

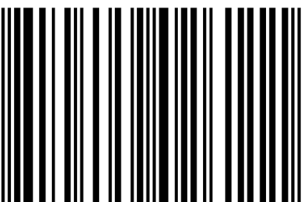
THE

Janesville Journal

No.32 Vol.7 \$1.50

SERVING THE JANESVILLE-WALDORF-PEMBERTON-ST. CLAIR AREA

Wednesday, August 6, 2025



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5 DAY FORECAST

Wed 6 | 79°
Rain 24%
Wind S 13 mph
Cloudy skies. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High 79F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.

Thu 7 | 85°
Rain 40%
Wind S 11 mph
Scattered thunderstorms in the morning. Partly cloudy skies late. High near 85F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

Fri 8 | 87°
Rain 15%
Wind S 16 mph
Partly cloudy skies. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High 87F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.

Sat 9 | 79°
Rain 38%
Wind WSW 9 mph
Scattered thunderstorms. Storms may contain strong gusty winds. High 79F. Winds WSW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40%.

Sun 10 | 80°
21%
W 10 mph
Partly cloudy. High around 80F. Winds W at 5 to 10 mph.

Quote of the Week

The whole secret of a successful life is to find out what is one's destiny to do, and then do it.
- Henry Ford

Meet Trinity's new Associate Pastor; Timothy Contreras

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

A year ago today, Trinity Lutheran Church was still looking for a permanent candidate for the senior pastor position. Fast forward to August 1, 2025, and now not only is Pastor Jason Wolter serving at Trinity, but they have also found someone to be an associate pastor.

Timothy Contreras, a Michigan native, was recently installed at a Sunday service at Trinity Lutheran on July 13. While he's only been in Janesville for less than a month, he's already felt the warm welcome from his congregants. "I feel quite welcomed by the people here," he said. "I've enjoyed the local restaurants already."

Contreras grew up in Ypsilanti, a Michigan town of approximately 20,000 people, located to the east of Ann Arbor (home of the Michigan Wolverines) and about half an hour away from downtown Detroit. He grew up in a family where both his parents were teachers in Lutheran schools in Ann Arbor, which exposed him to the faith more than the usual Christian.

After graduating from high school, Contreras went to Concordia University in Chicago. While it may seem like a calling for Contreras to become a pastor, it wasn't his initial plan to study theology. It wasn't until his sophomore year of college in Chicago that he became more curious about his



Associate Pastor, Timothy Contreras, recently installed at Trinity Lutheran Church.

faith. "I became more interested in what we Lutherans believe and teach," he explained. "I was interested in talking about it and teaching it."

After talking to the campus pastor, he received the encouragement he needed to join the seminary program that summer. Once graduating from the four-year college in Chicago, he went straight to the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. During his time in the seminary, he completed an internship at a church in Dublin, Ohio, where he shadowed and learned from their pastor. Shortly after graduating, he was ordained at his home congregation, St. Paul Lutheran, in Ann Arbor. After that, only

Pastor
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Lions, peanuts and juggling... oh my!
Eagle Lake Lions Club brings Circus to town



The Culpepper & Merriweather Circus was in town at Eagle Lake August 1st.
(Journal Photos by Jordan Carrillo)

By JORDAN CARRILLO
Staff Writer

It takes something big and bold to draw hundreds to a local park, but on August 1, the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus proved to be exactly the type of thrill the tiny town of Eagle Lake had been looking for.

Under the big tent, a series of death-defying stunts, gut-busting antics, and the roars of two lions kept patrons glued to their seats during two performances.

While the C&M Circus has been entertaining crowds 32 weeks a year since 1985, this kind of event is somewhat revolutionary for a small town like Eagle Lake. It took months of coordination for this event

with the Eagle Lake Lions Club being the driving force. They would collaborate with the City Council and the City of Eagle Lake to be able to sponsor the event, but the Lions Club would be the main beneficiary of the proceeds for ticket sales.

The Club has a checkered history in Eagle Lake, starting as far back as the late-70s, but it experienced a renaissance and rechartered itself back in 2018. They have helped fund scholarships for students at nearby schools, purchased a new picnic table and shelter at the park, and the proceeds from ticket sales would go toward another community project to be determined. and were the driving force behind this eventful evening.

The group's President,

Angela Putnam shared the impact the Club has had on the city and thanked all parties involved for making this far-fetched dream a reality, "The Lions Club has become a diverse group with a blend of old and new members. I think that has helped us bring new perspectives and ideas...the circus being one of them, and none of this would be possible without the amazing support of the Council and the City."

While there was some concern that a circus may be a bit unique for a small town, Putnam soon learned how supportive the community can be as over 800 tickets were preordered for the big show... almost 600 of those were sold at local businesses in town while the rest were ordered online.

Tickets would also be sold at the front gate, so an estimated 1000 tickets may have been purchased. A line that stretched as far back as the baseball field at Lake Eagle Park was a staggering sight, but it meant this exotic event was something the people wanted to see. "Sometimes events like these don't do well because it's brand new, but the town has embraced it and it may be something for us to consider for next year," said Putnam.

As C&M Circus welcomed patrons inside the big tent, families stopped by the concession stands to purchase a well-known staple, peanuts, to snack on. Kids were especially eager to experience the thrilling spectacle of trapeze

Circus
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One last Summer Scoop at "end of summer" Concert

By JORDAN CARRILLO
Staff Writer

As August rolls around, many tend to deem this time as the "end of summer." While the temperatures are still peaking in the mid to high 80s or low 90s, the hustle and bustle of summer vacation starts to slow down in preparation for the upcoming school year.

Traditions and routines must be established which is why Scoops in Elysian decided to mark the "end of summer" with one of its concerts on August 2. It would be another warm summer day which boded well for dozens of locals to stop by for a scoop or two of their favorite ice cream.

The concert series has been ongoing at Scoops since late May and features local bands from the Elysian, Waterville, and Janesville areas. One of those bands, Holdfast, has been a mainstay here as they performed back on June 14, but returned for an encore performance in front of an eager crowd. Their band name Holdfast is in reference to Romans 12:9 and emphasizes the desire to "do what is good" when faced with evil.

The three band members Kristen Mertins (piano), Emily Kratzer (acoustic), and Jared



Holdfast performed for the Scoops "end of summer" night at Scoops August 2nd.
(Journal Photos by Jordan Carrillo)

Paulson (percussion) all have unique experiences when it comes to playing music. Kratzer has been musically inclined since a young age and has been performing at First Baptist Church in Waterville for many years, Mertins has always enjoyed music, but didn't officially learn the piano until

24 years old, and Paulson grew up playing in the family band during his youth.

The acoustic trio spent a good amount of time matching their three-part harmonies, and that extra work paid off as they

kicked off their show with "Seven Bridges" by Eagles. Each member would get their own moment to shine during certain songs; Mertins would lead an emotional rendition of "Jolene" by Dolly P followed by

Kratzer retorting with the cheeky "You Can Have Him, Jolene". Much of their set relied heavily on a folksy beat and vibe, and the blending of vocals made for some toe-tapping moments amongst the crowd.

