between \$0 and \$10,000.

The income phase-out range for taxpayers making contributions to a Roth IRA is increased to between \$150,000 and \$165,000 for singles and heads of household, up from between \$146,000 and \$161,000. For married couples filing jointly, the income phase-out range is increased to between \$236,000 and \$246,000, up from between \$230,000 and \$240,000. The phase-out range for a married individual filing a separate return who makes contributions to a Roth IRA is not subject to an annual cost-of-living adjustment and remains between \$0 and \$10,000.

The income limit for the Saver's Credit (also known as the Retirement Savings Contributions Credit) for low- and moderate-income workers is \$79,000 for married couples filing jointly, up from \$76,500; \$59,250 for heads of household, up from \$57,375; and \$39,500 for singles and married individuals filing separately, up from \$38,250.

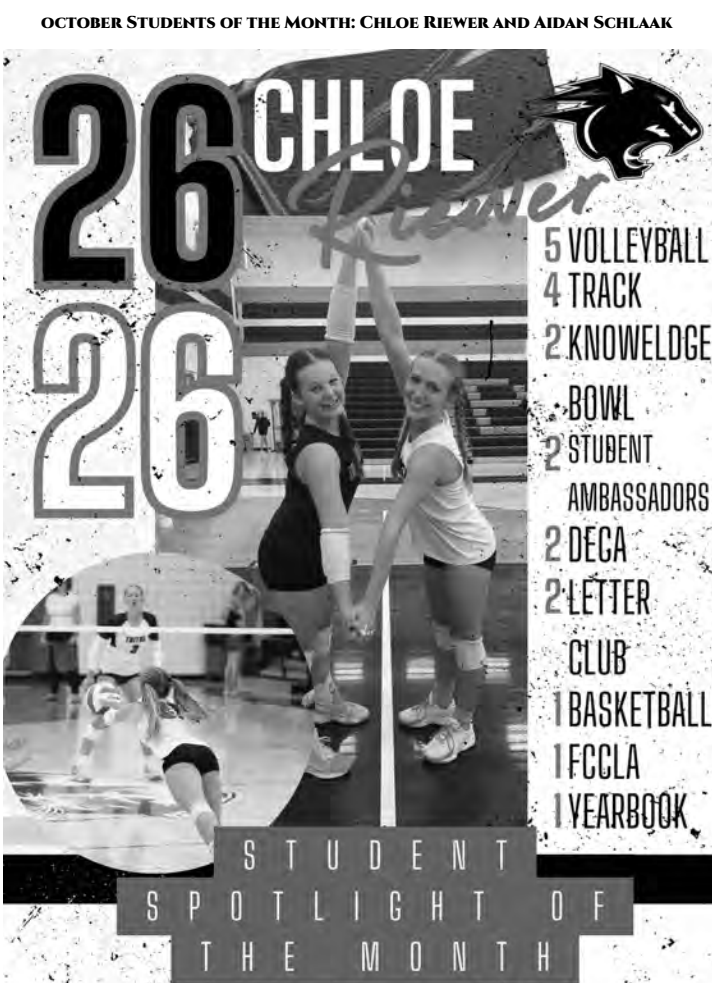
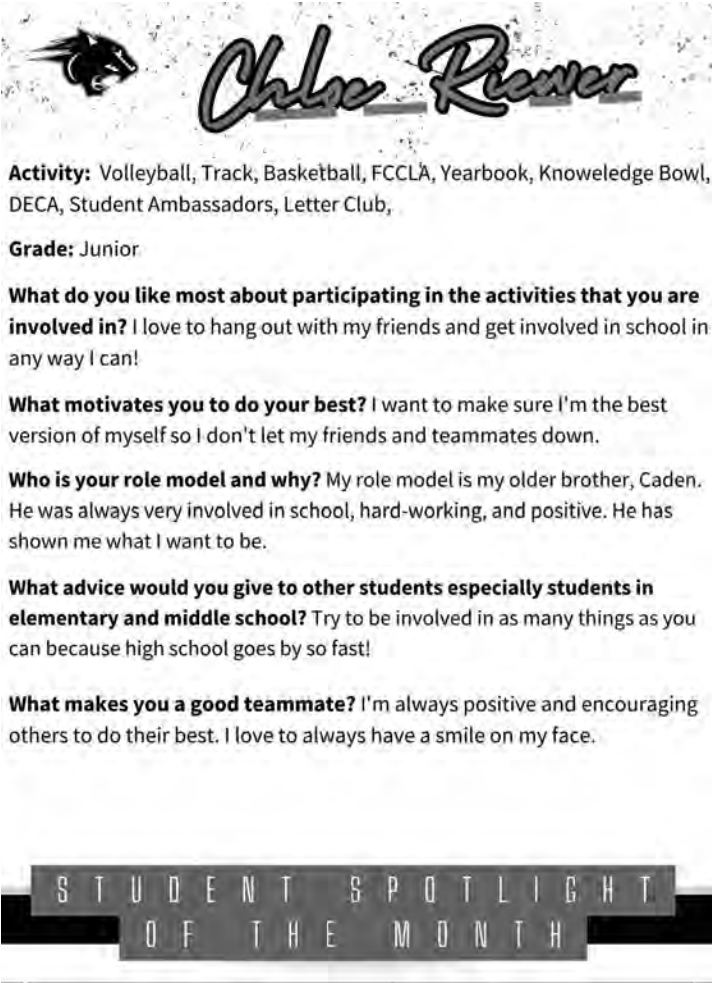
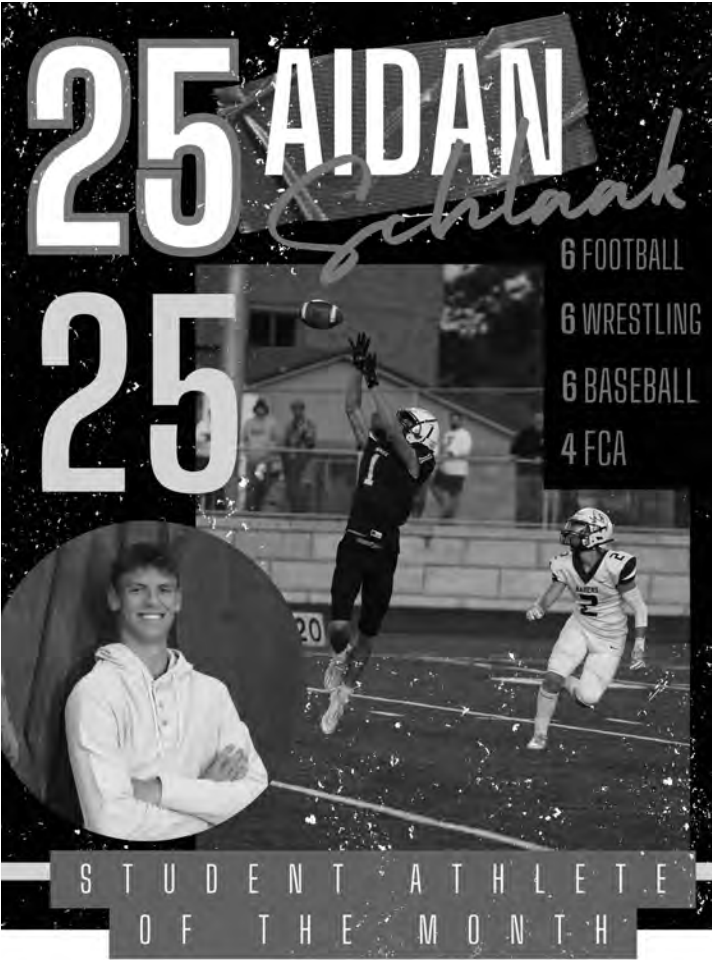
The amount individuals can generally contribute to their SIMPLE retirement accounts is increased to \$16,500, up from \$16,000. Pursuant to a change made in SECURE 2.0, individuals can contribute a higher amount to certain applicable SIMPLE retirement accounts. For 2025, this higher amount remains \$17,600.

