



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, April 6, 2023

Sen. Smith tours Luverne day care, offers support

Luverne project to receive \$2.6 M in federal funds to expand access to rural child care

By Lori Sorenson

U.S. Sen. Tina Smith (D-Minn.) was in Luverne Tuesday morning to see the building that will be transformed into a day care center with help from \$2.6 million in federal funds.

She met with city leaders about their plans to expand access to affordable child care by remodeling a 30,000-square-foot facility into a new child care center in the city.

"If there's one thing I've learned about Luverne, it's that you all are very entrepreneurial and figure-it-out kind of folks," Smith said.

"There are child care projects all over the state. Every community is figuring out how to do it in its own way, but I think this is a real model for how to go about it, because it's a public-private partnership."

Mayor Pat Baustian explained that the city subsidizes the pool and fitness center as an amenity for residents, but the day care center isn't an amenity; it's a necessity that needs public subsidies until it can succeed on its own.

Once construction is complete, the city will turn over the facility to a non-profit for \$1 per year, and the city will continue to subsidize its operation, maintenance, snow removal, lawn care and utilities.

Smith asked how the idea came about to do it that way.

Luverne Economic Development Authority Director Holly Sammons told Smith that after years of studying the issue and consulting experts, it became apparent that it would take a public-private effort.

"We realized we had to offer a building at a low rate for someone to operate a day care center," Sammons said.

"No entrepreneur can buy a building — or acquire a building and remodel it — and afford the debt service. That model doesn't work."

The center will provide 186 new spots for working families. It will have capacity for 24 infants,

Sen. Smith day care/see p. 2A



The rendering shows classrooms, indoor gym, commercial kitchen, office and staff support spaces, conference room, nursing rooms, laundry and more.



Lori Sorenson photo/0406 tina smith day care tour Luverne EDA director Holly Sammons (left) and Mayor Pat Baustian (right) show drawings to Sen. Tina Smith. In the background are Luverne City Administrator Jill Wolf and council member Dan Nath.

Board gives nod to giant nutcracker on South Highway 75

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne's Board of Appeals and Adjustments approved the variance request for a 73-foot-tall nutcracker on South Highway 75 at Monday night's meeting.

The measure passed unanimously, but not after significant board discussion.

For example, some questioned whether the statue should be as high as 73 feet, or perhaps 60 feet, which is the height of the original Mobil sign that was on the existing 40-foot steel post years ago.

At the end of the hour-long meeting, city leaders ultimately agreed to grant the variance as requested.

Structurally, the 65-foot-tall nutcracker will stand on an 8-foot-tall pedestal and will be supported by an existing 40-foot-tall solid steel post that once carried a "Mobil" sign for a service station.

The property is home to Those Blasted Things, opened more than 20 years ago by Vance and Becky Walgrave, who granted an easement to the nonprofit in order to build the giant nutcracker.

They said the "World's Largest Nutcracker" will complement the "World's Third-Largest Nutcracker Collection" at the History Center, where thousands of tourists have already stopped to visit.

They and their daughter, Katie, are on the Just For Nuts board, a Luverne private nonprofit that has drawn more than \$200,000 in local donations and \$50,000 from the Blandin Foundation.

The nonprofit Just for Nuts will continue raising money and will support other future ventures in the community.

At the March 20 variance hearing, Katie Walgrave quoted from the Blandin website.

"Vibrant communities don't arrive by accident, and they're not going to last long in isolation," she read.

"Resilient communities make

Nutcracker approved/see p. 8

Hills-Beaver Creek School District voters weigh costs of bond referendum at second of two public meetings

By Mavis Fodness

Historically at least 70 percent of voters in the Hills-Beaver Creek School District have supported building projects proposed by the school board over the past 27 years.

On Tuesday, April 11, H-BC residents are being asked to support a two-question \$29.975 million bond referendum.

If it passes, a new pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade facility will be built in Beaver Creek, and the Hugo Goehle gymnasium and vehicle garages will be updated on the East Second Street in Hills.

District officials hosted the final of two public meetings March 28 at the Goehle gymnasium.

Superintendent Todd Holthaus led the meeting, along

with project manager Preston Euerle of RA Morton, ATS&R architect Sarah Fox, and financial advisers Matthew Hammer and Aaron Bushberger with Ehlers Inc.

A similar public meeting was conducted March 23 at the elementary school in Beaver Creek.

Tours of the facilities were offered at both locations.

However, few people toured

the locker and garage facilities at the Goehle gymnasium.

The gym is attached to the former high school, which was not open for tours and will be demolished under the school board's plan.

The majority of the questions posed by the 60 people in at-

H-BC referendum/see page 5

Father Tom dies at home in Caledonia

By Lori Sorenson

Father Tom Jennings, Rock County's longtime leader of religious and social causes, died March 29 at age 78 at his home in Caledonia.

Jennings served 15 years as priest of St. Catherine's Church in Luverne. However, he'll be remembered across all denominations in the community for his gentle spirit and encouraging leadership style.

"It's been magical. It's been a magical time," he said at his September 2018 retirement party that attracted 275 community members.

In addition to weekday and weekend services, Jennings presided over 378 baptisms, 212 funerals and 94 weddings in his time with the Luverne and Ellsworth parishes.

Jennings often shared his love of nature and farming, weaving messages into his homilies.



Lori Sorenson file photo/0406 father tom tractor ride

Father Tom Jennings enjoys the 2018 Rock County Tractor Ride.

"He enjoyed all of God's creations to the fullest," his obituary reads (page 7A).

"He was frequently seen taking pictures of all kinds. He loved hiking, gardening, pho-

tography, reading and drives in the countryside."

A farm boy at heart, he often joined local agriculture

Father Tom dies/see page 5

Luverne ends hockey pairing agreement with Adrian schools

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne Public Schools lone sports pairing agreement was terminated March 23.

Board members unanimously supported ending the agreement made with Adrian in November 2018.

At that time the board extended the cooperative hockey agreement for five years, allowing two current freshmen to complete their high school hockey participation with the Luverne Cardinals.

This current school year was the one participating student's senior year.

The high school hockey season ended earlier this month.

Adrian students had limited participation in the Luverne Hockey Association program.

"They have no kids in the youth

program either," said Superintendent Craig Oftedahl.

"Without any benefit to the students from Adrian, it makes no sense to keep the agreement in place."

Adrian reimbursed Luverne financially for their students' participation in the program.

In other business March 23 the School Board approved:

•volunteer coaches for Jeremy Olson (softball) and Matt Sterrett (baseball).

•baseball coaches Derek Elbers (B-squad), Jake Haugen (ninth grade) and Jeff Stratton (middle school).

•hiring Kristi Groth as long-term substitute teacher for Ann Sandager starting April 14 through the remainder of the school year.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Parkinsons Support Group (change of date) will now meet at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 6, at Poplar Creek in Luverne. All are welcome. Call 507-935-8173 with questions.

Beaver Creek Sportsman's Club annual meeting is at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the Spring-Brooke Events, Golf and Grill in Beaver Creek.

Beaver Creek Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, in the township hall.

Vienna Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, in the Kenneth Community Center.

American Legion Auxiliary Post #123 will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 12, at Pizza Ranch. Call Dianna Tomlinson with questions.

Sanford Luverne Pink Ladies will meet at 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 17, at Sanford Luverne Medical Center. Note the change of date. Contact Sharon Zinnel, 507-227-3821, with questions.

Winter tree damage seminar offered April 12

"Animal & Winter Tree and Shrub Damage" seminar will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the Rock County Courthouse commissioners' room.

Gary Wyatt, Extension agroforestry educator, will lead the seminar that includes a field trip to the Project Food Forest at 308 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne.

Register by April 10 at the Rock County Extension Office, 507-283-1302.

Mobile dental clinic coming to Luverne April 13

The mobile dental clinic will be in Luverne Thursday, April 13, at ATLAS of Rock County on Maple Street in Luverne. (Note the new location, and use the Community Room entrance.)

This clinic, organized by #Luv1LuvAll's Rock County Oral Health Task Force, provides dental care for adults and children ages 0 to over 100. Call 612-746-1530 to schedule an appointment. All forms of insurance are accepted.

Blood drive April 18

The American Red Cross will accept blood donations from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at Living Rock Church on East Main Street in Luverne. To schedule an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter LuverneMN.

Spring Rally April 22

The Pipestone Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League Spring Rally will be Saturday, April 22, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pipestone.

Registration is at 9 a.m. with coffee and rolls. Guest Speaker is Rev. Dr. Armand J Boehme on the topic, "I Am Spiritual, But Not Religious. Millennials and the Church."

Gifts from the Heart are personal care items for the Pipestone County Hospice. Lunch will follow program. Call Linda Wenzel, 507-220-8194.

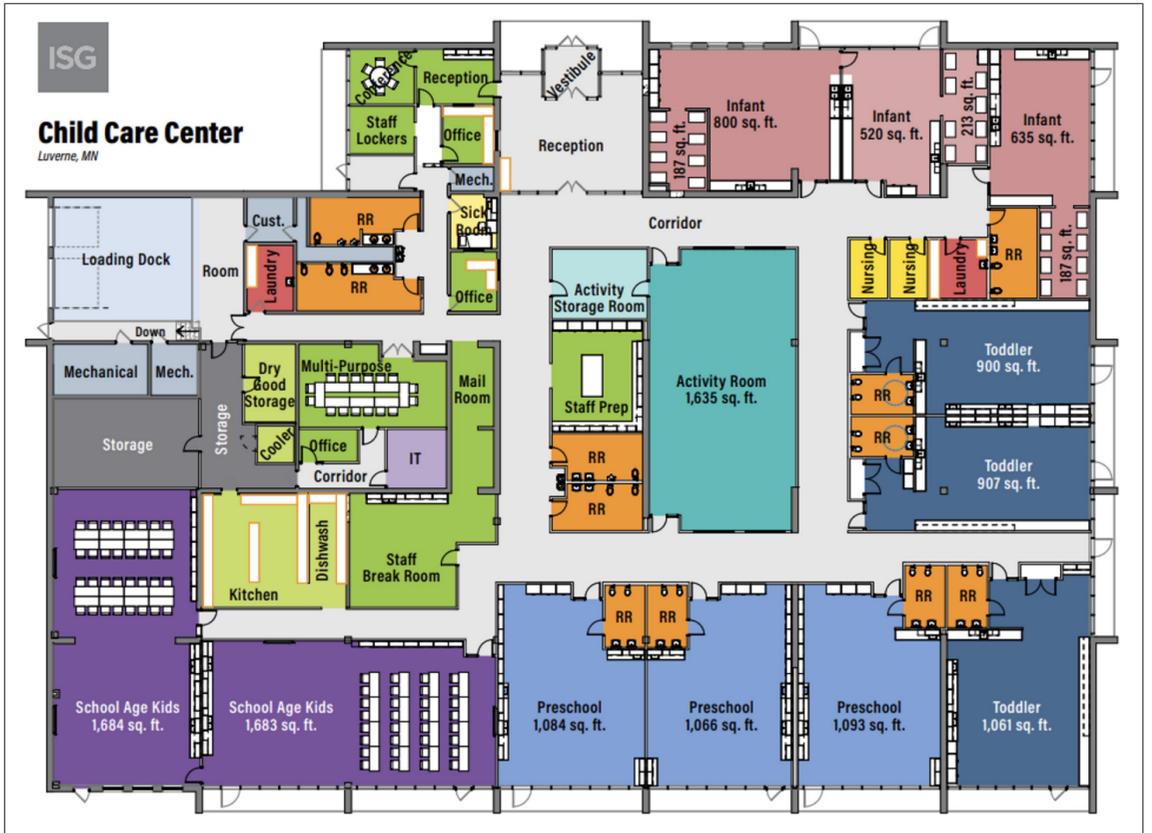
Community Ed

Community Education will offer the following classes in the next few weeks. Call 507-283-4724 to register.

Children ages 3-5 with a parent or caregiver are invited to On Track to Literacy Success on April 11. Registration required, but there is no fee.

Participants in grades 5 through adult can reserve time with an artist in Open Studio two-hour blocks of time on April 15. Fee is \$25 and covers all materials, glaze and firing.

Registration is open for Discovery Time Preschool for ages 3-5 half-day classes during the 2023-24 school year. Age is determined as of September 1 of present school year. Free or reduced rates are available if income guidelines are met.



The Luverne day care center floor plan outlines classrooms, indoor gym, outdoor playground area, commercial kitchen, office and staff support spaces, conference room, nursing rooms, laundry and storage rooms, and ADA-compliant restrooms, safety, security, and technology improvements, efficient parking for drop-off and pick-up, new plumbing, HVAC.

Sen. Tina Smith day care tour in Luverne/continued from page 1A

42 toddlers, 60 preschoolers and 60 school-age children.

Sammons said the community will always need in-home child care providers, but there are currently not enough of them to meet demand.

Current studies point to a day care shortage of more than 120 slots in Rock County, which makes it difficult for employers to find adequate labor when working parents must live and work elsewhere to find child care.

That shortage doesn't account for the two major employers adding new jobs in Luverne's industrial park this summer. Lineage Logistics cold storage warehouse and Premium Minnesota Pork's new smoke house will each need roughly 80 employees, and many of those workers will need child care.

In order to support local business hiring, the city of Luverne purchased the former Tri-State Insurance building (most recently Total Card Inc.) for \$515,000 and announced that it would subsidize a day care operation.

City Council member Dan Nath pointed out that the day care center will benefit the entire county.

"We're going to have the ability to draw from other communities," he said. "We have people who are driving 30 miles to bring their kids to day care and then drive 30 miles back to work. We're really hoping we can become that hub."

Mayor Baustian said day care will be another reason for working families



Architect plans call for open play spaces for designated age groups.

to live in Luverne. "We have our strong education system, health care, housing stock ... the day care is that final piece," he said.

The city purchased the building in March 2022 after more than six years of feasibility studies showed that rural family wages can't support salaries of qualified child care center professionals.

In order for a day care business to succeed, it would need public support.

The recent federal funding was awarded through a process called "Congressionally Directed Spending," which Sen. Smith was actively involved in securing after close coordination with local leaders.

The funds will help support the estimated \$6.4 million renovation, construction, and furnishing of Luverne's child care facility. Construction is expected to begin this summer with a projected opening late in 2024 or early 2025.

Sen. Smith serves on the Senate Education Committee and recently joined over three dozen lawmakers to introduce new legisla-



Lori Sorenson photo/0406 tina smith day care tour Luverne EDA director Holly Sammons (right) and discusses Luverne's day care plans with Sen. Tina Smith Tuesday during the senator's visit to Luverne. "If there's one thing I've learned about Luverne, it's that you all are very entrepreneurial and figure-it-out kind of folks," Smith said. "I think this is a real model for how to go about it, because it's a public-private partnership."

tion called the Child Care for Every Community Act. The bill would expand access to affordable child care to people across Min-

nesota and the country, offer high-quality education to children, and create jobs for early childhood educators.

#TellUsTuesday Results

Scan Here to Vote for this Week's Survey!

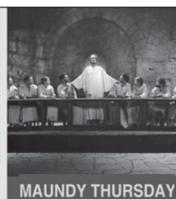


Do You Participate In April Fools' Day?