Community Happenings

Janesville Night Out Janesville Aug 7	Summerfest Pemberton Aug 15-16
City Council Mtg Janesville Aug 11 7pm	FAITH Night Waldorf Aug 20 5:30-7pm
Pemberton Nite Out Pemberton Aug 12	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.
Taste of Time Farmamerica Aug 14 6-9pm	



Upcoming Events

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- Magna-Tile Villages**
The mayor needs a village up and running as soon as possible! Create design plans and speed build with an amazing assortment of Magna-Tile sets at **Waldorf Public Library on Tuesday, August 5th at 1:30 pm.** Geared for ages 7-12.
- Flower Crafts**
Get ready for summer gardens with flower crafts at **New Richland Public Library on Wednesday, August 6th at 10:15 am.** Create a flower holder for delicate stems and beaded garden stakes. Geared for adults.
- Statement Stars**
Choose from an array of colorful papers and create a collection of handmade paper stars to add a touch of magic to any occasion at **Waseca Public Library on Tuesday, August 12th at 12 pm.** Geared for adults.
- True Crime Club for Teens**
Teens will use their investigative abilities to reopen the South Ridge Stalker case at **Waterville Public Library on Tuesday, August 12th at 5 pm.** The South Ridge Stalker is half urban legend, half campfire story. Will new clues lead to a dead end, or will you reveal The Stalker’s existence and solve the murder? This free event is exclusively for ages 13-18.
- Laser-Engraved Cutting Boards Workshop**
Personalize wooden coasters with a sweet or funny engraving to create a unique gift or family heirloom at **Janesville Public Library on Tuesday, August 12th at 5-7 pm.** Geared for adults. Register at the library or at wasecalesueurlibraries.com/ getregistered
Sponsored by Janesville Area Foundation and the Pope Family Fund

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

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TID-BITS OF TRIVIA

1. Introduced in 1996, Reaction is a more casual and affordable clothing line belonging to what fashion label?

2. Introduced in 2007,” Frank-lin the Fair Housing Fox” is a friendly mascot for what government agency?

3. Jim Carrey plays many roles, including Ebenezer Scrooge, in a 2009 adaptation of what classic story?

4. Known as “The Flying Lady,” the hood ornament on Rolls-Royces is officially called “The Spirit of” what?

5. Known as “The Happiest Place on Earth,” Disneyland is located in what California City?
6. Known early in the series as “McDreamy,” Patrick Dempsey’s character on “Grey’s Anatomy” has what specialty?

7. Known for creating her signature look, who was the official designer for First Lady Jackie Kennedy?

8. Known for her cosmetics line, international supermodel Iman is the wife of what rock legend?

9. Known for her wiggle and high-pitched coo, actress Jackee played sexy neighbor Sandra Clark on what ‘80s sitcom?

10. Known for his big mouth, Cartman from “South Park” has been described as a little version of what classic sitcom character?

Echoes from the Loafers’ Club Meeting

There are going to be many people in Minneapolis tonight. Why is that? They live there.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I was a Bounty hunter in a big store. It took me a while to find the paper towels. Once that was done, I went to work at the fair, where the skies sniffled and wept. Rain bucketed down, with an inch falling so fast, it might have been controlled by the White Rabbit, a fictional and anthropomorphic character in Lewis Carroll's 1865 book “Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.” In that tome, he said, "Oh dear! Oh dear! I shall be too late!" Alice followed him down the rabbit hole. The crowd at the county fair didn't. They took a break and hunkered down until fair weather resumed. I tell people that all weather is fair weather when you're at a fair. We love a fair for many reasons, but one major one is that we get to break the law, “eat dinner before dessert,” which our parents had enforced.

I’ve learned

John Wayne (born Marion Robert Morrison) lived in Winterset, Iowa, for the first three years of his life. His family moved to other Iowa towns before settling in California when



Compostings

by Al Batt
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he was six. Firemen in Glendale, California, called him ‘Little Duke’ because he was rarely seen without his Airedale Terrier named Duke.

All the TV news channels prove we can never have too much of a bad thing.

WalletHub (<https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-best-health-care/23457>) compared the states and the District of Columbia across 44 measures of cost, accessibility and outcome, and discovered the best healthcare was in New Hampshire, with Rhode Island second. Minnesota was third and Iowa fourth. Mississippi was 51st, Alaska 50th and Alabama 49th.

For corn’s sake! Evapotranspiration is the key to how "corn sweat" works. As the root systems of plants draw in water, the leaves of the plant release water vapor into the air. A single acre of corn can give off 3,000 to 4,000 gallons of water per day, according to the National Weather Service. So, if you live near a gym that caters to corn, you will experience high humidity when the corn works out.

Wisdom comes with age because we become too tired to do anything stupid.

We frown on nepotism, but praise family businesses.

The internet both enhances and destroys productivity.

Never argue with anyone stupider than you.

Superman taught us that everything is portable if you’re strong enough.

An ice cream sandwich doesn’t need ketchup.

I read that the median income per capita was \$700 a year in 1925. That’s misleading because most of the residents of the township I live in now were cows, pigs and chickens then.

Bad jokes department

Where do rainbows go when they’ve been bad? To the prism, to reflect on what they’ve done.

The driver, who was involved in a high-speed police chase, pulled into a car wash and made a clean getaway.

The woman complained about her husband spending all day on eBay. She said if he were still on it tomorrow, she’d lower his price.

The doctor asked, "Do you smoke or drink coffee?" The patient replied, "I drink it."

I entered a competition to see which man had gained the most weight and lost the most hair in

five years. It was called a high school reunion.

Nature notes

A temporary wetland in a farm field after recent heavy rainfall was rimmed with great egrets. I couldn’t say I had no egrets.

Not all gulls are eating pilfered pizza in a parking lot. A Bomgaars store had a large flock of ring-billed gulls on its roof. The Latin word “arena” means sand, and the stage where the gladiators and exotic animals engaged in mortal combat was covered in a thin layer of sand. The store’s roof might have been a gull arena.

I walked in the woods, reveling in the lack of curb appeal. An American goldfinch male’s flight, performed in a slow circling fashion over a nesting area, was accompanied by a “po-ta-to-chip” call. A red-headed woodpecker was hawking insects. Its rich red head demanded my attention. Does any bird deserve its name more than the red-headed woodpecker? It was a grand champion day.

The American goldfinch was officially designated Iowa’s state bird on May 22, 1933. The Iowa Ornithologists’ Union had nominated the goldfinch, and the proposal passed the legislature because of the backing of that group and because the goldfinch is a year-round resident of Iowa that Iowans easily recognize.

Meeting adjourned

“The wonderful thing is that it’s so incredibly easy to be kind.”—Ingrid Newkirk.