The catch-up contribution limit that generally applies for employees aged 50 and over who participate in most SIMPLE plans remains \$3,500 for 2025. Under a change made in SECURE 2.0, a different catch-up limit applies for employees aged 50 and over who participate in certain applicable SIMPLE plans. For 2025, this limit remains \$3,850. Under a change made in SECURE 2.0, a higher catch-up contribution limit applies for employees aged 60, 61, 62 and 63 who participate in SIMPLE plans. For 2025, this higher catch-up contribution limit is \$5,250.

Notice 2024-80 provides a listing of dollar limitations applicable to qualified retirement plans as adjusted for cost-of-living adjustments for 2025.

Notice 2024-80 will be in IRB: 2024-47, dated November 18, 2024.

Students of the month



Geneva City Council

The City of Geneva met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Bailey at 6:30 p.m. at the Geneva Community Center. Present were Council members Phillips, Wayne, Bartsch and Worrell. Clerk Tufte, Treasurer Mattson, and Maintenance Jim Beenken were also in attendance. There were seven guests.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Phillips/Worrell moved to approve the Minutes and Agenda from previous meeting held August 7, 2024. Motion carried.

Beenken reported that McCarthy Well had been to Geneva and replaced a check valve that had failed on one of the wells. The hope is this will now solve the rusty water problems throughout Geneva.

The Fire Department will hold their annual pancake breakfast at the Community Center on August 15 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Council briefly discussed the ordinances that have now been provided to us by our City Attorney, specifically regarding nuisance lawns and properties as well as farm animals that are not allowed in Geneva. With the lawn mowing season almost behind us, we will start enforcing lawn ordinances next Spring.

November 12, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. the City will hold its budget meeting, followed by the Regular City Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Worrell/Phillips to approve a proposed 10% tax levy increase for 2025. The City will issue its final increase, if any, after their November budget meeting. Motion carried.

City Engineer Cory Beinfang from Bolton & Menk updated the Council on the Downtown Sidewalk Project. Initial steps will be to hold a workshop to include members of Council and staff as well as Engineer Bienfang and Freeborn County Engineer Phil Wacholz. Following the workshop there will be public informational meetings, preparation of plans and specs, submit plans to MnDOT, advertise for bids, open bids and submit to MnDOT for review, award bids, finalize grant agreement and begin construction.

Bienfang also stated that the Lead Water Service Line Inventory has been completed and submitted to MDH who will in turn review and notify the City that their inventory has been approved. Once approved, we will have 30 days to notify residents who have lead, galvanized or unknown materials. To

date we are aware of eight galvanized, one lead and 19 unknowns. We will have 10 days to complete the notification and future steps.

Treasurer Mattson shared that she was informed of a grant opportunity for park equipment, and, after applying for the grant, the City was awarded several pieces of equipment for both the downtown park and also the park area behind the Community Center. The city would have to approve receiving the equipment yet this Fall/Winter and store within the City as part of the grant. Motion by Phillips/Bartsch to approve that the equipment be stored until such time as the installation can be done. Motion carried.

Dan and Donna Kuntz were in attendance to notify the City that the storm sewer drain between their home and the neighbor to the north continues to fill with sand and gravel after rain and they have for years cleared that area of debris, but would now like the City to look into it. Beenken indicated he would reach out to MN Rural Water to have the line scoped to see where it leads and will update the Kuntz' after results.

Josh Cornelius was in attendance to merely listen to updates on the

sidewalk project.

Bartsch shared that the bell from the old school in Geneva has been delivered and will be placed at the Geneva Community Center.

Bartsch further requested that the City move forward with installation of the door/sidelight in the back of the Community Center to help with deliveries now that the new access is in place. The cost to do the installation is \$5489. Motion by Phillips/Bartsch. Motion carried.

Tufte read a thank you card that was received on behalf of Keith Hagen for keeping the Center in nice condition for use with family events and other community events throughout the year.

Option Green Light will be held this year from November 4 – 11. Any new resident will be given a green lightbulb to be used for future dates.

Motion by Phillips/Worrell to approve the Financial Report as presented by Mattson. Motion carried.

Motion by Worrell/Phillips to approve the Bills Payable. Motion carried.

Motion by Wayne/Bartsch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.