Yes, pranks keep life interesting	20%
No, I don't like pranks	67%
I am usually the one getting pranked	13%

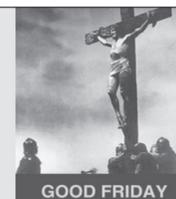
HOLY WEEK EXPERIENCE

JOIN US AS WE STEP INTO THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD



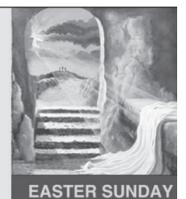
MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 6
United Methodist Church
7:00 pm



GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7
First Presbyterian Church
7:00 pm



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 9
First Presbyterian Church
Sunrise Brunch: 8:30-10am
Worship 10:15 am
With Holy Communion

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• Electrician

• City

• Chiropractic



First-grade students perform 'Barnyard Moosical'

Luverne Elementary School students performed two musicals on Friday, March 31, in the school performing arts center. First-graders performed "A Barnyard Moosical" followed by the second-graders' performance of "Yee-Haw." (Lori Sorenson photos)



(Photo at left) In the first-graders' performance of "Barnyard Moosical," Grayson Weidert (from left), Molly VanderLinden, Presley Vortherms, Carter Wermager, Ava Lafrenz and Eden Uithoven recite their lines ahead of the song, "When Pigs Fly." In the inset photos are Zeke Gutierrez (top) and Isabella Nolz. Above right, first-grade students sing the "Funky Chicken Strut."



Second-grade students perform 'Yee-Haw!'

Below left, cowboys and cowgirls (from left) Hunter Cook, Sadriela Rodas Chicas, Gunner Johnson and Raelynn Remme recite their lines in the second-graders' performance of "Yee-Haw." **In the middle photo below**, second-graders sing their hearts out in their "Yee-Haw" performance. They are (front, from left) Michah Eagle, Henry Graves, Brooke Zeutenhorst, Dominic Rigney, Mackenzie Walker, Estelle Olson, (second row) Gunner Johnson, Kallista Van Grootheest, Rayna Sterling, Gracelynn Myhre, Moosa Kadhim, Jocelyn DeGroot, (third row) Jenna Goemmel, Hunter Cook, Raelynn Remme, Hank Petersen, Samuel Ainsworth, (back) Benson Lebrun, Norah Benjamin, AJ Pearce, Gabriella Flores and Hobe Sandbulte. **In the photo at right**, second-graders prepare for their opening song in "Yee-Haw, a Rollicking Western Adventure." Pictured are (front, from left) Cash Apel, Korie Schomacker, (second row) Addisyn Facile, Kameryn Franz, Jacob Deutsch, (third row) Baneen Kadhim, Micah Sandbulte, Harper VandenHoek, (back) Ricky Nadolski and Micaela Hemme.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
HEARTLAND MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY
 To be held at the
American Legion Hall
 (Main Street) Lismore, MN
April 13, 2023
 1:30 pm registration
 2:00 pm meeting
ALL POLICYHOLDERS ARE INVITED



ASSESSMENT NOTICE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Board of Appeal and Equalization of the City of Beaver Creek in Rock County, Minnesota, will meet at the Office of the Clerk in the said city at 7:00 P.M., on **Wednesday, the 12th day of April 2023**. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.
 If you believe the value or classification is incorrect, please contact the assessor's office at 507-283-5022 to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessment and may make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.
 Given under my hand this 21st day of March, 2023
 Jane Blank
 Beaver Creek City Clerk/Treasurer

GRAVEL BIDS: MAGNOLIA TOWNSHIP
 Magnolia Township will be accepting gravel bids for gravel to be applied on township roads. Bids must be received by April 11, 2023.
 Send to: Magnolia Township
 1581 121st St.
 Luverne, MN 56156
 Magnolia Township Board

Maplewood Cemetery Association
ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023
Lot owners meet at 12:30 p.m.
Board of Directors meet at 1:00 p.m.
 at the American Reformed Church Multipurpose Room
 304 N Fairway Dr, Luverne, MN 56156.

The Nutcracker

Don't like it?
Don't look at it!

Like most of you, I have an opinion about the proposed 75-foot-tall plastic nutcracker intended to enhance tourism by drawing travelers off I-90.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

My opinion is, "Not in my back yard!"

However, I live on the north end of Luverne and the nutcracker will be on the south end of Luverne, so it won't be in my backyard. Therefore, I'm good with the whole plan.

I've learned a great coping skill from my husband.

When I tell him something is really bothering me – like a crack in the drywall or a water spot on a ceiling that needs repair, he says, "Just don't look at it."

I've found the advice to be amazingly helpful. Things I no longer look at include the numbers on the scale, the still unpainted side of our house, and boxes of unsorted clothing in the basement.

I recommend the "just don't look at it" approach to those of us who aren't really that into nutcrackers.

When I head to Bomgaars for cat food, instead of looking at a 75-foot-tall specter looming over the

highway, perhaps I will check out the Subway sign instead.

I might note the current gas price at the station or see who's parked at The Dawg.

Maybe I'll pull into JJ's and keep my eyes trained on a giant ice cream cone, or maybe I'll adjust the car radio every time I drive by.

Don't rule out the possibility the giant nutcracker will grow on us. Seeing his mammoth plastic nutcracker head appear on the horizon – when we are on I-90 driving just east of Beaver Creek – will remind us that we are almost home.

His stone cold eyes and menacing jaw line will seem to call, "Welcome back. I've been waiting for you." (Did his eyes move, or am I just seeing things?)

His ramrod stiff arms would hug us if they could.

Obviously, we won't always be viewing his face.

Sometimes we will have to view our 75-foot friend from the backside and then, well, I recommend just not looking at it.

Save a life; put distractions away

Extra distracted driving enforcement on Minnesota roads April 1-30

Driving distracted puts everyone on the road in danger, contributing to an average of 28 deaths and 156 serious, life-changing injuries per year in Minnesota.

That's why law enforcement agencies and traffic safety partners are teaming up to educate motorists, enforce the hands-free cell phone law and help stop other distracting behaviors.

The distracted driving enforcement and awareness campaign runs April 1-30 and includes extra enforcement.

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) coordinates the campaign with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"We all lead busy lives and think we can multitask, but behind the wheel of the car is not the place to do that," said OTS Director Mike Hanson.

"You may not think a quick glance down at your phone or radio will do any harm, but that simple distraction can seriously injure or kill someone in an instant."

Distracted driving is dangerous driving

More than 32,000 crashes were distracted driving-related from 2018-2022, contributing to one in 11 crashes in Minnesota.

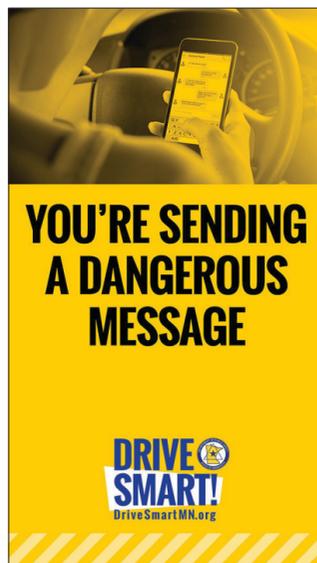
In 2022, preliminary figures show distracted driving contributed to 126 injuries and 22 deaths.

Distracted driving contributes to 9 percent of crashes in Minnesota.

Hands-free cell phone use is the law

Hands-free cell phone use became law on Aug. 1, 2019, in

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL



Minnesota.

That means drivers can no longer hold their phone in their hand.

Accessing or posting on social media, streaming videos, checking box scores or Googling information on a device while driving are all still against the law in Minnesota, even in hands-free mode.

Distracted driving has consequences

The hands-free cell phone law allows drivers to use their cell phone to make calls, text, listen to music or podcasts and get directions, but

only by voice commands or single-touch activation without holding the phone.

However, hands-free is not necessarily distraction-free. Penalties for distracted driving include:

\$100 or more including court fees for a first offense.

\$300 or more including court fees for a second and/or subsequent offense.

If you injure or kill someone while violating the hands-free law, you can face a felony charge of criminal vehicular operation or homicide.

Drive smart and join Minnesotans driving distraction-free

Put your cell phone down, turn it off, place it out of reach or set up hands-free cell phone use.

Pre-program radio stations and arrange music in an easy-to-access spot. Adjust mirrors and ventilation before traveling.

Map out the destination and enter GPS routes in advance.

Avoid messy foods and secure drinks in cupholders.

Teach children the importance of good behavior in a vehicle and model proper driving behavior.

Passengers, speak up to stop drivers from distracted driving behavior and offer to help with anything that takes the driver's attention off the road.

Visit HandsFreeMN.org and DriveSmartMN.org for more information.

Fick: 'Stop and think, what if that would happen around here. Oh that would hurt'

To the Editor:

Another shooting! Three innocent children and three adults at work in school. Why? Where will the next incident be? Do we think this 28-year-old has been watching television? Seeing how the adults in Washington, D.C., operate? The example they set for our youth. Is this normal? Could that affect a growing mind?

I'm an 85-year-old retired, in front of TV watcher. I get very upset and even confused at what I see and hear. Our youth see that too, thinking this is normal. Could this

affect a growing mind? This is what they are brought up with. Maybe Washington, D.C., should look at itself once. What kind of example are they setting for our youth. Most of our representatives are intelligent and well qualified, but seems a few not. It seems their goal is to disrupt seriously needed government function, refusing to pass beneficial bills, that would benefit the country, because it is someone else's idea. How some foreign countries are advancing in technology, like chips, batteries, etc., while our government is spending precious time and tax-

payers' money over nonessentials. How our tax system favors the very wealthy while our federal debt is out of control and people are hungry and living in tents on the streets. How a TV channel constantly and knowingly broadcasts falsehoods. How lying, even under oath, has become a powerful tool. How the results of a federal presidential election are considered false. How the hard-working vote counters are accused of being corrupt. How stealing federal classified material is defended. Where has our respect for our authorities gone.

Maybe we, as adults, should clean up our act so our youth can have a more positive outlook on life. History tells us corruption often leads to failure. If we don't look out, we could lose our freedoms and our rights. DEMOCRACY. Difference of opinion is good for society, but only if intellectual compromise is attained.

Our country is trying to convert other countries to our form of government, democracy, but this is what they see. People killed in our capitol. Hundreds of police officers injured, some badly, defending the

capitol and representatives, children killed in our schools. Semi-automatic military weapons allowed in our homes. Semi-automatic weapons serve but one purpose! Many people dying from overdose of illegal drugs. We abort our babies. People even getting death threats.

I just had to say something. Stop and think, what if that would happen around here. Oh, that would hurt. How it must affect our youth mentally. We'd better be concerned before we lose our freedoms, our way of life. DEMOCRACY.

Robert Fick, Luverne

Athletics, yardwork and fashion are all feeling the effects of 'winter hangover'

Don't know about you, but I am ready for baseball, track, golf, tennis and some softball.

Our high school spring sports preview section is in today's paper. Right out of the starting blocks, many of the scheduled games and events have been rescheduled because of winter hangover.

The problem with postponing spring games is that the window to reschedule them is so short. Compounding that problem for the baseball and softball teams is the pitch count restrictions on the pitchers.



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

The pitch count is a good thing, but managing your team's pitchers can be challenging, especially when you have rescheduled games that may be back to back, and then throw

in a doubleheader. A roster with a healthy number of pitchers will go a long way this spring when it comes to the team's overall success.

The spring yard work has also

suffered a weather hangover setback. Replacing the snow blower with the lawn mower and ditching the snow shovel for the rake is long overdue.

Three of my favorite warm weather friends, Weber, Blackstone and Traeger, are champing at the bit as much as I am to fire them up.

The fashion change-over season should be weeks into the conversion, but not so much this year. It's past time to swap the boots for sandals, sweatshirts for T-shirts, and put the jeans in the draw and put on your favorite shorts.

Last week I got a call from Jasmina Joseph, the producer for the show American Pickers, and they are planning on being here in June.

If you're a fan of the show like me, you'll recall that Mike and Frank have been here before and uncovered a few treasures and purchases that were featured on the show.

Collectors interested in being considered for the show should reach out to Joseph by calling 646-493-2184 or email AmerPickers@cineflix.com.

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The *Star Herald* encourages letters to the editor expressing the opinions of readers and intends to print all letters. Letters not meeting the guidelines will not be printed. The *Star Herald* will verify the authenticity of all letters. Letters must have the name of the writer, a signature and address. Unsigned letters will not be considered. The *Star Herald* will edit for grammar, spelling and clarity. Any letters containing offensive language, libelous or slanderous material, or misleading or false information will be rewritten before being published. The *Star Herald* will not publish letters written with the sole intent to advertise or serve as a thank-you. Letters with more than 300 words may be edited. The deadline for letters is Monday 10 a.m. They may be delivered or mailed to the editor, *Rock County Star Herald*, P.O. Box 837, 117 W. Main St., Luverne, Minn. 56156.



ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

March 24
 •Complainant reported an outage.
 •Complainant reported an outage.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a transient.
March 25
 •Complainant on Oak Drive reported a fire call.
 •Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported suspicious activity.
March 26
 •Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 19, Magnolia, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported theft.
 •Complainant on W. Hatting Street reported an assault.
 •Complainant on W. Warren Street reported a civil issue.
March 28
 •Complainant on E. Main Street reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on Freeman Avenue and Maple Street reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on Mag Road reported found property.
 •Complainant northbound on Highway 75 from 71st Street, Luverne, reported a driving complaint.
March 29
 •Complainant reported

a scam.
 •Complainant on W. Veterans Drive reported a disorderly.
 •Complainant on W. Veterans Drive reported a runaway.
 •Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported trespassing.
 •Complainant on County Road 13 and 20th Avenue, Hills, reported road and drive laws.
 •Complainant northbound on Highway 75 between IA/MN border, near Hills, requested assistance from another department.
 •A warrant was issued on N. Cedar Street.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported hazmat material.
 •Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 23, Magnolia, requested assistance from another department.
March 30
 •Complainant reported property damage.

In addition, officers responded to 3 motor vehicle accidents, 1 transport, 14 ambulance runs, 3 paper services, 3 animal complaints, 1 fingerprint request, 10 burn permits, 1 alarm, 12 purchase and carry permits, 11 traffic stops, 14 abandoned 911 calls, 1 welfare check, and 1 follow-up.



Mavis Fodness photo/0406 H-BC Referendum Meeting Hugo

About a dozen people asked questions during the Hills-Beaver Creek bond referendum information meeting at the Hugo Goehle gymnasium in Hills on March 28. It was the second of two public meetings hosted by district representatives, construction managers, architects and school finance experts. They answered questions about a two-question \$29.975 million bond referendum vote on April 11 at two voting locations in the district.

H-BC bond referendum meeting/continued from page 1A

tendance centered around costs to property owners.

Hammer with Ehlers outlined the tax increases to residential, commercial/industrial, season recreational and agricultural property owners, if one or both of the referendum questions are passed by voters.

The average residential value is \$155,090 in the cities of Hills, Beaver Creek and Steen and in the townships of Martin, Beaver Creek, Springwater and Clinton located within the school district.

The tax impact on a home of this value would be \$324 per year for 20 years if both questions pass.

The city of Hills had the lowest residential homestead value at \$139,114 and Martin Township had the highest at \$221,691. The tax impact on residential property owners (which includes the house, garage and one acre of land for rural homesteads) would range from \$253 to \$463 annually over the next 20 years.

Of the property classifications, ag property owners make up 76 percent of the tax base in the H-BC school district.

However, agricultural property (minus the house, garage and one acre of land) would be eligible for the state's Ag2School program in which the state would pay for 70 percent of the bond payment.

