THE Janesville Journal

No.29 Vol.7 $1.50 SERVING THE JANESVILLE-WALDORF-PEMBERTON-ST. CLAIR AREA Wednesday, July 16, 2025

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5 DAY FORECAST

Wed 16 | 71°
Rain 53%
Wind NNE 14 mph
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms. High 71F. Winds NNE at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 50%.

Thu 17 | 71°
Rain 7%
Wind NE 9 mph
Partly cloudy skies. High 71F. Winds NE at 5 to 10 mph.

Fri 18 | 75°
Rain 21%
Wind SSE 11 mph
Partly cloudy skies in the morning will give way to cloudy skies during the afternoon. High around 75F. Winds SSE at 10 to 15 mph.

Sat 19 | 80°
Rain 59%
Wind SSW 7 mph
Showers and a few thunder-storms likely. High near 80F. Winds SSW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

Sun 20 | 82°
Rain 32%
Wind ESE 8 mph
Chance of a shower or two during the morning, followed by partly cloudy skies in the afternoon. High 82F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30%.

Waseca County Free Fair

Thousands in attendance enjoying great food, entertainment and carnival rides



By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

From carnival rides by Midway to several events in the grandstands, it'd be challenging to be bored at the Waseca County Fair.

This year, thousands attended the Waseca County Free Fair, enjoying a week of great food, several drinks, and an endless abundance of music. Although there were some events from the 4-H and the creative arts entries from Saturday, July 5, to Tuesday, July 8, the party at the fair truly kicked off on Wednesday, July 9, and continued until Sunday, July 12.

There was something for everyone to enjoy. All the farmers and ag folks enjoyed an endless supply of shows and expos, from the 4-H group showing off rabbits and goats to local FFA chapters (including Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton) taking over one of the 4-H buildings and displaying cute animals for the fairgoers to see. If barn animals really weren't your thing, the Dock Dogs show made its return to the fair, featuring dogs from all over the country hanging eight, leaping as far as they can into a pool of water.

The grandstand also delivered as usual. The "Great Frontier" Bull Riding was the first event in the arena on Wednesday. While there were two days reserved for demolition derbies last year, it was the enduro racers' time to shine. The first race took place on Thursday and was organized by Southern Minnesota Promotions, a promotional group that's been at the fair for years. Saturday's races, which closed the grandstand festivities, were put on by the Midwest 6R Racing Series. The demolition derby was on Friday.

The beer garden was rebranded as "The Sippin' Shed." Perhaps the name had the desired effect on this editor. Since I don't drink, it had been years since I was in the Waseca County Fair beer garden. However, it appeared to have received a few touch-ups and updates since I was last in it. Skitzo Fonik kicked off the list of concerts within the "Sippin' Shed" on Wednesday, with the Gen X Jukebox band on Thursday, the Blue Ringers on Friday, and Zero Below on Saturday. Although those were the main acts in the beer garden, several others played near the food court section of the fair, including Melissa Schultz and Los T.





The free stage also featured some quirky entertainment from the Looney Lutherans to a hypnotist. Oak Island also offers a variety of entertainment options, including a basketball shooting competition and a group taking on "Dangerous Feats of Comedy."

The weather was nearly perfect every day of the fair. Although the forecast of potential thunderstorms threatened to postpone the demolition derby, the rain held off until well after the event was over. Otherwise, outside of a cooler Saturday in the 70s, it was the typical hot summer weather Minnesota provides in July. All in all, it was a stellar week for a county fair.

Quote of the Week

Health is the greatest gift, contentment the greatest wealth, faithfulness the best relationship.
— Buddha

Five locals rule the raceway at Enduro July 10

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

Hundreds, if not thousands, of Waseca County Fair attendants come for the grand-stand events.

Those who enjoy the enduro races were especially pleased to enjoy two days of racing action on Thursday, July 10, and the following Saturday. Separate promotion companies ran the two races. Southern Minnesota Promotions, which has been at the county fair for the past few years, had the Thursday slot while Midwest 6R was the last grandstand event at the fair.

The SMP enduro races included two classes of cars: Compacts and Full Size.



The Enduro race was held on Thursday, July 10, and out of the nineteen full-size racers, five were from Janesville, giving our town the most representation in the race. (Journal Photos by Mike Roy)

Nineteen raced in the full-size competition while fifteen took to the dirt track with their com-pact cars. Nearly all drivers were from Minnesota, with one coming from Nevada, Iowa, and another from Tomah, Wisconsin.

Out of the nineteen full-size racers, five were from Janesville, giving our town the most repre-sentation in the race. There were also three contestants from Ely-sian and Walters (a small town about an hour south of Waseca). In the compact race, nearly every driver was from a different city. Only Waseca, Owatonna, and Mankato had two from their town in the compact division.

Enduro cont to pg 3

Community Happenings

School Board Mtg
St. Clair
July 21

JWP School Board
Janesville
July 21

Tator Days
Eagle Lake
July 13-20

Paddlefish Days
Madison Lake
July 24-27

Model T @Farmamerica
Waseca
July 24 11:30am

Cheri Brummund
Retirement Party
Waseca
July 25 11:30-2:30pm

Janesville Food Shelf
Hours:
Thursdays 1-3 p.m.
Second Thurs. of month
6-7 p.m.
First & Third Sat. of
month 1-3 p.m.

Upcoming Events

WASECA-LE SUEUR REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM
408 N STATE ST WASECA, MN 56093
507-835-2910

Embellished Photos

Add a pop of color to black-and-white photos at **Waseca Public Library on Monday, July 21st at 1 pm.** Bring a photo or pick from our stash. Then, use colorful yarn to bring new life into your photo. Ages 7-12.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Waseca Public Library.

The Wild Robot Party

Build a friendly robot, learn survival skills, take the camouflage challenge, and more while celebrating the extraordinary story of Roz, a robot learning to live in the wilderness at **Waterville Public Library on Monday, July 21st at 6 pm.** Geared for ages 7-12.

Canvas Bag Design

Teens can transform a canvas bag into a custom tote at **Janesville Public Library on Monday, July 21st at 3 pm.** Teens can add vibrant patterns, intricate illustrations, or inspiring quotes. Geared for ages 13-18. Free.

Dare to Self Care for Teens

Go ahead and relax. Make donut soap, create squishies, and learn about affirmations on **Tuesday, July 22nd at 4 pm at Waterville Public Library.** Then watch your stress melt away. Free and just for ages 13

The Summer I Turned Pretty Party

Make team pennants, create banana splits, design an arrangement from our flower bar, play carnival games, and more as we celebrate the book and TV series The Summer I Turned Pretty at **1 pm on Tuesday, July 22nd at Waseca Public Library.** Ages 13-18.

Floral Gift Tags

Create a floral gift tags using a deep etch die cutting technique at **Janesville Public Library on Tuesday, July 22nd at 5 pm.** Geared for adults.

Sponsored by Janesville Area Foundation and the Pope Family Fund

SpheroBall

Play Major League SpheroBall, a robot-based baseball game, with our rolling Sphero robots on **Wednesday, July 23rd at 3 pm at Waldorf Public Library.** This free event is geared for ages 7-12.

Juliet and the Montagues Concert

Juliet and the Montagues will bring together jazz, blues, funk, rock, and R&B with a classic-yet-modern flair at their outdoor concert on **Thursday, July 24th at 6:30 pm in Lake Francis Park in Elysian.** The band blends Juliet Catherine's original tunes about heartache and female empowerment with favorites from Prince, Fleetwood Mac, and Michael Jackson.

Free and open to the public.

This Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library System program was made possible in part with a grant from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund of the Minnesota Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment through the Traverse des Sioux Library System.

TID-BITS OF TRIVIA

1. Founded in 1963, the letters in the national drugstore chain CVS stand for what?

2. Founded in 1968, what is the company J.D. Power and Associates best known for providing?

3. Founded in 1972, Scantron Corporation is best known for its products that do what?

4. Founded in 1984, what natural food brand bills itself as "7 Whole Grains on a Mission"?

5. Founded in London in 1766, Christie's is one of the world's oldest what?

6. Founded in Pennsylvania in 1829, what brand of beer claims to be from "America's Oldest Brewery"?

7. French Impressionist Edgar Degas is famous for his paintings and sculptors depicting what performers?

8. In 1872, Susan B. Anthony was arrested in Rochester, New York, for illegally doing what?

9. In 1876, what inventor uttered the now-famous words, "Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you"?

10. In 1881, the infamous Gunfight at the O.K. Corral took place in a city that is now part of what state?

Age isn't a number, it's a word



Compostings

by Al Batt

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Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

My accountant compared me to the most intelligent man he's ever known.

