

# THE Jamesville Journal

No.37 Vol.7 \$1.50

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

Wednesday, September 10, 2025



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## 5 DAY FORECAST

**Wed 10 | 75°**  
Rain 15%

Wind ENE 5 mph  
Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High around 75F. Winds light and variable.

**Thu 11 | 80°**  
Rain 13%

Wind SE 9 mph  
Partly cloudy skies. High near 80F. Winds SE at 5 to 10 mph.

**Fri 12 | 82°**  
Rain 13%

Wind SSE 12 mph  
Partly cloudy skies in the morning will give way to cloudy skies during the afternoon. High 82F. Winds SSE at 10 to 15 mph.

**Sat 13 | 85°**  
Rain 11%

Wind SSE 8 mph  
Some sun in the morning with increasing clouds during the afternoon. High near 85F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.

**Sun 14 | 80°**  
Rain 24%

Wind SE 11 mph  
Mainly cloudy. High near 80F. Winds SE at 10 to 15 mph.

## Quote of the Week

*Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans.*

— John Lennon

## JWP aims to keep students safe

By MICHAEL ROY  
Editor

It's no secret that in the wake of the tragic shooting that happened at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis, paired with another incident of a suspicious person walking around the Mankato Loyola school building, there have been many concerns about the safety of students and staff in schools. There have been many discussions in the opening days of the school year about how to keep students safe.

We talked to several area schools. In this editor's case, I spoke with Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton's School Resource Officer, Sheila Jewison, about whether the recent shooting has prompted the district to increase its security measures. They haven't necessarily done that, mainly because their measures are already strict and they are always looking for ways to improve their security anyway.

"We have strong security measures in place, well-trained staff, and clear emergency procedures," she elaborated. "What's just as important is that we work every day to build positive relationships with students, so they get comfortable reporting concerns before they ever become safety issues."

The specific measures they have in place include having her as an SRO on campus; however, Jewison's role will diminish in the coming months. The district also has every visitor sign in at the main office, and they get their license to create a badge for them so they can be easily identified, and others are informed about where they are supposed to go; it's handy for those like me who visit the school frequently during the day for various reasons. Jewison also touted the school's "state-of-the-art" surveillance system, which is monitored constantly.

As the school SRO, Jewison's job, as she puts it, is split into three parts: safety, education, and relationship building. "I'm here to respond to emergencies if they occur but also to build trust with students, help resolve issues before they escalate, and support staff in creating a safe learning environment."

She also serves as the school's community resident expert on emergency planning and response. "Our goal isn't to instill fear; it's to cultivate a sense of secure, proactive readiness."

How does the school prepare

**JWP Safety**  
cont to Page 5

By MICHAEL ROY  
Editor

St. Ann Catholic Church of Janesville began the first weekend of September with its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, September 6, and Sunday, September 7. Although the typical September weather is more summerlike, this year's weather, especially on Sunday, featured the perfect taste of fall: sunny and warm enough to be comfortable in jeans and a t-shirt.

The festival always kicks off with a golf tournament at Prairie Ridge Golf Course on Saturday, and this year was no different. This time, Jim Schultz oversaw the tournament. Although there were some rain showers in the area, the event proceeded as planned.

Sunday was more of the usual stuff, but with a bit of a twist in Mass times again. Traditionally, St. Ann held Mass at 10 a.m., a perfect segue to the festivities. With St. Ann switching to a parish cluster with Waldorf and New Richland, and joining St. Clair and Madison Lake, things became complicated. While Father Rob Schneider took over, they switched the times in 2023, but not in the previous year.

For this year's fall festival, St. Ann decided to host both Masses that usually take place on Sunday morning, holding service at 8:30 and 10 a.m. All Saints in Madison Lake didn't hold Mass due to this, meaning that several members of that church had the opportunity to visit Janesville and attend the

## St. Ann Fall Festival



There was fun to be had for everyone at St. Ann's Fall Festival this past weekend.

(Journal Photos by Mike Roy)



festival. Despite the church pews not being as filled as they'd typically be at Mass, many came in droves for the lunch following the service. It was a choice of a pulled pork sandwich, a bratwurst, or a Polish sausage. While attendants filled their bellies with food, kids had the chance to play in bounce houses or get their faces painted while the adults looked at the items up for auction in the silent auction.

**Fall Festival**  
cont to Page 3

## First harvest season blossoms at Lee Irish Mountain Orchard

By JORDAN CARRILLO  
Staff Writer

As the weather transitions from warm summer days to cool autumn evenings, a familiar land outside of Elysian celebrated the changing of hands on Friday, September 5.

Irish Mountain Orchard has been a sweet slice of Elysian history since its original owner, Dr. Dwain Merickel planted the first apple trees back in 1970, and over several decades would become a full-fledged, 67-acre orchard ready for seasonal pickings of apples, pears, plums, and a variety of berries. Each fall season, Irish Mountain invited locals looking to fill a big or two full of Zestar, Connel Red, or Honeycrisp apples which would most likely be made into delicious apple pie or some warm cider during those chilly Fall nights.

As early as August 2024, the orchard would find itself for sale and in search of new owners to keep this paradise going strong, and a familiar family in Elysian, Jacob & Leslie Lee, jumped at the chance to begin a new chapter at the orchard. Nostalgia can be one powerful influence, and Irish Mountain Orchard held a special place in Leslie's heart as she recalled visiting the orchard as a child and "picking as many apples as I



A fun day for picking apples at the grand opening of Lee Irish Mountain Orchard on Friday, September 5.

(Journal Photos by Jordan Carrillo)

could" during the fall season. The Lees are no strangers to doing business in Elysian as the owners of Ahavah Cottage and Lollipops Bakery, and the family finalized the purchase of the now Lee Irish Mountain Orchard in June of 2025.

Once they could claim the land as their very own, the Lees soon realized the amount of work and determination it took

to till the land in preparation for their first harvest. Some new equipment like a harvester had to be purchased, but the real labor of love involved trimming around the hundreds of trees at the orchard, "It took a lot of work to clean up around the trees," noted Jacob Lee who would be seen driving the harvester around the land throughout the event.

Admittedly, the two weren't exactly green thumbs when it came to running an orchard, but Irish Mountain would have a strong foundation at its roots, and the Lees had an incredible team to help, "None of this

**Orchard**  
cont to Page 3

Community Happenings

- Potato Feed  
United Methodist Church  
Janesville  
Sept 14 11:30-1p
- JWP School Board  
Janesville  
Sept 15
- Over 50 Reunion  
St. Ann Parish Center  
Janesville  
Sept 17
- Trinity Lutheran 135 yrs  
Anniversary Celebration  
Janesville  
Sept 19-20
- St. Clair School Board  
St. Clair  
Sept 22
- 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**  
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**Paw Patrol Party**

Kids will have a paw-sitively good time celebrating their favorite neighborhood rescue dogs at **Janesville Public Library on Monday, September 15th at 4 pm.** Kids will play games and make Paw Patrol-inspired crafts. This free event is geared for ages 4-6.

**Trains!**

Put on your conductor hat while we get to work on the railroad's newest projects at **Waseca Public Library on Tuesday, September 16th at 10 am.** Kids will build trains, sort cargo, draw tracks, name trains, and more! This free event is geared for ages 3-6.

**Colorful Clothespin Magnets**

Make the ordinary more extraordinary with this simple, useful craft that turns clothespins into floral magnets at **Janesville Public Library on Tuesday, September 16th at 6 pm.** Free and geared for adults.

**Fall Book Preview**

Join Waseca Public Library staff for a preview of the most anticipated books of the fall on **Tuesday, September 16th at 6 pm.** Staff will help you load up your TO BE READ piles with book club picks, slow burn romances, fantasy fever dreams, domestic thrillers, literary magic, and more! Geared for adults.

**Virtual Author Event: Jefferson Fisher**

Local historian and librarian, Nancy Vaillancourt, has spent years researching the presence of the Ku Klux Klan in Southeast Minnesota. Vaillancourt will speak about this forgotten history and the organized traditions of prejudice and nativism in our region.

**Vaillancourt will speak at the following times:**

6 pm on Tuesday, September 23rd at Waseca Public Library

**Musical Bingo**

Rock around the clock at **Elysian Area Library on Wednesday, September 17th at 10 am** and **Waterville Public Library on Wednesday, September 17th at 3 pm!** Participants will play BINGO, but instead of calling out numbers, they will be listening for songs from the Sixties and Seventies. Geared for seniors.

**Virtual Author Event: Gabe Henry**

Author Gabe Henry will guide us on a surprisingly hilarious journey through the history of the English language, while he discusses troublemakers like Mark Twain who broke all the rules, at a virtual Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library System event at **1 pm on Wednesday, September 17th.**

In *Enough is Enuf*, Gabe Henry humorously traces the "simplified spelling movement" from medieval England to Revolutionary America, from the birth of standup comedy to contemporary pop music, and explores its lasting influence in words like color (without a U), plow (without -ugh), and the iconic '90s ballad "Nothing Compares 2 U." Finally, Henry brings us to the digital age, where the swift pace of online exchanges now pushes us all 2ward simplification.

Gabe Henry is the author of three books including the poetry anthology *Eating Salad Drunk*, a humor collaboration with Jerry Seinfeld, Bob Odenkirk, Mike Birbiglia, Margaret Cho, and other titans of comedy.

This event will be recorded and people who register will be emailed a link to the recording. Register at the library or at [wasecalesueurlibraries.com/getregistered](http://wasecalesueurlibraries.com/getregistered)

**Echoes from a Loafers' Club Meeting**

My doctor said I need to stop worrying so much, so I paid some guy \$60,000 to do all my worrying for me. Wow, \$60,000! How are you going to pay that? That's not my worry.

**Driving by Bruce's drive**

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. Serendipity is the search for one thing and finding another thing that's a treasure. Lost things become discoveries. If something isn't quick enough to get out of the way, someone will collect it because people will collect anything. Rubber bands, dolls, twist ties, comic books, toys, baseball cards, pens and pencils, ketchup packets, expired coupons and past due bills.

**School daze**

Years ago, I read to classes in school. I arrived early and watched as parents brought their precious young'uns to school. One man held his young son's hand. They both looked frightened, but the father wore a brave smile. The child had a worried countenance bordering on panic. It was hard to determine which one held the tighter grip. When they came into the school, the boy's grip lessened as he saw another boy he recognized—a friend or a relative. The young boy slipped his hand from his father's. The boy looked hap-

Happy anniversary to my bride



Compostings

by Al Batt  
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py. The father became a poster for a bittersweet moment. The fake smile had moved from the father's face to a genuine smile on his young son's.