"The average farm size within the district is 411 acres," Hammer said.

With a market value average of \$10,537 per acre, the Ag2School program aid would bring the tax impact for ag property owners down to an average \$1.27 per acre.

The Ag2School credit was available for H-BC's last bond referendum of \$9.9 million in 2010. The

Ag2School credit program was not in existence when the bond referendum to build the secondary school passed.

An online tax impact calculator is available through the www.hbc patriots.com website under the 2023 Referendum tab.

A link ties directly to Ehlers Inc. and will calculate exact costs to any property within the H-BC school district.

Other topics addressed at meeting

•Lack of adequate instructional space needs at the elementary school, which architect Fox said was undersized when the elementary addition was completed in 1997. She said a number of classrooms are under 70 square feet when the state Department of Education recommends 850 to 900 square feet.

•Steady to slightly declining enrollment is anticipated at H-BC. Currently the district has 344 K-12 enrolled students. H-BC experienced its highest enrollment (380 students) two years ago. The lowest enrollment was just under 300 students in 2003.

•Why not build the elementary school in Hills and merge the schools on one campus? Holthaus said a community survey last fall indicated people's preference to keep the elementary school in Beaver Creek. The plan is supported by the state Department of Education who gave the project's plans a positive review.

•What happens if the referendum doesn't pass? "The needs won't go away," Holthaus said. School board members will review the district's long-term maintenance plan to decide which of the projects will be completed, how to pay for them,

and when the projects would be completed over a 10-year period.

Support for previous H-BC bond votes high

Past H-BC bond referendums have received an average of 72 percent approval from voters.

A \$1.95 million bond for the 34,000-square-foot addition to the elementary school passed with 76.8 percent support in 1996.

In 2004 a \$400,000 bond for the locker room addition to the Hugo Goehle gym passed with 69.5 percent support.

The most recent bond was for \$9.9 million, supported by 71 percent of voters, to construct a new secondary school in Hills.

Holthaus said the district's building debt is currently at \$8.520 million with the final payment coming in 2036.

Two polling places open on April 11

Two polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. for H-BC district voters.

Beaver Creek city and the townships of Beaver Creek and Springwater vote at the Beaver Creek City Offices at 311 E. First Ave. in Beaver Creek.

Residents of Hills and Steen along with townships of Martin and Clinton vote at the Hills American Legion, 207 S. Main Ave., Hills.

Absentee voting is available and a ballot may be requested at state Secretary of State website, www.sos.state.mn.us under elections and voting, other ways to vote.

More information about the H-BC bond referendum, including the community survey results, is available at the district website, www.hbc patriots.com.



Mavis Fodness file photo/0406 father tom

Father Tom Jennings rides through Luverne's 150th parade.

Father Tom dies/from page 1A

tours and events and participated in the annual Rock County Tractor Drive behind the wheel of a vintage International tractor.

"I saw so much more than I usually do in my car going 55," he said.

"Going slow allows one to see what God sees — all the details of creation, light and shadows, fence posts, vast varieties of wildflowers and grasses, the cuts made by mean-

dering streams, the shapes of clouds. Sounds are more accentuated when moving slowly. I felt so free moving at 12 mph."

His message: "Go slow in September and enjoy the early days of autumn. Go slow and see, hear and feel more than ever before."

Funeral services were Tuesday in Caledonia where McCormick Funeral Home assisted with arrangements.

Magnolia Juniors 4-H Club
Annual Easter Egg Hunt
 On Broadway Street in Magnolia
 Live animals! (weather permitting)
 Saturday, April 8
 Join the fun, rain or shine!
 For ages 0 to 10 10 a.m. SHARP

READ
 the Rock County STAR HERALD Online!
 Call 283-2333 for more details.

PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

BANK NITE MOVIE: Rise of the Guardians PG
 Thursday, April 6 6:00 pm
 Sponsored by: First Farmers & Merchants Bank and Papik Motors
 FREE ADMISSION

Jesus Revolution PG-13
 Friday, April 7 7:00 pm
 Saturday, April 8 7:00 pm
 Sunday, April 9 2:00 pm
 Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 - 12th grade, \$7 for adults

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 Rock County STAR HERALD Luverne ANNOUNCER

HELP SAVE THE PLANET
RECYCLE



Submitted photo

Representing Luverne High School at the state Future Career Community Leaders of America conference March 26-29 in Minneapolis were (front, from left) Lilly Johnson, Elaine Nath, Madison Hansen, Lacey Morseman, Gemma Nelson, (second) Charlotte Happeny, Neveah Groen, Bethany Behr, Lily Ehlers, Katia Jarchow, Anna Reisdorfer, Audrie DeBates, Janica Oechsle, (back) Hallie Bork, Hailey Johnson, Morgan Jonas, Camden Kunkel, Tori Hemme, Addison Huiskes, Reese Louwagie, Priscilla Muehr, Nora Louwagie and Ella Lanoue. Audrie DeBates (inset, below) is state FCCLA president-elect.

Four Luverne students qualify for national FCCLA conference

Sophomore Audrie DeBates will serve as 2023-24 state president

By Mavis Fodness

Four students earned trips to represent the Luverne High School chapter of the Future Career Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) at the national conference in July.

They earned the national trips for their performance in the STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) events during the state conference March 26-28 in Minneapolis, where students could earn a potential trip to the national conference July 2-6 in Denver, Colorado.

National qualifiers include junior Hallie Bork and senior Ella Lanoue (who also qualified for her professional presentation) for their chapter in review portfolio, and sophomores Gemma Nelson and Janica Oechsle for their professional presentation.

Luverne chapter members earning gold (high ranking) honors in the STAR events are Tori Hemme, Lacey Morseman, Addison Huiskes, Reese Louwagie, Camden Kunkel, Morgan

Jonas, Priscilla Muehr, Nora Louwagie, Bethany Behr and Hailey Johnson.

Four other Luverne students were selected to serve as area and state officers for 2023-24.

Sophomore Audrie DeBates is the state president-elect.

She's the first LHS student to lead the state FCCLA organization.

"I went up to the state conference not knowing if I was going to make into state office at all," DeBates said. "I had no idea that I would be the state president-elect until all of the candidates were on stage and I was the only one who had yet to be given their office position."

Sophomore Janica Oeschle is the state vice president of community service.

Area officers are eighth-grader



Anna Reisdorfer (secretary) and sophomore Hallie Bork (treasurer).

As president, DeBates will be part of a state leadership team who plans the state conference, will lead the state council meetings, and will serve on the board of directors for the state FCCLA.

DeBates joined the LHS FCCLA chapter almost four

years ago.

"If you told me as a seventh-grader that I would stand in front of almost 500 people and give a speech at the 2023 state convention, I wouldn't have believed you," she said.

DeBates credits FCCLA for learning the communication, public speaking and life skills necessary for the state leadership position.

"I'm so excited for everything to come in the next two years and that I get to go through it with the 2023-24 state office team."

MENU AT GENERATIONS

Monday, April 10: Salisbury steak with gravy, baked potato with sour cream, peas and carrots, bread, tropical fruit.

Tuesday, April 11: Tater tot hotdish, green beans, peaches, dinner roll, bar.

Wednesday, April 12: Chicken wild rice soup, broccoli florets, fruit cocktail, breadstick, gelatin.

Half-Price Day is sponsored by American Reformed Church.

Thursday, April 13: Pulled pork on a bun, but-

ternut squash, coleslaw, pineapple chunks, cookie.

Friday, April 14: Chicken alfredo with pasta, carrots, pears, garlic bread.

LSS Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals in a community atmosphere.

Call Pam Franken at 283-9846, extension 11 to reserve one day prior, to arrange to pick up a dinner or for home-delivered meals.

Gift certificates are available at the meal site or online at www.lssmn.org/nutrition.

ENGAGEMENT

Tony and Wendy Gacke of Luverne and Robert and Donna Tims of Worthington announce the upcoming wedding of their children, Marco Gacke and Rebecca Tims.

Marco is a graduate of Luverne High School and attended Southwest Minnesota State University. He currently works as a lab technician at Doble Engineering in Raleigh, North Carolina, in their dielectric fluids lab.

Rebecca graduated from Worthington High School and from Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, with bachelor's and master's degrees in elementary education. She currently works as a second-grade teacher at Baileywick Road



Rebecca Tims and Marco Gacke

Elementary in Raleigh.

Marco and Rebecca will unite in marriage Saturday, April 8, at NC State University Club in Raleigh.

1943: Emma Hamann continues her life story

The following article is part of the Diamond Club Member group that began in the January 7, 1943, issue of the Rock County Star Herald. Members of this group consist of persons of age 75 and older.

The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on Sept. 9, 1943.

(Continued from last week's Star Herald.)

Emma Hamann worked hard for her salary, though, for her job meant getting up at 5 a.m. in the summer, milking seven or eight cows morning and night, as well as doing inside work. The weekly washing for eight or nine people was all done by hand on a wash board, and whenever she would bake bread, she would have to bake at least 10 loaves at the time.

After working for her uncle for about a year, she obtained employment as a dish washer in a hotel at Van Horn, Iowa, with an increase in salary of \$1 a week. The hotel served many dinners as a rule, as trains would stop there so passengers could eat their meals. "I saw all kinds of people," Mrs. Hamann recalls. "There were people there from all walks of life, from all parts of the country. It was interesting to see them."

On June 30, 1885, she was married to August H. Hamann, at Vinton, Iowa, and immediately afterward they began housekeeping on Mr. Hamann's farm near Remsen in Plymouth county, Ia. They lived there seven years, then a friend of theirs, Albert Ahrendt, induced them to come to Minnesota. Mr. Hamann bought a farm northwest of Luverne, and they lived there until they moved to Luverne in 1919.

During her early years on the farm, Mrs. Hamann often worked in the fields during harvest and corn picking. She did this in addition to her



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, Rock County Historian

house work and to rearing her six children.

She never went away from home a great deal. For one thing, she didn't have the time, and for another thing, traveling in those days was not easy. "When we went to town, it was just too bad if we forgot to buy something, because it usually meant that we would have to live without it for about two weeks, when we would go to town again."

There was no German Lutheran church here then, and she recalls attending services in the county court house with Pastor Brinkman as the minister. Later, enough money was raised to build the school house near the present St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and finally the church was built. Mrs. Hamann was one of the first members of ladies' aid of the church, and was active in its function until later years. She is still able to attend church, however.

Direct descendants of Mrs. Hamann include six children, 21 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Her children include: Rudolph A. Hamann, Clear Lake, S.D.; Mrs. Albert Priesz, Mrs. J. W. Ahrendt, August F. Hamann, Arthur Hamann and Herbert F. Hamann, all

Bits, continued on 7A

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2013)

•Luverne High School vocal music instructor Seana Graber shared details of the June 10-15 trip with Luverne School Board members, who approved the trip at their March 26 meeting.

Graber said 60 students are planning to make the six-day trip to and from New York City with chaperones Jim and Paula Jelken, Greg Hoogveen, Katie Baustian, Brenda Johnson, Mary Brown and Jennifer Nelson, along with Graber and her husband, Keith.

Graber said having Hoogveen along as a photographer will ensure great pictures of the trip. Johnson is a veteran of other music trips and Brown is a nurse.

25 years ago (1998)

•Crews from Rock County and the city of Luverne traveled to St. Peter Thursday and Friday to help with tornado cleanup. Walter Stearns, Lee Hamann, Bob McClure and John Martin represented the county and Burdell Braa, Cory Schmuck, John Stoffel, Butch Hatting, Greg McClure and David Van Batavia took time off from city work to help.

The men used a semi donated by Henning Construction, Adrian, to take equipment to St. Peter. They brought dump trucks, a pay loader and a skid loader as well as pickups and seven chain saws.

50 years ago (1973)

•Elmer Menage, Luverne High School Athletic Director, football and track coach, was inducted into the Central Lyon Hall of Fame at Rock Rapids Tuesday evening in ceremonies held during the 13th annual A.O. Voogd Relays.

This is an honor only two other former Central Lyon athletes have received, according to school officials.

Menage graduated there in 1956. He was selected to the all-state team in football, received honorable mention in all-state basketball and held the state Class B record for a number of years in the 100-yard dash.

At Morningside College, Menage continued with his athletic

honors, being named to the District 12 football squad, all-North Central Conference football team and honorable mention in conference baseball.

Menage coached at Wartburg College, Waverly Iowa, for three years before coming to Luverne.

In 1972, he was named District 8 Coach of the year after leading the Cardinals to a 9-0 regular season mark in the Southwest Conference.

75 years ago (1948)

•"Rock county doubled its acreage in alfalfa the last two years. In 1920 there were but 850 acres in the county. In 1922 there were 1560 acres in the county, contends county agent Roske.

"The largest acreage of alfalfa is in the southwest part of the county. Beaver Creek leads in this with 350 acres; Martin township follows with 255 acres and Springwater with 181 acres; Luverne township also has 181 acres and Clinton township has 160 acres. It is expected that this average will be doubled again by the end of this year.

100 years ago (1923)

•At a meeting of the Luverne board of education held last week, Supt. H.C. Bell and the entire teaching corps were tendered re-election to their present positions for the coming school year. It is known, however, that several of those who were re-elected do not expect to return here next year.

This will make the twelfth year that Mr. Bell will have served as superintendent of the Luverne schools; the eleventh year that Mrs. Cora W. Rea has been engaged to teach music, and the eighth year that Mrs. Lucille Keech-Ulvin has been employed in teaching here, and Miss Jones' seventh year as principal and teacher of the primary department.

Of the other teachers, Miss Ethel Armstrong has been identified with the Luverne schools for four years. Miss Helga Johnson three and a half years, Mrs. Mary Athan, Mrs. Faye Weston and Miss Lucretia Dunbar for three years.

OBITUARIES

Thomas Jennings

Called home by our Lord, Father Thomas J. Jennings, age 78, died peacefully on March 29, 2023, at his home surrounded by his family.



He was born on August 12, 1944, in Caledonia, Minnesota, to Lloyd and Wilma (Ernst) Jennings. He was baptized and confirmed at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Caledonia. Father Tom graduated from Loretto High School and studied philosophy at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona. He completed his theology degree at the North American College and the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy.

On December 19, 1969, Father Tom Jennings was ordained to the priesthood in Rome at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

Father Tom's assignments as parochial vicar were at St. John in Rochester and the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Winona. As a pastor, he served at St. John in Winona, Our Lady of Mount

Carmel in Easton, Mater Dolorosa in Delavan, Queen of Angels in Austin, Our Lady of Loretto in Brownsdale, Sacred Heart in Owatonna, St. Catherine in Luverne, and St. Mary in Ellsworth. Additional assignments include instructor for Lourdes

High School in Rochester and Cotter High School in Winona; diocesan director of education of priests; principal and administrator for Cotter High School in Winona; chaplain of Cabrini Home, Knights of Columbus MN State Council, and the Owatonna area Catholic Daughters; member of the Presbyteral Council, Clergy Assignments Committee, and College of Consultors; dean of the Austin/Albert Lea Deanery; faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona; and rural life co-director for the diocese. On October 8, 2018, Father Tom joined the rank of senior priests of the diocese.

Father Tom was always a farm boy at heart. He enjoyed all of God's creations to the

fullest. He was frequently seen taking pictures of all kinds. He loved hiking, gardening, photography, reading, and drives in the countryside. He loved holidays and getting together with his family, friends, and his "bible buddies." Father Tom had a passion for life. His presence will be dearly missed by all.