Really?

Yup, he said I was nowhere close to being the most intelligent man he's ever known.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" is a marching song popularized in World War I. It's still a long way to Tipperary, Ireland, but all the summer construction detours have made it even longer.

I was strolling around a county fair and stepped into the kiddie barn. There, I found baby chicks with a poster on their enclosure asking, "Just how cute is a baby chick?" I reckoned it's cuter than a bug's ear.

I raised chickens, ducks, geese, guinea fowl and peafowl for many years. I watched a high-stepping rooster, his long spurs making that movement a necessity, that I'd named Foghorn hold court over clucking hens. I had three peafowl, two peahens and a peacock named Screamin' after Screamin' Jay Hawkins, who sang "I Put a Spell on You." Screamin', the peacock, screamed "Help!" whenever given the chance. He yelled at a volume high enough that one neighbor wondered what was going on.

One memorable moment was when Foghorn was strutting to music only he could hear, when a pullet pecked him a good lick on his chest. He should have been wearing a pullet-proof vest.

I've learned

Butterflies fly routes as if they were given bad directions.

Each of us has about 60,000 miles of blood vessels inside of us—enough to wrap around the Earth more than twice. No wonder it's hard for us to get organized.

Age isn't a number. It's a word.

To look for good signs for everything. Audrey of Mankato reported one outside a residence that read, "Beware of opossum."

I wear a wristwatch. It's time-consuming.

Bad jokes department

My neighbor Crandall asked me to get him some lip balm yesterday and I got him a tube of superglue by mistake. He hasn't spoken to me since.

It was so hot, my neighbor Crandall ate his lettuce salad without dressing.

My neighbor Crandall was at the Eat Around It Cafe when he was sentenced to three bacon cheeseburgers to be served concurrently.

Want to hear something odd? Three.

I had a wooden whistle, but it wooden whistle. I got a steel whistle, but it steel wouldn't whistle. Now I have a tin whistle, and I tin whistle.

Geneticists are putting cheetah genes into crabs, but the research could go sideways fast.

Nature notes

The majority of the long-winded birds have quieted with the season, with the indigo bunting, vesper sparrow, red-eyed vireo, house finches and dickcissel being notable and welcome exceptions. Robins, northern house wrens, mourning doves, cardinals, blue jays and an eastern wood-peewee played limited parts in the diminished chorus. There was a dead crow in the yard. The yard crows were having a cow because of that. I infrequently find one hit by a vehicle on a road. They're typically blue-eyed crows—juvenile birds that hadn't yet realized the perils of traffic.

A mother downy woodpecker fed her fledglings at a suet feeder. Food was dropped from that highchair, but she was relentless. Good moms need patience. It was nice to see the red caps on the young ones, in striking contrast to the lack of red on the mother's head and the red nape of the father.

There's a good crop of young robins this year, spotted like feathered fawns, moving about the lawn.

The rain paused only long enough to catch its breath. It's good for the ducks. As I write this, hangry mosquitoes are planning their menus with me as the daily special.

Adult male common loons migrate first, usually in September, followed a few weeks later by the adult females. Before flying south, Minnesota loons congregate on Lake Michigan with other loons for around 28 days before heading to their winter homes on the Gulf of Mexico or along the southern Atlantic coast. Young loons follow a month later, sometimes as late as mid-November. Once they reach the coast, the young loons remain there for two years. In the third year, they return north but may not breed for several more years. Males tend to return closer to their natal territory than females do. Minnesota has more common loons than any other state except Alaska.

Meeting adjourned

"Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind.'—Henry James.

The elephant in the room



Mikes Corner

by Michael Roy

Staff writer

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Here we go again with the political theater. This week's episode? ICE, floods, and Epstein.

I wanted to kick this off with a joke about how a donkey represents the Democratic party while the Republican party has an elephant. However, the recent chapter in American politics is no laughing matter.

Many of you have probably seen the news about the latest in the Jeffrey Epstein saga. After weeks of Pam Bondi discussing it, they suddenly found that there was no client list. Oh, and another thing…they had footage near Epstein's cell with one minute either skipped over as they switched out the VHS tapes or was edited with video software.

To me, the most shocking part has been Donald Trump's response to it. he got defensive with a reporter, saying, "Are you people still talking about Jeffrey Epstein?" It wasn't even him insulting reporters or going on offense like he does. He sounded thoroughly annoyed and nearly backed into a corner. He's kept doubling down ever since.

As someone who, complete transparency, voted for Trump in the past three elections, that shocked me that they spent all this time discussing the pursuit of justice only for Trump and his administration to attempt to bury this thing. Someone should remind him that he and his admin repeatedly brought up the Epstein files, not us. It wasn't the American people holding a metaphorical gun to his or Bondi's head to get it released. I recall that Trump also ran his 2024 campaign on this.

The fear that I think no one wants to face is that the Epstein files could indicate that several politicians around the world may have been involved in the child sex trafficking going on in Epstein's circle. It could be damning to so many that it could collapse the world economy, and several countries' governments could fall apart. That's the conspiracy theorist's version.

If that's the case, perhaps the current versions of many countries, including the United States, shouldn't exist. If it turns out that the information is so bad that it could collapse entire countries, then that, to me, is an admission that the countries involved in this aren't actually good or free.

I want to tie in the overall theme of this week's church service at St. Ann: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." I often feel like this message is construed and manipulated for political reasons, especially when it comes to the case of immigration. But I think we need to focus more on the latter half of the sentence, "as you love yourself."

I have a theory that many people who hate this country have struggled to love themselves. I was at that point once. After all, if you don't love yourself, can you have the capacity to love others? This has been part of my political stance, which is why I occasionally get upset about our national debt. If we can't help ourselves, how can we open our borders to others and help them? If we don't love our country, how can we share what we love with refugees or other immigrants?

I think the sudden shift in the Trump branch of the Republican Party has caused it to become fractured because people want to settle for good enough and drop Epstein simply because Trump told us to. Many legitimately treat Trump like a God. I've seen some forums calling people criticizing his handling of this Epstein case some horrible stuff. All because we have legitimate questions about this sudden 180.

I'm now wondering if there's a point to be made about the lack of love in our world. After all, if you're going to let a man off the hook for not uncovering a sex trafficking ring involving children and wanting people to forget about it, do you really know love? If you're going to let politicians who may have dabbled in pedophilia continue running our government because uncovering this scandal might break the world, have we lost the capacity to care about the world, let alone love?

As a 27-year-old member of Generation Z, this is becoming tiresome. It feels like we aren't living in a free country anymore, but an oligarchy masquerading as a constitutional republic. It seems that when money talks, corruption walks. This Epstein case appears to be the ultimate blackmail held over hundreds of thousands of high-status figures throughout the world. Talks about child trafficking and pedophilia have become all too normal, even normalized. That's not the type of society I want to live in.

It's time that Trump and company address the elephant in the room instead of hiding away from it. If he chooses to continue down this path, his legacy as well as that of the United States will be stained forever.

THE Janesville Journal

SERVING THE JANESVILLE-WALDORF-PEMBERTON & ST CLAIR AREA

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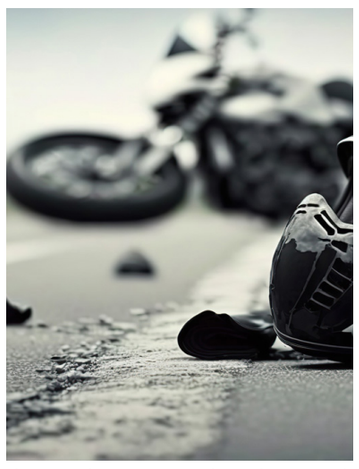
DEADLINE: FRIDAYS by 4pm

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

$50 Per Year, Janesville, Waldorf, Pemberton
$52 Minnesota, $54 Outside Minnesota

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One dead after motorcycle crash in Blue Earth County



(ABC 6 News) – Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office says 54-year-old Ronald Remme of Waterville, MN, died after a serious motorcycle crash on Saturday.

Deputies responded around 5:30 p.m.

Preliminary investigation suggests Remme was going south on County Road 161 in Danville Township when he lost control and was thrown from the motorcycle. First responders preformed life-saving measures, but he died on the scene.

BECSO says Remme was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. He was also alone and there were no witnesses. The crash is still under investigation.