Fear of the unknown



Mikes Corner

by Michael Roy
Staff writer
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even if it means minimal or no progress. Conservatism is different. It believes in conserving what works and only making changes or taking risks if the reward can be maximized. If the risk is higher than the reward, conservatives may not even consider it, even if the reward could open more opportunities that make the high-risk on the front end worth it.

It’s interesting to think of politics in this way. As someone who considers himself conservative, I often see myself frustrated with how Republicans seem to lack the drive or motivation to do anything when they are in power. Thinking this way now, it makes sense. It also makes sense how the Democratic Party works. Democrats want progress for the sake of progress; Republicans want conservation for the sake of conservation, even if it means conserving values that have gone left of what they were only a few years ago.

With the political polarization we’ve witnessed in recent years, neither side is willing to compromise, except Republicans, who do it so they can complain about the left, collect donations for their campaign against the left, and get into office to do absolutely nothing. That’s how I feel as a disgruntled Gen Z’er.

As much as I’d like to

getting the short end of the deal. That’s life. You can’t let it take you down. You have to keep going.

I always feel that people, especially Minnesotans, should watch Grumpy Old Men and its sequel, Grumpier Old Men. Not only are those two movies fantastic, but they are also set in Wabasha. But it contains a saying that I only wish I’d been following all these years: “The only things you’ll regret in life are the risks you didn’t take.” It was the quote I included in my senior profile in our yearbooks.

My goal for the rest of this year is to take more risks. I don’t know where that will lead me, but it’s something I need to start doing more often. Life has passed by quickly. I frequently say that it seems like time goes quicker the older you get. If not now, when?

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DEADLINE: FRIDAYS by 4pm

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\$52 Minnesota, \$54 Outside Minnesota

The Janesville Journal Copyright © 2019 by the Janesville Journal is published weekly (Wednesday) by Tracie Rosacker, 125 N Main St Janesville, MN 56048. Janesville Journal (USPS # 25-766) and Application to Mail at Periodicals Postage Paid at Janesville, MN. POSTMASTER: send address changes to the Janesville Journal at PO Box 219, Janesville, MN 56048

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Canadian Pacific Train fire quickly extinguished near Waseca

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

On Saturday, July 26, at about 4:30 p.m., the Waseca County Sheriff was notified by a caller of a train on its way to Waseca that appeared “to be on fire underneath the train” along Old Highway 14. Minutes later, a deputy was sent out to investigate the situation and found that the train was creating little to no visibility on the road. The deputy also shared that the train was about a quarter mile long and just as long a trail of fires started in the ditches.

Waseca County dispatch tried

to contact Canadian Pacific to stop the train. At about 4:37 p.m., the Janesville Fire Department was notified of the incident. It only took about 20 minutes from there to put out all the fires and for the sheriff deputies and fire departments to clear from the scene and give the green light to Canadian Pacific to resume train traffic.

Once the area was clear, it was as if nothing had happened. Some people reported that they drove along Old Highway 14 and didn’t see any signs of flames along the track. There was no apparent cause as to why the train, or the area surrounding it, caught fire.

100 students “endured” at Trinity’s VBS

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

This past week, from July 27 to August 1, 100 students in grades 1-6 from Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville attended Vacation Bible School. This annual program teaches students about God and the Bible through various activities. This year’s VBS was run by Angela Winter and Tina Schoenfeld.

This year’s theme was “Endure,” inspired by the Bible verses Hebrews 12:1-3, “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

The first day on Monday was a Bible lesson about Job, a man who served God but lost nearly everything, making his faith in the Lord difficult, even in the best of times. The Bible verse for the day was 1 Timothy 2:5, “There is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Tuesday, July 29, was another Bible lesson, this time the Book of Ruth. The lesson from this day was that God will always be with all of us, even when things look uncertain. The verse for



This past week, from July 27 to August 1, 100 students in grades 1-6 from Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville attended Vacation Bible School.

this day came from Ruth 1:16: “Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.”

Wednesday was a special day, as the students traveled to Camp Omega near Waterville for a day filled with activities and learning about the faith. Thursday was the Vacation Bible School program night, which allowed parents and congregants to receive an update on what the students were learning about throughout the week. Following the 6:30 p.m. program was a dessert potluck. The verse of the day came from 2 Corinthians 5:7, “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Friday, August 1, was the final day of Bible school, and students celebrated the end of VBS with a day at the Waseca



waterpark. Although there was plenty of learning throughout the week, the hundred students had tons of fun doing it. They will look forward to the school year and, hopefully, return next summer for another week of fun and getting a deeper understanding of the Lutheran faith.

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Pastor

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about two months after graduating from the seminary, he ended up here in Janesville.

When asked how he felt about his first adventure into being a pastor, the reverend used the word “excited,” and he was that in every sense of the word. “I’m nervous because it’s new and it does feel very real,” he elaborated. “But I am excited to be here.”

Coming from one fringe Midwestern state to another wasn’t quite a culture shock. However, one comment he made about the greater Janesville area is his surprise at the vast amount of farmland. “I didn’t realize how much farmland there would be. Michigan is more of a mix of woods and farmland.”

That said, though, he loves Janesville’s proximity to Mankato, a “decent-sized city” bigger than the metropolis of Ypsilanti, but dwarfs in comparison to the nearly 125,000 that live in Ann Arbor.

In his short time as an associate pastor, one of Contreras’s favorite activities is Bible class. “I really enjoyed teaching adult Bible class,” he said. “I enjoyed the questions, the discussion, and overall seeing people want to learn more about the Bible. It meant a lot to me.”

When asked about his favorite memories while studying in the seminary, one involved sports. “I played on the seminary basketball team,” he said. “I love basketball. A lot of the guys I played with ended up being some of the closest friends I have. Both coaches were professors I liked. So, I got to

interact with them outside of the classroom.”

He continued to brag about the tight-knit community of the seminary. It was how he met his fiancée, Aine (pronounced Anya). “We started dating last October and got engaged at the end of May,” he reported with a bright grin on his face. “We’ll get married next summer.”

That segued into the challenges he’s faced as a pastor; Aine is currently finishing her studies at the seminary in St. Louis, while he’s embarking on a new adventure in Janesville. “That’s been difficult so far,” he admitted. “But once we’re married, that’ll be better.”

Another thing he’s trying to grapple with is time management. While he was accustomed to a set schedule for classes and other activities, it has been up to him to determine when to complete his tasks at church. “There’s more stuff to be done, and you have to figure out when to do it,” he said. “For example, you know you need your sermon done by Saturday night. However, sometimes you need to make visits. You need to prepare for this, or that.”

This has undoubtedly been a busy summer for him. Going from his studies at the seminary near the end of spring, to getting ordained in Michigan, and receiving his first call to serve in Minnesota has kept him on his toes. But as he settles in, he’s sure to find Janesville to be a great place to serve.