**Those thrilling days of yesteryear**

The preacher visited my aunt. She was nearing 100 years of age and lived in an assisted living place. She needed to see a nurse and hoped the preacher would wait for her return. He was happy to do so. He sat down and read his emails. Then he noticed a bowl of peanuts next to the chair. He thought my aunt wouldn't mind if he ate a couple of them. They were good. It's hard to eat only two peanuts unless you're allergic to them. He got carried away and ate all but one of them. He couldn't take the last one. When my aunt returned, he confessed to eating all but one peanut. He apologized, saying, "Don't worry, I'll bring you a bowl of peanuts on my next visit."

"Oh, my goodness," said my aunt. "You don't need to bring me any peanuts. I can't eat them until I get my new teeth. I'd take some chocolate-covered peanuts, though. I suck the chocolate off

them and put the peanuts back into that bowl."

**Ask Al**

"Why did Cleopatra take milk baths?" Because she couldn't find a cow tall enough to take a milk shower.

"Why do we have to have blizzards?" So, we rural folks can hurry to town the minute the blizzard subsides and tell others how it wasn't that bad.

"What did unicorns eat?"

Fondue.

"How many apples can you grow on a tree?" All of them.

**Bad jokes department**

I switched all the labels on my wife's spice rack. I'm not in trouble yet. But the thyme is cumin.

For years, I believed the Earth was flat. Then I turned four.

My uncle was driving to work when he had his third flat tire of the week. That was the day he retired.

**In gratitude**

Happy anniversary to my bride, Gail. I fall more in love with you each year.

**Nature notes**

Carl and Cheryl Beckendorf of Fairmont found 24 monarch

butterfly caterpillars on one milkweed plant. An egg is about the size of a pinhead, and the butterfly usually lays a single egg on a plant, but egg dumps, where many eggs are laid on one plant, have been observed. Some butterflies don't get a chance to lay all their eggs. The eggs hatch in about four days (can be three to eight). Dr. Karen Oberhauser, former director of the Monarch Lab at the University of Minnesota, had a captive female that laid 1179 eggs in its lifetime, but the average is around 700. Fewer eggs are laid during hot, dry summers. Oberhauser reported one captive female laying 205 eggs in one day.

"I found a decapitated rabbit inside my fenced-in yard. Whodunit?" The great horned owl deals with large prey by beheading the victim and taking the head to its nest or nosing perch. That owl is the only wild predator that regularly kills skunks.

"How far does a honey bee travel during a foraging trip?" A bee could travel as far as 5 miles from the hive but typically forages closer to home. A single bee would visit 50 to 100 flowers of the same species unless there is a scarcity.

**Meeting adjourned**

"A person who is nice to you but rude to the waiter is not a nice person."—Dave Barry.

Be kind.

A vast change of pace at The Journal



Mikes Corner

by Michael Roy  
Staff writer

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This week was a short one for us. And boy, was it busy.

Some complications for us meant that we didn't go to press until Wednesday. We usually go to press on Mondays, but we had already planned to be a day late due to our special section for fall sports at JWP and St. Clair. Typically, we'd get our special sections (a separate tabloid) to the printer in Madelia by Friday. However, Labor Day meant that we couldn't send them over until Tuesday morning, pushing our press day to Tuesday. Some things happened, and we couldn't send the pages until Wednesday night.

So, I'll be the one to apologize for the lateness of our pages. It also affects the website, as I cannot post the E-edition until the print version is officially done.

That affected our planning for this week's stories. I wanted to take Saturday to visit a friend in the Twin Cities, whom I hadn't seen since the start of the summer. The caveat? That meant I had to spend most of Sunday and Monday working on my stories and pages. Much of my Sunday was already occupied because of the St. Ann Fall Festival. Not only did I cover the event for the paper, but since I play bass and sing with the church choir, I volunteered to play at two Masses that took place as part of the festival.

It's been a vast change in pace. August, at least for me, slows down here because all the celebrations usually wrap up by then (outside of Pemberton's Summerfest). We get a week or

two to catch our breath before preparing for the school year. Now that the sports previews are done, I've been running to cover games along with our other writer, Jordan. Thank goodness for him. We wouldn't be able to cover St. Clair as well without him.

We're already preparing special sections and getting ready for each school's homecoming. Trinity has its anniversary coming up, and St. Clair and JWP are likely scrambling to get things ready for their homecomings.

The scrambling is why I'm working on this column at 10:30 a.m. on press day. I don't like putting in half-hearted effort into these columns, but I think last week's topic was enough for me to take a break this week. My column probably came across as a bit negative anyway, given the subject matter of what happened at Annunciation Catholic School.

The football game between JWP and St. Clair this week was a great example of how we can find the light in times of darkness. It was a fantastic match between the two rival schools that gave everyone in attendance a few hours to forget the stresses of the week and enjoy some high school football.

because of how the team gathered in prayer after the game instead of jeering and celebrating. They were undoubtedly excited after completing the handshakes with St. Clair, but reflecting and thanking God afterwards in the huddle shows great humility from them.

It was something we needed to see in the wake of the tragedy at Annunciation. While it's been a crazy start to the school year, that moment was a highlight of the week.

I think it's going to be quite busy from here on out. We may get a bit of a break between fall and winter sports, but that's it. We'll do our best to cover it all as much as we can. As always, if there's something going on, please let us know. Thanks. Now, its time for me to prepare for the city council meeting.

TID-BITS OF TRIVIA

- In the news in 2012, a type of political fundraising group that can raise and spend unlimited money is called a what?
- In the novel "A Tale of Two Cities," Madame Defarge spends most of her time doing what?
- In the novel "Twilight," Edward and Bella attend Forks High School, located in what U.S. state?
- In the number 4.231, what digit is in the "hundredths" place?
- In the nursery rhyme "The Farmer in the Dell," what "stands alone"?
- In the Old Testament, who said, "I am a stranger in a strange land"?
- In the Olympics, a decathlon has how many more events than a triathlon?
- In the opening credits, what cartoon dad drops off his two kids at "Little Dipper School" and "Orbit High School"?
- In the original edition of "Trivial Pursuit," what category is represented by the color yellow?
- In the Oscar-nominated 2009 movie "Fantastic Mr. Fox," who voices Mr. Fox?

The answers to today's Trivia questions can be found on the Archives Page of the Janesville Journal.

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THE Janesville Journal

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**DEADLINE: FRIDAYS by 4pm**

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$50 Per Year, Janesville, Waldorf, Pemberton  
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Fall Festival

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With the silent auction closing at 12:30 p.m., the cash raffle followed with bingo starting at 1 p.m. Many also vied for the two special items up for auction, both of which were baked goods: chocolate chip cookies by Barb Ahlman and the Belgian waffle cookies by Mary Jo Pohlen. I, the editor, slightly regret not placing a bid on the Belgian waffle cookies, as I do love a good stroopwafel.

It was another fantastic weekend of good food, great fellowship, and terrific fun for everyone involved. We hope to get the final figures on how



much money was raised from the event soon.

Indigo Barefoot; Relaxation through yoga

By MICHAEL ROY Editor

Many times, fate decides it's time for change.

That happened with Christine Perry, owner of Indigo Barefoot, a formerly boutique-yoga business that has now transitioned to a strictly yoga-only operation.

"I decided I was at that point in my life where it was now or never," Perry explained. "So, I took the leap."

The leap was leaving an area where she had grown up and raised her kids for most of her life, owned a successful boutique business, and conducted much of her yoga instruction. She wanted to start her own business again from scratch, this time teaching yoga on her time.

"I lived in Lakeville for about 20 years and raised my family there," she said.

Perry had owned a successful boutique store in Lakeville for several years before coming here. She had also started teaching yoga before COVID, including at Powderhorn Park in Minneapolis, and earned a certification to teach groups. During that time, she additionally worked at a restaurant. After getting burnt out from the restaurant business, as much as she loved it, she decided to focus her energy on yoga.

"I feel like with the technology and phones we have, people are feeling so isolated and alone," she explained. "I feel people need a place to commune and come together for community."



While Janesville ended up on her radar, it wasn't at first. She had a potential space in Richfield that she was initially considering, which had an opening. However, nothing turned up. She wanted to be closer to the grandkids, but the space she found in downtown Janesville was a spot she didn't want to turn down.

"There was a place that I didn't end up getting, and I didn't want to miss an opportunity to be here," she shared. "I'm in a perfect location. It's right on the main road connecting Mankato and Waseca."

She started making the space her own about a year ago, and she admitted it took her a while to get things the way she wanted them. Part of that was deciding that she couldn't do it all. Being a boutique store and a yoga studio required opposite environments, and while there is the saying "opposites attract," Perry decided that wasn't the case here.

"I initially started with the

resale of clothing with the intent of donating a portion of the revenue to no-kill shelters for animals," she elaborated. "It is a passion of mine. However, it all took too much space. It was too much."

Perry thought back on her days in Lakeville running her boutique store. "I had gotten really popular there, but it was almost all clothing," she said. "The whole intent of that place was lost. It was a spiritual beginning that got flooded with clothing."

She didn't want that happening again in Janesville. So, she ditched the boutique and officially opened as a yoga-only business.

Her favorite part about the business is being able to create a "sacred space." "I want this to be a safe space for people to come in and feel like they can have that silence and downtime from the busy world," she said. "I love that there are so many things to do, and I love yoga."

She is also always promoting the health benefits of yoga. "It

moves your body in ways that are natural and facilitates restoration. It can be challenging, but it works all your intrinsic muscles and really makes your core strong. You gain more flexibility and mobility."

Perry knows firsthand the benefits of yoga. "I had gotten to a point in life where I'd run and get more aches and pains. It wasn't enjoyable anymore. But with yoga, I can release some of that tension."

For her, a challenge in owning a business is being everywhere and doing everything. It's why she decided to focus only on yoga. "It's much more simplified now," she said. "It felt like I was tearing it up and starting all over. Now that I've got the foundation set, I'm ready for more yoga classes."

She would like to expand her business in the future. Ideas she has include a monthly craft day or even incorporating pottery into her business. But for now, she's focused on the present. "I want to get to know the community of people who do come to yoga," she said. "I want to have a good idea of what people are looking for. The more information I gather from people, the better I understand what to teach. Everyone is different."

Perry knows how difficult it can be to change your life. But she believes she's here for a reason.

Janesville, whenever you're ready to take on some yoga and meditation, Indigo Barefoot's doors will be open waiting for you.