He will be dearly missed by two brothers, David (Kathy) Jennings and Jim (Pat) Jennings; nieces and nephews Mike (Lisa) Jennings, Barb (Darren) Smith, Shannon Jennings, Mark (Sandy) Jennings, Stephanie (Curt) Mann, Joe (Ali) Jennings, Stacie (Phillip) Klug, Renee (Eric) Goetzinger, Rachel (Andy) Reining, Nick (Samantha) Jennings; great nieces and nephews Brittney (Nathan), Kyle (Sierra), Haley, Tyler, Colby, Jenna, Noah, Lydia, Owen, Ella, Emersyn, August, Hunter, Lauren, Leo, Celia, Violet, Kendall, Aria, Grant; and great-great nephew Maverick.

Father Tom was preceded in death by his parents, nephews Daniel Jennings and Rick Jennings, and great nephew Brandon Jennings.

The family would like to thank Father Matt Wagner, Sister Michaeline, and the staff at Mayo Clinic Health System for all the great care and support.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 4, at the Church of St. Mary in Caledonia, Minnesota, with the Most Reverend Robert E. Barron, Bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester celebrating with the Priests of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester celebrating with the Priests of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Tuesday at St. Mary's Holy Family Hall.

The funeral will be livestreamed on St. Mary's Church, Caledonia, Facebook page.

Memorials are preferred to St. Mary's School, Caledonia.

Condolences in memory of Father Thomas Jennings may be sent to 707 North Hokah Street, Caledonia, MN.

McCormick Funeral Home, Caledonia, is assisting the family. Online condolences may be given at mccormickfuneralhome.net (0406 V)

Dorothy Loger

Dorothy L. Loger, 89, Luverne, died Sunday, April 2, 2023, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



A funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, with visitation beginning at 12:30 p.m., all at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. Burial will follow at St. Catherine Cemetery in Luverne.

Dorothy Wollmuth was born on Nov. 6, 1933, to Fred and Laura (Foley) Wollmuth on a farm in Pipestone. She was the youngest child in a family of 14 children. Life was hard in those days, but it taught her discipline and how to do everyday chores like hauling water from the stream to the house, how to raise a garden, how to can foods, how to cook, and her least favorite chore, how to dig potatoes. Dorothy went to school for eight years in Hatfield and four years in Pipestone, graduating in 1951.

Dorothy married Marvin Loger on Nov. 3, 1954. Marvin worked at IBP for 25 years, and Dorothy at Hakes Foods, which later became Scrivner Foods, as a secretary for over 33 years. She later worked at Gold'n Plump for over three years and retired in 2002.

Marvin preceded her in death on Sept. 5, 2002. Dorothy continued to reside in their home.

Dorothy was a devout Catholic and was a member of St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. She loved putting 1000-piece puzzles together and then swapping them with her sisters, Louise and Janet. She was also an avid reader and loved watching western movies.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter, Marilyn DeGroot, of Rock Rapids, Iowa; grandson Jason (Jackie) Sheehan; great-grandson Justin Sheehan; great-granddaughter Courtney (Ryan) Warejcka; great-great-granddaughter Aubrey Anna; and great-great-grandson Jaxton of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; a step-son, Bradford Loger; and sister Janet VanderPlaats of Hatfield.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Marvin; her parents; and twelve siblings, Margaret, Agnes, Mary, George, Fred, Joseph, Aurthur, Theodore, Leo, William, Thomas, and Louise.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquistfuneral.com.

(0406 F)

Lavonne Otten

Lavonne K. Otten, 83, Luverne, died Thursday, March 23, 2023, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.



Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday, April 6, at the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne. A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the church, with burial to follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Luverne.

Lavonne Katherine Otten was born on Sept. 5, 1939, to Ralph and Henrietta (Driesen) Otten in Rock Rapids, Iowa. She grew up on a farm in Iowa and attended school through the eighth grade at Doon Christian School.

When she was 15 years old, she moved with her family to a farm in Minnesota, where she lived and worked alongside her parents until their retirement.

On June 29, 1958, she made profession of faith at the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne. Lavonne then moved with her parents into Luverne and continued living with them until they moved to a nursing home, at which time she moved into the Blue Mound Tower.

She later moved into a group home in Luverne until health complications brought her to the Hospice Cottage in Luverne.

Lavonne worked as a janitor or housekeeper for several companies in the

area, first TAC in Worthington, then Hardees in Luverne, followed by a hotel in Brandon, and finally for RCO in Luverne. She was very meticulous and liked things to be clean so housekeeping was a natural gift of hers.

Lavonne was very active and enjoyed many walks throughout town. She enjoyed visits at many local businesses, but her favorite places to stop were to visit the gals at First Farmers and Merchants Bank and for some potatoes and chicken at the Pizza Ranch.

She was an active member at the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne, participating in Friendship Class, helping at the nursery, and helping with Coffee Break Bible Study. She loved holding newborn babies and playing with little kids, as well as coloring pictures. She also very much enjoyed spending time with family.

Lavonne is survived by her brother, Gerald Otten, of Montclair, California, and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Hermina Van Meeteren; a brother-in-law, John Van Meeteren; and a sister-in-law, Helen Otten.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquistfuneral.com.

(0406 F)

What a difference a week makes!

Early spring chores need attention now



It is Sunday afternoon, and I just went for a walk in my yard. I see the tulips are 2-3 inches tall as are the alliums where the snow has melted.

That is exciting, and it also means I need to get out there very soon to clean off the perennials or I'll be stepping on shoots that I can't see when I am working.

My hesitation is that once I clean off last year's debris, hungry critters will easily find what I don't want them to eat, so that means I follow myself dishing out a repellent for the deer and whoever else has an affinity for tulip sprouts.

I have written previously about using Milorganite, an organic fertilizer derived from composted sewage as a repellent. Again, the smell is what repels certain garden critters, and the smell is not really offensive to humans, but we don't have our nose on the ground while eating.

What I don't like about using this product is that it is easily dissolved by rain so it has to be reapplied after each rain. The main nutrient is nitrogen, which is good as a lawn fertilizer. But for a garden, that nitrogen gives lush green foliage at the expense of the produce we want, and reapplying multiple times just accentuates the problem.

It is amazing what a difference one week made in the snow depth we had in spite of the air temperature being only slightly above freezing. The moisture is most welcome, and I won't complain about not getting the spring cleanup started sooner even though my journal says I was pruning in the orchard in early March in 2022.

That being said, I want

KNOW IT AND GROW

By George Bonnema, Luverne Horticulturalist

to remind you that the first plant on your list for cutting back is ornamental Karl Foerster grass. This magnificent perennial is a cool season grass, meaning that it starts growing really early. Cut off last season's growth now as close to the ground as possible to avoid cutting the new emerging grass when removing the old. Cutting it low gets rid of the potential collar of dead growth around the bottom.

Karl Foerster grass is a perennial that benefits from being divided every five years. That thinning will keep the clump thick and thriving.

To divide, lift the entire clump, use your spade to cut it into four parts, and plant just one section back where you removed the whole clump.

This type of perennial grows out from the center, so if you don't divide it, the center will die out and you will have a "doughnut" of new growth around the edge.

If your grass needs this attention, do it as soon as the soil is dry enough to work with to ensure that it will re-establish and be beautiful this first year after surgery.

One particular blessing of spring is to hear the bird choir in the morning... hope you are able to appreciate that joyful, exuberant music!

DEATH NOTICE

Henry Wulf

Henry F. Wulf, 86, of Brainerd, died Thursday, March 30, 2023, at Good Samaritan Society - Bethany in Brainerd.

Arrangements are pending with Halvorson Taylor Funeral Home in Brainerd. (0406 DN)

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Bits/continued from page 6A

of Luverne.

Mrs. Hamann still maintains her own home, and although she has given up gardening on a big scale, she still raises a few vegetables for her own use, and has many beautiful flowers. She at one time did considerable sewing and fancy work but in later years, she has been unable to do so because of her poor

eyesight. She is able to read somewhat, enough to "keep up with the times," she says.

Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156.

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to manned@iw.net.

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American Pickers coming to Minnesota in June

Pickers seek antiques, historically significant items to feature on show

Producers of the “American Pickers” reality TV show will return to Minnesota in June to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series.

The documentary show follows skilled “pickers” as they hunt for valuable antiques and historically significant or rare items, while meeting owners and their collections.

Along the way, they share stories about the items and provide lessons

about America’s past.

In the show, hosts Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz seek antiques and collectibles to resell or keep for their personal collections. The show began airing on the History Channel in 2010.

The American Pickers TV Show is looking for leads on hidden treasures in Minnesota, and they encourage people to contact them about unique items to share infor-

mation about and possibly sell.

Those interested should send their name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cinetflix.com, call 646-493-2184 or reach out through Facebook @ GotAPick

Producers do not pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public.

Nutcracker/continued from 1A

their own future, both by taking responsibility for it and by building powerful networks of sustaining relationships. These actions catalyze a community’s ability to expand opportunities for all its residents.”

She said that’s why Blandin gave them the grant.

“They saw what we’re doing and saw it as a good idea to help the community,” she said.

“Getting people to come off the interstate is the biggest hurdle. This nutcracker will accomplish that.”

The city’s ordinance allows for signs up to 96 square feet. The proposed sign is roughly 600 square feet, so the Walgraves applied for a variance in order to request an exception to the rule.

After considering all the information and input from the community, the city’s Board of Appeals and Adjustments approved the request.

“We’re grateful for all the support, and we’re happy to be moving forward,” Becky Walgrave



said. “We can’t wait to see the results. We’re looking forward to achieving our goals.”

She communicated those goals at the public hearing.

“We’re doing this because we’re proud of Luverne and we want to make it go,” she said.

“We’re hoping that people will also go downtown. That’s our goal. That’s why we started this.”

The Walgraves are working on next steps with engineers and will announce a construction timeline soon.

BUSINESS NEWS

Luverne Veterans Home awarded Pinnacle ‘Customer Experience’

The Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne has been recognized with the Pinnacle Customer Experience Award through Pinnacle Quality Insight.

The company helps senior care providers improve patient experience and retain employees through survey platforms.

The Luverne Veterans Home “customer experience” is measured through Pinnacle’s monthly telephone interviews with the residents and/or their families.

They’re asked about nursing care, dining service, quality of food, cleanliness, individual needs, laundry service, communication from the facility, response to problems, recreational activities, professional therapy services, admission processes, overall safety and other topics.

The survey results are reviewed throughout the year to better understand residents’ needs and make improvements when necessary.

By qualifying for the Pinnacle Customer Experience Award, the Luverne Veterans Home has satisfied the rigorous demand of scoring in the top 15 percent across a 12-month average.

“The Pinnacle survey results represent the overall quality care our home provides to our residents by our staff,” said Administrator Scott Buchanan.

“We are very proud of the level of care that is provided and appreciate the work of all employees to provide this experience to residents and families.”

This is the fifth year in a row the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne has received the Pinnacle award.

I-90 resurfacing project near Beaver Creek wins overlay award from state association

The Concrete Paving Association of Minnesota (CPAM) has recognized the I-90 construction project near Beaver Creek with the “MnDOT Overlays Award 2022.”

The \$22.5 million project from Beaver Creek to the South Dakota border was noted for its “efficient coordination of multiple construction activities on the busy route.”

Crews completed eastbound paving and switched traffic over to pave westbound miles, all in the same construction season.

Rock County Road 6 at Beaver Creek had closed ramps for only seven calendar days and reported no major safety incidents, despite head-to-head configuration of high traffic volumes, material hauling, and multiple stages involving the county roads.

“This modern concrete pavement will serve motorists and trucks for decades to come — at least 35 years before it will need maintenance,” said Matt



Zeller, CPAM Executive Director.

“Its surface will remain smooth, stable, and resilient throughout its life. Congratulations to the award winners.”

Paving contractor PCI Roads and prime contractor Duininck Inc. rehabilitated about 9.5 miles of I-90 road surface with 7.5 inches of concrete pavement for District 7 of the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The award banquet March 9-10 in Waite Park was part of CPAM’s Annual Concrete Paving Workshop.



Join us for an open house

Please be our guest and help us celebrate those who support the mission, vision and values of Sanford Luverne Hospice.

Saturday, April 15
2-4 p.m.

Generations

105 S. Estey St., Luverne, MN

The event will feature an orchestra and light refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you have questions, call (605) 312-5500 for more information.

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Katie Kopp 507-227-1999
Sabrina Sowles 507-360-1629

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LHS track and field athletes perform well in Brookings

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne High School track and field athletes traveled to Brookings Monday to compete in the Scott Underwood Invitational.

The Cardinals were among 31 teams invited to the invitational, where athletes competed indoors at the Sanford-Jackrabbit Athletic Complex on the SDSU campus in Brookings.

The Luverne boys' team placed fourth, with 32 points, out of 31 teams. The Luverne girls' team placed eleventh, with 19 points, out of 31 teams.

"I thought it was another great effort across the board by the kids. We had a lot of great early season performances as well as improvements on last week's performances," head coach Pete Janiszkeski said.

"It's what you look for as the season unfolds."

Luverne was able to place several teams and individuals in the top five finishers of several events at the meet.

Sophomore Owen Janiszkeski was among Luverne's top finishers Monday with a second-place finish among 28 runners in the 3200-meter run with a time of 10 minutes 14.59 seconds.

He was also a member of Luverne's second-place 4-by-800-meter relay team that claimed a time of 8:38.27. Senior Camden Janiszkeski, senior Carsen Tofteland and junior Ryan Fick were the other runners in that relay event.

Seniors Jocelyn and Jayden Hart both placed well for Luverne in the shot put. Jocelyn placed third out of 80 athletes, with a 39 foot, 8 3/4 inch toss. Jadyn finished fourth overall with a toss of 36-05 1/2.

Sophomore Eli Woodley finished in fourth place in the shot put with a toss of 46-06.

Senior DJ Rock led the Cardinals pole vaulters with a fourth-place finish vaulting 12 feet six inches.

Eighth-grader Darius Dolo placed fourth in the boys' 300-meter hurdles.

The Luverne girls' 4-by-800-meter relay team placed fifth out of 20 teams. Senior Elizabeth Wagner, junior Jenna DeBates, eighth-grader Reinha John and freshman Ella Schmuck posted a 10:35.06 time.

The Cardinals also had strong finishes in other events that placed in the top 10.

Monday's meet was Luverne's second of the year. With the way the spring is going, Luverne had postponed a home meet March 30 and also a meet scheduled at Brandon Valley on April 8.

The next track and field meet is scheduled at home Tuesday, April 11, and away at Marshall Tuesday, April 17.

"Every time you have an opportunity to compete, you want to strive to get a little better than you were the meet before and progress toward your goals for the season," Janiszkeski said.



Submitted photo/chesley

Cassi Chesley paces herself in the girls' 1600-meter run. Chesley finished in seventh place with a time of five minutes, 57.71 seconds April 3.



Submitted photo/camden

Camden Janiszkeski leads the first leg of the boys' 4x800 meter relay. Camden, his brother Owen, Carsen Tofteland and Ryan Fick took second place with a time of eight minutes, 38.27 seconds April 3 at the Scott Underwood Invitational in Brookings.