“I’m excited to be here serving the community,” Contreras remarked. “I’m praying that the church can be a shining light for all to see in Janesville. And I will serve Trinity Lutheran Church to the best of my ability.”

Mid Summer storms make havoc on much of Southern Minnesota

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

We’ve had quite the weather pattern this summer in Minnesota. It’s either hot and humid while sunny, wet and rainy, smoke has filled the sky, or we’ve had a combination of the two or three in a day.

On Monday, July 28, much of southern Minnesota – including our viewing area – was under an enhanced risk of severe weather (level three of five) with wind as the main concern with hail and tornadoes also possible. Later in the afternoon, Waseca County was included in a moderate risk (four out of five) as concerns of a significant wind event heightened. There was a risk of a derecho, an extensive line of storms that bow out and cause destructive winds, typically exceeding 80 miles per hour and causing similar damage to tornadoes. To be classified as a derecho, these storms must sustain these winds for 250 or 400 miles and last at least six hours.

In the evening, a line of storms developed hours north of the Janesville area, at first not severe. In the tri-state area of South Dakota, northeast Nebraska, and northwest Iowa, however, the storms were producing gusts of 80 to nearly



100 miles an hour. A report from Sioux Center, a small town in NW Iowa, showed a recorded gust of 99 miles per hour.

There was a brief break between the Iowa storms and the ones brewing in Minnesota, which lowered our severity level back to an enhanced risk.

However, as the storms approached Mankato, they intensified in severity until a severe thunderstorm warning was issued for Blue Earth, Le Sueur, Rice, and Waseca counties. The further east they rolled, the stronger they got. While Janesville was only at risk for 60-mile-per-hour gusts, Waseca and Owatonna were

later involved in a warning for 70-mile-per-hour gusts and small hail.

The warnings issued matched the damage observed the next morning. While this editor only saw minor damage to trees and plants in Janesville, the damage was more serious the farther east I traveled. Waseca experienced more tree damage, with larger branches snapping off due to the wind. Entire tree limbs were downed in Owatonna. We also received a tip that a barn was lost on the Jerry Gleason family farm east of Farmamerica in rural Waseca.

It was definitely not a good night for many. Outside of the

wind damage, reports of heavy rain were received from all around the country, with some claims that up to six inches of rain fell in the Waseca rural area. While there was another threat of heavy thunderstorms on Tuesday, July 29, these storms weren’t severe. In the case of Janesville, we only received occasional showers.

It was a reminder that while we’ve been pretty lucky not to receive too many severe thunderstorms in the area, it is still summertime in Minnesota, and anything can happen in a flash.



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Studio M steps up at second year anniversary



By JORDAN CARRILLO
Staff Writer

With a full year of competition and success behind them, Studio M, a dance studio in Eagle Lake, welcomed a line-up of fresh new faces during its one year anniversary on August 1.

Studio M is the product of a lifelong passion for dance by its owner, Marissa Starkey. The Mankato East alum and former Captain of the U of M Dance Team started her studio with open arms and high spirits, and the hard work over the past year has paid off in a number of ways, “The first year at Studio M was incredibly fun and rewarding. There were

challenges here and there, but this group of dancers has come so far.”

Although the studio has a somewhat small dance space, last year’s competition teams held roughly 20 students who competed in a variety of genres Hip-Hop, Lyrical, Jazz, and more. The teams fared well in a number of regional circuits throughout the midwest; however, their defining moments came at the National Competition in February 2025 in Galveston, Texas. Two of Studio M’s teams placed in the Top Five and Top Two, respectively, and a duet performance landed first place at the competition.

Despite a newly minted dance group, Studio M was acknowledged as one of the top performers at the National

Competition, and Starkey couldn’t have been more proud of this newfound success, “It’s such a surreal feeling to experience this for the first time with a completely new team... there were so many unknowns heading into the competitions, but this team (SMDC) believed in the culture we wanted to build, and worked so incredibly hard. I can’t express how proud I am of them.”

There are also recreational courses for people who want to swing their hips or tap their feet at Studio M, but auditions for the 2025-2026 season were recently held and will feature 26 dancers ranging from ages 2-18. While the SDMC will compete at many of the same regional meets, they are adding additional competitions to their schedule.

With Starkey and a few other instructors guiding them, Studio M is determined to help lead the competition teams to success. Although they have a long way to go before these competitions start in the late-winter and early-spring, “We’ll start working on routines in August then start to really dial in the winter...it’s a long process and we’re going to keep pushing our team to rise to the next level. These students have grown so much in the first year, and getting to work with them is beyond special.”

The Open House displayed much of the first year’s journey at Studio M. A slideshow revealed the transformation of the main competition team, the locations they traveled to to compete, and the camaraderie they shared along the way. Of course, some of the hardware they won was also prominently displayed in the studio’s hangout room. Starkey would be found welcoming new recruits to SDMC, sharing a laugh or two with families, and basking in the product of years of hard work, “I had been dreaming of owning my studio for so many years, and to call Studio M my own is a dream come true and such a cool feeling.”

Obituaries

Susan K. Krueger

Age 72, of Cleveland, GA, passed away on June 16, 2025, at a Gainesville Hospital.

She was born October 6, 1952, in Mankato, Minnesota, to Walter and Gladys (Reinhart) Krueger.

She graduated from Janesville High School in 1970. She attended Mankato State College 1970-1972. She graduated from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1975 and a Master of Business Administration in 1982. She completed her Juris Doctor degree from Georgia State University in 1993.

Throughout her career, she worked at several accounting firms in Chattanooga. In 1986, she joined Cleveland, Georgia's Original Appalachian Artworks, Inc. (home of the cabbage patch kid) and was the Vice President of Finance. After retiring, she worked part time at H&R Block and as a Financial Secretary for the Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Gainesville.

She enjoyed baking, golfing, and traveling. She was of the Lutheran faith and a member of the Good Shepard Lutheran Church.



Susan Krueger

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Thomas Krueger, sisters-in-law, Janice Krueger and Linda Krueger, and brother-in-law Harlen Renken.

She is survived by her brothers, William Krueger Sr. of St. Joseph, MO and Roger (Donna) Krueger of Eagle Lake, MN, and Joyce Renken, Stewartville, MN and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Special thanks to her dear friends Ruth, Mary Lou, Janie, and Lili.

Per her wishes she will be laid to rest in Minnesota with a celebration of life at a later date.

Not so Minnesota nice

Jay's Way

By Jordan Carrillo



It’s not often that I empathize with the plight of Minnesota sports fans, but considering the Twins traded nearly a third of its roster at the trade deadline...I’m willing to make an exception. Y’all good? Need a hug or a shoulder to cry on? My fellow reporter Ricardo has been distraught since the only Minnesota team he roots for unilaterally decided to uproot its season at the end of July. It’s a sinking ship and Ricky Moreno is jumping off early.