Tips for handling door-to-door sales

This is the time of year that people go door-to-door selling their business services. The City reminds residents to stay alert and informed about door-to-door peddlers and solicitors operating in our community.

Know Your Rights:

The City requires peddlers and solicitors to be licensed or registered with the City. Before engaging with anyone at your door, ask to see their city-issued permit or identification. If they can't provide one, you can ask them to leave.

Report Suspicious Activity:

If you encounter a peddler acting aggressively, refusing to leave your property, or appearing suspicious, please contact local law enforcement. If you ever feel unsafe, call 911.

"No Soliciting" Signs:

Posting a clearly visible "No Soliciting" sign near your front door can be an effective way to deter unwanted visits. Peddlers are expected to respect these signs. Violations should be reported.

Support Local – Safely:

We encourage supporting local businesses and charitable organizations. Always verify who you're giving money to. Don't feel pressured into quick decisions at your door.

Together, we can keep our neighborhoods safe, respectful, and informed.

The Minnesota Attorney General's Office recently sent out a Scam Stopper Alert with good tips for the public.

Overall, if you start to feel uneasy or uncomfortable, trust your gut and end the conversation as quickly as possible. This an informational advisory only as there are no recent reports of problems with door-to-door sales in Mankato. If you are suspicious of someone who approached your residence or believe you fell victim to a scam, call 911 to report it.

Get all the latest news, sports & happenings right here in

THE Janesville Journal

Anderson brings home the winner at Enduro

Enduro

cont from pg 1

Janesville had some of the best drivers in the full-size division, with four of the five taking top ten positions. Trey Anderson made Janesville proud with a first-place finish, beating Andy Krohnberg of Walters, who started next to him in the lineup. Marty Erdman of Janesville took third with daughter Makae in seventh. Hunter Bauman squeezed his way to 10th, with Carter Anderson the final Janesvillian to place, taking 14th on the night. Stacy Krohnberg, also of Walters and last year's champion, took 11th. Waldorf's Cody Schnepf placed 17th.

In the compact division, Mankato's own Nate Coopman took the top position. Adam and Jonathan Gransee of Waseca took fourth and fifth, respectively. Cody Schnepf outraced Janesville's Bailey Tachney, with Schnepf taking 12th and Tachney taking 12th.

Both first-place drivers in the SMP enduro race took home $5,000 and a few bragging rights as some of the best local enduro racers in the area.

Saturday's races were organized by the Midwest 6R Racing series. It was the same start time, 6 p.m., and the same cash prize: $5,000 for the winners, with bonuses for female drivers, any driver over the age of 55, and any entries in minivans and SUVs.

Approximately one hundred drivers participated in the race, which consisted of eight-lap heats and a 150-lap feature. The race also included an intermission featuring Kids' Power Wheels races. Unfortunately, we were unable to obtain the results of this enduro race.

The two days of racing action showcased the best from the local enduro scene and featured additional talent from across the region. It will be interesting to see if there will be two enduro races again at next year's county fair.



Enduro Champion, Trey Anderson of Janesville.

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Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office and National Marine Manufacturers Association proudly partner to promote water safety; Distribute free life jackets at County Fair

Blue Earth County, MN — The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is proud to partner with the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office to host a Free Life Jacket Giveaway and Water Safety Event on Friday, July 25th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Kids Day at the Blue Earth County Fair.

This community event will offer free life jackets to children weighing 30 pounds or more in order to create awareness of safe water and boating practices. On-site fittings will ensure each child receives a properly sized and secure vest, fostering safe enjoyment of activities while out on the water.

Alongside the giveaway, families will receive educational materials to promote safe practices in and around water, in addition to engaging in interactive safety demonstrations that reinforce the NMMA and Sheriff's offices commitment to water safety.

Blue Earth County Sheriff Jeff Wersal shared his support for the initiative saying, "Our partnership with NMMA offers a vital opportunity to enhance water safety for youth and families. Our goal is to ensure every child wears a life jacket and enjoys Minnesota's waters securely. We invite families to join us and utilize this valuable community resource."

The event is free and open to the public attending the Blue Earth County Fair. Supplies of free life jackets are limited and children must be present to receive a life jacket.

The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is the nation's leading trade association representing boat, marine engine, and accessory manufacturers. Collectively, NMMA members manufacture an estimated 80 percent of the marine products used in North America.

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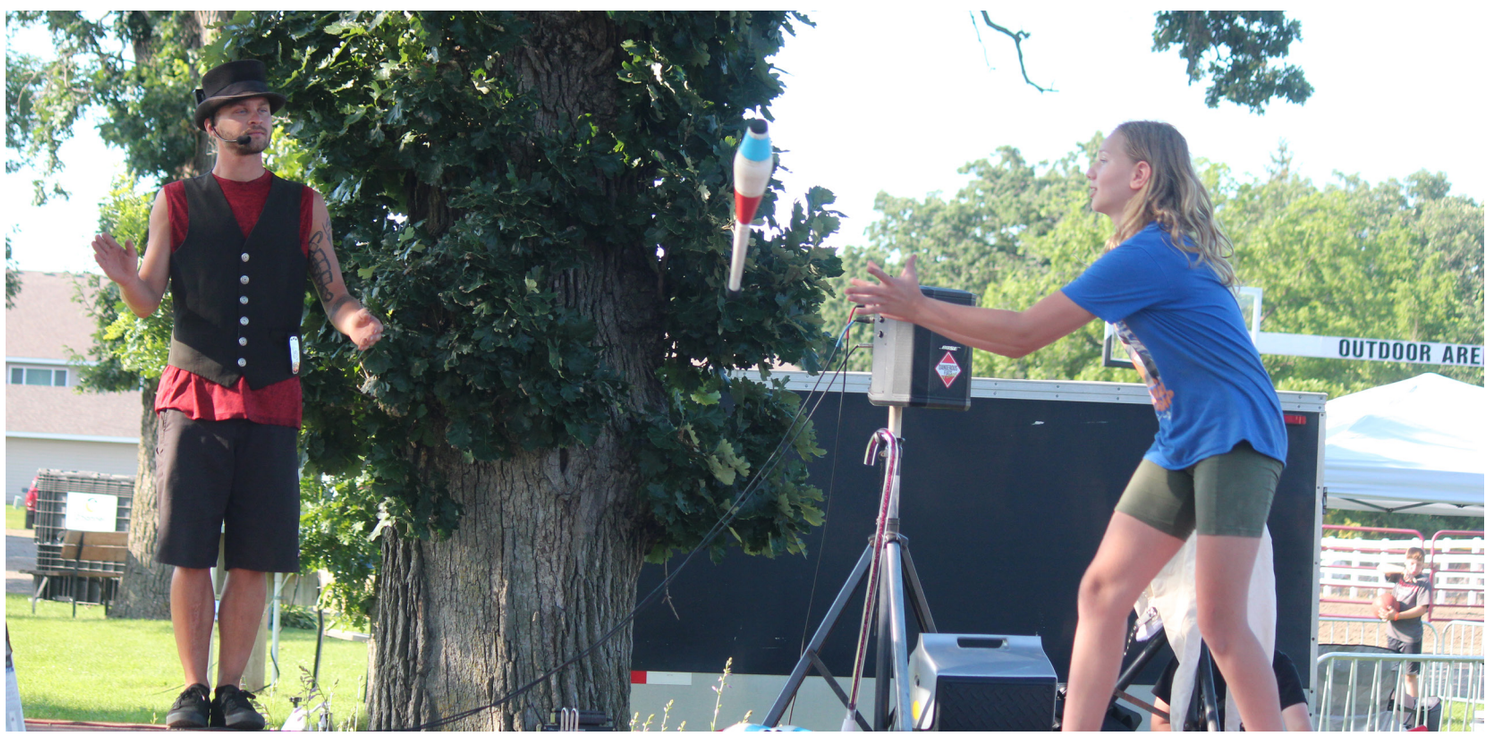




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Janesville Journal



Saute family brings a little danger to the Waseca Fair

By JORDAN CARRILLO
Staff Writer

There are very few things in life that compare to the oddities you might encounter at the local county fair. The Waseca County Fair kept thousands of patrons entertained throughout the long week with its fair share of attractions. While the carnival, bull riding, and demo derby brought plenty of hair-raising thrills and the adrenaline pumping, it was a father & son duo performing dangerous solo acts that had audiences holding their breath in amazement.