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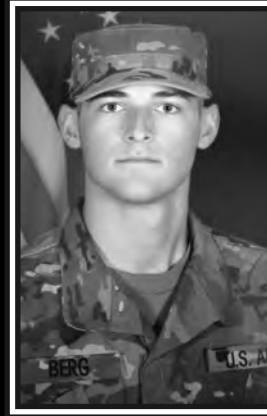
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		Division of School Finance 400 NE Stinson Blvd. Minneapolis, MN 55413		District Revenues and Expenditures Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025				ED-00110-47		
General Information: Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 123B.10, requires that every school board shall publish the subject data of this report.										
District Name:		NRHEG PUBLIC SCHOOLS					District Number:		2168	
Fund	FY 2024 Beginning Fund Balances	FY 2024 Actual Revenues and Transfers In	FY 2024 Actual Expenditures and Transfers Out	June 30, 2024 Actual Fund Balances	FY 2025 Budget Revenues and Transfers In	FY 2025 Budget Expenditures and Transfers Out	June 30, 2025 Projected Fund Balances			
General Fund/Restricted	\$ 99,931	\$ 1,675,044	\$ 1,698,333	\$ 76,642	\$ 1,547,452	\$ 1,647,103	\$ (23,009)			
General Fund/Other	\$ 3,503,703	\$ 9,296,969	\$ 8,714,858	\$ 4,085,814	\$ 8,929,239	\$ 9,189,107	\$ 3,825,946			
Food Service Fund	\$ 54,869	\$ 876,998	\$ 781,217	\$ 150,650	\$ 859,700	\$ 809,756	\$ 200,594			
Community Service Fund	\$ 95,920	\$ 511,161	\$ 507,370	\$ 99,711	\$ 477,286	\$ 469,114	\$ 107,883			
Building Construction Fund	\$ 4,381,990	\$ 177,448	\$ 495,925	\$ 4,063,513	\$ -	\$ 4,063,513	\$ -			
Debt Service Fund	\$ 52,866	\$ 1,361,540	\$ 1,292,204	\$ 122,202	\$ 1,373,674	\$ 1,292,841	\$ 203,035			
Trust Fund	\$ 112,802	\$ 2,248	\$ 1,500	\$ 113,550	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 113,050			
Internal Service Fund	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			
* OPEB Revocable Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
OPEB Irrevocable Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
OPEB Debt Service Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Total - All Funds	\$ 8,302,081	\$ 13,901,408	\$ 13,491,407	\$ 8,712,082	\$ 13,188,351	\$ 17,472,934	\$ 4,427,499			
Long-Term Debt				Current Statutory Operating Debt per Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.81						
				Amount of General Fund Deficit, if any, in excess of 2.5% of expenditures 06/30/2024				\$ -		
Outstanding July 1, 2023										
Plus: New Issues										
Less: Redeemed Issues				Cost per student - Average Daily Membership (ADM) 06/30/2024						
Outstanding June 30, 2024										
Short-Term Debt				Total Operating Expenditures				\$ 11,217,885.86		
Certificates of Indebtedness				FY 2024 Total ADM Served + Tuitioned Out ADM + Adjusted Extended ADM				768.22		
Other Short-Term Indebtedness				FY 2024 Operating Cost per ADM				\$ 14,602.44		
The complete budget may be inspected upon request to the superintendent.										
Comments:										
The 2023-24 information has been audited. The 2024-25 budget reflects the most current information available at this time. Please visit our school website for additional finance information. NRHEG.k12.mn.us. The complete budget may be inspected upon request from the Superintendent.										