Submitted photo/hart

Senior Jayden Hart approaches her toss in the shot put at the Scott Underwood Invitational in Brookings April 3. Jayden placed fourth out of 80 athletes with a toss of 36 feet, 5 1/2 inches. Her sister Jocelyn, took third place with a toss of 39 feet, 8 3/4 inches.

Event results are as follows:

Girls' 4x800-meter relay – 20 teams
Elizabeth Wagner, Jenna DeBates, Reinha John, Ella Schmuck, 10:35.06, fifth place.

Boys' 4x800-meter relay – 24 teams
Camden Janiszkeski, Owen Janiszkeski, Carsen Tofteland, Ryan Fick, 8:38.27, second place.

Girls' 100-meter dash – 120 runners
Senior Isabella Oye, 13.67, 18th.
Freshmen Anna Banck, 13.94, 26th.
Sophomore Hailey Como, 15.02, 73rd.
Junior Morgan Hadler, 15.12, 83rd.

Boys' 100-meter dash – 112 runners
Sophomore Lucky Dara, 11.72, 17th.
Sophomore Coulter Thone, 12.43, 46th.
Sophomore Ashton Hood, 12.57, 59th.
Junior Tyler Rolfs, 13.24, 92nd.

Girls' 100-meter hurdles – 64 runners
Did not compete

Boys' 110-meter hurdles – 39 runners
Senior Micah Anderson, 20.32, 25th.
Junior Isaac DeBates, 23.09, 33rd.

Girls' 1600-meter run – 89 runners

Junior Cassi Chesley, 5:57.71, 17th.
Ella Schmuck, 6:12.98, 33rd.
Sophomore Maria Rops, 6:27.74, 47th.
Senior Josie Anderson, 6:59.33, 68th.

Boys' 1600-meter run – 100 runners

Sophomore Sage Viessman, 5:09.53, 20th.
Sophomore Leif Ingebretsen, 5:22.62, 30th.
Eighth-grader Marcus Papik, 5:26.43, 40th.
Sophomore Eli McLendon, 5:47.69, 59th.

Girls' 4x100-meter relay – 40 teams

Junior Makena Nelson, Isabella Oye, Anna Banck, junior Sarah Stegenga, 54.37, eighth place.

Boys' 4x100-meter relay – 34 teams

DJ Rock, Tyler Rolfs, junior Zach Terrio, Lucky Dara, 47.70, 16th.

Girls' 400-meter dash – 96 runners

Elizabeth Wagner, 1:02.74, sixth place.
Senior Tiana Lais, 1:05.29, 13th.
Sarah Stegenga, 1:08.70, 34th.

Boys' 400-meter dash – 88 runners

Camden Janiszkeski, 57.55, 37th.

Girls' 300-meter hurdles – 48 runners

Reinha John, 52.33, ninth.

Boys' 300-meter hurdles – 36 runners

Darius Dolo, 46.10, fourth place.

Girls' 800-meter run – 101 runners

Jenna DeBates, 2:34.06, 12th.
Tiana Lais, 2:38.59, 16th.
Cassi Chesley, 2:39.78, 17th.

Boys' 800-meter run – 100 runners

Ryan Fick, 2:06.65, 10th.
Carsen Toftland, 2:17.70, 22nd.
Sophomore Dylan Ommen, 2:24.16, 39th.
Sage Viessman, 2:24.56, 43rd.

Girls' 200-meter dash – 120 runners

Hailey Como, 30.49, 61st.
Sophomore Kendra Thorson, 31.04, 79th.
Sophomore Corynn Oye, 31.62, 89th.

Boys' 200-meter dash – 112 runners

Zach Terrio, 24.99, 39th.
Gavin DeBeer, 25.17, 44th.
Ashton Hood, 26.02, 72nd.
Micah Andersen, 26.18, 77th.

Girls' 3200-meter run – 28 runners

Did not compete.

Boys' 3200-meter run – 28 runners

Owen Janiszkeski, 10:14.59, second place.

Girls' 4x400-meter relay – 33 teams

Did not compete

Boys' 4x400-meter relay – 32 teams

Zach Terrio, Darius Dolo, Camden Janiszkeski, Coulter Thone, 3:51.24, 12th place.

Girls' Long Jump - 70 athletes

Kendra Thorson 14-02 1/4, 10th.
Sarah Stegenga, 13-05, 18th.



LHS Track and field/see p.13A



(left) Deegan Stoffel, Susie Frecht, Izzy Boen, Jerzey Hood and Kaleb and Tori Hemme, members of the Sioux Falls Swim Club, competed in the South Dakota Short Course Championships. (Submitted photos)

Local youth compete at swimming championships in Rapid City, South Dakota

By Mavis Fodness

Nine local youth swimmers from the Luverne branch of the Sioux Falls Swim Club qualified for the South Dakota Short Course Championships, and five swimmers competed in the recent season-ending state tournaments.

Kaleb and Tori Hemme of Hardwick competed at the 13-and-over championships conducted March 4-5 in Rapid City, South Dakota. All distances are in yards during the short course season.

Kaleb competed in three events, finishing 21st in the individual medley, 23rd in the 200 free-style, and 25th in the 100 free-style.

Tori qualified in five events for the state meet and finished ninth in the 50 free-style, 11th in the 200 individual medley, 13th in the 200 free-style, 13th in the 100 free-style and 17th in the 100 individual medley.

Abby Honerman of Inwood,

Iowa, and Isabelle Honerman and Robin Frecht, both of Luverne, qualified for the state tournament but did not compete.

In the 12-and-under short course championship Feb. 25-26 in Watertown, South Dakota, four Luverne branch swimmers qualified with four competing at the event.

Deegan Stoffel of Luverne finished 21st in the 100 breast stroke, 30th in the 50 breast stroke, and 47th in the 50 free-style.

Jerzey Hood, also of Luverne, swam on the first-place 200 free relay team, third on the 200 IM relay, finished third in the individual medley relay, eighth in breast stroke, ninth in the 100 free-style, ninth in the 100 breast stroke, 14th in the 100 back stroke, and 17th in the 150 fly.

Susie Frecht, Inwood, finished 13th in the 50 back stroke, 26th in the 100 individual medley, and 34th

in the 100 free-style.

Izzy Boen, Hills, placed 30th in the 25 free-style, 30th in the 50 back stroke, and participated in the 25 back stroke but did not place.

The long-course season starts in April with swimmers belonging to the swim club's Luverne branch practicing at the Luverne Aquatics and Fitness Center.

Carla Van Santen is the coach of the 22 local swimmers involved on the Sioux Falls Swim Club.

"Coaching these kids is very rewarding, and I am very proud of them and all my swimmers," she said.

"Swimming is an individual, yet a team, sport. If you don't fit into a sport, maybe swimming is for you — it also helps build the body to enhance any sport you are doing."

For more information about joining the team, contact Van Santen at 507-290-1333.

Effects of winterkill showing up on southern Minnesota lakes

As ice comes off southern Minnesota lakes, evidence of this year's harsh winter is washing up along the shorelines on some shallow lakes.

While dead and dying fish washing ashore in spring can be discouraging to see, it's the result of a process called "winterkill," according to biologists with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

"Shallow lakes like we have in southern Minnesota are most susceptible," said Craig Soupir, Waterville area fisheries supervisor.

"Winterkill happens because the amount of dissolved oxygen available to fish becomes too low."

Low oxygen environments are created when sunlight is no longer able to penetrate the ice, causing oxygen-producing plants to die and generate higher levels of carbon dioxide as they decompose. Winterkill can actually benefit a lake, according to Soupir.

"In lakes with high numbers of common carp, for example, periodic winterkill can thin out their numbers and allow desirable fish species to fill the void," Soupir said. "It can also improve water clarity and increase aquatic vegetation."

Soupir said populations of game fish can sometimes rebound quite dramatically in years following winterkill. Improved survival of young fish and increased growth rates for both young and adult fish can combine to create significantly improved angling opportunities.

It is not unusual for lakes in southern Minnesota to experience some winterkill on an annual basis. However, the severity of winterkill varies greatly depending on factors such as depth of snow and length of time it covers the ice, lake depths, water inflows and the rate at which oxygen drops over time. Most often, winterkill events on these shallow basins are partial and rarely do all fish in a lake die.

The fishery in some lakes is specifically managed around winterkill; these lakes are known as "boom and bust" lakes and may have winterkill every four or five years.

Effects of winterkill/see p.13A

Thoughts for Holy Week

Holy Week — a week that begins with joy as Jesus comes into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, a symbol of royalty at that time. It is the one time Jesus receives the honor and praise that are his due. The shouts of “Hosanna,” the waving of the palm branches, and the laying of people’s clothing before him — all of these were signs of honor for a King who had come to save his people.

But the praise and honor didn’t last long. Even during the shouting and singing, many of the religious leaders were scoffing and planning how to get rid of Jesus. He was getting in the way of their power over the people and affecting their profit margins. Jesus wasn’t following them; instead, Jesus questioned their motives and practices.

On Monday of Holy Week, Jesus was in the temple teaching and saw how it was being used as a market place — a place used to take advantage of the people who had animals they brought to sacrifice and were deemed unacceptable. They had to buy one from the temple market, and most of the people didn’t have the means to do so.

That angered Jesus, and rightly so. The temple was a place of prayer and worship, not a place to take advantage of the lowly and to make a profit off others. Jesus cleared the part of the temple being used as a market place and returned it to a place where those who were not Jewish could come and pray and worship.

Then just a few days later it’s Holy Thursday, and we receive the gift of love from Jesus in the Lord’s Supper, the Sacrament in which we are reminded of the sacrifice Christ made for all of us. Not just for the disciples and believers at that point in time, but for all of us. We are to

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Nancy Manning, Magnolia United Methodist Church

Christ remembers each and every one of us and loves us enough to pay our debts of sin.

remember what Jesus has done, the sacrifice on the cross for the sins of everyone.

It’s interesting to me that an important part of the liturgy of preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion are the words, “In remembrance of me.” While Jesus was hanging on the cross, one of the thieves asked Jesus to remember him when Jesus returned to His kingdom. Jesus’ response is, “Today you will be with me in paradise.” That promise still holds true.

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion we are asked to remember what Christ has done for us on the cross and continues to do. The elements of bread and fruit of the vine are to remind us of his body and blood. Each time you receive this gift, remember the sacrifice of Christ. Christ remembers each and every one of us and loves us enough to pay our debts of sin.

May your Easter celebrations be filled with joy and the amazing and powerful love of Christ!

CHRIST IS RISEN!

St. Catherine Catholic Church
203 E. Brown St., Luverne
St. Catherine Ph. 283-8502; www.stscl.org
Monsignor Gerald Kosse, Pastor

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass. Public Mass will be celebrated at FULL capacity in the church. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Friday at the nursing homes — check the bulletin. All Sunday masses will be live streamed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stccluverne/videos/>. Visit www.stscl.org for more information.

Luverne Christian Reformed Church
605 N. Estey St., Luverne
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982
www.luverneccr.com — office@luverneccr.com
Joe Steenholdt, Pastor

Wednesday, April 5: 5:30 p.m. Youth group fundraising spaghetti supper. Friday, April 7: 6:30 p.m. **Good Friday Service**. Sunday: April 9: 7:30 a.m. **Easter Sunrise Worship Service**. Monday, April 10: 7 p.m. Friendship class. Tuesday, April 11: 9:30 a.m. Coffee Break & Story Hour. We are streaming Sunday services live on YouTube at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Send a friend request if you’re not connected. You may also visit our website for delayed broadcasts. Also our services are on local cable TV at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays. In all circumstances, may we joyfully declare: “Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.” Psalm 124:8.

First Baptist Church
103 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne
Ph. 283-4091; email: fbcluv@iw.net — www.fbcluverne.org
Walt Moser, Pastor

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. In-person worship service. Service is also on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Dave Christenson, Interim Pastor

Thursday, April 6: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 6:45 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service** with Holy Communion. Friday, April 7: 6:45 p.m. **Good Friday Worship Service**. Saturday, April 8: 6:30 p.m. MS/HS Easter Film Fest. Sunday, April 9: 7 a.m. **Easter Worship Service** with Holy Communion. 9 a.m. **Easter Worship Service** with Holy Communion. No Sunday School. Tuesday, April 11: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. 6:45 p.m. Ministry meetings. 8 p.m. PPC meeting. Wednesday, April 12: 7 a.m. Men’s Bible Study. 7 p.m. Faith on Tap at Take 16. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online worship: Sundays 9 a.m. at www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab; or Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor

Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School and Bible class. 10:15 a.m. Worship Service; worship online as well (at els.org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study. Thursday, April 6: 7 p.m. Lenten Vespers. Friday, April 7: 7 p.m. **Tenebrae Worship**. Sunday, April 9: 8 a.m. **Festive Easter Sunrise Worship**. 9:15 a.m. Breakfast. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org

Thursday, April 6: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew. 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Communion Worship Service**. Friday, April 7: 6:30 a.m. Community Men’s Bible Study. Sunday, April 9: 9:30 a.m. **Easter Sunday Worship Service**. 10:50 a.m. Sunday School. Tuesday, April 11: 12 p.m. Staff meeting. 7 p.m. Consistory Meeting. Wednesday, April 12: 5:30 p.m. Midweek meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs and Youth Groups. Thursday, April 13: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew. CommServices are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD’s available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

Rock River Community Church
1075 110th Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-9070; email: info@rockrivercommunity.church
Bob Junak, Pastor

Friday, April 7: 6:30 p.m. **Good Friday Worship Service**. Sunday, April 9: 10 a.m. **Easter Sunday Worship Service**. Come as you are—Sundays @ 10 a.m.: Main Service. Kids church age 3-6th grade—Nursery. Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service—Kids age 3-6th grade.

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne. Ph. 283-4529

Saturday, April 8: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, April 9: 8 a.m. **Easter Youth Service**. 9 a.m. **Easter Breakfast**. 9:30 a.m. Prayer Warriors in the chapel. 9:30 a.m. **Easter Egg Hunt**. 10:30 a.m. **Easter Sunday Worship Service** with Holy Communion. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible Study. Monday, April 10: 6:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible Study. Tuesday, April 11: 1:30 p.m. Sewn in Faith. 7 p.m. Scouts. Wednesday, April 12: 9 a.m. — 7 p.m. Prayer Chapel. No Classes. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Live streamed on Facebook and radio.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne

Ph. 283-4787; email: fpcemille@gmail.com
Wednesday, April 5: 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir. 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir. 7:15 p.m.

Committee meetings. Thursday, April 6: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service** at United Methodist Church. Friday, April 7: **Good Friday Worship Service** at First Presbyterian Church. Saturday, April 8: 9 a.m. Worship committee decorate. Sunday, April 9: 8:30-10 a.m. **Easter breakfast**. 10:15 a.m. **In-person Easter Worship Service** with Holy Communion. No Sunday School. (View on Facebook under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne, City of Luverne’s LUV TV or on the local Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays) Monday, April 10: Office closed. 5:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study. Wednesday, April 12: 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir. 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir. 6:30-8 p.m. Senior Heights. 7:15 p.m. Session meeting. We are also on the local Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays.

St. John Lutheran Church
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne. Ph. 283-2316; email: stjoh@iw.net
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org

Thursday, April 6: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service**. Friday, April 7: **Good Friday Worship Service**. Saturday, April 8: 8 p.m. Holy Saturday Worship Service. Sunday, April 9: 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. **Easter Sunday Worship Service**. Services will be available on the Vast Channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website, cityofluverne.org. Holy Communion is offered on 2nd and 4th weekends and Liturgical Feasts.