Over the course of three shows during the WCF, Dallas and Nick Saute, the stars of "Dangerous Feats of Comedy" kept patrons glued to their seats and passersby curious enough to stop over to observe treacherous tricks with their juggling, fire eating, and escape artist acts. Dallas is the ringleader of the two and is a seasoned performer of nearly 35 years. A Peoria, Illinois native, Saute's journey into street theater sparked at an early age when his older brother served as a "court jester" during a high school event. After a few years honing his whimsical act that consisted of topical humor, juggling, balancing, and fire-eating, all it took was a chance as a circus juggler to launch Saute's career as a live performer. The rest as they say is history.

While Dallas is a more traditional street performer, his son, Nick, has a much more flexible approach toward live entertainment. An escape artist extraordinaire, Saute has been both dazzling and disturbing audiences with his malleable movement on stage; he received his first straight jacket at the young age of 10, and quickly became one of the fastest to wriggle his way out. Their family time may seem a bit unconventional, but a father sharing his passion with his son…even if that passion is juggling knives…is what gives their show a touch of authenticity.

As their show began, the two introduced the youngest member of the Saute family, Carter. Dallas shared that Carter has begun to work on his own juggling act, and may one day be a part of the show. After his young son's brief stint at fame, the elder Saute showcased his



fire-eating skills…his official warmup would be to balance a flaming torch on his nose then would juggle three flaming torches. You could feel the heat and smell the freshly applied layer of fuel with each act. His final fiery act had him chowing down on balls of fire like Jerry Lee Lewis; he would consume one flame and suddenly pass it to another porch, juggle the torches before snuffing out the fire. Can't imagine spicy food has any effect on him.

Audience participation would be a common occurrence during the show, and they would add a layer of amusement during the performance; a brave woman would toss over two daggers and a live taser during his bongo board balancing act. A young boy would then assist Saute with his juggling act…as shy as this kid was, he was a natural on stage and even earned a quick payout for his services. Nick Saute would take the stage and reach new heights with a ladder balancing act that made him tower over the audience… the ladder would wibble and wobble/teeter and totter as Saute climbed each step. As he reached the apex of the act, Nick would juggle for a few seconds before leaping off the ladder to the sound of uproarious applause.

The grand finale of the show would be Nick's thrilling straight jacket escape. Saute has been able to flail his way out of the jacket in a matter of minutes, but to add an extra level of difficulty, two strapping young volunteers would entangle Nick in a 50 lb steel chain. Despite being completely ensnared in a trap of his own design, Saute promised audiences he would escape in under three minutes. While he was the lively charismatic young man during his father's performance, that happy go lucky look soon became replaced with a steeled and determined look. Even with all the distractions around him during the WCF, Saute moved with an intensity as he began to thrash about and it didn't take long for his bindings to loosen over time. As the chains unraveled, the clanging thuds would smack the stage floor… showing just how solid the steel links were. The audience started to cheer loudly with each calculated move, and at the two and a half minute mark, Nick Saute successfully escaped his chains…his father wore a prideful smile as he watched his son's glorious accomplishment.

There is always something worth seeing at the local county fair and a father/son show filled with laughs and close calls proved to be a thrilling blend of humor and danger.

Smashin' em up at Demolition Derby night



By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

It doesn't take much to make some people happy. They see a few drivers crash into each other with their vehicles on the track, and they have a great time.

This editor, among hundreds of fairgoers, gathered around the Waseca County Free Fair Grandstand for a demolition derby night sponsored by Full Throttle Promotions on Friday, July 11.

While there were two days of derby action with ten classes of vehicles duking it out last year, there were only six classes this year. There were imperials, stock weld cars, minivans, compacts, 80s, and even two-man half-ton truck teams. Nine teams – 18 drivers – filled each end of the track. They saved this one for last, and to paraphrase a famous saying, it was undoubtedly the best.

There weren't that many competitors in the stock weld or imperial divisions this year. While there were four registrants in the former, there were only three imperial drivers, meaning that all three were guaranteed a cash prize. Funnily enough, the Imperials had the largest sum of money on the line for the first-place finishers, with the winner receiving $2,500. $4,000, the most cash awarded on the night, went to the two-man truck teams, with $1,400 to be earned in the stock weld division.

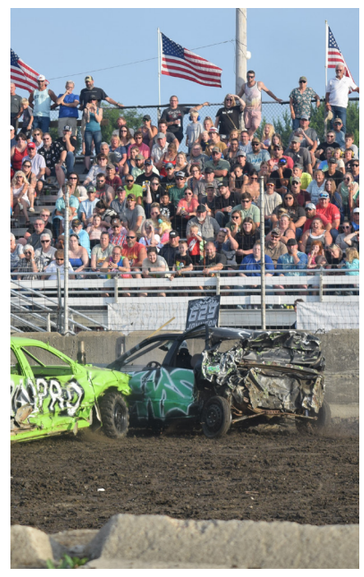


Minivans, compacts, and '80s chain winners each earned $1,000.

Below are the results of each class that competed in the race. The top three earned trophies and a crash prize, with additional prizes for breaking the watermelon in the center of the track and another custom trophy for getting the "Mad Dog," AKA the "hardest hitter" award.

Minivans: Francisco Montalvo in fourth, Treyton Hewitt in third, Kyle Bathke in second, and Colton Hewitt in first with a $1,000 cash prize. Treyton Hewitt also received the "hardest hitter."

Imperials: Charles Root took third, with Nate Richardson in second and Dalton Jostock hitting the $4,000 jackpot. Root also won the "Mad Dog" award. Root, who was the oldest competitor in the demo derby in his 60s, was given extra cheers and received hearty handshakes from his fellow competitors.



Compacts: In fourth place, Randy Mosloski. In third, Cody Darcy. In second, Gage Johnson. And first, with $1,000, Logan Johnson. Nadine Pascuzzi received the "hardest hitter" award.

Stock Weld: In fourth place, Jerod Ristau. In third place, Kyle Bathke. In second, Brady Nielsen. And in first place with $1,000, Colton Neuhalfer, who also earned the "Mad Dog" award.

'80s Chain: In fourth place, Mason Steinhauer. In third place, Brannon Hammer. In second place, Nick Bleess. And guess what? It must have been Neuhalfer's night. After winning the stock weld division, he took home another $1,000 prize for first place and was once again the hardest hitter. That man doesn't play around. He takes his demolition derbies seriously!

Two-man half-ton truck team: In fourth place, the duo of Andy and Danny Meyers. In third, Eric Bueckers and Brandon Bailey. In second place is the duo of Jake and David Pepinski. And in first, taking home $4,000, Jake Vonwalde and Kolten Kuhlmann.



"The Planets funniest Hypnotist" makes his second appearance at Waseca County Fair

By RICARDO MORENO JR.
Staff Writer

Making his second consecutive appearance at the Waseca County Free Fair was "The Planet's Funniest Hypnotist" Freddie Justice. From the moment he took over the stage, his voice carried through the fairgrounds as he buzzed about dishing zingers to prepare for the show.

It had been the sound of his funny chides that drew a fair audience to the seats. Freddie Justice has honed his craft for over 20 years and once his show began, after gathering a group of willing participants, the open minded wouldn't know whether to believe what they saw or not.

Whips and cracks of curiosity and humor led the show. Freddie Justice addressed the audience that everyone is subject to suggestions and proved with a few yawns that sparked a few more from the people.

With that in mind, he began to relax the minds of the volunteers with the assistance of some musical queues. They fell asleep at the pull of their hands within moments and that's when the wonder truly set in. Those under Justice's hypnotic suggestion were made to laugh so hard it infected the crowd, smells that never existed, and dance like nobody was watching, in fact, like they were the star of the show. Justice had a cool and fun demeanor throughout and handled the less hypnotize-able without breaking the spell his more cooperative volunteers helped place on the audience.

Whether it truly worked or not is left for the audience to decide, but Freddie Justice's ability to put on a show is true. His skills as a hypnotist have served him well throughout



America and performing at events in his home state of Minnesota is surely a joy. Freddie Justice went on to perform again later that day, where another audience may have been left to laugh and wonder.

Minnesota enacts first-in-nation law requiring mental health warnings on social media

Beginning next summer, Minnesotans scrolling social media sites will get a pop up warning.

Before they can proceed to photos, articles or posts, they'll have to click through the warning, acknowledging the site could pose a hazard to their mental health.

State lawmakers and Gov. Tim Walz approved the law this year that makes it a future requirement that the sites provide the warning to users. While social media companies say they'll seek changes or try to block enforcement, supporters say the pop ups could encourage people, especially kids, to think twice about how much time they spend on the sites.