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE	MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on December 13, 2016 as Document Number 309542 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on July 7, 2022 as Document Number A330871 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Community Loan Servicing, LLC FKA Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on August 10, 2023 as Document Number A334461 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to CitiBank, N.A., as Trustee for CMLTI Asset Trust by assignment recorded on October 6, 2022 as Document Number A331713 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2023-RP2 by assignment recorded on October 5, 2023 as Document Number A334947 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its	individual capacity, but solely as Owner Trustee for Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2023-RP2 by assignment recorded on September 12, 2024 as Document Number A337916 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota.	TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 142010270	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.	ABANDONED.
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.		LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots Twelve (12) and Thirteen (13), in Block Two (2), Carpenters First Addition to the City of Janesville, Minnesota, Waseca County .	TRANSACTION AGENT’S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None	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 June 20, 2025.	MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:		STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 613 1ST ST W, JANESVILLE, MN 56048	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.		Dated: October 22, 2024 U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2023-RP2 Mortgagee TROTT LAW, P.C.
DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 30, 2006		COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Waseca County, Minnesota.	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:	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	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 (24-0160-FC01) THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. Published in the Star Eagle on Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28 and Dec. 5 2024.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$42,049.05		THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$44,816.26	DATE AND TIME OF SALE: December 19, 2024 at 10:00 AM.		
MORTGAGOR(S): Linda M. Burhop, a single person		TRANSACTION AGENT: None	PLACE OF SALE: Waseca County Sheriff’s Office, 122 3rd Ave. NW, Waseca, MN 56093.		
MORTGAGEE: Citifinancial Services, Inc.		NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Citifinancial Services, Inc.	to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee,		
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on November 3, 2006 as Document Number 268077 in the Office of the County Recorder of Waseca County, Minnesota.		RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Fay Servicing, LLC			
ASSIGNMENTS OF					

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY WASECA	who address is 32586 50 th St. Waseca, MN, 56093 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED 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. There will be no in person appearances.	Judge of District Court Shannon Asselin Court Administrator Attorney for Petitioner Mark R. Carver Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A. 202 N. Cedar Avenue Owatonna, MN, 55060 Attorney License No: 0276133 Telephone: (507) 451-3580 FAX: (507) 451-3532 Email: carver@owatonnaattorneys.com Published in the Star Eagle October 31 and November 7, 2024
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No. 81-PR-24-726		
Estate of Tamra J. Reich-Lentz Decedent		
NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS	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 Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.	
It is Ordered and Notice is given that on December 11, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., 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, September 25, 2023, (“Will”), and for the appointment of Richard H. Lentz,	BY THE COURT Dated: 10/16/2024, 03:09:00p.m. /s/Carol M. Hanks	

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Public Notice

The City of New Richland will be holding a public hearings for the following ordinances:

Ordinance 24-03: An Ordinance Creating a Storm Sewer Utility
Ordinance 24-04: An Ordinance Regulating the use of Cannabinoid and Hemp-Derived Products in the City of New Richland
Ordinance 24-05: An Ordinance Amending the C1 Downtown Commercial District in relation to the Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Sales as an Accessory use to retail sales
Ordinance 24-06: An Ordinance Amending the C3 Highway Commercial District in relation to the Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Sales as an Accessory use to retail sales
Ordinance 24-07: An Ordinance Amending the Industrial Zone to allow for the Manufacture and retail of cannabinoid and hemp derived products as a conditional use

The public hearing will be held on the 12th day of November, at 6:35 P.M. and be held at City Hall located at 203 Broadway Ave. N., New Richland MN. Persons wishing to appear and present comment may do so at that time, or comments may be mailed to City Administrator Anthony Martens at P.O. Box 57, New Richland, MN 56072. Persons wishing to view a copy of the proposed ordinances may do so by contacting City Hall at the above address or by telephone at (507) 465-3514. Ordinances will also be posted on the City Website for viewing.
Published in the Star Eagle on October 31 and November 7, 2024

Special School Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
5:30pm
Secondary School Board Room
New Richland

(Action Items Bolded)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Approve Agenda**
5. **Adopt Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of November 5, 2024, School District General Election School Board Election 4 Year Terms**
6. **Adopt Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election and Directing School District Clerk to Perform Other Election Related Duties**
7. **Adjourn**

Published in the Star Eagle on October 31 and November 7, 2024.

Public Open House – Geneva Downtown Improvements Project

Date: Wednesday, November 13th
Time: 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Location: Geneva Community Center, 405 1st Ave SE, Geneva, MN

The open house is an opportunity to learn more about the project background, proposed improvements, project schedule, and more.