**Do you have NEWS you want to tell us about?**

Email Us At:  
[janesvillejournal@outlook.com](mailto:janesvillejournal@outlook.com)

Healthy Aging Month programming in September

St. Paul, Minn. — As more Americans reach older adulthood, the importance of supporting lifelong health and wellbeing continues to grow. Each September, Healthy Aging Month shines a spotlight on the opportunities that come with aging and encourages people to take steps toward a vibrant, fulfilling life. Healthy aging recognizes the value of nurturing physical, emotional, social, financial, and spiritual wellness at every stage.

The University of Minnesota Extension Department of Family, Health and Wellbeing invites anyone who is aging and those who support older adults to visit [z.umn.edu/HAM2025](http://z.umn.edu/HAM2025) to access resources and register for one or more of the sixteen free webinars covering topics such as:

- Health care directives
- Aging in place

- Transferring non-titled property
- Medicine cabinet safety
- The future of rural housing supply
- Clean energy as we age
- Reframing from ageism to age-friendly
- Healthy eating for older adults
- Intergenerational transfer of wealth

Our minds and bodies undergo countless changes as we age, but embracing a healthy lifestyle can help us navigate through these transformations with grace and vigor.

For more news from U of M Extension, visit [www.extension.umn.edu/news](http://www.extension.umn.edu/news) or contact Extension Communications at [extdigest@umn.edu](mailto:extdigest@umn.edu). University of Minnesota Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer

Orchard from pg 1

would have been possible without our incredible team helping us get the orchard ready. This has been a really fun adventure for us, and we're thrilled to see how far we've come."

The welcoming event would see a steady turnout as fall enthusiasts were ready to wear some flannel, pick some apples, and sip on some cider. There would be an Orchard Store inside one of the main barns that sold a variety of baked goods that featured the apples from the actual orchard in items like jellies, butters, and some righteous-looking apple crisp. The Lees intend to use this orchard's produce at Lollipops



as well. When asked about their favorite way to enjoy an apple, Leslie's top pick was apple cider with caramel, while Jacob's was the classic apple crisp. Visitors could also find other fall-themed treats and goods, from ciders and sauces to blankets and flannels. Families and couples would

then take to the orchard itself for a round of apple-picking. There's something peaceful about pulling an apple right for the branch and taking that first savory bite. The honeycrisp apple was delightfully sweet with a pinch of tartness that would entice a second and third

chomp. One family would even go as far as to load up a small wheelbarrow with apples, and the two young kids were so giddy to try one of them that they accidentally dumped out a handful or two on the ground in search of the best one.

As the Orchard opening continued, Christa Bohlmann would perform a cozy set of covers while Pleasant Grove Pizza would be crafting pizzas nearby. The Irish Mountain Orchard has been a haven for any fall enthusiast and a place to embrace another year's harvest during the autumn months. The Lees may be a busy folk, but they are determined to share this landmark location, and its beautiful bounty, with their local community for years to come.

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## From a land far far Away

By JORDAN CARRILLO  
Staff Writer

For most college students, summer vacation is a time of relaxation and destressing from a semester of studying, exams, and research projects. However, one dedicated student not only put on his best sales pitch to earn some spending money, he traveled all the way to Southern Minnesota of all places to do so.

If you reside in any rural towns like Eagle Lake, St. Clair, Madison Lake or anything neighboring Mankato's orbit, you may have seen, or heard, Jesper Mattias Mägi knock on your door for a moment of your time this past summer. Mägi is a 21-year-old law student from Estonia, but for the past three months, he called small-town Minnesota his home. As an intern with Southwestern Advantage, a company that sells educational textbooks, he spent his summer traveling door-to-door through the state's southern region.

Now you might be wondering, what is Estonia and where is it? Well, it's a quaint yet breathtakingly beautiful European country south of Finland and borders the Baltic Sea. Actually, similar to Minnesota in a sense, Estonia is the land of over 2,300 tiny islands to explore with a population of approximately 1.4 million. The country is so small, it only takes about "three hours" to travel from one coast to the other according to Mägi.

He is an only child to parents Kaidi and Andres and enters his second year of law studies at the

University of Tartu, the largest university in Estonia. Mägi has immense pride for his country as a reservist of the Estonian Defence Force, is a passionate soccer player, and considers himself a cinephile of foreign and domestic cinema.

This actually wouldn't be the first time Mägi has traveled to the United States as he spent a brief time in NYC with his mother several years prior to his time in Southern Minnesota. Of course, much has changed in the States since his last visit, so he would still experience a bit of culture shock living in the Midwest. "People were so nice towards me, a complete stranger, but there were a few surprises like drinking water with the ice, driving on the 'opposite' side of the roads, and just much bigger things are compared to home."

The internship with Southwestern Advantage would be a spur of the moment decision for Mägi as a "friend of a friend" persuaded him to join the cause of selling educational books to eager students back in November 2024. It would take an eight-month long training course before he would be prepared enough to make the trip, and it was a random chance that his team would be sent to Minnesota.

For the uninitiated, Southwestern Advantage produces a line of educational books, apps, and online resources designed for students pre-K thru 12th grade to assist with academic learning, reading retention, and life skills. They are mostly sold via door-to-door sales, but there are subscription websites families can access as



well. It was the mission statement of helping students improve in the classroom that motivated Mägi to be a positive force during his internship. "I learned during the trainings that parents can have a hard time keeping up with their kids' school work after a long day on the job, so the books are a helpful guide for both child and parent to help save time and build a strong bond."

Of course, door-to-door sales can be met with some resistance as residents may not wish to be bothered or just aren't the appropriate audience, so it would be a careful balance of charisma and understanding that would make Mägi successful this summer. "It was a really fun experience to be a part of this. I wasn't the typical salesman, but a student working an internship, so people were really nice to me." It's not often these small towns get mysterious visitors in town, so word of mouth soon

spread throughout Southern Minnesota about Mägi and that's when the books started flying off the shelves. "By my internship, I had a lot of people who recognized me before I even knocked on their doors. I sold about 50 or so books, but the program was about so much more than sales, but the people that you meet along the way."

His final few days of his internship ended in late-August and Mägi will now be returning to Estonia for his second year of law school. He reminisced on his time here in rural Minnesota, the lessons learned, and especially a healthy dose of Minnesota Nice. "I learned a lot about work ethic, discipline, and how to be a friend, even to complete strangers during this internship. I'm grateful I took a chance to be a part of it and I met a lot of friendly and interesting people throughout my three months here." We wish you luck on your studies.

## Alma City Days; a staple of small community for fifteen years



By MICHAEL ROY  
Editor

There's a running joke that this editor heard about the small metropolis of Alma City, located near the halfway point between Janesville and Waldorf: "If you blink, you'll miss it."

While Alma City is relatively small and a community I don't cover too often for the paper, they are a tight-knit group who are willing to help their own. They have their own version of a town celebration, "Alma City Days," which took place on Saturday, September 6. While an entire street block or two may be filled with food trucks and rides, this one takes place in a large yard and is more like a cookout between friends. But anyone who wishes to visit is always more than welcome.

The Zells have been the hosts of the Alma City Days for years. "We've been doing this for about 15 years now," Nick Zell shared.

"It's a fun thing for our little community to do," Lily Zell echoed. "We always have a good turnout. It's something that brings people together."

Part of the festivities includes a hog roast, with the hog provided by Strobel Farms,

and Dave Oelke taking on the processing with help from Nick Zell here and there. Along with pulled pork from the hog, baked beans were also offered, and attendees were asked to bring a dish to share. Part of the serving tent was dedicated to dessert.

The Alma City Days celebration also features musical entertainment. While it's usually been the Barn Boys of Waldorf or local singer-songwriter Pete Klug taking the gig, it was grandfather-grandson duo Generation Gap – consisting of pianist Rod Scheitel and guitarist Carter Quast – that took the gig this year.

Nick Zell gave many thanks to those who attended and even more praise to those who helped, including the Oelkes and Laus. He joked that he had included multiple times in his notes to thank his wife, Lily. You can never be too thankful for your spouse.

While the event was low-key, it showed that Alma City is a tight-knit community, even considering its small size. It was a friendly atmosphere and a great way to enjoy the weekend. Who could turn down pulled pork?

## Praise be to the Oval-Shaped Object

After six months of dread-filled days and nights of insomnia, this friendly reporter can happily report that football is back in full swing. Hut, hut, hallelujah! Gone are the melancholy days of ESPN Ocho, bowling tournaments, and NFL Replay reruns as the NFL and college football seasons are underway.

Well, at the point I am writing Jay's Way, the Monday Night Football game hasn't been played out, and I'm up against a strict deadline of "whenever I get them in" so who knows how this opening week ends. I'm hopeful the team that haunts my existence, the Chicago Bears, can implement our new coach Ben Johnson's visionary offense against a team that haunts most of this state's existence, the Minnesota Vikings. I wish JJ McCarthy luck, but I also hope he throws 10 interceptions, ha!

One of the shocking developments that occurred just as the final inflation of air inside

## Jay's Way

By Jordan Carrillo



the pigskin was the trading of former Dallas Cowboys DE Micah Parsons to Green Bay. It's rare that a player of Parson's caliber would be so frivolously discarded by Jerry Jones, and it's even rarer that one city would be responsible for trading off its most valuable asset at the whim of an egomaniac. Feels like one of those "if I had a dime for every time" moments, and lo and behold, I have a pair of FDRs in my pocket. I'll give you a second to rummage in your pocket for change. Dallas did impress me with their gutsy

performance against the reigning Super Bowl Champions, the Philadelphia Eagles, but in the end, the bad juju struck again as CeeDee Lamb dropped three passes like they were slathered in olive oil and ouzo. Mmm. Throw some parsley on that and ooh wee.

The professional ball has enough headlines to keep me chattering for 300 more words or so, but a more thought-provoking discussion surrounds two college coaches who made a poor impression to start their seasons: Bill Belichick and Kalen DeBour. Let's start with the latter coach, DeBour who unfortunately has to follow the absolute legend Nick Saban as the face of Alabama football. Since NIL has sunk its claws into the NCAA, the once nearly untouchable Tide has slowly become washed out amongst its fellow programs Georgia, LSU, and other teams in the SEC.

Nobody wants to be the guy that replaces "the guy" but DeBoer has enough courage to want to be that guy; however, nobody can be "the guy" like Saban was the guy at Alabama. The entire power structure began to evolve in Saban's final few years as Head Coach, and he left behind a legacy that might actually get in its own way for the next few seasons... whether or not DeBoer is the one calling the plays. Being a fading dynasty desperate to return to glory results in unreasonable expectations for any coach who isn't "the guy", which makes a defeat to the Florida State Seminoles, a quality program, a

beacon to consider sending DeBoer packing after the very first game of the season. For now, his job is safe after a 73-0 thrashing of LA-Monroe, but it will be interesting to see how much longer the leash will be.