Of course, I’m sure many Twins fans feel emotions similar to betrayal after all the moves, but any seasoned and cynical sports fan, like myself, understands that this gutting is a calculated business decision for a struggling franchise. The Pohlrad family has owned the Twins since 1984—at the cheap price of 44 million dollars—and this reinvigorated team found immediate success with World Series wins in 1987 and 1991 with players like Kirby Puckett leading the charge.

Those two championships helped increase the value of the Twins exponentially; however, the team itself has been hard pressed to find that winning

formula again. Stars like Joe Mauer, Justin Morneau, Johan Santana, and others were centerpieces for a good Twins team, but the front office never could acquire the right horses to ride alongside them. These last five years (July 2020-July 2025) have tested the patience and loyalty of starved fanbase with a 403-407 record and just one playoff appearance in 2023.

This season appeared promising at the start of the year, but by the halfway point, this organization figured out where they stood in a lackluster AL Central division. Trading away key players like Carlo Correa, Harrison Bader, Willi Castro, and Jhoan Duran sent a clear and concise message to Twins fans that not only is the season kaput, but this

organization, which has reached the end of its financial rope, has shifted its mentality to operating more like a business rather than a winning franchise. The first step in solving a problem is acknowledging the truth of the matter.

But anyone paying close attention to these kinds of transactions understands these moves were simply to reduce payroll and mitigate losses until the Pohlrad family can sell the team to the highest bidder. They’ve attempted to sell the team since October 2024, and suitable replacements have been few and far between for this metropolitan squad. There was some courting with one bidder, Justin Ishbia, but decided to turn his attention to an AL Central rival in the

Chicago White Sox. Oof, I know the Twins haven’t been tearing the seams off the ball lately, but the White Sox have only won 83 games (so far) in the past two seasons.

Admittedly, I can empathize with the frustration this fanbase has toward management and many have denounced their loyalty to the squad until new owners take over the team. On the surface, it’s an easy thought to have because so many sports fans care about the here and now when it comes to their sports teams, but only a few have the foresight to see the process at play here. The Twins’ business plan is no different than what the Washington Nationals did in early 2022, Los Angeles Angels did in February of this year, hell, the Marlins have dumped payroll twice since 2018, or the Oakland A’s since...I don’t know...forever? You might question that last one, but who exactly is playing in a minor league park for the next three years? I’ll wait.

Still, it’s fair to say these next few seasons for the Twins might be a tough watch for their fans. Not me, I’ll be over here shouting “Go Cubs, Go”.

Portion of Hwy. 14 to close near Janesville next week



JANESVILLE, Minn. (KEYC) - A heads up for drivers: some road work starting next week will close a portion of Highway 14 near Janesville.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation will temporarily close westbound Highway 14 east of Janesville starting Monday, August 11, 2025 for concrete panel replacement work.

Westbound Highway 14 will be closed between Waseca County Road 17, that’s near the Crystal Valley Co-Op and Waseca County Road 33, near the Ethanol Plant.

Traffic will be detoured to Old Highway 14 during the project, which is expected to take about a week, weather permitting.

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ZED by Duane M. Abel

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Big Beautiful Bill will take bite out of Food Assistance

By JORDAN CARRILLO
Staff Writer

The following is an editorial series featuring the economic impacts of The One Big Beautiful Bill Act enacted by President Trump on July 4, 2025. Following a 218-214 vote in the House of Representatives, the BBB won a narrow 51-50 victory in the Senate; the bill serves as an extension of President Trump’s 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

On the surface, the BBB centers around increased funding for border security, national defense, and energy production; however, federally funded programs like Medicaid and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) will experience significant cuts to their funding. Additionally, the BBB will impose a no tax on overtime, tips, and social security.

In a year that experienced record-high inflation due to the current administration’s tariffs, the Big Beautiful Bill may leave millions of Americans, who may already be financially strained, with even fewer resources. Low-income individuals and families, elders, and people with disabilities may be the first to feel a big ugly sting from this legislation; however, the facilities who provide these vital resources will slowly, but surely be stung as well. In a country that wastes 30-40% of the food it consumes, no man, woman, or child should go hungry. It shouldn’t be a controversial statement to say that everyone is entitled to a nutritious and quality meal.

One specific resource that will take a hit due to this legislation will be food assistance programs like SNAP. Nearly 42 million Americans, including 16 million children, 8 million seniors, and 4 million non-elderly adults with disabilities receive SNAP benefits and the program has been cited as the “most effective defense” against hunger in the United States. However, SNAP will experience its biggest funding cut in the program’s history (\$187 billion thru 2034) as well as impose stricter eligibility requirements. These updated



requirements could spell disaster for 22.3 million US families who run the risk of losing some or all of their SNAP benefits and increase food insecurity amongst low-income Americans.

But let’s look into the efficacy of SNAP before the BBB took a bite out of its funding. In order to determine SNAP benefit amounts, the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) utilized a “market basket” known as the Thrifty Food Plan and would make “adequacy adjustments” every five years in order to combat inflation (TFP) although the most recent adjustment was made in 2021—its first since 1975. That adjustment caused a 21% increase to SNAP benefits and helped keep 2.9 million Americans out of poverty. However, the Big Beautiful Bill will now require the TFP to operate at a neutral cost, meaning the USDA can no longer adjust the calculations for SNAP benefits, even if their data suggests an adjustment is necessary. Requiring the federal government to complete this detailed analysis but prohibiting them from acting on their findings is ineffective policymaking and a poor use of government resources.

While that increased benefit amount was beneficial in 2021, recent inflation caused by tariffs and shortages have seen food prices soar throughout the country, making SNAP ever so essential for millions of Americans. With the most recently available data (2024), a nationwide study by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) showed that due to the current level of inflation—at that time—the maximum SNAP

benefit (292 for a single person/975 for family of four) did not cover the cost of a “modestly-priced meal” in 99% of the counties observed. Furthermore, in 53% of these documented counties, the meal could cost up to 20% more than the maximum SNAP benefit and recipients may have to spend approximately 53 dollars to cover the gap. Meaning there’s virtually nowhere in the United States where a family of four (nearly 40% of all SNAP recipients) can reliably afford food month-to-month without food assistance. In a time of rising food prices, every dollar matters toward putting food on the table.

Where food assistance programs like SNAP may fall short in the coming months, local food shelves and food banks will also suffer the strain of the Big Beautiful Bill. Facilities like the Janesville Community Food Shelf, Waseca County Food Shelf, and others that provide hundreds of families, elders, and low-income individuals an array of canned goods, fresh produce, and everyday items like toilet paper and cleaning supplies. Many of these local food shelves utilize a federal program called Channel One in order to keep their pantries stocked; however, as the demand for food assistance increases and SNAP decreases, these places will be the first line of defense against hunger.

For Waseca County, the Waseca County Food Shelf (WCFS) services up to 550 people every month and in 2025 alone, has donated over 100K pounds of food to approximately 3100 households. Cindy Kolander is the Director

of the Waseca Area Service Center and oversees the operation of the WCFS and spoke on the potential impacts the BBB will have on local food assistance.