"I think the evidence is very clear that social media use is linked with depression, anxiety, loneliness, self harm, suicidal ideation, eating disorders, all sorts of terrible mental health conditions," Rep. Zack Stephenson said. "So I believe you'll see a message telling you that prolonged use of social media can lead to those outcomes."

Stephenson, a Coon Rapids Democrat and the main sponsor of the law, said the labels will be like warnings for tobacco products or alcohol. The Minnesota Department of Health will write them, and site users will have to click to acknowledge the risks before moving forward to an app.

Former U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy called for the warning labels to be placed on the sites last year. He pointed to research indicating that prolonged social media use can lead to worse mental health outcomes, higher rates of eating disorders and body image issues among children and adolescents. Minnesota is the first state to pass legislation requiring them.



Stephenson said the warnings could prompt some to spend less time scrolling — or put the apps down all together.

"If you had expected big tobacco to make cigarettes less addictive in the '50s and '60s, you would have been sorely mistaken. They would never have done that. Addiction was their business model. And the same thing is true for big tech," Stephenson said.

Failure to add the labels could be met with investigation and civil punishment. Social media platforms would also have to provide resources to address adverse mental health outcomes — like contacts for the Suicide and Crisis Hotline 988.

Erich Mische, CEO of Suicide Awareness Voices of Education, or SAVE, said that's important.

"Warning labels at the end of the day are not the end all be all solution to protecting young people online, but warning labels serve as a really powerful tool for educating the public, making them aware that the things that are taking place on social media pose a significant danger to the life safety of their children," Mische said.

The bill faced some opposition from Republicans at the Capitol who said it could limit free speech. But others supported the proposal, saying the impacts of social media on young people require a tougher response.

NetChoice, a group that represents social media companies, said it will ask lawmakers to roll back the law over the next year. And if that fails, they could take the state to court.

"It does, I think, force the companies to essentially denigrate themselves in ways that they would otherwise choose not to," said Paul Taske, co-director of the group's litigation center. "We've had courts across the country say that you can't compel private actors to act as the mouthpiece for the state to promulgate the state's preferred message."

NetChoice sued the state over a law that took effect earlier this month that requires social media companies to notify users about how their algorithms recommend content for them. Taske said rather than compelling the companies to post warning labels, the state should educate Minnesotans about potential issues for young people that choose to use the sites.

"The government has the ability to go and use its own voice, its own bully pulpit, its own pedestal to try and get its message across," Taske said. "The problem here is that it's trying to compel private companies to disseminate a message for it."

Bridgette Norring is hoping the new law sticks. Norring's son, Devin, died of a drug overdose in 2020 after taking a pill he thought was Percocet to treat tooth pain and severe migraines he was dealing with. He got the drug from another teen in his community selling on Snapchat.

"I think if Devin would have seen a warning or had something in place that said, 'Hey, you know this is what you have to look forward to online, or you've been on too long.' I think that would have prompted him to, you know, acknowledge that he's been on there too long, and put the phone down and go find something different to do," Norring said.

A provision that didn't make it into the bill that became law would also have required the companies to provide periodic reminders to users of how long they'd spent on the sites.

Norring says she frequently speaks with young people to raise awareness about the dangers of fentanyl and potential adverse impacts of social media and frequently hears that the sites stir anxiety for young users.

"They're not sleeping well, and they're constantly on there, scrolling all hours of the day," she said. "So a big piece of the social media warning label bill is providing resource information, you know, the National Suicide Hotline information. And I think that's going to be a huge part of this as well, just providing resources to kids that need it."

Barring a successful legal challenge, the warning labels will take effect July 1, 2026.

Minnesota K-9 unit to help with search and recovery efforts after Texas flash flooding

A Minnesota K-9 unit is heading to Texas to assist with search and recovery efforts after this month's devastating flash floods.

The K-9 unit is from one of two urban search and rescue units in the state. They're trained to help in the aftermath of structural collapse, and with other search and rescue strategies — including searches over a wide area.

Officials in Texas say more than 160 people are still missing after heavy rains caused flash flooding on the Guadalupe River. More than 130 people were killed.



Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz announced the K-9 unit's plans to help on Saturday.

"As search and recovery missions continue, I'm incredibly grateful to our Minnesota Task Force 1 K-9 Unit for stepping up and traveling to assist our neighbors in this time of tragedy," Walz said in a statement. "We know their heroic work will make a difference."

The team is traveling to Texas as part of a mutual aid agreement for emergency response among the 50 states.

Search crews in Texas paused their efforts for several hours Sunday, as heavy rains triggered more flooding in the region. They resumed work late Sunday afternoon.

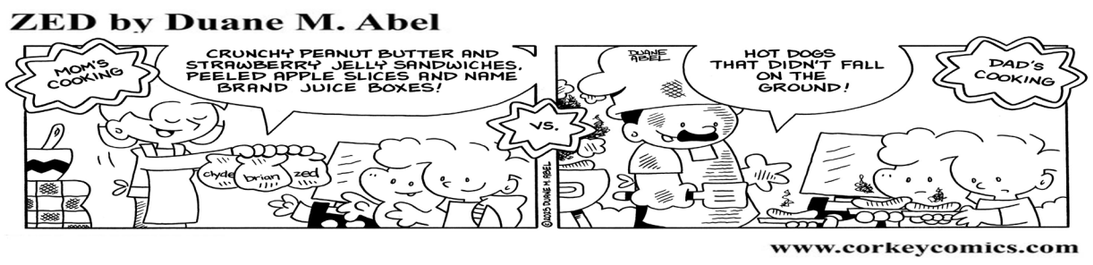
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Obituaries

JANE ELIZABETH KLUENDER

Age 77, of Pemberton, died on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at her home surrounded by her family.

Born on December 16, 1947, in Princeton, she was the daughter of I.O. and Dorothy (Wilson) Teigen. She attended Princeton High School, graduating with the class of 1965.

Through mutual friends, Jane met Donald Kluender and shortly after, they were united in marriage on February 15, 1975, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Mankato. Together they made their home on the Kluender family farm where they raised six children.

It was after having a family, Jane continued her education at Bethany Lutheran College and graduated with a bachelor's degree from Mankato State University, an accomplishment she was very proud of.

Throughout her life, Jane had various jobs, most recently at Herberger's and Hobby Lobby. She was a faithful member of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Alma City. Jane enjoyed traveling with her husband, reading and doing crossword puzzles. She loved to spoil her children and grandchildren and cherished time with her family.

Jane is survived by her husband of 50 years, Donald; children: Tammy (Steve) Olson of Milaca, Linda (Bill) Erchul of Maple Grove, Sara (Joe) Bortscheller of Eagan, Katie (Nick) Dumdei of Pemberton, and Michael Kluender of Pemberton; 12 grandchildren: Kim Olson, Kelly (Hope) Olson, Trey and Alex Erchul, Isabel, Isaac and Kate Bortscheller, and Peter, Grace and Sophia Dumdei; three great grandchildren: Molly, Owen and Claire Willis; brothers-in-law: Butch Lueck and Levi Gomez; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Emily Kluender; grandson, Andy Olson; grandson, Jacob Bortscheller; sisters: Mary Ellen Lueck, Karen Gomez, and Margaret (Steve) Sjoquist;



Jane Kluender

father-in-law and mother-in-law, Arnold and Linda Kluender.

Funeral Service will be 11:00 AM on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at St. John Evangelical Church in Alma City with Rev. Robert Harting officiating. Interment will be at the Alma City Cemetery.

Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service at the church on Wednesday.

DSOFuneral.com

Panhandlers bang on steel drums



By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

There's a famous song by musician Todd Rundgren that goes, "I don't want to work. I want to bang on the drum all day."

While that sounds like the dream of a kid who just heard a drum solo for the first time, the Pan Handlers, a Steel Drum band from the Twin Cities, are making it a dream come true. They visited the JWP Auditorium on Wednesday, July 9, to demonstrate how an instrument made from oil barrels can produce such interesting music.

Janesville was one of many stops for the band, as they made stops throughout the Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library System, starting at Le Sueur on Monday, July 7, and ending in Waterville on Thursday, July 10.

The Pan Handlers also performed a concert at Lake Francis Park in Elysian before traveling to JWP. The events were made possible through a grant from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund of the Minnesota Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment, administered by the Traverse des Sioux Library System.

The Pan Handlers, while usually performing as a full band or sextet, performed as a trio, playing the standard calypso songs while playing pop hits like Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" and the Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun."