The meeting will be informal with staff available to answer questions and take your comments throughout. If interested there will be a short 15-minute presentation by the City Engineer at 5:00 and 6:00 pm.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON IMPROVEMENT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of New Richland in Waseca County, Minnesota will meet at New Richland City Hall Council Chambers, 203 Broadway Avenue N, New Richland, Minnesota, 56072 at **6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2024**, to consider making street and utility improvements in the following areas pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§429.011 to 429.111:

- Ash Avenue S from 2nd Street SW (TH 30) to 4th Street SW
- Broadway Avenue S from 2nd Street SW (TH 30) to 4th Street SW
- 4th Street SW from Ash Avenue S to Broadway Avenue S
- 3rd Street SE from Broadway Avenue S to 325th east of Broadway Avenue S

The area proposed to be assessed for such improvement includes properties abutting the areas listed above. The estimated cost of the improvement is \$3,022,947.18.

A reasonable estimate of the impact of the assessment will be available at the hearing. Such persons as desire to be heard with reference to the proposed improvement will be heard at this meeting.

Anthony Martens
City Administrator

Published in the NRHEG Star Eagle on November 7, 2024 and November 14, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING Property Tax Abatement Applications**

Notice is hereby given the City Council of Ellendale, Minnesota, will hold a public hearing on November 14, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Ellendale City Hall, 106 Sixth Avenue W, Ellendale, Minnesota to accept public comment on property tax abatement applications for the construction of new residential homes and residential properties that have improved the value by at least 50%. Per the City Tax Abatement Policy, anyone who has met the policy terms, may be eligible to receive a 100% tax abatement of the City’s share of increased real estate taxes which result from increased value (i.e. not from increased tax rates), for a period of five (5) years.

Eligible applicant properties are:

724 Simplicity Drive; 802 Rose Drive; 103 6th Ave. West; 103 5th Ave. West

Dated: October 25, 2024

Steve Engel
Steve Engel
City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Ellendale

Season finale

NRHEG Marching Band concluded season Oct. 28

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

"These kids aren't active only in band," declared NRHEG band director Seth Schaefer. "They're in knowledge bowl, they're on sports teams, they have jobs. Along with all that, they're willing to make a commitment to band and its activities, and to continue building their skill as musicians."

Marching Band completed its season with the group's October 28 concert, which featured members dressed in the group's red and black matching uniforms, spreading out to fill the high school gym floor and rearranging themselves according to the tone and rhythm of many of the songs. Numbers performed during the concert included the Star-Spangled Banner, "Paint, It Black," "Land of 1,000 Dances," "25 or 6 to 4," "The Horse," "Smoke on the Water," the NRHEG School Song, and "Apache."

Grace Starman, 2024-'25 drum major, directed the "marching" numbers.

Across the north wall of the gym were themed posters created by members of the different sections of the band. The saxophones declared, "We're Saxy and we know it," while the trombonists threatened, "Be nice, or I'll empty my spit valve on you."

Schaefer announced that a major accomplishment for the musicians' season was taking second place with strong scores in their division at the Waseca Marching Classic in Sep-

tember. Group members have also been providing live music at various home athletic competitions as a "pep band" throughout the past two months.

He called the audience's attention to a new set of posters, which, much like those prepared for varsity members of various sports teams, featured each of the band's seniors: Drum major Grace Starman, Carter Schlaak, Jady Tonkin, Reilly Weit- zel, and Madi Langfitt. The posters will be displayed on the south wall of the gym, he said, when staff has the opportunity to put them up.

All this while the group continues to be "homeless"; that is, the band room at the high school is still waiting to be restored after a complication occurred this past summer when the room was disassembled for the sake of removing some asbestos insulation installed during its original construction in the 1950s. Band members have been using the school stage as their base of operations and have been practicing in the school gym.

Schaefer mentioned there have been donations to the music department's clothing drive: gently used black clothing items are being accepted to ensure all band members have access to the appropriate dress for concert performances, and "backups, just in case they're needed sometime." He encouraged audience members to consider also contrib- uting.



A spooky good time



More than 120 people attended the "KidFest" event held Halloween night at the City Hall community room. The gathering was planned by NRHEG Community Education Director Macy Whiteside, and was designed to provide a fun setting where parents and children could interact together.

Star Eagle photos by Deb Bentley

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