And then there is Belichick who actually is the guy...at least on the professional level which made his bizarre transition to coaching college football at North Carolina so peculiar. UNC is not generally considered a football school...in fact I could name several sports they excel at before football even crosses my lips...or tapped on the keyboard: men & women's basketball, lacrosse, soccer, field hockey, tennis, hell even competitive acapella. Not to mention Belichick's strange relationship with Jordan Hudson, who is 49 years younger than him, being an active presence and, mostly, nuisance during the buildup to the season.

Explaining the intricacies of their relationship is beyond my paygrade and my ability to appropriately convey my feelings, but I'll just say this: hmm. That's it. That's the remark. The eight-time Super Bowl winning coach had himself a rough go for his first game with UNC as they would have their Tarheels blown off by TCU 48-14. They were able to bounce back with a convincing 20-3 win over Charlotte, so there is some hope for him to turn North Carolina into a respectable program.

There is still so much football left to be played that what I say now may look like proper bollocks by November and December. DeBoer and Belichick could be circling the drain or rising to the top of the standings...all we can do as fans is simply wait. Which I know is hard for some of you because you're Vikings fans. Remember going 0-4 in the Super Bowl?

I sure do.



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## Mankato Symphony Kicks Off 75th Season with a Bang at Symphony on the Prairie

By JORDAN CARRILLO  
Staff Writer

Despite some turbulent weather on the horizon, the Mankato Symphony Orchestra (MSO) delivered another standout performance during the fifth annual Symphony on the Prairie concert at Benson Park on Saturday, September 6. The performance would be the opening salvo of MSO's 75th anniversary concert tour that will span from September 2025 to May 2026 with a medley of varying events, concerts, and public appearances.

Founded in 1950, the Mankato Symphony has brought over 70 years of great music to South Central Minnesota. Over the decades, this rag-tag group of locally talented musicians has been entertaining crowds with its unique blend of transcendent classical scores and modernist pieces from cinema, Broadway, and television. There's no denying each musician's incredible skills, but it's the passion of the MSO that has kept it alive for so many generations.

The Symphony on the Prairie event, sponsored by the City of North Mankato and local businesses, was free to the public, though a free-will offering was collected to support the orchestra. This concert marks the first of twenty-two events scheduled for the MSO's milestone season. "We're delighted to invite you to our 75th Anniversary, a remarkable



milestone that honors our legacy while embracing new horizons," said Executive Director Bethel Balge, who took the stage to address the crowd. Balge noted that early bird subscriptions for the rest of the season—including four full symphony concerts and four chamber music events—are now available online at [www.MankatoSymphony.org](http://www.MankatoSymphony.org).

A record crowd of families, music lovers, and even their four-legged friends gathered on the north side of the park, filling the open prairie with blankets and lawn chairs. The beautiful weather provided the perfect backdrop for the two-hour concert which featured a showcase of patriotic anthems, pop-culture medleys, and classical favorites. The show, conducted by Ernesto Mussi, began with a moving rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" that set a patriotic tone for the evening. Mussi, who is in his fourth year with the MSO, was selected through a national search and is credited with choosing the diverse setlist

for the concert.

The program was a testament to the symphony's range, seamlessly transitioning from solemn and classical to joyful and whimsical. It would be an emotional-filled set of performances as certain pieces would ignite familiar feelings of happiness, sadness, and child-like wonder. Highlights included a powerful medley from the musical West Side Story, a dramatic and playful performance of music from Pirates of the Caribbean, and a mashup of familiar tunes by legendary film composer John Williams, including themes from Jaws, Indiana Jones, and Star Wars. The musicians added a touch of flair to the pirate-themed piece, raising their bows like swords, a detail that delighted the crowd. The concert truly took on a more backyard bbq atmosphere with its modern selections. The orchestra's performance of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" invited the crowd to sing along, shred an air guitar during a medley of

Journey hits, and a high-energy ABBA montage had people on their feet and tapping their toes.

As the sun set on the prairie, the show concluded with two timeless marches by John Philip Sousa: "Washington Post" & "Stars and Stripes Forever". During the finale, two piccolo players shined in their solo and received a nod of approval from their conductor, Mussi. The crowd would embrace the patriotism with open arms as they clapped along to the memorable rhythm, and Mussi beamed with pride at the impact the music had on those who attended.

Symphony on the Prairie would be a marvelous way to kick off MSO's 75th anniversary tour and its Diamond Season of performances. Music can be a powerful agent to bring people from all corners of life together and concerts like this help keep the passion for making incredible experiences alive, hopefully for another 75 years.

## JWP Safety from pg 1

for critical incidents, such as threats or intruders? They use procedures like the "I Love U Guys" Foundation's reunification process, which provides a layout to help students be released safely from school to their parents or guardians during a crisis. The district also utilizes ALICE training – Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate – a program designed to help school staff and students respond to situations involving an active shooter or intruder.

"I actually trained the JWP staff on ALICE last week," Jewison says. "A tour was also given to the Waseca County Sheriff's Department last week to familiarize them with the building."

Other schools in the county – Waseca and New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva – also received visits from the sheriff's office to help them familiarize themselves with their buildings in the event of an active incident.

Jewison did admit that while JWP does regularly go through practical scenarios that could trigger lockdowns, it hasn't done actual lockdown drills in a couple of years. This is because JWP had its own incident on January 10, 2023, when several students received an "airdropped" message with a picture of a gun titled "school shooter." Many of the students

are still dealing with some lasting traumatic effects from that day. However, Jewison did report that they are considering bringing back drills to "get students to practice getting to rally points."

To families who may still be nervous about school safety considering the Minneapolis tragedy, Jewison offers these words of comfort: "It's natural for parents to worry, but I want them to know our school is prepared. We have strong systems in place, we train regularly, and we continually improve our security measures. Most importantly, JWP and the Janesville Police Department work together to ensure the school feels like a safe, welcoming place where children can focus on learning and growing."

Jewison also suggested some tips for parents and the community looking to help: "The most important thing parents can do is talk to their children and remind them to report anything that feels unsafe. Following school policies – like checking in at the office and wearing visitor badges – also helps us maintain a secure environment.

"Safety works best when it's a true partnership. Parents and community members can also educate themselves on the JWP Crisis Management Plan. This lays out what can be expected during emergencies, how parents will be notified, and where to go for reunification."

## Waseca Hockey Association awarded Minnesota Wild "Skate It Forward" grant to support young players

Waseca, MN – The Waseca Hockey Association is proud to announce it has been awarded a grant from the Minnesota Wild Foundation's Skate It Forward initiative. In this inaugural year of the program, the grant will cover the first-year registration fees for all new Waseca Hockey players ages 8 and under.

The Minnesota Wild Foundation launched Skate It Forward with a clear purpose: to grow community hockey participation in Minnesota by making it easier for first-time

players to get on the ice. The long-term goal of the initiative is to one day make the first year of ice time free for every young hockey player in Minnesota.

"Hockey is hard enough. Getting on the ice should be easy."

With the support of this grant, the Waseca Hockey Association can help remove financial barriers for families, ensuring more children have the opportunity to experience the sport, build skills, and create lasting memories on the ice.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Minnesota Wild

Foundation through this exciting new program," said Matt Schmidtke; Waseca Hockey Association President. "This grant opens doors for kids who may not have otherwise had the chance to play hockey, and it allows our association to continue growing the love of the game in our community."

Families are encouraged to take advantage of upcoming opportunities to try hockey in Waseca:

Try Hockey for Free – Sunday, October 12 at 8:00 a.m. at the Waseca Community Arena

Girls Try Hockey For Free – Saturday, October 18 at 11:45 a.m. at the Waseca Community Arena

The Waseca Hockey Association encourages families interested in registering their first-time players ages 8 and under to visit [wasecahockey.org](http://wasecahockey.org) for more details. Waseca Hockey is open to all students attending Waseca, WEM, JWP and NRHEG schools.

To learn more about Skate It Forward or to donate, visit [www.skateitforward.org](http://www.skateitforward.org).

## The roles we all play



There are three types of families that we will use, for example to play the roles of different types of people and what political role they portray.

These families are neighbors who live next to each other with a playground across the street and a school on the corner of the block.

The number one family has a decent job which they go to every day, and do their best at, pay their taxes, own their own home, and provide for their two children. The children go to school every day, get good grades, and participate in school activities. Each family member has their responsibilities at home along with the children having discipline from both parents.

Number two families have decent jobs which they go to every day, work only hard enough to keep their job, pay their taxes, rent their home, and provide for their children most of the time. The children go to school most of the time, get

average or below average grades, and don't participate in any school activities. These children have no chores or responsibilities when they come home from school, and much too often must make their own supper. With these children having little supervision, they start to roam the streets, looking for trouble, and too often finding it. Eventually they get caught by the police, arrested, given a slap on the wrist, and sent home to start the next day, the same as the day before getting into more trouble.

Number three families have

well to do jobs in which they entertain friends and fellow workers. They invite their friends to cookouts at home, and the friends stay longer than expected. So, the family, not sure what to do, start putting up tents in the garage for everyone to stay while parking their cars in the driveway. More friends came, making the garage not enough room, so they started putting the so-called friends in the backyard. Soon the backyard was full, so they started putting them in the playground across the street. The family no longer knew who any of these

people were or where they came from and couldn't get them to leave.

The garbage started building out of control. The family would make meals which some of the people didn't like so would throw away and demand food that they wanted.

Soon, these people from the tents, wanted money to buy clothes, medical care was needed, some needed abortions, and they laid around all day doing nothing but drinking and drugs. The children of these tent people needed to go to school which overloaded the classroom sizes at the school on the corner.

The family, which started all this, soon ran out of money to feed, clothe everyone, and pay for medical expenses. They soon went to the neighbors for help with money to pay for all the expenses. The neighbors, feeling intimidated, felt that they had to help.

What is society coming to and when will it end?

## JWP School Board

Proceedings of the JWP Regular Board Meeting  
July 21, 2025  
5:30 PM Media Center

1. Chair Daschner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Those present were: Sherri Daschner, Laura Seys, Katie Cahill, Kevin Born, Dave Olson, Monica Erickson, Joanie Olson (arrived at 5:31 p.m.), Superintendent Jeremy Erler, Business Manager Wendy Dieker, Exec. Asst. to Supt/Human Resources Anika Adams, Sean Finley of the Janesville State Bank, and Michael Roy of the Janesville Journal.

2. Reading of the district's mission statement:

Providing an exceptional education where all students are known, valued, and empowered to thrive.