Living Rock Church
500 E. Main St., Luverne
Ph. 449-0057; www.livingrockswmn.org
Josh Hayden, Pastor

New Life Celebration Church
101 W. Maple, Luverne
Ph. (605) 368-1924; email: newlifecel@icloud.com

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. (507) 669-2855; zionoffice@alliancecom.net
Jesse Baker, Pastor

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Bible study. Worship service on Luverne cable at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday and Friday.

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Mark Eliason, Pastor

Friday, April 7: 7 p.m. **Good Friday Worship Service** at First Lutheran. Sunday, April 9: 7 a.m. **Easter Sunrise Service** with Holy Communion at First Lutheran. 8 a.m. **Easter Breakfast** at First Lutheran. No Sunday School. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @FirstLutheranValley Springs; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — palisadchurch@alliancecom.net
www.palisadelutheran.org

Thursday, April 6: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service** with Holy Communion at Palisade Lutheran Church. Sunday, April 9: 10 a.m. **Festive Easter Worship Service** with Holy Communion at Palisade Lutheran Church. No Sunday School. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @PalisadeLC; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek. Ph. 507-935-5025
Email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. Session meeting.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia. Ph. 605-215-3429
email: magnoliannumc@gmail.com
Nancy Manning, Pastor

Sundays: 9 a.m., in-person with livestream available on the church’s Facebook site.

Steen Reformed Church
112 W. Church Ave., Steen. Ph. 855-2336
Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship service in-person with livestream available on Facebook and YouTube. Radio worship on KQAD Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270 / bethlehemofhills@gmail.com
Nita Parker, Pastor

Thursday, April 6: 2 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service** at Tuff Chapel with Holy Communion. 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday Worship Service** with Holy Communion at Bethlehem. Friday, April 7: 2 p.m. **Good Friday Worship Service** at Tuff Chapel. 7 p.m. **Good Friday Worship Service** at Bethlehem. Sunday, April 9: 7 a.m. **Easter Sunrise Worship Service** with Holy Communion at Bethlehem. 9 a.m. **Easter Service** at Tuff Chapel. No Sunday School. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org.

Hills United Reformed Church
410 S. Central Ave., Hills
Office Ph. 962-3254
hillsurc@alliancecom.net
Alan Camarigg, Pastor

These weekly church page messages are contributed to God’s Work through the Church and by these concerned and responsible citizens & businesses:

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<p>HILLS STAINLESS STEEL & EQUIPMENT CO., INC. 506 W. Koehn, P.O. Box 987, Luverne, MN PHONE 507-283-4405 Church is Important - Please Attend!</p>	<p>FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES Pipestone • Luverne • Lake Benton • Jasper • Tyler www.HartquistFuneral.com</p>
<p>507-283-2381 www.buffaloridgeins.com E-mail: info@buffaloridgeins.com</p>	<p>110 E Main, Luverne 507-283-2379</p>
<p>Alan M. Aanenson, owner Farm, Home & Commercial Wiring Luverne, MN Phone 507-283-4716</p>	<p>Tri-State Region Period!</p>
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WANTED

HENRY - Inquiring minds want to know - did she say "yes"? (4.1-4.6)



MISCELLANEOUS

HAVE A UNIQUE SERVICE OR BUSINESS? Get the word out to over 1.4 million households. Call WIDE AREA CLASSIFIEDS today, 507-359-7326. (tc)

EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is seeking an upper Elementary instructor. The possible candidate should have a current MN teaching license in Elementary Education or the ability to obtain a license. If you are interested in the position and have a bachelor's degree, we may be able to assist you in obtaining a license. This position will be open until filled. The starting date for this position will be August 21, 2023. A complete application will include:
•Letter of interest •Resume •Transcript(s) •Three letters of recommendation •District employment application (<https://www.ellsworth.mntm.org/Application.pdf>) which can be found on our website under Staff. Application materials can be emailed to amy.labat@ellsworth.mntm.org or mailed to: Amy Labat, Principal Ellsworth Public School P.O. Box 8 Ellsworth, MN 56129. (3.18-4.6)

Nobles County Community Services has an opening for Social Worker, Registered Nurse or Public Health Nurse. Nobles County Community Services is accepting applications to hire one of the above listed positions. If you have a passion for working with the public and coordinating services to assist others in maintaining their independence, this could be the career for you! Join our team and you'll be part of a skilled, caring, and knowledgeable professional group whose talents and contributions promote, strengthen and protect the health of individuals and families, and assist people in maintaining their safe independence as long as possible. This position will provide comprehensive direct care needs assessments, education, planning and referral for services to assist individuals in maintaining their independence in their home communities. Previous experience with home and community based service provision preferred. Excellent Benefits! Weekends and Holidays off! **APPLY TO:** Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at www.co.nobles.mn.us for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. **Deadline: Open until filled, first review date 04/18/2023.** EEO/AA Employer (4.1-4.15)

FOR SALE

Trees for Sale: 15-20 foot evergreens; \$10 a foot. Call 507-227-9782. (3.30-5.6)

RENTALS

One-bedroom apartment for rent in Luverne. Includes water, sewer and trash. \$550 per month. Call 507-350-9662. (4.1-4.20)

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Mavis King would like to thank everyone who gave flowers, sent messages, gave memorials, and thought of us during this difficult time. Mavis touched many lives as a teacher, librarian, working at the Dells Theatre and as a sister, aunt or friend, and will truly be missed. A special thank you to the staff at Poplar Creek for the wonderful care she received while living there and to Dr Godfrey, Dr Tieszen, Nurses Chris & Jenny for the wonderful care and support that day. Thank you also to Dr Nolz for his wonderful care through the years. Thank you to Father Kosse for visiting the hospital and conducting the graveside service.
Mary Kloster
Jim and Anne LeBrun
Brett and Gina Heitkamp
Kyle and Eileen Heitkamp
Craig and Kim Lieberherr
Karen Julian
Kent Kloster
(4.1-4.6)

EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is seeking a K-12 Vocal and Instrumental Music instructor. The possible candidate should have a current MN teaching license in K-12 Vocal and/or Instrumental music or the ability to obtain a license. If you are interested in the position and have a bachelor's degree, we may be able to assist you in obtaining a license. This position will be open until filled. The starting date for this position will be August 21, 2023. A complete application will include:
•Letter of interest •Resume •Transcript(s) •Three letters of recommendation •District employment application (<https://www.ellsworth.mntm.org/Application.pdf>) which can be found on our website under Staff. Application materials can be emailed to amy.labat@ellsworth.mntm.org or mailed to: Amy Labat, Principal Ellsworth Public School P.O. Box 8, Ellsworth, MN 56129. (3.18-4.6)

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME Heavy Equipment Mechanic LeBrun Repair - Adrian, MN

LeBrun Repair has an immediate opening for a full time Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Willing to hire apprentice / mechanic's helper and train. Benefit package included. Shop work with a lot of field work during construction season. Clean driving record required. Pay DOE.

Email lebrunrepair@gmail.com for more information or call Marty at 507-220-2822.



EMPLOYMENT



Luverne Public Schools is seeking applications for FULL-TIME MS/HS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

TO BEGIN WITH THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Applicant must hold a MN teaching license in the desired field or have the ability to acquire. District application form available at: https://www.isd2184.net/about_ips/open_employment. Send letter of application, 3 current letters of recommendation, college transcripts and completed district application to:

Craig Oftedahl, Superintendent
709 North Kniss Ave
Luverne, MN 56156
or c.oftedahl@isd2184.net.
Position open until filled.

EOE



MORE INFO & APPLICATION FORM

EMPLOYMENT



HIRING PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT / CNA / HOME HEALTH AID

Individuals who are compassionate and are service oriented to care for others. Assist with activities of daily living, including bathing, dressing, toileting, running errands.

Benefits: Working hour discount, Flexible schedule, Time schedule 5 hours per day & \$30 per hour.

Contact Andy for more information:
andyctrangegrading@gmail.com

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For more information or to apply, contact Tom Kellen:
507-360-5621 (cell) • 507-449-7679 (office)



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HELP WANTED

Heartland Mutual Insurance Company is expanding and looking to add to our staff.

Full and part-time positions are available at both our locations in Lismore and Luverne MN. This is NOT a sales position. Please contact Ron at 507-472-8216 or ron@hmicmn.com with any questions or to apply.

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EMPLOYMENT

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL ED. TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (7 FTE) MN Special Education License required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

EARLY CHILDHOOD ED. TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (2 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

MS SPECIAL ED. TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Special Education License required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

8TH GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

MS INTERVENTIONIST & STEM TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

EMPLOYMENT

MS/PW PHY. ED./HEALTH/DAPE
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

MS/HS FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

K-4 ART TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES
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MISCELLANEOUS

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HELP WANTED



WE ARE CURRENTLY HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- TEMPORARY FULL-TIME RN OR LPN FOR MATERNITY LEAVE
- FULL-TIME INFECTION CONTROL NURSE/CHARGE NURSE
- FULL-TIME RN OR LPN

Details:

- 3 days/week
- Every 3rd Weekend Sat/Sun, Every 3rd Holiday

Benefits:

- Flexible Scheduling
- Wage - \$27 - \$32
- Weekend and Overnight Differential Pay
- Additional benefits may apply

Qualifications:

- MN nursing license in good standing or able to obtain license in the state of Minnesota
- CPR certification
- Able to pass a state background check

APPLY NOW!!

Contact Dana Huisman at 507-962-3275 or d.huisman@tuffmemorialhome.com

Fill out an application online: tuffmemorialhome.com

Pick up an application at: 505 East 4th St, Hills, MN 56138

LOCATED ONLY 20 MILES EAST OF SIOUX FALLS!



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For more information contact:

Rick Peterson
507-290-0924
bluemounddigital@gmail.com

Wyatt VanSteenberg
507-220-1994
wyatt.bluemounddigital@gmail.com

507-283-2333 (Star Herald)



Rock County
STAR HERALD

Luverne
ANNOUNCER

H-BC School Board meets in special meeting March 17

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Special Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2023

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for a special meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Board room, 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN. Board members and Administration present were Bosch, Gehrke, Harnack, Helgeson, Rauk, Rozeboom and Uittenbogaard. Superintendent Holthaus was also in attendance.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Bosch, and carried to approve the agenda. Motion by Harnack, second by Uittenbogaard, and carried to approve Purchase Agreement with Spring Brooke LLC for the property located in County of Rock, State of Minnesota, BLOCK 5, Spring Brook Addition, City of Beaver Creek. Motion by Helgeson, second by Rauk, and carried to approve adjournment of meeting.
Time of Adjournment: 5:12 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(04-06)

D & J Housing Associates assumes name

MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true ownership of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: **D & J Housing Associates**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:

309 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne, MN 56156 USA
NAMEHOLDER(S):

Name: **Leon Pick Living Trust**

Address: **309 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne, MN 56156 USA**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Signature : /s/ **Daniel Pick, Trustee**

MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided**

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **director@stfrancishouse.com**
(03-30, 04-06)

Rock County Highway Dept. seeks bids for bituminous crack sealing by April 17

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

BITUMINOUS CRACK SEALING / S.A.P. 067-030-016

BIDS CLOSE @ 10:00 A.M. APRIL 17, 2023

LUVERNE, MINNESOTA

Sealed proposals will be received by the Rock County Highway Department at Luverne, Minnesota until 10:00 A.M. on Monday, **APRIL 17, 2023.**

READ CAREFULLY THE PROVISIONS FOR THE WAGE RATES AS CONTAINED IN THE PROVISIONS, AS THEY WILL AFFECT THIS PROJECT.

Attention is called to the fact that the contractor must comply with the "Special Equal Employment Opportunity Provisions" as contained in this Proposal.

Proposals will be opened and read publicly in the presence of the Rock County Highway Engineer at the Rock County Highway Building located at 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne, MN immediately following the hour set for receiving bids for the following Rock County Highway work. Bids will be awarded on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023 at the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting.

The project consists of a Bituminous Crack Seal Treatment. The project is located on various roads in Rock County

The major items of work are: 63,287 pounds Bituminous Sealant for Crack-filling Plans, specifications, and proposals may be viewed, and downloaded at www.questodn.com and at the Rock County Highway Department website, www.co.rock.mn.us/highway. Questions may be directed to the office of the Rock County Highway Engineer, 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue, P.O. Box 808, Luverne, Minnesota 56156-0808 / 507-283-5010.

The non-refundable cost for plans and one proposal will be \$30.00.

Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or corporate surety bond drawn in favor of the Rock County Treasurer in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the proposal.

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked "**PROJECT NO. S.A.P. 067-030-016**"

The Board of Rock County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects therein.

Rock County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Mark R. Sehr, P.E.
Rock County Highway Engineer
(03-23, 03-30, 04-06)

Rock County Planning and Zoning hearing set for April 17

Notice of Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit

Pursuant to the Rock County Zoning Ordinance, notice is hereby given by the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission that a public hearing will be held at the Rock County Courthouse, located at 204 E Brown St, Luverne, Minnesota at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 17, 2023. The purpose of this hearing is to rule on the application for Conditional Use Permit for the following:

Applicant: Spring Lake Express
Property Owner: Spring Lake Express
Location: NW 1/4 of Section 13 of Vienna Township, T103N, R44W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Gravel Extraction, stockpiling, and associated processing
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture

Applicant: Central Specialties
Property Owner: Spring Lake Express
Location: NW 1/4 of Section 13 of Vienna Township, T103N, R44W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture

Applicant: Central Specialties
Property Owner: Bremik Materials, Inc.
Location: E 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 34 of Denver Township, T104N, R45W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture

By Order of the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission
Eric Hartman, Zoning Administrator
311 W. Gabrielson Road
Luverne, MN 56156
507-283-8862

(04-06, 04-13)

ISD #671 location for ballot counting on April 11

NOTICE OF LOCATION WHERE BALLOTS WILL BE COUNTED
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 671
(HILLS-BEAVER CREEK)
STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the election judges for Independent School District No. 671 shall count the ballots cast in the School District's April 11, 2023 special election at the following locations:

COMBINED POLLING PLACE: Beaver Creek City Offices
311 E. 1st Avenue
Beaver Creek, MN 56116

COMBINED POLLING PLACE: Hills American Legion
207 South Main Ave.
Hills, MN 56138

Dated: January 23, 2023

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
/s/
School District Clerk
Independent School District No. 671
(Hills-Beaver Creek)
State of Minnesota

(04-06)

Rock County Highway Dept. seeks bids for paint striping by April 17

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

C.P. 067-401-026

Sealed proposals will be received by the Rock County Highway Department at Luverne, Minnesota until 9:00 A.M. on Monday, **APRIL 17, 2023.**

READ CAREFULLY THE PROVISIONS FOR THE WAGE RATES AS CONTAINED IN THE PROVISIONS, AS THEY WILL AFFECT THIS PROJECT.

Attention is called to the fact that the contractor must comply with the Special Equal Employment Opportunity Provisions as contained in this Proposal.

Proposals will be opened and read publicly in the presence of the Rock County Highway Engineer at the Rock County Highway Building located at 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne, Minnesota immediately following the hour set for receiving bids for the following Rock County Highway work. Bids will be awarded on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, at the regular Rock County Board of Commissioners Meeting held in the Law Library at the Rock County Courthouse.