The WCFS has gone through an evolution since its inception in 1973; it used to be a standalone food shelf until the demand became too high for such a small space, so it merged with the community thrift store next door in 1982. In December of 2022, an addition was built to meet increasing demands. Since then, the location has been a “real staple in the community” according to Kolander and has been providing an essential service to those in need. The WCFS relies heavily on generous donations from the community in order to feed the community; local gardeners will provide fresh produce and volunteers will help purchase meat, dairy, bread, and other vital items.

Although the true ramifications of the BBB have yet to fully hit these local food shelters, Kolander has noticed a recent downtrend in donations by Channel One, and worries the legislation will put a strain on WCFS to meet demands, “With SNAP taking an inevitable hit, people are going to rely on their local food shelves more, and that in turn will increase our need to seek more donations and purchase more food.” For the time being, Kolander maintains a positive outlook, “It takes a village to keep this going, and we do what we can to get the word out that there is a need for food assistance in the community. Everyone is feeling the pinch right now, but we’re going to make sure families can still put food on their tables.”

It’s too early to gauge the net impact the Big Beautiful Bill will have on millions of Americans, but one thing is clear: food assistance programs like SNAP and food shelters like WCFS have been fundamentally altered for the foreseeable future. Low-income individuals and families, elderly, and people with disabilities are the most common recipients of food assistance; therefore, they will be the most vulnerable groups affected by this legislation.

McGowan Farm hosts Lost 40 Music Festival July 31 - Aug 3



From Thursday, July 31, to Sunday, August 3, the locally famous McGowan Farm was home to the Lost 40 Music Festival, a humble-sized multi-day event featuring several acoustic acts, some local and others more well-known in the folk and indie industry. (Journal Photos by Mike Roy)

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

Tucked within the Jack McGowan farm, just minutes from Mankato this past weekend, was a festival filled with acoustic music, fire spinning, colorful and imaginative art, and a place where people of different backgrounds were welcome.

From Thursday, July 31, to Sunday, August 3, the locally famous McGowan Farm was home to the Lost 40 Music Festival, a humble-sized multi-day event featuring several acoustic acts, some local and others more well-known in the folk and indie industry. The main act was a group called F4MIL7, with more musical entertainment from Jon Wayne, Smokin’ Joe, Pay Forsyth, and Lucas Volz of Useful Jenkins.

Clark Davidson, one of the festival organizers, explained that the name “Lost 40” was inspired by an area of the same name in Northern Minnesota. According to Davidson. Early settlers in the 19th century struggled to complete land exploration during the harsh Minnesota winters. The story was that they marked the rest of the unexplored territory as the nearest lake, Coddington Lake. It turned out that, as the logging industry cut and milled most of the surrounding timber, about 40 acres of old red and white pine trees were left untouched. This area, now a 114-acre Scientific and Natural Area, contains 32 acres of nearly 300-year-old trees and is part of the Chippewa National Forest.

Despite the name being inspired mainly by a Minnesota forest, the festival itself started in Iowa, Davidson’s home state. However, he claimed that there was a “Lost 40” in Iowa, too. “When the land surveyors divided parcels of land by the mile, they used a rope,” he elaborated. “When they were going through hills and valleys, sometimes, they’d lose a few inches and feet here and there, leaving pockets of area that were actually left undiscovered or unaccounted for.”

For several years, the festival was held in a natural area patrolled by the state of Iowa. When Covid-19 happened,

they couldn’t have the festival there anymore. It was then that the festival was moved to McGowan’s Farm, where it has taken place ever since.

One of the main points highlighted about the festival was its community aspect. “We want everyone to feel welcome here,” Davidson said. “We don’t care about your politics. We aren’t partisan one way or the other. The way the world works now, we’re all in our boxes, and everything’s compartmentalized. We get on the land and interact in an archaic way here.”

While the fire spinning and music are fun aspects, the one part of the event that gets everyone emotional is the community meal. They don’t have any food vendors on site, so they have volunteers grab food to create the feeling of sharing and gathering on the land. When it’s time for dinner, everyone gets into a circle, a “talking stick” is passed around, and everyone shares something about themselves.

When the talking stick goes around, Davidson says it can get emotional. “There are times when you are driven to tears,” he said. “It’s a beautiful thing.”

Even when there isn’t a musical act on stage, there is still music to be heard. The Journal arrived on the first day, and although we couldn’t stay for the music or dinner, we still got a taste of what the festival had to offer. One pairing of men performed a special sound therapy using a variety of gongs, including bowl gongs from Nepal and a flat gong that resembled an artist’s palette, which festival attendees were encouraged to lie under to experience the vibrations and relax.

Other festival goers were selling their wares. One artist, Taylor Rose, created paintings that can only be described as “trippy,” with colorful works that blend futuristic themes with animals. One piece, for example, depicted two massive gorillas holding a city surrounded by a mountain on their shoulders. Rose, who had been painting and drawing since he was five years old, shared that he was mainly

Lost 40
cont to pg 8

The changing times

After receiving some coupons in the mail this week, it reminded me of a newspaper printing from many years ago.

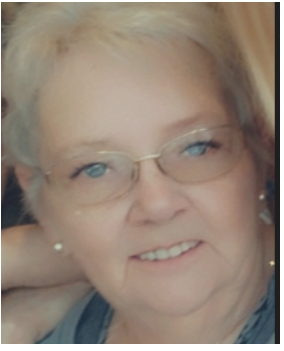
How many of you remember the Minneapolis Tribune? It was founded in 1867 and started with only six pages. Over the years it combined with other papers and added more things to read, therefore growing in size and pages.

The days of remembering that newspaper were when it contained a comic strip section, a travel section, and a coupon section. Also, they had help-wanted ads for people to apply for work which were pages long. The main section of the paper also had advice columns, crossword puzzles, along with local, state and national news.

I always enjoyed the comic strip section. If I remember right, one of the comic strips was called Dagwood, which I liked. Another one was Dennis the menace. I wonder what ever happened to the people that drew those comic strips?

I would anxiously go through the coupon section to clip coupons for buying groceries weekly. With the coupons, I could buy better brand items which were nice or not able to buy the item at all without the coupons. Now a days a person needs to download the store app to show coupon specials and get

Mother Knows
BEST
By Kathy Richardson
Copyright 2024 by Kathryn Richardson



discounts.

The jobs listings were usually in the twin cities so that didn’t excite me at all.

Back then the papers were delivered daily by newspaper boys to each house that subscribed to it. My son was one of those boys that delivered the papers. He would be up daily at 6 a.m. to get them delivered before he went to school. On Saturdays he would go collecting payment for the newspaper subscriptions. Many times, he got excuses of they had no money so come next week.

Collecting the payment was the only way they got paid for delivering the newspapers.