3. Core Values and Belief Statements:

Integrity: We believe in operating with honesty, doing what's right even when no one is looking, and being accountable for our actions.

Growth: We believe in providing safe opportunities and support to excel academically, socially, emotionally, and physically.

Connection: We believe in fostering internal and external partnerships with transparent communication at all levels.

4. Additional items for the agenda

5. A motion to approve the agenda was brought by L. Seys and seconded by D. Olson. Upon vote, motion carried 6-0.

6. Recognition of visitors and open forum

a. Policy 206 - Public Participation in School Board Meetings

7. Positive Recognition /A motion to approve Resolution Accepting Donations was brought by M. Erickson and seconded by L. Seys. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 7-0.

8. Reports and presentations  
a. Superintendent Report  
i. Student, Growth, Achievement, and Support  
ii. Staff Support  
iii. Communication  
iv. Community Engagement  
b. Budget Information

i. Treasurer's Report  
ii. Payroll Deduction Impact  
c. Committee Reports

9. A motion to approve the consent agenda was brought by L. Seys and seconded by J. Olson. Upon vote, motion carried 7-0.

a. Minutes from the June 16, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting

b. Minutes from the July 7, 2025 Study Session

c. Financial Documents  
i. Payroll: \$734,028.15  
ii. Expenditures:

\$362,253.27  
d. Personnel Staff Changes

e. Approval of the following policies with nonsubstantial changes

i. Policy 416 - Drug, Alcohol, and Cannabis Testing

ii. Policy 425 - Staff Development and Mentoring

10. Old business

a. A motion to rescind the approval of the Shared Services Agreement between JWP and SCSC for Regional Workforce Coordination Services was brought by K. Born and seconded by L. Seys. Upon vote, motion carried 7-0.

b. A motion to approve Policy 524.1 Cell Phone Use Policy was brought by L. Seys and seconded by D. Olson. Upon vote, motion carried 7-0.

c. September 15, 2025 - Regular Meeting

d. October 6, 2025 - Study Session including Curriculum and Instruction presentation

e. October 20, 2025 - Regular Meeting

13. Adjournment

Official minutes, Katie Cahill, clerk

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## SPORTS

# Bulldogs bend but don't break

Two-point conversion stop on final drive key in 30-29 victory against Spartans

By MICHAEL ROY  
Editor

Many football fans may be familiar with the phrase, "Bend, but don't break." That was the JWP defense in a nutshell this week.

Although St. Clair-Loyola tested the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton football team's defense on Friday, September 5, the Bulldogs passed. Despite allowing a touchdown on the Spartans' last drive of the game, JWP stopped them from completing the two-point conversion, tackling them just short of the goal line, and securing its first win of the season.

"We really just played the game the whole way through," commented Head Coach Ryan Luedtke. "It was a great effort by the guys. They had a good week of practice with great energy, and they maintained that energy throughout the game. They worked through the adversity down late and came back."

Since we cover both schools, we have two separate reports. This will be from JWP's point of view. For St. Clair's perspective, check out the next page.

JWP was first to strike in the first quarter. The two teams traded blows on defense on their first drives. St. Clair looked like it would get a drive going, but junior Parker Gearty decided that wasn't happening as he got a sack on Spartan quarterback Sam Freitag.

It didn't take long for the offense to get the first points of the game. In four plays, senior quarterback Daulton Bauer found his younger brother, Gavin, for a nice 79-yard passing touchdown. Daulton ran the ball in for the two-point conversion. St. Clair responded with a nice pass from Freitag to Austin Ward. Some quality running between Ward and Huntly Lentz led to the responding touchdown, with Freitag showing he could run it, too, on the two-point try.

JWP's offense stalled slightly, as their drive between the end of the first and the beginning of the second ended up marred by a holding penalty that sent them back ten yards for 2nd and 20. After stymying the Bulldogs, the Spartans got their second touchdown of the game thanks to the Freitag-Ward connection through the air for a 21-yard touchdown, followed by Ward punching it in for two extra. It looked like JWP would tie it to end the half, but D. Bauer couldn't quite connect with G. Bauer, leaving the score 16-8 St. Clair at halftime.

The second half featured a long drive by JWP, as they opted to run through the Spartan defense. Chase Gerdts got the six on the opening drive of the second half, but Daulton Bauer was stopped short of the goal line for the two they needed to tie the game.

It looked like the game was slipping from them, as the JWP defense started to falter and was unable to tackle St. Clair's running backs. If it wasn't Freitag taking the rock, it was either Austin Ward or Brevin Hansen speeding past the D-line. Ward got six points for SCL, and instead of going for two, the Spartans opted for the extra point from Max Wilson to make it 23-14.

It looked like trouble on JWP's next offensive drive, as they were forced back for a 4th and 2 situation at midfield. However, Bauer threw a dime to Chase Gerdts, and the running back did the rest. Gerdts took the ball for the two-point conversion only to be met by St. Clair's defense on the right side of the field. With some quick thinking,



A GAME OF INCHES - St. Clair-Loyola's Sam Freitag tried running it in to give the Spartans the lead with under a minute left. But Chase Gerdts (tackling) and Gavin Bauer (#4) stopped him to secure the 30-29 victory.



Daulton Bauer had an easy walk into the end zone after Chase Gerdts flipped the ball to him.

he tossed it to Daulton Bauer, who had open space to his left.

It not only shocked the home crowd, but also the players. The coaches joked that's "just how they drew it up," even Coach Luedtke. But he praised Gerdts's quick thinking. "Chase understands the game and works so hard at it. He's always a solid kid, making the heads-up play. And Daulton's right there ready for anything thrown his way. It takes an athlete like him to take the edge and get those two points."

Down only by a point, JWP just needed a stop on defense. The Spartans were very close to getting a touchdown as the clock wound down to 3:19. However, they were getting nervous. Freitag had the ball on fourth and goal on the five-yard line, attempting to run it in for a touchdown. But he fumbled, and sophomore Tyson Kronbach was there to grab it and run a few yards to give the Bulldogs more breathing room to start their next drive. They only needed two plays to score a touchdown as Bauer found receiver and fellow senior Caleb Quast for a 77-yard touchdown to take the lead. The two connected again for the two-point conversion.

It was once again up to the defense to hold on. But despite some good plays, St. Clair got the touchdown. The score was 30-29. They only needed one last play to take the lead with 58 seconds left.



Tyson Kronbach (right) was all over the field defensively, including grabbing a fumble that set up the game-winning touchdown for the offense. Here, he stops running back Brevin Hansen. (Journal photos by Michael Roy)

Freitag decided to put the game in his hands, running and trying to extend his arms toward the end zone. But the duo of Gerdts and Gavin Bauer stopped him, Gerdts getting the first grab and Bauer stepping outside of the end zone to finish off the tackle.

The defense represented the true meaning of the phrase "bend but don't break" on that final drive. "I'm super proud of them, because we haven't always made those plays at the end of the game," Luedtke said in praise. "We talk about the next play a lot, and they probably think it's silly how much we talk about it. But the more time we spend worrying about the bad things, the more it takes away from living in the moment."

It was a thrilling way to end the game for JWP and a gut punch to the Spartans, who put up a great fight and were even leading for much of the game. It was also the second straight victory for the Bulldogs against their neighboring rivals, following a string of wins by St. Clair against them in the past several years.

Statwise, D. Bauer was admittedly not as accurate, only completing 12 of 20 passes. But the

ones he did complete were enormous gains, throwing for 287 yards and three touchdowns. He also had 21 yards rushing. Gerdts led the rushing attack, which only had 60 yards, as he contributed 36 of those yards and the lone rushing touchdown. Caleb Quast was the lead receiver, catching 7 of 9 passes for 129 yards and the game-winning touchdown. Gavin Bauer had 87 yards on two receptions and a touchdown, while Gerdts had 66 yards on two receptions and a touchdown.

Defensively, Gerdts was once again a leader with six tackles and seven assists. Aidan Rider also had six tackles, and Gearty contributed the lone sack and one of two solo tackles for a loss, senior Aiden Cummins with the second tackle for loss. Yale Johnson and Rylan Rolfson collaborated for a third tackle for loss.

The victory, the first of the season, put JWP at 1-1 overall. It was also the first to count toward the Section 2AA standings. They will face Blue Earth, who are also 1-1 and 1-0 in the section standings, in Janesville on Friday, September 12.

Julieann Wobbrock of NRHEG, took first with a 19:19.9 time. Other finishers for WEM-JWP were Norah Welvaert (27th, 23:09.7), Madalyn Miller (39th, 24:08.5), Emma Huelsnitz (42nd, 24:20.9), Lydia Coulsey (48th, 25:02.7), Kwynn Krause (49th, 25:03.4), and Anne Adams (66th, 29:57.5).

The WEM-JWP Grizzlies will look forward to a day at Daly Park near Mapleton on Thursday, September 11, with a battle against section and former conference rival Maple River, along with some other conference and section rivals.

# Medford completes comeback for 3-2 win



Mikayla Wheelock sends the ball toward Medford's side of the court with Victoria Blomstrom watching behind her. (Photos by Michael Roy)

By MICHAEL ROY  
Editor

The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton volleyball team looked like it would get its first win of the season with a potential sweep on Thursday, September 4, when they were up against conference foe Medford 2-0.

However, the Tigers pulled off a comeback, completing a reverse sweep and stealing the win from the Bulldogs 3-2. The match marked the third time in only four games this season that JWP played in a game that took five sets to complete, and it also marked the third time they lost said matchup.

It was a tough night for the Bulldogs who were still looking for a win. To make matters worse, they were without senior Katie Olson, who was nursing a knee injury and needed rest to return to full strength.

JWP had a good start against Medford, led by the seniors. Aubrey Adams sent the first kill over the net, while Mikayla Wheelock got the team its first ace. That was followed by Brielle James sending a rocket toward Medford's side of the court and Lilly Ewert earning an ace. Junior Sophia Okins then had some playing time, making the most of it with an ace.

It was 17-10 JWP when Medford tried for its first comeback campaign of the night. The Bulldogs stopped them, though, as a Wheelock kill closed the first set with a 25-20 score.

The second score saw Medford get the opening point, but Wheelock once again replied with an ace. James kept sending solid spikes over the net, forcing a Medford timeout at 6-1. Wheelock followed with her third ace of the night.

A block by freshman Ashlynn Wolff forced another Tigers timeout at 20-13. Once again, though, Medford forced a comeback attempt, and again JWP stopped it with a 25-21 victory.