The Quantities of Work are: 3,565 gals of 4" ReflectORIZED Edgeline Pavement Marking Paint – White & 1,895 gals of 4" ReflectORIZED Centerline Pavement Marking Paint – Yellow.

Plans, specifications, and proposals may be viewed, and downloaded at www.questodn.com and at the Rock County Highway Department website, https://www.co.rock.mn.us/department_directory/highway_department/index.php.

The non-refundable cost for plans and one proposal will be \$50.00
Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or corporate surety bond drawn in favor of the Rock County Treasurer in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the proposal.

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked "PROJECT NO. SAP 067-401-026".

The Board of Rock County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects therein.

Rock County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Mark R. Sehr, P.E.
Rock County Highway Engineer
(03-30, 04-06)

Gyberg probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF ROCK

PROBATE COURT

DISTRICT COURT

PROBATE DIVISION

In Re: Estate of

Mabel Elizabeth Gyberg, a/k/a Mabel E. Gyberg,
a/k/a Mable Gyberg,
Deceased

Court File No. 67-PR-23-66

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING
FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
IN SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of April, 2023, at 8:30 O'clock a.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named deceased, dated March 3, 1994, and for the appointment of Dennis A. Gyberg whose address is 603 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne, Minnesota 56156, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Date Filed: March 28, 2023

/s/ Terry S. Vajgrt
District Court Judge

Douglas E. Eisma
Attorney for Petitioner
Eisma and Eisma
130 East Main
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828
I.D. #158343

/s/ Natalie Reisch
Court Administrator

(COURT SEAL)

(04-06, 04-13)

H-BC School Board meets in special session March 6

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Special Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2023

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for a special meeting at 7:09 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Board room, 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN. Board members and Administration present were Bosch, Gehrke, Harnack, Rauk, Rozeboom and Uittenbogaard. Superintendent Holthaus was also in attendance. Board member Helgeson, Principal Kellenberger and Business Manager Rozeboom were absent.

Motion by Harnack, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve the agenda.

ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Bosch, second by Uittenbogaard, and carried to approve entering closed session for the purposes of developing or considering offers or counteroffers for the purchase or sale of real property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, subdivision 3(c)(3). The real property is described as:

The East half (E 1/2) of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4) of the Northeast quarter NE 1/4) of Sec. 28, TWP 102 Range 46 West of the 5th P.M.; [contains approximately 20 acres]

All of Block Twenty (20) and the following lots in Block Twenty-nine (29): all of Lots 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, the South 40.5 feet of Lot 8, all of Lots 12, 13, 14, First Addition, City of Beaver Creek, Minnesota, [contains approximately 5.68 acres]

Blocks ten (10) and (19), Original Plat, City of Beaver Creek, Minnesota [contains approximately 4.96 acres]

City of Beaver Creek First Addition Lots 5 Thru 12 Block 23 & All of Blocks 24, 25 & 26

City of Beaver Creek Crawford's Addition Blocks 3-4-5- & 6

City of Beaver Creek Outlot 6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14

City of Beaver Creek, MN Spring Brook Addition Parcels- 13-0127-000-13-0132-000

City of Beaver Creek, MN Block 5 Spring Brook Addition, Parcel 13-0154-000 The W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 2, Township 101N, Range 46W, of the 5th P.M., Rock County, Minnesota, Except the North 720 feet of the East 605 feet of the West 1325 feet.

Motion by Harnack, second by Bosch, and carried to approve the counteroffer of \$0.60/square foot for property located in the City of Beaver Creek, MN, Block 5, Spring Brook Addition, pending any further negotiations. RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Bosch, and carried to approve adjournment of meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(04-06)

Mortgage foreclosure sale set for May 18

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: December 20, 2012

MORTGAGOR: Travis Dammann, a single man.

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Plains Commerce Bank its successors and assign .

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded December 21, 2012 Rock County Recorder, Document No. 180873.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association. Dated September 27, 2016 Recorded October 3, 2016, as Document No. 189217. And thereafter assigned to: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC. Dated June 14, 2019, Recorded June 21, 2019, as Document No. 194971.

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: 1005210-0808005333-4

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Plains Commerce Bank

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: M&T Bank

MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 413 North Spring Street, Luverne, MN 56156

TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 201448000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 5 in Block 23 in Van Eps and Vary's Addition to the City of Luverne, Rock County, Minnesota.

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$80,070.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$63,959.06

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 18, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Office, Main Entrance, Law Enforcement Center, 1000 North Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, MN

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on November 20, 2023, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:

None

"THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED."

Dated: March 17, 2023

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.
Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
4500 Park Glen Road #300
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(952) 925-6888
37 - 23-002091 FC

Dated: March 17, 2023

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300

Minneapolis, MN 55416

(952) 925-6888

37 - 23-002091 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

(03-30, 04-06, 04-13, 04-20, 04-27, 05-04)

Mortgage foreclosure sale set for April 27, 2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 9, 2012

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$240,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Justin Birger, Her Husband and Laressa Birger, His Wife

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Dacotah Bank, its successors and assigns

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: February 21, 2012 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 178607

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

And assigned to: Colonial Savings, F.A.

Dated: January 19, 2017

Recorded: February 13, 2017 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 190119

Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 10079350000021541

Lender/Broker/Mortgage Originator: Dacotah Bank

Residential Mortgage Servicer: Colonial Savings, FA

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock

continued on next page...

Track and field/from page 9A

Boys' long jump - 70 athletes
Gaven DeBeer, 18-11 1/4, eighth place.

Sophomore Keaton Ahrendt, 41-07 3/4, 13th.
Sophomore Ryker Johnson, foul.

Girls' high jump - 45 athletes
Eighth-grader Olivia Lund, 4-02, 30th.

Girls' pole vault - 24 athletes
Corynn Oye, 6-06, 12th place.
Josie Anderson, foul

Boys' high jump - 45 athletes
Isaac DeBates, 5-06, 11th.
Gavin DeBeer, 5-06, 16th.

Boys' pole vault - 28 athletes
DJ Rock, 12-06, fourth place.
Tyler Rolfs, 9-06, 11th place.
Leif Ingebretsen, 9-06, 12th.

Girls' shot put - 80 athletes
Jocelyn Hart, 39-08 3/4, third.
Jadyn Hart, 36-05 1/2, fourth.
Sophomore Hannah Sneller, 28-00 3/4, 29th.

Girls' triple jump - 45 athletes
Makenna Nelson, 28-11 1/4, ninth place.

Boys' shot put - 80 athletes
Eli Woodley, 46-06, fourth.

Boys' triple jump - 45 athletes
Did not compete



Samantha McGaffee/hbc ac basketball

H-BC freshman Jamin Metzger (left) and sophomore Beau Bakken were named to the 2022-23 Red Rock All-Conference Basketball Team. Metzger was named Honorable Mention and Bakken was named All-Conference.

H-BC all-conference boys' basketball named

Three basketball players from Hills-Beaver Creek High School were named to the 2022-23 Red Rock Conference All-Conference Team.

Sophomore Beau Bakken was named to the Red Rock All-Conference Team.

Freshman Jamin Metzger was named to the 2022-23 Red Rock Conference All-Conference Honorable Mention Team.

Senior Brayden Metzger was named to the Red Rock Academic All-Conference Team.

Blue Mounds State Park naturalist offers programs April 15 and 29

The Blue Mounds State Park naturalist will offer **Blue Mounds Birding** from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15, at the picnic shelter for a program about migrant songbirds and how to identify birds in the wild.

After some background information we will set out on the trail for a short 1/2 mile hike to practice your new skills. *Come prepared with sun and insect protection as well as good walking shoes. Bring your binoculars if you have them. All ages welcome.

The Blue Mounds State Park naturalist will offer two programs on Saturday, April 29, at the picnic shelter.

"Predator vs Prey," from 10 to 11 a.m. is designed for ages 6-12, but all ages are welcome. From the smallest insect to the largest fish in the river, every animal plays a role in the ecosystem.

"Beavers: Nature's Engineers," from 3 to 4 p.m. is about America's largest rodent. Discover how these critters use unique adaptations to impact the landscape. The program will conclude with a short walk to the creek to look for beaver activity.

Contact park staff at bluemounds.state-park@state.mn.us or 507-283-6050 with questions.

Winterkill/from page 9A

If stocked, fish in these shallow lakes typically have high survival rates, grow rapidly and can provide great angling.

While some larger and deeper lakes in southern Minnesota have aeration systems installed to reduce the probability of winterkill effects, aerated lakes can still be susceptible to winterkill. Research shows aerating very shallow lakes often does not work well for maintaining a fishery through harsh winters.

To report fish die-offs including winterkill, people should call the Minnesota Duty Officer at 651-649-5451 or 800-422-0798 (the officer line is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week). An early report allows timely water and fish sampling or other response actions, if needed. It's especially helpful to know what sizes and types of fish people see in a fish die-off.

Follow-up stocking of fish may ensue after a winterkill event, if consistent with DNR lake-specific management plans.

For more information, contact a local DNR area fisheries office (mndnr.gov/areas/fisheries).

Let's have some Easter Fun!!

There are Easter Eggs hidden throughout the Star Herald this week! Count the eggs and submit your guess **before 10 am on Monday, April 10.** All correct guesses will be entered in a drawing to win a **\$25 Sunshine Foods gift certificate!**

The eggs look like this!
(Do not count this egg.)

Note:
The Star Herald Office is closed Friday, April 7.

FACEBOOK MESSENGER

EMAIL YOUR GUESS

Submit your guess via e-mail to sales@star-herald.com or message us on Facebook at RCStarHerald - please include your name, phone number and guess. You can also drop your guess off at the Star Herald office. Guesses must be submitted by 10 am on Monday, April 10. (Note: Our office is closed on Friday but you may leave your guess in the drop box.)

Name _____ Phone Number _____ My Guess _____

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

The office will be closed on Good Friday, April 7, 2023.

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Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

...continued from previous page

Property Address: 302 E 7th St, Hills, MN 56138
Tax Parcel ID Number: 15-0316-000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot Three (3) and Four (4) in Block Two (2) of Parkview Second Addition to the City of Hills, Rock County, Minnesota
AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$196,278.85
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that this is registered property;

PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above-described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: April 27, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.

PLACE OF SALE: County Sheriff's office, in the lobby of the Rock County Law Enforcement Center, 1000 N. Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorney fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns.

If the Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on October 27, 2023, or the next business day if October 27, 2023 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.
Mortgagor(s) released from financial obligation: NONE

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

DATED: March 1, 2023
MORTGAGEE: Colonial Savings, F.A.

Wilford, Geske & Cook, P.A.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
7616 Currell Boulevard, Suite 200
Woodbury, MN 55125
651-209-3300
File Number: 050335-F2

(03-09, 03-16, 03-23, 03-30, 04-06, 04-13)

H-BC School Board meets March 13

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Minutes
March 13, 2023

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Board room, 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN. Board members and Administration present were Gehrke, Harnack, Helgeson, Rauk, Rozeboom and Uittenbogaard. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Kellenberger and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Bosch was absent.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Harnack, and carried to approve the agenda. No Visitors.

PATRIOT PRIDE:

- Congratulations to Mrs. Moore and all those that participated in the LEGO Robotics League SD State Competition this past weekend-The HBC Team (Mighty Ducks) received the Core Values Team Finalist Award!
- Knowledge Bowl Sub-Regional Competition Friday, March 3. The Red Team-Grace Anderson, Brynn Rauk, Leif Tollefson, Anthony Beaner, and Olivia Bork advanced to SMSU Knowledge Bowl Regionals on 3/8.
- Boys and Girls Basketball Seasons have come to an end.
- School Social Worker Week March 5-11- Mrs. Ceynowa-Breuer
- H-BC District Spelling Bee held on Friday, March 10. The top six students move on to the Southwest Minnesota Regional Spelling Bee on April 22. Those students are: Malachi Bush, Makaylie Voss, Kaleb Olson, Trinity Olson, Ryker Gehrke and Penni Moore-HBC Champion.

Committee Reports/Updates:

Personnel Finance Committee- 3/06, Upcoming Building Grounds- 3/16
Motion by Uittenbogaard, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes—2/27/2023
- Bills
- Imprest Cash Report
- Hiring Kaylan Untiedt as Secondary Science Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Motion by Harnack, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve Resolution for Termination/Non-renewal of Melanie Kruse as Teacher at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion by Uittenbogaard, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the April 11, 2023, School District Special Election.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Rauk, and carried to approve 2023-2024 Academic School Calendar.

Motion by Helgeson, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Moving regular Board Meeting from Monday, April 10, 2023, to Monday, April 17, 2023.

Motion by Rauk, second by Harnack, and carried to approve accepting the MN Department of Education's Positive Review and Comment for the Facility Project Bond Referendum Vote April 11, 2023.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

- Secondary Principal Report
- Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report
- Legislative Update- Rozeboom

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Bond Referendum Public Meeting, Thursday, March 23 at Elementary School in Beaver Creek
- Regular Board Meeting, Monday, March 27
- Bond Referendum Public Meeting, Tuesday, March 28 at Hugo Goehle Gym in Hills
- Motion by Harnack, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve adjournment of meeting.
- Time of Adjournment: 8:00 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(04-06)

Easter Blessings

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16



Thanks to Morgan from Lewis Lettery, www.lewislettery.Etsy.com for the use of this image.

Easter Word Find

K	V	C	J	Y	K	T	W	S	C	R	O	S	S
Z	B	R	A	M	A	K	N	F	R	P	S	Q	Y
M	I	S	O	I	K	K	G	W	U	N	X	U	I
J	M	L	G	B	L	S	A	E	C	J	X	F	P
X	E	M	G	S	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E
W	A	S	K	U	O	V	M	U	F	R	K	C	R
M	S	L	U	D	N	E	G	B	I	O	Y	G	I
W	T	R	Q	S	U	D	Y	L	X	G	N	Y	S
R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	Y	E
O	R	Z	D	C	K	F	T	X	O	D	P	C	N
P	R	Q	S	N	O	S	G	O	N	J	A	K	J
T	Y	H	O	L	S	O	T	E	M	P	L	E	D
Y	R	D	G	J	E	L	R	K	I	B	M	X	D
J	R	A	G	M	H	R	M	F	Z	C	B	W	B

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SPRING SPORTS 2023

Featuring Golf, Baseball, Softball, Track, Tennis & Trap from LUVERNE & Hills-Beaver Creek

A production of The Star Herald & Featured Advertisers

April 6, 2023

LHS Track & Field



Greg Hoogeveen photos/LHS track

Returning 2022 section qualifiers to the 2023 Luverne Track Team are (front, from left) Hailey Como, Anna Banck, Sarah Stegenga, Jenna DeBates, Bella Oye, Kayla Bloemendaal, Cassi Chesley, Andrea Luitjens, (middle) Hannah Sneller, Elizabeth Wagner, Jocelyn Hart, Ella Schmuck, Tiana Lais, Makena Nelson, Kendra Thorson, Corynn Oye, Maria Rops, Jadyn Hart, (back) Zach Terrio, Darius Dolo, Coulter Thone, Lucky Dara, Gavin DeBeer, Tyler Rolfs, Ashton Hood, Eli Woodley, Ryan Fick, Camden Janiszkeski, Owen Janiszkeski and Sage Viessman.

Luverne track team looks to continue tradition of excellence and build on success

By Greg Hoogeveen

Luverne High School track and field coach Peter Janiszkeski is optimistic about the upcoming spring season.