Many of the subscribers had very precise places that they wanted the papers placed. Those days you couldn’t put the papers in the mailboxes. My son had an apartment building that he delivered to and where he could only put the paper on the floor in front of their door. Sometimes the neighbor across the hall

would take the paper leaving the original subscriber to call saying that they didn’t get their paper. My son would then have to take them another paper. Just like the mail, the paper had to be delivered in the rain, sleet or snow. On Sundays, with the papers being so large, I would help him deliver them door to door.

The paper industry sure has changed over the years. Some smaller towns have started their own newspapers to tell of local events, sports of the local schools, news, and sometimes of job openings. There are also local obituaries and legal documents to publish.

Most of the smaller newspapers are only printed once a week instead of daily due to the high cost of printing, postage, employing their staff, and the amount of hours it takes to publish that newspaper. The papers are no longer delivered by hand but by mail. Nowadays when businesses want labor for

their business they go through a hiring company instead of advertising it in the local newspaper. When small towns have a celebration or event, they should advertise it in the local newspaper so that the event can be made aware and have a much better turn out. Another happening in your local newspaper is a business directory with individual advertisements for that business so that their business name is out there each week. Then when they have sales or specials, they can advertise with a larger ad to let the local people know about it through the newspaper. With this advertising, it also promotes their business, therefore making more money for that business.

Another important factor about local newspapers are that they provide local employment, which needs local housing for those employees. Which in turn helps other businesses and communities.

By publishing a local newspaper, the newspaper staff get to meet and enjoy the people from all walks of life at every event they cover or correspond with on a weekly basis, and the subscribers get all the latest news and coverage to know what’s happening in the towns they live in.

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St. Clair Archives

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

1944-45 (continued)
- Two sons of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kollos who were recently home on leave at the same time, have returned to their posts of duty. George F. Kollos, fireman

second class, has been stationed at St. Louis, Mo. since the completion of a 16-week course in electrical school at Great Lakes, Ill. He entered the service in December 1944.
- His brother, Sidney Kollos, Chief Petty Officer, radio technician, entered the service in October 1942. He was in the

Pacific nine months, and is now stationed at Capitola, Calif. He also attended school at Stillwater, Oklahoma, and Corpus Christi, Texas, in addition to boot training at Great Lakes.
- PTA Hears Talk by Navy Veteran. The St. Clair PTA held its last meeting on April 19,

in the school gymnasium. The highlight of the evening was an informal talk by Chief Petty Officer Sidney Kollos, home on leave from the U. S. Navy. He has been stationed on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific.
- 56 Private Everett G. Lynch has been presented with the expert infantryman badge. He

also has six other medals for his good work in camp. Lynch has been assigned to the infantry replacement-training center at Camp Rucker, Alabama, and is now transferred to Fort Ord, California. He expects to leave for Japan soon. He entered the service in January.
- Oscar Seys, technician fifth

grade has arrived at La Guardia Field, NY, aboard an air transport command transatlantic plane, after 33 months in the European Theater, where he served as a truck driver with the 10th engineers. He entered the service four years ago. Seys was awarded the European theater ribbon with eight stars, a presidential unit citation, and the French Fourreguerre with palm.



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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

1925
V. A. Hirscher and Alfred drove to Shakopee the forepart of the week to witness the pageant commemorating the 75th arrival of the first settlers there. The different episodes depicted, illustrating life in and around Shakopee since 1850 were doubly interesting to Mr. Hirscher, as he was born and arrived at man's estate there and had often heard the story. the episode of the battle between the Chippewas and the Sioux, occurring in the fifties, on the outskirts of Shakopee, witnessed by Mr. Hirscher's father was vividly portrayed and acted out by a number of Indians who came with their ponies from far and near, journeying thither to participate in the mimic battle. Another scene depicted was the first wedding among the settlers. The ceremony was performed by the minister who happened along opportunely, coming on horseback to visit the various frontier settlements.
- The editor of the Argus was very pleased to meet Mr. and Mrs. John W. Vars of Portland, Oregon, on their recent visit here at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Savage. Mr. Vars is one of the original Janesville old-timers, as he was here when the town first began showing sprouts. The two first buildings in the village were built by Mr. Vars' father in 1869, one of the structures housing the post office. However, he left here in 1872 and has been only an occasional visitor since. For many years, Mr. Vars was connected with the internal revenue office in St. Paul, but for the past 15 years has been a resident of Portland. He left Saturday for the coast, but Mrs. Vars will remain her for some time with her daughter, Mrs. Savage.
1950
Janesville and vicinity has now the advantage of an experienced electric repair man in the person of Curtis Walther, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sully Walther. That Curtis has proper training for such a venture is indicated by the fact that he has spent a total of 18 months at the Mankato Vocation School studying electric motors and has done considerable repairing of electric motors in this community. His repair shop is now located in the Walther Radio and Appliance Store, and, according to an advertisement on page six of the Argus, invites you to bring your electric motor

troubles to him.
- Latest news on the local tax front reveals that the tax levy bill of Waseca County taxpayers has soared \$129,004.93 in two years' time, according to a report issued today by the Minnesota Taxpayers' Association. Waseca County people this year have a real and personal property tax levy bill of \$1,011,468.8', perhaps the largest in the county's history. This is an increase of \$129,004.93 over the \$882,463.88 levied for 1947. The total includes levies for state, county, city, and village, township and school district purposes. This year's levy was assessed in 1949 and is payable in 1950.
- The new telephone directory for Waterville, Elysian, and Janesville are in the process of being printed by the Argus and in a day or two will be delivered to Mrs. Lyle Peterson, local chief telephone operator, who has the tiresome and tedious job of mailing the books. An advertisement inserted in the Argus by the Minnesota Community Telephone Co. asks that all old directories be thrown away as soon as the new ones arrive. According to G. E. Rohe, of Waterville, general manager of the company, anyone failing to receive a new directory should call central and another will promptly be sent.
1975
Janesville's All-State Band selection says she got "a fresh start and a new feeling about music" from attending the five-day session at Bemidji State University, July 23-27. Mary Beth Williams, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Willams, rural Elysian, was one of nearly 1,000 high school students who auditioned for the All-State Band in March. Only 144 students were selected from the 32 high school districts throughout the state. Mary, a senior at JHS this fall, told the Argus that she spent a lot of time with her clarinet during the five days.
- The final report on crop loss due to recent hot, dry weather won't be known until harvest time, but the yield will still be down because of it. So said Associate County Agent Ron Orth when the Argus talked with him yesterday. "The rain last Friday helped considerably," said Orth, "but we're still figuring on a 15 percent loss on corn. The beans weren't hurt as much and are podding out now.
- Douglas Nelson, 24, is the new administrator at Janesville