The third set was when the momentum seemed to change. Medford came back with a fury to win that set 25-17. Things really started going JWP's way in the fourth set. If they needed a lucky bounce or a hit, they weren't getting it anymore. Suddenly, they were the ones making mistakes, and they fell behind 22-17. They were very close to making their own comeback to win the set and the game, but Medford shut the door just in time for a 25-23 win.

Head Coach Toryn Richards had mixed feelings about the fourth set. "The team should be proud of themselves for being able to come back from that low of points," she said. "But, it also comes down to why Medford was able to get up that high in the first place. We are trying as a team to make adjustments with how the game is changing. We are getting better with making adjustments but we will learn how to do it faster instead of taking 9 points to do it."

It seemed the Tigers were eager to give JWP a victory in the final set as some spikes went into the net. But, despite a great start led by

Wheelock, the Bulldogs were still making some errors of their own, keeping Medford in it. Despite leading most of the set, JWP lost it near the end. Ewert sadly missed her mark on her final serve, which careened just a few inches outside of play in the corner, giving Medford the 15-12 victory and a successful comeback campaign.

Head Coach Toryn Richards said that the level of aggression JWP displayed determined the outcome. "During the first two sets, we were very aggressive," she said. "Looking at the statistics, their hitting percentages together were .300 and then .350 during the second set. Also, during the first two sets, they were expecting the ball to come through them and just overall playing point for point. They wanted to earn each point."



Junior Sophia Okins earned her first varsity kill in this matchup.

However, she felt they got too comfortable in the third set, losing the aggression that helped them get the 2-0 start. "Medford has a great program, and we knew they were going to keep coming after us as a team. Unfortunately, we just were not able to finish in the end."

In Olson's absence, Wheelock led the team in kills and ace serves, recording ten spikes and five aces. Brielle James had eight kills, while Ashlynn Wolff and Adams each contributed six kills each. Victoria Blomstrom achieved her first ace serve of the season, and Ewert and Nevaeh Weimert also recorded one ace each. Ewert led in digs with 14, with Weimert close behind at 12.

While the loss kept them winless, it also gave them a 0-1 start in the Gopher Conference standings. Although it's a frustrating start for the Lady Dawgs, it doesn't mean they should lose hope. Last year, JWP started the season 1-6 before going on a 12-4 run for its first winning record in years.

It won't be an easy schedule from here on out, though. JWP traveled to Norwood Young America on Monday, September 8; despite NYA's 2-5 record, they've faced some challenging opponents like St. Peter. They faced Bethlehem Academy in Faribault the following Tuesday. They will travel to Blooming Prairie on Thursday, September 11.

# Grizzly girls place 6th, boys 7th in Hayfield meet

By MICHAEL ROY  
Editor

The early season is always a good litmus test for cross country teams like the WEM-JWP Grizzlies to see where they stand among teams from schools of a similar size.

Hayfield's Invitational on Thursday, September 5, served as a great example of this, featuring teams from schools of a similar size that they may not normally face in their section or competition, such as

Pine Island and Goodhue.

The boys placed 7th out of 12 teams, while the girls placed 6th out of nine teams. Compared to conference rivals that placed as a team, the boys were second to Kenyon-Wanamingo (paired with Zumbrota-Mazeppa), as Kenyon had 66 points to the Grizzlies' 185. They beat out Randolph, Blooming Prairie, Triton, and Hayfield. The Grizzly Girls, with 145 points, were beaten only by Blooming Prairie out of all Gopher teams, as they took fifth with 113 points. They bested 9th-place Randolph, who had 235

points. Pine Island's boys and girls took first in both contests.

Wyatt Jans led the boys, taking 12th out of 84 runners with a time of 17:46. Teagan Mulder placed 30th with a 19:04.4. Auston Holickey took 42nd with a 19:42.2. Other finishers were Brennan Welvaert (48th, 20:11.8), Wesley Heinz (57th, 20:36.2), Parker Smith (73rd, 22:38), and Dalton Ling (80th, 25:33.6).

MaKenzie Westphal led the Grizzly girls with an 8th place finish out of 69 athletes with a time of 21:19.3. Conference rival,

Julieann Wobbrock of NRHEG, took first with a 19:19.9 time. Other finishers for WEM-JWP were Norah Welvaert (27th, 23:09.7), Madalyn Miller (39th, 24:08.5), Emma Huelsnitz (42nd, 24:20.9), Lydia Coulsey (48th, 25:02.7), Kwynn Krause (49th, 25:03.4), and Anne Adams (66th, 29:57.5).

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SPORTS

# Spartans fall short against Bulldogs

By JORDAN CARRILLO  
Staff Writer

They say that football is a “game of inches,” and that fact rang true as the St. Clair/Loyola Spartans were mere inches away from a dramatic come-from-behind victory against the JWP Bulldogs on September 5.

The Spartans entered the matchup with some confidence after their defense helped clinch a narrow 12-8 win over the NRHEG Panthers. On the other sideline, the Bulldogs had their jowls jostled with a 50-18 drubbing by the Fillmore Central Falcons. Still, though, every game is its own anomaly, and Coach Steve Willaert knew there was work to be done on the field for his Spartans. “Fundamentally, we were very solid last week and got the win, but those first game jitters made us sloppy at times. The biggest thing we want tonight is a sense of urgency from our guys and clean up our past mistakes.”

In a bizarre opening salvo, the Bulldogs started the game with an outside kick, a recurring tactic throughout the contest, and the move caught the Spartans completely by surprise; however, their defense halted any further progress, forcing the punt. The opening drive for SCL showcased a bruising run game led by Brevin Hansen, as well as the chemistry between QB Sam Freitag and WR Austin Ward. The two connected on a 3rd and 9 to keep the sticks moving, but Freitag endured punishment in the pocket, and the drive stalled out.

The Bulldogs had a special connection of their own as the Bauer brothers linked up for a 75-yard touchdown; the long pass was a foreshadowing of how the night would go for SCL’s defense. JWP used a QB keeper to get the 2pt conversion and take an 8-0 lead. It wouldn’t take long for the Spartans to respond as Ward caught a pass in stride and broke off a huge gain...Huntly Lentz followed that play with a 20+ yard scamper, and he scurried in for a score on the ensuing play. Mirroring JWP’s 2pt attempt, Freitag converted on a QB keeper to tie the score 8-8.

The Spartan defense kept the Bulldogs in check, as Hansen blew up a running play in the backfield, and Will Youngerberg stopped a scrambling Bauer just before the first down marker. JWP elected to punt the ball, but a bobbled snap and pressure by Avery Anderson resulted in a misguided throw by a terrified punter to give SCL possession and good field position. As the drive started, a pass to Youngerberg kept the chains moving, and a final push by Lentz marked another first down; however, the senior back seemed to suffer a serious leg injury. The team rallied behind Lentz to get another score. Despite a sack forcing a third and long situation, Freitag’s heaving shot found Ward, who, despite being interfered with by a JWP defender, bobbled the pass before snagging it in for an outstanding touchdown. He would then run it in for the 2pt to give the Spartans a 16-8 lead.

Spartan kicker Max Wilson booted the kickoff into the opposing endzone, forcing a rare



Despite the loss, the St. Clair-Loyola Spartans really tested JWP’s defense, especially on the ground. Here, Huntly Lentz beats the Bulldogs’ Rylan Rolfson for the rushing touchdown. (Journal photos by Jordan Carrillo)

touchback and a deserved rousing celebration by his teammates at the home crowd. The Bulldogs had a few minutes to mount a game-tying drive. A roughing the passer penalty and two blown coverage assignments in the secondary nearly resulted in a game-breaking play by JWP, but the pass would be slightly off and the errors would go unpunished...at least on the field. A QB run on 4th and 3 went nowhere, leaving St. Clair the ball to end the half. Outside of a few trick plays, a desperation heave by Freitag somehow found the outstretched gloves of Ward for another stunning 50-yard catch to end the half. Ward would have a standout performance with six catches for 131 yards and two touchdowns.

The first half had its fair share of highlights as the passing games for both teams were fast and furious. Coach Willaert acknowledged the defensive secondary had allowed some big plays, but he had faith his players could turn it around. “We know JWP likes to go long, so our guys have to hang loose on the back side and stay locked in.”

The first JWP offensive drive of the second half started out rough as a facemask call on the offensive lineman leashed the Bulldogs with a 1st and 25. Just as it looked like the Spartans would get a pick, though, an overaggressive Hansen caused a roughing the passer penalty, negating the turnover. That penalty gave JWP the fighting spirit to impose their will in the trenches with a series of devastating runs up the middle, including a 14-yard dash by Chase Gerdts. The 2pt would be denied, so the Spartans still held a 16-14 lead.

SCL found themselves on the back foot as the drive started with two plays resulting in losses of yards. But the team utilized its own ground-and-pound attack as Hansen, aka “B-Train,” chugged his way forward on two straight run plays, and Ward took Freitag’s pitch to set up his two-yard rushing touchdown on the next play. Wilson struck a perfect kick between the uprights for an extra point to put

SCL up 23-14 near the end of the third quarter. In hindsight, it may have been a rather questionable call to kick a PAT at this stage of the game when both teams were going for two-point conversions all game...more on this later. In the fourth quarter, the Spartans’ defense forced a 4th and 3, but some poorly executed pursuit angles allowed the Bulldogs’ shifty screen play to not only pick up the first down, but a touchdown. A handoff to the back looked to be shut down quickly by SCL, but some quick thinking and a pitch



Austin Ward was the team’s leading receiver with 151 yards and 2 TDs.

back to the QB left a wide-open lane to secure an improbable 2pt conversion to bring the score 23-22.

SCL had a chance to ice the game with a lengthy drive down the field, and Ashton Wilmes came off the bench and made an immediate impact with a big run play followed by a crucial catch on third down to keep the sticks moving. But the gravity of the moment proved to be too much to handle as the Spartans came up empty on the drive. Ward and Freitag had displayed great chemistry up to this point, but three straight plays ended in disaster: the two collided in a botched handoff, and the ensuing lob pass was broken

# Fighting spirit not enough for Crusaders in 0-2 week

By JORDAN CARRILLO  
Staff Writer

Despite a fighting spirit from start to finish, it’s been a difficult stretch of matches for the Lady Crusaders, as a recent dry spell on the offensive front has resulted in four straight losses. Including two tilts against the Cannon Falls Bombers and the Caledonia Warriors. The former team would be a familiar foe to Loyola, as the two teams faced off three times in 2024, with the Bombers taking all the victories. Entering the matchup, the Crusaders had dropped their last two contests, and a recent scoring drought (only 4 goals this season) had Coach Nachreiner rallying the troops with a return to the fundamentals of soccer as a war cry. “We have the talent to compete against some good teams like Stewartville; our defensive intensity keeps us in matches, but we have to be able to possess the ball on the attack and work toward communicating as a team.”