Director Chris Belich led



the way, with fellow musicians Olin (who is assistant director) and Payton by his side. Belich played the lead on the high tenor steel drum. Olin played the double tenor steel drums, which involved playing two and a half octaves spread between two drums. Peyton played the cello pan, which spans about three octaves between three drums.

The Pan Handlers explained how the instruments were made. Olin claimed that many steel drums are typically made from large oil barrels, like those used by companies like Exxon to store their crude oil. Then, as Belich explained, "It's not a pretty process." The drum is formed into an overall bowl shape before smaller dents are manually hammered in a similar circular pattern. The lower the notes, the bigger the circles, which is why the lower-end cello pan spans across three drums, although covering the same number of octaves as the higher-octave double tenor drum.

Another interesting fact about the steel drums is their origin. While many may automatically think of Jamaica when hearing the sweet metallic tones of the steel drums, it was invented in the two-island nation of Trinidad and Tobago.

It was a fantastic time listening to the Twin Cities band share their love for the steel pan drums. It's not often you hear traditional calypsos in a small town like Janesville. A few even danced to the music. There's nothing like hearing the Caribbean in an area that gets hot in the summer and freezing in the winter.

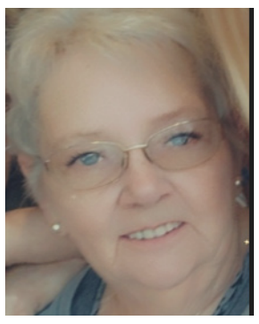


No, no, no!

Mother Knows BEST

By Kathy Richardson

Copywright 2024 by Kathryn Richardson



Music has always said a lot for me. Do you know the song "what part of no don't you understand?"

Over the years, I've heard that the most informative time of a child's life is the first five years. The child learns to walk, eat regular food, talk, potty training, dress themselves, and most of all teaching respect and discipline.

In teaching a child, everything has to have consistency. We need to let them grow in their learning and to be consistent in our teachings. We can't let them do what they want one day and punish them the next for doing what they did the day before.

When it comes to learning to walk, we need to help them until they have the courage to try on their own. Then we need to keep encouraging them.

When it comes to talking, a person doesn't realize how much children learn from hearing us talk. Some parents let their child just point at something, then give the child what he wants which doesn't teach them anything except to be at their beckened call. When the child wants something, say the word of what it is, and have them try to say the word. They eventually learn to talk. If you use foul language, the child thinks they can also. No, you don't talk like that. You have heard the saying "you do it so why can't I?" If you talk bad about people all the time, they will also. But if you talk about people in a good manner, then the child will have a positive attitude about people.

When teaching them to dress themselves, show them how to put the clothes on. Sure, they are going to need help but let them learn to do for themselves. Sure, they will put their shirt on backwards sometimes or put their shoes on the wrong feet. No, this shoe goes on this foot or your feet will hurt. As they grow, they will remember if you criticized all the time, or if they can come to you for help when they make mistakes.

When teaching them respect and discipline, the child sees how we talk to each other and our parents. Do you yell at your children, your spouse, or your parents? Or do you talk sensibly to each. Do you use foul language when speaking to each other? Our children learn what they live, or they can grow up in fear of people. When we speak respectively to people that is what they will learn.

When my children were little, I never put the stuff that was on my shelves or table up out of their reach. When they would reach for something that wasn't their toys, I would sternly say no. If they still picked it up, I would take from their hand and put it back where it was telling them no again. It's not that I didn't want to share but to teach them that whats mine and whats yours, and what you can and can't play with All through life there are things that aren't to be touched or handled. It is hard to teach what should be left alone compared to what to share. They need to learn to share their toys or even food when someone is hungry. Sometimes they will even share their clothes. When going to the grocery store, they don't need to touch everything on the shelves. The same goes when shopping in department store not to touch everything they see.

I remember one of my grandchildren saying one time that when they came to Grandma's house they had to behave. Many grandparents tend to spoil the grandchildren when they come over.

Personally, children need to have the same rules no matter where they are whether it be at grandparents or at home. When I say no, they know that it is what is meant but when I make a promise that I will keep it also.

Teaching a child what no means is a stepping stone to all parts of their lives.



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Great Frontier honors Waseca Fair during 10th Annual show

By JORDAN CARRILLO
Staff Writer



It was the unofficial kick off to the WCF as GFBR graced the Grandstands on Wednesday, July 9. (Journal Photos by Jordan Carrillo)

Throughout the week of the Waseca County Fair, a number of well-attended events like the Demo Derby have their fair share of entertainment, danger, and some good ol 'American feel good; however, none carry the ceremonial weight to the WCF like an old-fashioned rodeo at the Grandstand. For the past 10 years, Great Frontier Bull Riding has brought moments of great patriotism and togetherness while simultaneously entertaining the masses with the near death-defying act of riding a ferociously snorting bull

It was the unofficial kick off to the WCF as GFBR graced the Grandstands on Wednesday, July 9. Cowboy hats, boots, and denim jeans appeared to be the dress code for fans in the stands, and a few of the main riders wore pink buttonups–it was said the pink duds symbolized a rider's support for a loved one dealing with cancer. A full house meant the world to the group's Director, Miles Kattevold, who has been with Great Frontier for over 10 years, "This is our tenth show here at the Waseca County Fair, and these have really been benchmark years for us. This has been a really great partnership, and we can't wait to put on a great show." Because of this decade-long partnership between the two parties, GFBR presented a plaque commemorating 10 years of support to the Waseca County Fair Board.

While the ultimate goal is to outlast the bull's tirade for eight seconds, riders can gain additional points for stylishly "spurring" or kicking the back of their boot into the beast's side in order to provoke a bigger reaction. And yes, they even grade each bull based on its ferocity. I attempted to interview one of the smelly, snarling, and seething behemoths named Waseca Warrior in order to look deeper into their psyche pre-show, but he let out a loud snort, turned, and stomped back into the center pen. Curious if he spread any… BS about me.

15 riders would face off against 25 bulls bred and raised by Mitcham Livestock with a grand prize of 3,000 dollars on the line. For much of their bull riding season with the National Federation of Professional Bull Riders, many of the riders with Great Frontier have not only succeeded at their sport of choice, but have won some serious hardware. Four-time NFPBR Champion Joe Phillips shined as one of the only riders of the to endure his bull's rampage–he would eventually take home the cash prize. However, a newcomer in this business, Lane Kruse, has taken the competition by storm with a recent Rookie of the Year award in 2024.

Kruse is a Truman, Minnesota native and at only 17 years old, he is one of the youngest professional bull riders in the nation…what is your 17 year old doing these days, huh? Bull riding must be in the family's blood as Kruse's brother, Jack, got him hooked on the sport after taking first place at a rodeo, "I saw how much fun he was having out there, and that's what got me hooked. It's great to be able to do this with him, and so many other great riders out there who have taught me a lot." Of course, Kruse took a small victory lap with his ROY, but he still understood each opportunity required a small prayer for good luck and protection, "It felt really great to go pro at 16 and find success so quickly, but this is a sport that a lot can happen in a few seconds…I always say a quick prayer thanking God and asking him to watch over me."

With the preliminary conversation over, Grand Frontier kicked off its show with several patriotic odes to America with a little help from the Waseca County Mounted Posse Division of the Sheriff's Office. At this time, the rodeo clown "Muncy" introduced himself and the announcer, Jacob, riffed off each other throughout the evening. The two would constantly befuddle each other with various skits and hijinks throughout the show, but their primary focus would be drawn toward the action down in the arena.

The bulls were primed to give the riders a bucking they would never forget and particular beasts like Lost Wages, Double Take, and Grin & Bear It would win their exchanges easily; however, Phillips would get the better of his bull, and the horned creature…didn't take the loss very well. He would stomp about and berate any rodeo clown who would approach… it took some coercing, but the animal finally made his way to the pen. A few other riders, like Jacob Stefas, would reach the eight-second mark, but much of the spoils went to the 2000 pound terrors. One bull, Jelly Roll, took matters into his own hooves shortly after throwing his rider off in the opening seconds; the beast would then bury his horns into the rider's back, shoo off an assistant or two, and even collided with the arena horse…I was standing 15 or so feet away as the bull pinned the horse to the side of the arena. Thankfully, a brave ranch hand smacked the bull on the buttocks and steered it back home before anything calamitous happened to the colt and cowboy.