Nursing Home. He succeeds Carol Slack who has held the position since the home opened October 1, 1965. Miss Slack will be assisting Nelson throughout the month of August. She plans a month's vacation in September. Nelson and his wife, Suzanne, come to Janesville from Fulda, Minnesota, where he has been administrator of the Maple Lawn Nursing Home, a 62-bed facility. He has been there for two years.
2000
- Barb Strauss has been a mainstay of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School District for the past 29 and a half years. That ended last Monday, her last day on the job. Strauss decided about three weeks ago to turn in her resignation as Payroll Clerk for the JWP school district and move on to something new. On her last day, she was both excited about what new opportunity may lie ahead, and sad about leaving the place she has spent so much of her life. "I haven't cried yet, "said Strauss." But I know it will be hard to walk out at the end of the day."
- If you are in the mood for a good conversation, Reverend James Pudil, or Pastor Jim as he prefers to be called, is happy to oblige. You get the feeling that he will give you as much time as you need, that he is in no rush to get moving or end the conversation. It is clear he enjoys a good talk, and welcomes the opportunity to get to know you. This is a gift that will serve him well as the new pastor at the United Methodist Church in Janesville and the Elysian United Methodist Church.
- The Janesville City Council heard a proposal at last week's meeting for further study of the drainage problem in the south area of town. Joe Duncan of Bolton & Menk, Inc., outlined the engineering service they would provide for a not-to-exceed fee of \$1,200.00 some of the serviced included are the following: a. Research of existing drainage studies relative to this area of Janesville. B. Define existing watershed areas. c. Obtain and review current conceptual MnDOT drainage and road realignment plans for TH 14 and evaluate impact on study area. d. Calculate existing and developed runoff volumes for study area. e. Design of most feasible storm water conveyance system to serve existing areas of Janesville.



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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WASECA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 81-PR-25-477

In Re: Estate of
Robert O. Beelow,
Decedent

Court may issue a decree
distributing or assigning the
Estate's assets.
It is Ordered and Notice is now
given that the Petition will be
heard on August 27, 2025, at
9:00 AM, by this Court via Zoom,
see notice of remote hearing, at
307 North State Street, Waseca,
Minnesota.

Dated: 7/8/2025

/s/ Carol M. Hanks
Judge of District Court

/s/ Shannon Asselin
Court Administrator

NOTICE AND ORDER OF
HEARING ON PETITION FOR
SUMMARY ASSIGNMENT OR
DISTRIBUTION EXEMPT ESTATE

Notice is given that a petition
has been filed requesting that
the Estate assets be summarily
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Circus
cont from pg 1

artists, tight wire, and a duo of big cats. City Administrator, Jennifer Bromeland, would serve as the Assistant Ring Master alongside Simone Key or Miss Simone as she welcomed a packed crowd to the circus. She shared outside of the tent that it was a “bit of a surprise” to get the call from C&M about potentially performing in Eagle Lake. There was limited space for them to set up operations, but a patch of land behind the ballpark would serve them well...Bromeland thanked everyone from the EL Lions Club, City Council, to local businesses for selling tickets, and considered it a “real honor” for C&M to perform in “such a small town.”

As the show began, there was nothing small about the uproar these fans gave C&M as Miss Simone welcomed all to a night of unbelievable entertainment. Leading off the show was animal handler Trey Key who introduced not one, but two lions to the stage. Well, to be clear, he brought the adult lion, Solomon, first to play in order to avoid the two males scrapping for scraps. After a series of tricks which included a boastful roar by Solomon and some...minor relief for lack of better terms... the big cat would reveal his softer side by rolling over and exposing his belly. Key would go on to rub the lion’s tummy for a couple seconds, and Solomon let out an adorable whine when it was time to return to his cage. A brief moment of postering led to some oohs and awws by the audience, but Solomon would soon be replaced by a much younger cub in Nelson.

There was a bit of teenage angst from this youngster as he would become more enthralled by the audience noise than Key’s commands, but he would be a good boy and sit patiently for his master to summon him back to the podium. Sadly, as Nelson climbed down from his perch, he would slip off the platform and injure his back right leg. The dynamic appeared a bit different as the lad hobbled and made his way around the ring, letting out a whimper from time to time, but Key ensured the lion would be well looked over after the show. It was reported that



Nelson suffered a slight sprain in his knee, and is currently on rest until further notice.

Following the big cats, the C&M crew worked to disassemble the ring to open the space up for the next set of performances. Miss Simone invited audience goers to participate in a “roasted peanut giveaway” that would award two fantastic prizes and it would be a mad dash to some nearby vendors as kids frantically purchased peanuts. Upon announcing the winners of the

giveaway, Leo the Circus Clown entered the ring in a miniaturized hotrod before engaging in some buffoonery with a few patrons. He would select a volunteer from the crowd to join him on stage and perform a balancing act (Rolla Bolla) on cylinders of various sizes.

One of the most stunning performances came from Miss Simone herself as she defied gravity with her trapeze act. She would swing higher and higher throughout her performance, nearly touching the tent’s ceiling

before repositioning herself on the bar. Audience members watched with bated breath as Simone balanced herself in mid-air...some even looked away when she dangled herself off the bar with nothing but her ankles keeping her suspended.

She would then up the stakes by attaching a hook to the bar and wrapping a cloth around her neck. As she took flight, her assistant would spin her and Simone would twirl herself with blazing speed; it was a dazzling and dizzying display of dexterity and danger. Patrons were utterly stunned by the performance, and gave a standing ovation to Miss Simone once she safely reached the floor. Just a reminder: these circus performers are professionals of their craft with many of these acts being passed down over generations. Their acts should not be replicated without the proper training and knowledge.

There were other notable acts during C&M Circus such as a tightrope walker, a series of juggling acts, and the “Wheel of Destiny.” Two shows were performed and each one posted a sold out crowd eager to witness something truly majestic and incredible. It’s not often a small town like Eagle Lake can attract hundreds of folks to celebrate one event, but when the circus is in town, anything is possible.



Lost 40
from pg 5

inspired by video games and nature.

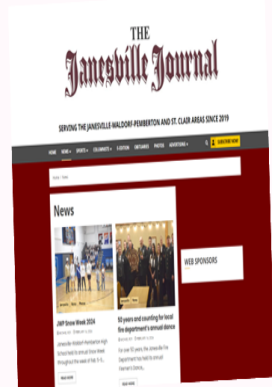
Other activities included slam poetry and a place for children. Yes, children are allowed at this festival. It is made clear what is allowed, though, and there are dedicated spaces for everyone. There are wristbands for certain situations. One wristband could indicate someone is under 21. Another one could indicate someone over 21, but may be someone recovering from an alcohol addiction, and doesn’t want to drink.

“We try to handle things

ourselves as much as possible,” Davidson elaborated. “We’ll get the cops involved if we have to. But we lean on the community to figure out situations ourselves.”

Overall, it was an interesting festival to observe. It was a mix of sharing arts and talents and enjoying getting back to the roots of being humans in nature. Although the festival has been a success for years, it may have to find a new home again. Jack McGowan is 85 years old, and the future of his farm and the festival is uncertain. But one thing will always remain the same: all who want to come experience the “Lost 40” music festival are welcome.





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