Rain trickled down throughout the first half, creating a slick and slippery surface in the early minutes. Cannon Falls pushed the tempo as they constantly challenged Munson on goal...she made an incredible save early to keep the Crusaders in it. Shelby Beyer, who returned to the starting lineup after recovering from a concussion, provided some immediate aid as she swiped a pass away, which led to Leah Quade’s shot attempt that carried left. The Bombers swiftly countered with a strike that just made it past Munson’s glove for a score and a 1-0 lead early in the half.

Loyola struggled to regain possession for some time until a hard play led to Quade taking a wallop on her kicking leg. During the timeout, Sophie Nachreiner tried to fire up her Crusader comrades, which led to a sudden flash-in-the-pan attack on goal that fizzled out. As the half neared its final moments, a corner kick by Cannon Falls miraculously bounced unabated into Loyola’s goal to bring the match 2-0. With a minute or so remaining, the Crusaders nearly broke through as a pass by Janessa Carstensen lined to Beyer, but the shot didn’t have the wind behind it to make it past the Bomber goalie.

Loyola maintained a more persistent offensive pace in the second half but ultimately struggled to capitalize on opportunities at the net. Allison Wheeler had a two-dribble combo to break her defender, which led to a Cora Johannes attack; however, she was tackled hard to the ground, resulting in a yellow card for Cannon Falls. Alas, Nachreiner’s shot on the penalty kick went right at the opposing goalie. Wheeler took one for the team by getting ripped up by two Bombers to force another penalty kick, but Beyer grounded the kick into the dirt. The two would then team up for a dazzling display of teamwork, but sadly, Beyer’s shot would sail high.

All that effort would go for naught as Cannon Falls would score three more goals to take home a convincing 5-0 victory over Loyola.

It was a crisp end-of-summer Saturday morning as the Loyola Crusaders faced off against the Caledonia Warriors. The rainfall from the night before had left patches of the pitch, especially the keeper’s area, a muddy mess, leaving a tough assignment for Munson and the equipment manager’s washing machine. Before the match began, Coach Emma Sims spoke about the team’s recent struggles and expressed confidence that they would continue to push the ball forward. “We’ve really been focusing on possession these last few practices. The goal is to want to score every time you have the ball, and these ladies are building confidence with every minute they play.”

The Crusaders would have more than enough reason to play hard today, as Parents Night gave them the opportunity to present a flower and a sweet message to their loved ones in attendance.

Munson kept her gloves at the ready in the match’s opening ticks as the Warriors were relentless with the attack early. The



Goalkeeper Stella Munson has been a standout player for Loyola. She made some great saves this week that kept the Crusaders in it. (Photo by Jordan Carrillo)

Crusaders displayed a stingy defense in the box, deflecting or redirecting a shot...Colleen Olmanson even used her noggin to deny a corner kick; however, a shot ricocheted off the crossbar, and a Caledonia boot tapped in for a goal and a 1-0 lead. Beyer was a standout in the contest because of some fancy footwork. Loyola seemed determined to challenge the opposing goalie as well...Beyer slipped past her defender for a shot, but it sailed left while a Johannes attack dribbled to the Warrior goalie.

It was a fast-paced half as the counterstrike would be the greatest weapon for both teams. The Warriors had several more chances to score, but Munson and Co. used every resource available, even a direct shot to the body, to deny a goal. Nachreiner had the wind knocked out of her on one possession. With only 50 seconds to spare, Crusaders went for an all-out blitz with Beyer and Johannes, but neither strike would break through.

Despite not scoring a goal, it was arguably the most cohesive the team had played for the last few matches, which earned a hearty kudos from Coaches Nachreiner & Sims, who claimed this was the best soccer the team had played so far this year. That affirmation gave the Crusaders a burst of energy to start the second half, but a chaotic frenzy in the box caused Munson to lose sight of a second chance strike for the Warriors’ second goal of the game. She later redeemed herself with a spectacular diving save, but the second goal seemed to deflate the Crusaders’ spirit until an errant shot struck Wheeler in the head and sent her tumbling to the ground...they would rally behind their teammate’s plight with a sudden offensive surge. Beyer would set up Janessa Carstensen for a potential goal, but a mistimed kick resulted in a missed opportunity. Beyer was on the field, only to have her attack broken up by the Caledonia keeper.

Keeping up the pressure, the Warriors took that possession, drove down the pitch, and scored a goal in the corner to bring the match to 3-0. They tacked on a fourth goal late in the half to secure the victory. This would mark the fourth straight defeat for the Lady Crusaders, bringing their record to 1-5 on the year. In the last four games, the team has been outscored 19-0.

While it may not be the ideal start to the season, there have been stretches where this team can play at a high level on both sides of the ball. Their first-half performance against Caledonia highlighted a peak, as the defense weathered most storms thrown their way, and at times, the offense looked capable of scoring in bunches.

There is still time for the Lady Crusaders to grow as a team, and they’ll look to find the right mix on the road as they take on St. James on September 9 and Fairmont on September 13.

# Crusader XC meet ends early due to tornado warning

By RICARDO MORENO JR.  
Staff Writer

One of the biggest Cross Country meets of the season took place on Thursday, September 4, with the Loyola Crusaders making a top-three appearance in the varsity race. Just over a thousand competitors made their way to the Montgomery Golf Course for the Gerry Smith Invitational, an event that the town has hosted for many years.

Thirty-nine schools were represented in the three different levels of competition: junior high, junior varsity, and varsity. For every school and student in attendance, there was a greater number of supporters there to cheer them on through the ups and downs of the Montgomery golf

course. The Crusaders’ first top ten placements ran through the finish line during the boys junior varsity race. It was the third race of the afternoon and the first to run the full 5000-meter course. The course itself was quite simple to follow, but the uphill sections and strength of competition were enough to make each race a tougher fight for first place. Francis Bierer finished sixth in the JV Boys race with a time of 17:41, just under a minute behind the first-place runner. Following behind at just a few paces back was Griffin Rutz, who took tenth with a time of 17:57. The boys showed the spirit of the Crusaders JV teams, and the girls upheld it with two JV top ten placements of their own. In fourth place for the girls was Riley Quigley, who finished the race in a time of 21:03. Brooks Waagner

took ninth place with a run time of 21:52. The JV Crusaders had a great showing that both their upperclassmen teams would have mirrored, given the chance.

The varsity boys 5000m ended up being the final race of the meet. At this point of the invitational, scattered showers had begun to fall upon the golf course. The threat of rain had been present at the beginning of the event but was also fairly tolerable. The boys were able to run through easily enough and the Crusaders broke into the top three at the end of the race. Veteran Crusader Soren Kelly finished third in the 5000m with a time of 15:14. He was the only Crusader to make the top ten that was a group of racers who hardly gave any grace to those without the endurance to keep their place. As Kelly and the other varsity runners

were preparing to receive their medals, and as the varsity girls were starting their race, the weather took a completely unexpected turn. The rain turned torrential, phones buzzed and rang in unison, and the Montgomery sirens began to blare that a tornado warning had been issued. Nobody was sure what to do at first, but quickly made their way to their vehicles after the Gerry Smith Invitational officials made the announcement that the event was over. The girls’ race was stopped and everyone made their way safely out of Montgomery.

The Crusaders had a successful showing at the invitational. Though the girls were denied their chance to run the course, they had a chance to use the reserved energy to secure a victory at the Crusaders’ next cross country meet at Norwood Young America on Tuesday, September 9.



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

**1945 (continued)**  
-November 20 - "His Women Folks," a three-act play is presented by the ladies of St. John's Lutheran. The cast consisted of Margaret Myers, Edna Froehlich, Muriel Froehlich, Hazel Frank, Phyllis Froehlich, Gertrude Marzinske, Gertrude Witt, Beverly Myers,

and Freida Westphal. Gertie Froehlich, Ivadell Myers, Joan Froehlich, and William Hager provided musical numbers between acts.

**1946**  
-January - The wedding reception/dance for Gerald Mace and Muriel Froehlich was the last public event held at the St. Clair Town Hall.  
-April 2 - An application for

new unit of the American Legion Auxiliary was organized for the Grams-Schmidt Unit 475 at St. Clair.

**1947**  
-October 1 - Reception for Leon Bruels - Joan Oftedahl held at Mace's Café.  
-John Fossum Makes Fast Air Trip From Norway. John Fossum, St. Clair buttermaker, made a record trip on his return

from Norway where he had been visiting relative at his old home when he arrived home Tuesday afternoon. John made the trip by air leaving Oslo, Norway, at 9 o'clock Monday morning and arrived at Minneapolis airport shortly after 2 p.m. on Tuesday. He reports conditions quite bad there following the war with retail prices on most commodities very high.  
-Jack Fitzloff of St. Clair

has been named the dealer for Alumni-Drome buildings for the Mankato area and will open offices here when space can be found. The all-aluminum, multi-purpose utility buildings for farm or city use, displayed for the first time in this territory at the Minnesota State Fair, and are made by the Reynolds Metals Company, Louisville, Kentucky.  
-October 8 - Janesville Farm

has 100-Bushel Yield of Corn. A McPherson Township farmer, Sylvester Youngerberg, has predicted a yield of more than 100 bushels an acre from his 40-acre field of DeKalb hybrid corn. Sylvester reported he "had a stand of three and four stalks in every hill, and there's a good ear on every stalk." To beat the corn borer he tried to get a corn picker equipped with crushers that would grind the stalks so fine that the borers would be killed.

St. Clair Archives

Janesville Archives

Local Church Times and Schedules

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
412 N. Main St.  
Janesville, MN  
(507)231-5189  
Pastor Wolter  
Pastor Conteras

Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship  
Sunday - 8:00a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship  
9a.m. Sunday School & Bible Study

**JANESVILLE 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  
September  
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00a.m.

**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  
Sunday Worship 8:30am  
7:45a.m. Sunday School  
& Adult Bible Class

**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  
(507)234-5353  
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**  
-About 40 men and boys turned out for the first meeting of the band Tuesday evening. No practicing was done at this first session, the time being taken up with a survey of the material and an outlining of plans. Director Johnston has since interested a great many more, so it is likely that about 50 will begin work in earnest in the next week. Many are beginners, though there are plenty of the old timers to provide a nucleus about which to build a strong organization. There are a great many of our young ladies who would find band work interesting and who will be welcomed if they decide to join the new classes. Prospective members should see Mr. Johnston or Walter Hollmichel so that the necessary arrangements may be made at once.