Although the bulls proved to be superior for much of the contest, eight riders would advance to the final round of competition with Phillips taking the top prize. Great Frontier Bull Riding and Waseca County Fair have been a match made in heaven for the past decade, and a full crowd of supporters will keep the tradition going strong… hopefully, for another 10 years.



Zero Below cools off at County Fair







By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

It isn't a county fair without a band jamming out in the beer garden. And this year's Waseca County Fair had four bands hit the stage in the garden, newly named the "Sippin' Shed." On Wednesday, July 9, Skitzo Fonik hit the stage, with regulars Gen X jukebox and Blue Ringers taking the Thursday and Friday slots.

The last band to cap off the county fair's music entertainment in the beer garden was Zero Below, a rock and country band that brought the chill, cooling off fair attendants from the summer heat…well, maybe the drinks also played a part in everyone cooling down. But Zero Below definitely rocked the "Sippin' Shed" to end the beer garden entertainment with a bang.

The band has four members: Dennis John on lead vocals and occasional rhythm guitar, Jeremy Frost on bass guitar and vocals, Joe Bruley on lead guitar, and "Frenchie" on vocals.

When asked where they are from, well…it's difficult for them to pinpoint a city. Their biography describes them as being from the Twin Cities, which is the best description. One is from Otsego, another from Brooklyn Park, two towns in the northwest Twin Cities suburbs. However, they also have band members from Princeton (a city half an hour east of St. Cloud) and Kenyon.

It took a couple of years for the current iteration of the band to form. Dennis John left the Marine Corps and wanted to start a band immediately. So, he contacted Frenchie to get it going. "At the time, I played guitar," Frenchie explained. "Both of us were guitar guys, and we picked up a third guitarist."

Frenchie decided at that point to take up his dream instrument: the drums. "I've always wanted to play the drums since I was a little kid. So, I decided to get a drum kit and start banging away."

The first guitar player didn't work out, leaving the band "high and dry." They called upon Jeremy Frost at the last minute for help. "He came in not knowing the setlist over a Fourth of July weekend where we had three or four gigs," Frenchie said.

John further highlighted Frost's dedication to help them out, saying, "He drove four hours to get where we were playing."

It's been four years since then, and Frost has held the groove on the bass.

The four were initially a hard rock band. However, they soon discovered that the genre didn't match their styles, and so they pivoted to what worked for them: classic rock with a dash of country here and there. It was a great choice by them, as they sounded fantastic at soundcheck when they covered Tom Petty's "You Wreck Me."

They didn't have much time to enjoy the fair outside of playing for a crowd there. This editor found out that they were in Brainerd the day before their gig in Waseca. That's a lot of travel time. So, how did they get the gig at the Waseca County Fair?

"We have a manager who helped us get so many gigs throughout the years," Frenchie credited. "She's been fantastic. Before her, we were only playing at smaller bars. She's really helped us get more opportunities."

These guys really know how to get the crowd hyped up. At first, they had a hard time agreeing on the song they liked best to play. However, when Frenchie and Frost brought up Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," the others agreed.

"I have a lot of fun playing the bass on that song," Frost said.

"And I love hearing you play it," Frenchie replied.

Guitarist Joe Bruley agreed. "It seems to be a favorite wherever we go. It gets the crowd going."

While they certainly got a great reaction when they played that tune, I personally liked their covers of Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Fortunate Son" and John Mellencamp's "Hurts So Good." John's raspy voice fit both songs perfectly, and the rest of the band was in perfect sync. I also love when a band covers Aerosmith's "Sweet Emotion," and Frost nailed the melodious bass part during the chorus.

Hundreds enjoyed the chill of Zero Below while cooling off with some liquor. They ended up being the perfect band to send off the "Sippin' Shed" musical entertainment at the Waseca County Fair.

Back in the Day

St. Clair Archives

This is a continuation of St. Clair's history found in the book, "Years of Memories: St. Clair, MN - 1855-2005."

1943

Enactment of "pay-as-you-go" income tax bill resulting in a 20% withholding tax from wages and salaries.

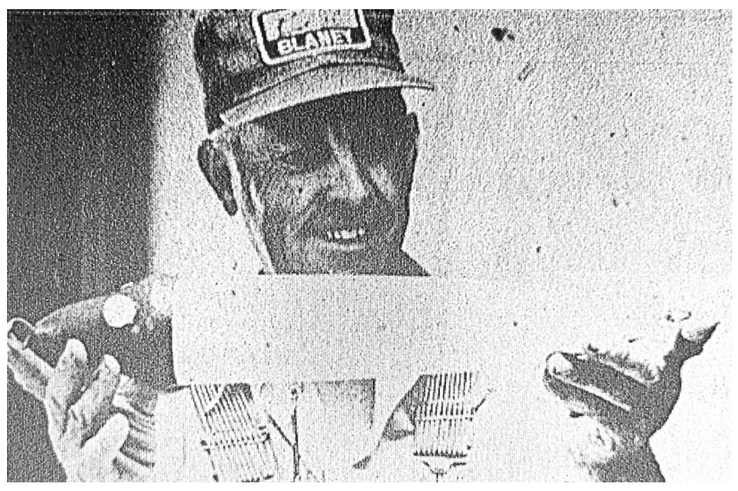
Corporal Robert Fritzke Writes of Action in Sicily. Corporal Robert P. Fritzke, nephew of Mrs. Jack Fitzloff of St. Clair, who, before he entered the army was a third-year student at the Mankato Teachers College, is somewhere in Sicily with a medical detachment. He writes that he came through the campaign for that island "without a scratch" after seeing action with two different divisions and that the Sicilians "like us, especially our gum and cigarettes." Corporal Fritzke landed with the first American troops in North Africa and went through the Tunisia campaign before going to Sicily.

1944

February – The St. Clair American Legion Schmidt-Grams Post 475 is organized.

Victory garden, War Bond drives, rationing stamps and tokens, black markets, scrap drives, black-out drills, leg make-up, "service men's star" window flags, defense work, food shortages, rolling bandages, V-E mail, knitting sweaters and socks, "We regret to inform you" telegrams – all a part of the American life during the war years.

Ration Office at St. Clair Moved. The St. Clair ration application center, now located at the home of Mrs. John Fitzloff, will be moved to the St. Clair Hotel, effective Friday, September 22. The center is open Monday and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.



"Big lures for big catches" must have been Elmer Witt's philosophy in 1975. He claimed that this big hunker was the reason why his friend Joe Britton caught so many fish while fishing up north in Canada. Witt quipped to the Argus, "It had to be the lure because he doesn't know a fish from a financial statement."

Local Church Times and Schedules

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
412 N. Main St.
Janesville, MN
(507)231-5189
Pastor Wolter
Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship
Sunday- 8:00a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship
9a.m. Sunday School & Bible Study

JANESVILLLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 N. West St.
Janesville, MN
(507) 234-5350
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship

WATERVILLE EVANGELICAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
319 E. Main St.
Waterville, MN
(507)362-4379
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Worship

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St.
Morristown, MN
(507)384-2483
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 W. 2nd St.
Janesville, MN
(507)234-6244
Father Rob Schneider
Sunday- 8:30 a.m. Mass

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
225 3rd Ave.
Waldorf, MN
(507)234-6244
Father Swaminatha (Swamy) Pothireddy
Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 3rd Ave
Waldorf, MN
(507)239-2431
Pastor Michael Matthews
Sunday-8 a.m. Worship
9:10a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 1st St SW
New Richland, MN
(507) 234-6244
Father Glenn Frerichs
Friday: 10:00 a.m. Mass
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Mass

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
114 4th St. NW
Waseca, MN
(507) 835-1222
Father Glenn Frerichs
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Mass
Tue-Thu: 8:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday: 5:15 p.m. Mass

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St.
Janesville, MN
(507)234-6463
Pastor Sarah Krolak
June-August
Wednesday Worship 6:00pm

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1891 321st Ave
Alma City, MN
(507)234-5353
Pastor Robert Harting
Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Worship

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
20574 631st Ave
Smiths Mill, MN
(507)234-5547
Pastor Robert Harting
Thursday Worship 7:00pm
Sunday Worship 8:30am

ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Waldorf, MN
Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
200 Front St. E
St. Clair, MN
(507) 245-3330
Pastor Jeff Enderle
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Worship
8:00 am Bible Study

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
120 Church St.
St. Clair, MN
(507) 245-3447
Father Rob Schneider
Saturday - 4:00 p.m. Mass

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
601 4th St.
Madison Lake, MN
(507) 243-3319
Father Rob Schneider
Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Mass

ST. TERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH
104 Silver St. W
Mapleton, MN
Father Swaminatha (Swamy) Pothireddy
Sunday - 8:00 a.m. Mass

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH
305 Park Ave NE
Elysian, MN
(507) 362-4311
Fr. Andrew Stueve
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Mass
Wednesday - 9:00a.m. Mass

UNITED CHURCH OF MAPLETON
201 Troendle St SW
Mapleton, MN 56065
(507) 524-3141
Sunday Worship



The Church Directory Is Sponsored by These local Businesses.

