



# Winterset Madisonian

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## A time of healing for the broken-hearted

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One year ago an EF-4 tornado devastated Madison County as violent winds altered the landscape and changed lives forever. On Sunday, March 5, families, friends, and members of the community filled the sanctuary of New Bridge Church for an afternoon of remembrance.

Presented by Madison County Resilience, this day was meant to commemorate the bravery of responders, honor those whose lives were lost and recognize the strength and resilience of a community where over one thousand volunteers came together at a time of need.

Pastor Rebecca Hornback of Four-square Gospel Church stepped to the podium and opened the ceremony with these words of reflection. She noted that during that time, the county came together amidst the loss of life, devastation and destruction to see hope.

This came in the form of volunteers who responded locally, from all over Iowa, and outside the state. Donations of food, clothes, gift cards, and quilts at a time so desperately needed came in. With everything came hope, that each



Madisonian photo/Vicki Minor

New Bridge Church served as an emergency shelter in the aftermath of the disaster on March 5, 2022. One year later, the same location welcomed families, friends and the community to come together in Remembrance.

**REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY**  
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## City council hears tree survey presentation

By Gale Blader  
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The Winterset City Council listened to a Street Tree Survey presentation from Dana Genereux on Monday night, who spoke at length on the Winterset Urban Forest Management Plan. Genereux is an Urban Forester and ISA Certified Arborist.

The objectives of the plan presented are to assist Winterset with managing its urban forest, inform on the benefits of a healthy urban forest, establish preventative treatment for emerald ash borers (EAB), Develop efficient city tree management technologies, and mitigate public safety issues.

Genereux emphasized that EAB related issues can become costly. He also stated that healthy urban landscapes promote healthier communities, and that sound management practice can increase environmental benefits.

A variety of data was collected to formulate this plan. Every city-owned

tree had information collected about the tree itself and the surrounding area. Additional data collected includes the signs and symptoms of EAB. The tree inventory was done with GPS data collector in j-Tree Streets.

The results of this date shows that Winterset's trees provide \$326,351 of benefits annually. This is an average of \$160 per tree, with over 59 species of trees represented. However, of the 2,043 trees in the city, 43 percent of these are maple trees. Genereux cautioned that this is not a safe percentage, stating that this size of a maple population is vulnerable to similar problems to EAB. He recommended planting a wider variety of trees.

### The needs of the trees

Genereux stated that 28 percent of Winterset's trees need management. This management includes crown cleaning for nine percent (179 trees), crown raising for nine percent (174 trees), tree removal for seven percent (142 trees), crown reduction for three

percent (55 trees), and tree staking for under one percent (nine trees).

The annual benefits of tree maintenance Genereux presented to the council included reducing energy related costs by \$88K, intercepting about 4.3 million gallons of stormwater, removing 5K pounds of air pollution, sequestering 849K pounds of carbon, storing 14.3 million pounds of carbon, and \$91K in aesthetic social benefits.

Genereux's recommendations for the city were to remove 142 trees, carefully examine a handful of remaining ash trees, prune all trees rotationally, visually survey ash trees annually, and increase plant diversity among planted trees. He recommended Kentucky coffeetree, honey locust, tulip tree, buckeye, ginkgo, blackgum, basswood/linden, and redbud for future planting.

### Six-year proposal

The proposed work schedule and budget covered six years. The first year would have the city remove 13 trees, plant six trees in open locations, and vi-

ually survey EAB signs and symptoms. The second year would include rotational city tree maintenance, removing four trees, planting 14 trees in open locations, and a continued EAB survey.

The third year of the plan would have the city plant 10 trees, remove 12 trees, and visually survey EAB signs. The fourth year would include rotational city tree maintenance, removing four trees, planting 14 trees, and a visual survey of EAB symptoms.

The fifth year would see 10 trees removed, 20 trees planted, and another visual EAB survey. The final year of the presented plan would have the city do rotational maintenance, remove five trees, plant 15 trees, and perform another visual EAB survey.

At the time of his presentation Genereux noted that, because Winterset has removed the majority of their ash trees, the city should only have 40 trees for removal, giving the city an estimated cost of \$28K for all removals, lower than his initial estimate.

## \$56,500 raised as pies were going, going, gone

By Vicki Minor  
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The 2023 Madison County Pork Producers Association Annual Meeting and Pie Baking Contest was held on Monday night at the Jackson Building on the Madison County Fairgrounds.

Prior to the evening's festivities Dr. Jim Pottebaum, Dr. Jason Hall, and Carla Waddingham lifted their forks in an effort to sample and judge the numerous pies submitted for the annual pie competition.

Throughout the afternoon, they tasted apple, cherry, peach, or pumpkin pies presented in the Senior Division, Junior Division, Open Division and Junior Open Division. The Open Division allowed bakers the opportunity to step out of the regular categories and get

creative with their own blend of flavorful ingredients. The judges then awarded first, second and third places, as well as include the Judge's Choice Award in honor of Eric Hollen for the BEST cherry pie.

### Top pies

In the Senior Division apple category, Valerie Huntley earned first, Ruth Eivins earned second, Barb Huston earned third. For cherry pies first went to Phyllis Jones, second to Ruth Eivins and third to Cleota Tapken. Tapken also had the first-place peach pie; second was Phyllis Jones and third was Barb Huston. The first place pumpkin went to Sharon Benshoof; second was



Madisonian photo/Vicki Minor

Scott Evans had to talk pretty fast to elicit a higher bid from the audience as he auctioned off first-, second- and third-place pies at the Pork Producers Banquet on Monday evening.

**PORK PRODUCERS  
PIE AUCTION**  
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