-While there is considerable corn acreage that will show a poor yield, yet it is surprising to note the excellence of several samples that have found their way into town this week. Tom Nicholson brought in about a dozen ears the other day that are about as good as any raised in the county. They have good length of cob, are well filled and the quality is high grade. The Nicholson corn is on display at the Citizens State Bank.

-The peddler nuisance is something that is receiving attention at the hands of city councils in many cities and towns throughout the country. There is absolutely no excuse for municipalities permitting these itinerant hucksters to drop into town, peddle a lot of inferior wares, take the cash and move on. Janesville needs some action to restrain these peddlers. Hardly a day goes by but what some non-tax-paying bell-ringer works this town.

**1950**  
-The Rev. Fidel Galang, pastor of a large Methodist church at Tarlac Province, Philippine Islands, will speak at the Janesville Methodist Church next Sunday at 9:30 a.m. the pastor was a chaplain in the Philippine army during the Japanese occupation and up to late 1946. He came to America as a crusade scholar of the Methodist church in August,

1949. Rev. Galang is a fine speaker and has good use of the English language.

-An estimated 6,000 people jammed the 240-acre farm known as the Art Byron place northeast of Janesville last Thursday, for the six-county Soil Conservation Day program. Sunny skies and moderate temperatures gave the program grounds the atmosphere of a county fair as machines of all shapes and sizes whizzed about the grounds giving demonstrations or were displayed before the thousands of interested farmers in attendance. Demonstrations featured fence sitting, woodlot-shelterbelt management and pasture improvement, post-treating, contour strip cropping, tree planting, tiling, terracing, grassed waterways, and gully control.

-Edward Weckwerth, 63, of Wilton Township, passed away Friday night, September 8, at 11 o'clock of a heart attack. He had been in ill health for the past 15 years and was confined to the Emil Theelke home in Janesville. The deceased was born May 30, 1887, in Wilton Township and was the son of Gottfried and Augusta Weckwerth. He was engaged in farming throughout Waseca County during his entire lifetime.

**1975**  
-Both a grain and a tonnage appraisal may be used on determining eligibility for disaster payments for disaster-affected field corn and grain sorghum harvested for use other than grain, according to Emil Meyer of the local ASCS office. Under a recent ASCS rule change, farmers filing loss claims who elect to salvage disaster-affected corn or sorghum for grazing, silage, green chop, fodder or other livestock feed use other than grain, will receive both a grain and a tonnage appraisal - unless the crop is to be harvested as silage and tonnage production can be determined by measurement.

-Dennis Gustafson, Janesville, and James Mathews, Owatonna, have incorporated a new liquor store soon to be built just east of the Janesville Dairy Queen. The new corporation has been named B-G Liquors, Inc.

The "B" in the name stands for "Beaner," Mathew's nickname. The "G" is Gustafson's first initial.

-The Golden Bears volleyball teams came home winners when Janesville and the St. Clair Indians met on the St. Clair courts last Thursday. The "B" team won their match with two out of three games, 18-10, 2-18, and 18-7. The varsity also brought home a victory in a two-game match, 18-2 and 18-9.

**2000**  
-Since the birth of their quadruplets on Father's Day, Janesville native Joe Schmidt and his wife Erika, have been waiting for the day all their babies would be at home. That day came on August 6, when the two babies remaining in the hospital, Christian and Izik, were discharged. Their brother and sister, Austin and Melina, left the hospital on July 24.

-When Shelly Schultz resigned as Middle School Principal this past July, it wasn't clear what direction would be taken to fill that position. Dr. Hainlen, Superintendent of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton school district, indicated that the position may not be filled exactly the way it had been in the past. That worked out well for Mike Meihak. Meihak has been teaching social studies at JWP High School for the past seven years. He was considering returning to school to pursue a Master's Degree, but hadn't decided on a specific course of study. In discussions with Dr. Hainlen, Meihak expressed interest in the position of Graduation Rule Technician, a role Schultz had also filled. After Meihak accepted that position, further discussion led to the Dean of Students idea.

-The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton football team was an extra point away from ending a 12-game losing streak Friday. The Bulldogs led nearly the entire game, watched Madelia-Truman tie the game late in the final period, and go on to a 14-13 victory in overtime at Madelia. "Our program needs a win badly, so this was a tough loss to take," said JWP coach Mike Muedeking. "Our kids just couldn't put it away when we had the chance."

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**Employment**

**CITY OF JANESVILLE PRAIRIE RIDGE GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE MANAGER**

The City of Janesville and Prairie Ridge Golf Course is recruiting for a full-time Clubhouse Manager. The course is a reversible nine-hole course which switches directions each week. This position is responsible for managing the daily operations of the clubhouse and providing efficient and excellent customer service for members and golfing patrons. These responsibilities include managing the Pro Shop, managing the leagues, tournaments, events, managing food and beverage services, record keeping, and working with management on human resources and budgets.

Starting pay range for 2025 is \$55,390 to \$63,544 (mid-range) plus benefits.

Minimum qualifications High School Diploma or equivalent, two years of experience as an Assistant Head Professional, OR two years of supervisory experience, OR equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.

Preferred qualification bachelor's degree in business management or a related field and five years of experience and three to four years' experience scheduling, running, and scoring league play and tournaments.

For complete job description and application, contact the City of Janesville; PO Box O; Janesville, MN 56048; Phone (507)-234-5110. Both are also available at our website [www.janesvillemn.gov](http://www.janesvillemn.gov). Resumes not accepted in lieu of applications. You may deliver or send completed applications to Clinton Rogers, City Administrator, at [clintonr@janesvillemn.gov](mailto:clintonr@janesvillemn.gov) or Janesville City Hall 101 N Mott Street., PO Box O, Janesville, MN 56048.

Application Deadline is Friday, September 12, 2025, by 4:30 PM.  
AA/EEO EMPLOYER

**LEGAL NOTICES**

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF WASECA  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File No. 81-PR-25-632

In Re: Estate of Sandra K. Roemhildt, Decedent

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

with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: 09/04/2025

/s/ Carol M. Hanks  
Judge of District Court  
/s/ Shannon Asselin  
Court Administrator

PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A.  
Hayden J. Roslansky, #0402545  
216 N. Main St. PO Box M  
Janesville, MN 56048  
Phone: 507-234-5106

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: It is Ordered and Notice is given that on Wednesday October 15, 2025, via Zoom at 1:15 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 307 State St N, Waseca, MN 56093, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, November 16, 2023, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Gary W. Roemhildt, whose address is 615 340th Avenue, Janesville, MN, 56048 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed

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SPORTS

# Cyclone spikers get back on track with 3-1 win over Eagles

By JORDAN CARRILLO  
Staff Writer

After a somewhat lackluster home opener against the Mavericks, the Lady Cyclones enacted a measure of revenge on the road in their first South Central Conference matchup against the Maple River Eagles on September 4.

It may only be the second season in this new conference, but claiming the top spot is one of this team's many goals, and they used a blend of vicious strikes and stellar defense to take the match three sets to one in hostile territory.

As they prepared for the matchup, Coach Tyler Sander spoke on the "first game jitters" the Cyclones suffered through in their season opener against MCW. "That first match can be a bit sloppy while we try to find ourselves on the court...we had a few days to really work on what went well and where we had to improve, so we're ready to get back to it tonight."

Set 1: St. Clair came out ready to avenge their opening loss with a series of furious strikes by Payton Blount; however, Maple River established a sturdy counter early in the set to nab a quick 5-0 advantage. It took a gentler approach to get those points back as Paige St. Peter landed an ace while the wall of Brooklyn Meng & Ashlyn DeMartini denied the Eagle's attack to tie the set at six points. One of the surprises of the entire match came from Haddie Jobe, who received her first start of the season and rose to the occasion with a few haymakers at the net. Jobe would end the night with six kills and her jaunty attitude inspired her teammates toward victory.

Neither team would give in; despite the Cyclones obtaining an 18-14 lead, the Eagles clawed their way back with three straight points. Determined to seize this opening set, Brooklin Hinze and Blount combined on four crucial points to help clinch the set for St. Clair. Blount's relentless attack helped St. Clair take the opening set 25-23, a preview of how the night would go.

Set 2: Maple River set the tone early with an aerial assault of their own, but St. Clair didn't buckle as St. Peter & DeMartini clogged up striking lanes, and Jobe returned a shot back to sender on two straight possessions. As the set reached a halfway point, the Cyclones held a narrow advantage, but the Eagles pecked their way back into the set, tying it at 15-15. Unforced errors and a lack of consistency unraveled all the progress for St. Clair as they started to give Maple



Senior Aubree Mathiowetz (left) watches as Brooklin Hinze bumps a Maple River volley with Payton Blount (right) on standby, ready to make a play (Journal photos by Jordan Carrillo)



Brooklyn Meng sets up the ball for Ashlyn DeMartini to attack.

River a chance to get back in the match. Meng attempted to use her deceptively quick strikes at the net to keep her team in the set, but an under the net penalty by Blount would seal the deal for a 25-23 win for the Eagles.

Set 3: Thankfully, the Lady Cyclones used the frustration from the previous set as the fuel to ignite

a firestorm at the net. DeMartini led the charge as she pulverized shots throughout the set in an 11-kill campaign, helping the team take a 25-9 route in the third set.

Set 4: In what would be the final set of the match, both teams returned to form. After getting their wings clipped in the third set, the Eagles showed some perseverance

as they took an early 9-6 lead, but the tag team of DeMartini and Hinze rallied for five straight points to swing momentum back into the Cyclone's favor for a 11-9 lead. That rally appeared to be what St. Clair needed to finish the match as Hinze landed a left-handed kill and an ace, Meng had a perfectly placed shot in the corner, Blount fired a rocket down the line, and St. Peter continued to limit shots at the net. However, a four-point run by Maple River to narrow St. Clair's lead to 20-19 triggered the first and only timeout called by Coach Sander. The pep talk seemed to work as the Cyclones went on a 6-2 run to close the set and decide the match 25-22.

It was a hardfought and well-earned bounceback game for these

Lady Cyclones, and it marked the first win in the SCC for this 2025 campaign. There were times inconsistent play nearly spelled disaster for St. Clair, and that was one facet of the game Coach Sander looks to improve upon as the season continues. "It took some time to find our groove tonight, and we talked to our players about 'not beating ourselves' out on the court and that inspired them to play some of their best volleyball so far."

The Lady Cyclones will look to keep finding their groove on the court as they face off against two SCC opponents in Le Sueur on September 9 & Sibley East on September 11.

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