Janesville Archives

1925

Mrs. Edward O'Brien died at her home a mile and a half north of Waldorf Sunday morning after an illness of several months duration. Mrs. O'Brien had been a resident of this locality for many years and had gained the confidence and respect of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in this section of the county. She was born in Wisconsin November 4, 1867, and came to this county in her youth with her parents, and after her marriage made her home continuously on the farm north of Waldorf.

At the meeting of the County Commissioners at Waseca Monday and Tuesday of this week, the appropriation for carrying on the work of the Farm Bureau, $1,500, was made without any objections. In a few counties the question of the advisability of aiding the work has brought out real fights, though in most instances the objections arose over sectional differences in the county.

The Waseca County automobile owners paying $16,40 car tax this year have average machines, on the basis of 1925 state motor vehicle registration figures to July 1, as made public this week. Those who pay more have better than average cars. The majority of Minnesota owners, however, are paying only the $12 minimum tax. The general average auto tax is lower than that on any other kind of property in the state, although car owners are receiving special, direct returns in good roads reductions of operating expenses.

1950

Mrs. Ray Nolan, Janesville, has been reappointed a lay member of the Waseca County welfare board by Jarle Leirfallom, state welfare director. Mrs. Nolan began her two-year term of office Thursday at the welfare board meeting in Waseca. This was announced by Donald Fisher, executive secretary of the Waseca County welfare agency. The other lay member on the Welfare board is Mrs. J. F. Cahill Sr., of Waseca, reappointed last year from a panel of prominent citizens for a term ending in 1951.

Final figures on sales of Series E Savings Bonds in the 1950 independence drive for Waseca County will be released next week, according to Emerson C. Ward, county bond chairman. Mr. Ward pointed out that last week's sales amounted to $4,443, bringing the county total through July 8 to $52,779, or 82.4 percent of its campaign quota, which is $64,000. Statewide, sales for the week in E bonds amounted to $1,729,843, bringing the total E bond sales since the Independence drive opened May 15 to $10,081,113, or $5,066,887 short of the $15,148,000 goal with a week to go. Percentage of the state goal reached 66.5 percent.

Dr. Lawrence R. Russ, chiropractor, is now practicing his profession in Waseca. He was born on September 16, 1922. A native of Minneapolis, he graduated from West High School. In March 1946, he was married to Diana Dabrowski of Adams, Massachusetts. They have two children, a boy and a girl. Michael Bradford is three and a half years old and Cynthia Gail was two on the fourth of July. Dr. Russ is a Marine veteran of World War II and was honorably discharged as a noncommissioned officer. His six years of military service includes two years in the Pacific theatre of operations and three years with the Maring Fighting Squadron 213, Naval Air Station, Minneapolis.

1975

Joe Chapman, 10, burst through the door of the Janesville Argus Monday morning with a smile so big it almost covered up his freckles. "Boy, dad, have I got a story for you!" he said while frantically unfolding a piece of paper he had crammed in his jeans pocket. "We just say a plane crash!" Judging from the excitement on his face, plus the fact that July is notorious for being a slow news month, we showed immediate interest. "Did anyone get hurt?" we asked with rising curiosity. "No, he didn't get hurt. He was a man from Waseca. His name was Jim Keller. He was trying to take off from Reeds Lake and the enging just killed on him. The plane bumped a couple of times and then just landed. It broke the whole tail of the plane off!"

Mrs. Sylvester Priem has been nominated to represent the Minnesota Auxiliary at the National American Legion Auxiliary convention this August in Minneapolis. Her husband, Sylvester, is the First District Commander and will represent this area as a national delegate at the Legion Convention.
Janesville's Don Schneider is also a delegate at the national meeting.

More than two hundred meals have been prepared and delivered since the Village of Waldorf began its hot meals program in January. Groups from three churches provide delivery service, and in addition, the student council of Waldorf-Pemberton High School volunteered to work with the program. Students handled the delivery of meals throughout the month of May. During June, members of the First Lutheran Church delivered the meals.

2000

According to Laerdal Medical Company, there was no guarantee that the Heartstart 2000 unit owned by the Janesville Fire Department would continue to work. For one Waseca woman attending a visitation at McRaith's Funeral Home in Janesville, it's a good thing they were wrong. On the evening of June 19, 2000, the call went out that there was a medical emergency at McRaith's. a woman had collapsed, and emergency services were needed. In just a few minutes, help was on hand. And with them, the Heartstart 2000, a defib machine used to help regulate the heartbeat with an electric shock. "We were fortunate to have a bystander on hand who knew CPR," said Todd Huxford, the Janesville Fire Chief. Sue Jewison, who is a nurse at the Janesville Nursing Home, had just begun CPR when he got there.

The search for a new Chief of Police for the city of Janesville has officially ended. David Ulmen, currently a police officer in Madelia, will begin his new duties on Monday, July 17. Ulmen was selected for the position by a committee made up of Janesville Mayor Frank Morrill, city council member Jim Hesch, local business owner Laurie Deboom and Dean Lotter, city administrator.

Answers to todays TRIVIA Questions:

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2. CUSTOMER SATISFACTION DATA
3. GRADE TESTS
4. KASHI
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9. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL
10. ARIZONA

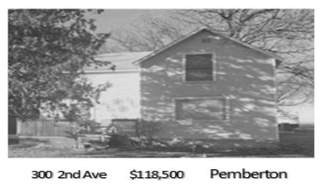
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Miss Tator Tot, Mr. Fry Guy Crowned at Eagle Lake Coronation; Part of Tator Days 2025 kickoff



Eagle Lake held its Tator Days Coronation Sunday, July 13. Above are the ten candidates hoping to get crowned. (Journal Photos by Mike Roy)

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

Tator Days, Eagle Lake's town celebration revolving around spuds, fries, and all things potatoes kicked off this week, starting on Sunday, July 13. The golf tournament kicked off…or rather teed off the festivities.

However, one of the main events of the Eagle Lake celebration, the Eagle Lake Royalty Coronation, closed the Sunday festivities. The coronation took place at the Eagle Lake American Legion at 4 p.m.

Although the official Tator Days flyer of the events schedule hinted at the crowning of Miss Eagle Lake 2025, that was not the case. It was only the titles of Mr. Fry Guy and Miss Tator Tot that were for the taking in the coronation. Ten kindergarten-aged children vied



for the two titles, with Madilyn Holtz winning the Miss Tator Tot crown while Briggs Smith became Mr. Fry Guy.

Six contestants, including Holtz, sought the Miss Tator Tot title. The other contestants were Stella Bracken, Clara Quaday, Livia Heinze, Rya Johnson, and Davida Ross. Mr. Fry Guy contestants, which included Smith, were Owen Tibbetts, Leo Nikoley-Barna, and Luke Jimenez. The contestants were escorted by Miss Eagle Lake 2024 attendants Sophia Tolbert and Brealyn Huettl.

To start, Laynee Bracken delivered a brief farewell speech, thanking her family, friends, and fellow Eagle Lake residents for the opportunity to represent them. "I may be only 17, but I am happy to have served a small part in our community. Being Miss Eagle Lake is now one of



my most cherished moments in life and one of my greatest accomplishments.

"Although I'm sad my reign has come to an end," she continued, "I will forever remember my time as Miss Eagle Lake."

This year's Eagle Lake Royalty coronation was sponsored by the Eagle Lake American Legion and Sons of the Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Eagle's Nest, the Dumpster Company, Joe Bidwell with GoJoe Entertainment, Canvas Church of Mankato, Exclusively Diamonds, Sohler Farms, Epiphany Lutheran Church, REMAX Dynamic Agents, Terriography LLC, SPX, and the Eagle Lake City Hall Staff.

Miss Tator Tot, Madilyn Holtz, and Mr. Fry Guy, Briggs Smith, showed their excitement as the crowns were placed upon their heads and they received their sashes. We hope to see the same amount of energy from the two of them during the Tator Days festivities throughout the week.





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