"We are looking forward to creating the best team we can with the kids that are in our program," he said.

"Getting the kids into the right places so that they can grow, improve and contribute to our team is always one of our main goals."

Janiszkeski said succeeding at True Team competition is always an important focus for his athletes.

"We are trying to develop depth in all 18 events and how we can cater to our strengths as a team," he said.

That is no small task with 45 boys and 56 girls on this year's team roster. However, Janiszkeski is up to the challenge with 23 years of coaching experience, 21 in Luverne, and the past seven as head coach of the Cardinals' track and field program.

"I love the challenge of motivating, mentoring, inspiring and encouraging young people to become the best version of themselves," he said.

"The team is the most important part to me. How do I help a group of individuals buy in to doing their part to create the best team possible?"

He also has four experienced assistants to help him manage the team. They are Jodi Nelson, Corey Nelson, Katelyn Hart and Cole Meester.

Janiszkeski said his goals for the season are clear. "We strive to get a little better today than we

"I love the challenge of motivating, mentoring, inspiring and encouraging young people to become the best version of themselves."

— Peter Janiszkeski
LHS track and field head coach

were yesterday," he said.

He'll look to his senior athletes for leadership and will nurture younger ones to step up.

"All of our seniors are our leaders, but I'm a firm believer that leadership is a choice," he said. "We all have a choice to do the right things, make the right choices and be leaders."

This year's boys' track athletes include a solid mix of seasoned and newer athletes.

The seniors include Camden Janiszkeski, Carsen Tofteland, Micah Andersen, Anyuon Atem and DJ Rock.

Juniors are Ryan Fick, Zach Terrio, Gavin DeBeer, Tyler Rolfs, Isaac DeBates and Nathan Kinsinger.

Sophomores include Sage Viessman, Owen Janiszkeski, Elijah Woodley, Keaton Ahrendt, Eli McLendon, Lucky Dara, Leif Ingebretson, Chris Bonilla, Ryker Johnson, Ashton Hood, Coulter Thone, Dylan Ommen, Jack Gangelstad, Masyn Akkerman, Adam

Ask and Linkon Knorr.

Freshmen athletes are Damien Ahrendt, Dawson Holtz, Treven Bell, Trayton Sayavong, Riley Ripka, Zander Fountain, Logan Mann, Levi Huisman and Aaron Kindt.

Eighth-graders include Darius Dolo, Coy Thone, Marcus Papik, Ashton Pick, Hudson Hough, Asher Barron, Jaymyn McLaughlin and Danny Aning.

And Keegen Crow is the lone seventh-grader on the team.

The Cardinal girls' track and field team members have a strong mix of senior leadership and newcomers.

Senior athletes include Elizabeth Wagner, Tiana Lais, Jocelyn Hart, Jadyn Hart, Isabella Oye, Grace Ingebretson and Josie Anderson.

Juniors are Jenna DeBates, Makena Nelson, Kayla Bloemendaal, Roselynn Hartshorn, Abby Boltjes, Sarah Stegenga, Cassi Chesley, Brynn Boyenga, Bridget Thielbar, Morgan Hadler,

Skylar Vander Steen, Hallie Bork and Valeria Cazares.

Sophomores are Kendra Thorson, Andrea Luitjens, Maria Rops, Hailey Como, Jaycee Chapa, Hannah Sneller, Augusta Papik, Corynn Oye, Emma Nath, Jaelyn Arp and A'shaylah Davis.

Freshmen athletes include Elizabeth Mulder, Ella Schmuck, Anna Banck, Maddy Schepel, Ava Sieve, Adelyn Rodriguez, Ella Apel, Hannah Woodley and Jaina Fountain.

Eighth-graders are Olivia Lund, Reinha John, Marlee Nelson, Elaine Nath, Anna Reisdorfer, Madysen Reber and Lilly Johnson.

Seventh-grade team members are Lauren Peters, Emmery Huiskes, Taya Johnson, Jerzey Hood, Luella Johnson, Natalie Berning, Baylee Smidt, Emma Jacobsma and Emma Wieneke.

Last year Luverne swept the Section True Team titles, with the LHS girls' team placing second and the boys' team placing fourth at State True Team.

As for the conference, the Luverne girls placed first and boys placed second in the subsection.

The Cardinals swept the MSHSL section titles for the second year in a row.

The girls placed fifth and the boys placed fourth at the MSHSL State Meet.

Janiszkeski said he looks forward to building on those successes.

"I just hope to continue on the tradition of excellence of Luverne track and field that was established by the coaches and athletes that came before me," he said.

H-BC Track & Field



Greg Hoogeveen photos/HBC track

Returning letter winners that look to lead the Patriots in 2023 are (front, from left) Brayden Metzger, Beau Bakken, Cooper Gehrke, Eli Taubert, James VandenBosch, (back) Larissa Steinhoff, Brynn Rauk, Layla Deelstra, Abbie Harris, Bailey Spykerboer, Brynn Bakken and Emma Deelstra.

Hills-Beaver Creek track team 'hungry to get better' with help from team leaders

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek High School track and field team looks to build on last season's successes, according to coach Rex Metzger.

"It's difficult for us as a small school to fill all the events at the meets, but the ones we can fill, we feel like we are going to compete and do well," he said.

"We have a great group of kids once again this year. We have about 45 kids, which I feel is pretty good for a smaller school."

Metzger has been the head coach for the past 12 years and is assisted this year by Dalton Bass and Darin DeBoer.

The Patriots have only two seniors out this year, Brayden Metzger and Eli Taubert.

"They are both great kids and hard workers, and I look to lean on them for leadership," Metzger said.

"They will both contribute in different ways. Brayden Metzger will be throwing shot put and discus

"They come to practice every day with a great attitude and are hungry to get better."

— Rex Metzger

H-BC track and field coach

while Eli Taubert will be running sprints and will be on our sprint relays."

He said the Patriots have a long history of producing solid sprinters and successful relay teams.

"Last year we got seventh place at state in the girls' 4-by-100-meter relay, with Brynn Rauk, Abbie Harris, Layla Deelstra, and Brynn Rauk," Metzger said.

He added that Bakken, as a seventh-grader last year, placed seventh in the open 100-meter dash in state competition.

"We have a great bunch of kids that work hard in the weight room all year, and all

participate in our Summer Speed Training during the months of June and July, which we feel helps us out during the track season as well," Metzger said.

"They come to practice every day with a great attitude and are hungry to get better."

The H-BC Patriots track and field 2023 roster includes a mix of experienced athletes and promising newcomers.

The boys' varsity roster also includes Jacob Wallin, Wyatt Shimp, Bode Kruger, Mason Shaffner, EJ Wegner, Gavyn Leuthold, Jamin Metzger, Micah Bush, James

Peterson, Sawyer Bosch, Lukas Hubbard, Blake Leenderts, Beau Bakken, Jackson Gacke, James VandenBosch, Cooper Gehrke, Riley Tatge, Brayden Metzger and Eli Taubert.

The boys' JV roster includes Jed Fagerness, Riggins Rheault, Keaton Huisman, Brekken Boen, Maddox Metzger, Gunnar Bork, Brodie Metzger, Jace Gacke, Karson Metzger and Max Sammons.

The girls' track roster includes Izzy Wysong, Ella Sammons, Ally Birger, Abbie Harris, Bailey Spykerboer, Emma Deelstra, Layla Deelstra, Brynn Rauk and Larissa Steinhoff.

The girls' JV roster includes Ava Steinhoff, Ava Rainford, Carrie Merson, Brynn Bakken, Tabitha Sjaarda, Hailey Moser, Reagan Spath, Brooklyn Hubbard, Katelyn Chesley, Kenzie Hellerud, Tatyana Williams, Ruby Susie, Jessica Sjaarda, Lily Top, Ella Rheault, Sage DeBoer and Bryston Teune.

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LHS Baseball Team



Greg Hoogeveen photos/LHS Baseball
 Luverne High School baseball team leaders for 2023 include (front, from left) Riley Sneller, Kai Buss, Will Serie, Elliot Domagala, Carter Sehr, (back) Patrick Kroski, Zach DeBoer, Jacob Stroh, Tyler Gebauer and Conner Connell

Cardinal baseball team to compete for every win for a shot at playoffs

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne High School baseball program is coming off a successful 2022 season when it reached Section 3AA semi-finals.

However, that may be a tough act to follow, according to head coach Phil Paquette who said this year's team is young and relatively inexperienced.

The Luverne baseball team graduated four of their top five in the batting order, three of their top four pitchers, a senior catcher, and the left side of their infield from last season.

"We look forward to the competition for those positions and roles on the team this season," Paquette said. "We have a young group with solid potential for success in the coming years."

He said there will be opportunities in all positions for advancement.

"We need team leadership from our players,"

"We have a young group with solid potential for success in the coming years."

***— Phil Paquette,
LHS baseball head coach***

Paquette said.

"That leadership will transition into effort and energy throughout the team, top to bottom, as we compete throughout the season."

As players settle into their positions, Paquette said he is looking for specific attributes.

He said they should be "coachable, accountable, show effort and leadership, athleticism, mental toughness and discipline in their daily activities."

This year's roster includes seniors Tyler Gebauer, Zach DeBoer and

Riley Sneller; juniors Elliot Domagala, Conner Connell, Will Serie, Kai Buss, Patrick Kroski and Jacob Stroh; sophomores Trevor DeBates, Marcus Vortherms, Layke Miller, Alex Schlosser, Jesse Anning, Landon Ahrendt and Carter Sehr; and freshmen Connor Bose, Jaydon Johnson, Josh Hansen, Landyn Lais, Blake Sauer, Jaxon Lais and Kasey Buss.

"Starting pitching will be a strength of ours," he said.

"We look to improve our defensive play and

approach at the plate. We will need to get creative in the batter's box and on the base paths to produce runs."

Assistant LHS baseball coaches are Jake Haugen, Derek Elbers and Mark Sterrett. Team managers are Mallory Nelson and Jocelynn Mann.

Paquette has been coaching baseball for the past 10 years, eight as a varsity assistant and two as the head coach.

"I felt that coaching would be a good way to stay connected to the sports that I am passionate about and a way to help Luverne student athletes reach their potential, achieve their individual and team goals, and have fun playing a team sport," Paquette said.

For his 2023 season goals, Paquette said he wants his team to "... compete to win every game, every inning, every out, and every at bat."

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H-BC Golf Teams

H-BC golf team young with many new faces on boys' and girls' teams

By Greg Hoogveen

This year's Hills-Beaver Creek golf roster has many new faces on the boys' and girls' teams, according to head coach Dan Ellingson.

"They do have recreational golf experience," he said. "So we are not starting from scratch. That is a plus."

The H-BC golf program lost two varsity senior girls to graduation and four senior varsity boys from last year's squad.

They include Austin Allen, an All-Conference honoree for the boys, and Tess Van Maanen, an All-Conference and All-State performer for the girls.

The lone returning letter winner for the girls in 2023 is freshman Abby Olson, and the boys will look to establish new leaders.

"We will have a new look for both teams," Ellingson said.

"We will not field a full girls' varsity at this time; we will need some experience before we can do that."



Greg Hoogveen photos/HBC boys golf
H-BC boys' golf team returns one senior, Brock Harnack to this year's team.

As for the boys, Ellingson said he'll have a full varsity team, with player positions yet to be determined.

This year's roster will have 17 golfers.

The 12 boys include

senior Brock Harnack, junior Cooper Gehrke, sophomore Cameron Allen, freshmen Callum Bartels, Micah Bush, Jack Kruger, Josh Ternus and Jacob Tiesler, eighth-graders Cam-

"They (new team members) do have recreational golf experience, so we are not starting from scratch."

— Dan Ellingson

H-BC boys' golf head coach

dyn Broesder and Tryg Tollefson, and seventh-graders Garrett Blank and Braxton Kaiser.

The five girls include junior Taylor Spykerboer, sophomore Gracie Fagerness, freshman Abby Olson, and seventh-graders Aspyn Bartels and Norah Top.

When assessing his players' strengths and abilities, Ellingson said he considers many attributes, including character and leadership.

"I look for positive attitude, how well the player takes direction

and how well they apply practice learning the game and meet situations," he said.

Ellingson has been a high school coach for 37 years, 33 at Hills-Beaver Creek.

He said he went into high school coaching because of his experiences as a high school player in Granite Falls.

"My coaches were great educators," he said.

"They made coaching look enjoyable, made my experience enjoyable, and I wanted that experience."

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LHS Golf Teams

LHS girls' and boys' golf teams lean on returning players and look to nurture new golfers

By Greg Hooegeven

The Luverne girls' golf team looks to nurture new golfers and lean on returning varsity players this season, according to head coach Chris Nowatzki

"We have many new participants this year, so it will be exciting to see how they progress and the contributions they make toward the program," he said.

"We have returning varsity competitors in senior Lauren Hansen, junior Perceyis Trierweiler and senior Abby Anderson. We also have some returning JV athletes who will be moving up to fill empty slots in the varsity roster."

The girls' golf roster will be rounded out with seniors Jacie Graham and Averill Sehr; juniors Ella Halverson and Addison Huiskes; sophomore Kaylie Vander Lugt; freshman Paula Martinez; and seventh-grader Ingrid Mostad.

"These are a great group of girls who worked hard last year and had fun being together," Nowatzki said.



The Luverne girls' golf team returns four seniors, (from left) Mallory Von Tersch, Abigail Anderson, Lauren Hansen and Averill Sehr.

Greg Hooegeven photos/LHS girls golf

"Our goal is always to be competitive and work on continually improving as the season progresses."

**— Chris Nowatzki
LHS girls' golf team head coach**

"And I don't expect anything less for this year,"

He said his season goals will be modest and consistent.

"Our goal is always to be competitive and work on continually improving as the season progresses and into the playoff schedule at the end," he said.

Nowatzki has been coaching high school sports for 36 years. Of those, 35 have been as a golf coach.

He said it's been rewarding to work with student athletes through the years.

"Initially, coaching was just part of the job, but I have stayed with coaching because I think extra-curricular activities are often where students learn about working together to achieve a goal, overcoming adversity, sharing in losses and successes, and developing good work ethics and habits," Nowatzki said.

"What I would like to see in my athletes is a drive to excel. We may not win all the time, but if we continue to improve, I see that as a successful season."

By Greg Hooegeven

The Luverne High School boys' golf team will rely on the returning student leadership this coming year, according to head coach John Sichmeller.

"We have a very strong returning group, and I am excited to see them build on the success that they had last year," he said.

"We are also excited to see how some golfers have improved and how much they will contribute to the team this year."

This will be Sichmeller's 12th year coaching the Cardinal boys' golf team.

"I love the game of golf and enjoy watching the players learn and develop," he said.

He's assisted by Ben Nath in coaching the team.

Senior Brady Bork is Luverne's only senior on this year's team. "He is one of our most experienced



Brady Bork returns to the boys' golf team this year as the only senior.

Greg Hooegeven photos/LHS boys golf

players," Sichmeller said.

Junior Henry Hartquist returns this year as a team leader, having participated in state competition in 2022.

He turned in an impressive 2-under par round of 70 in the second round of section play to finish as the Section 3AA individual runner-up.

Hartquist was the first LHS golfer to take part in the state meet since 2016.

Juniors Owen Sudenga and Tyler Arends will also be considered leaders going into the 2023 season.

This year's team also consists of junior Tucker Banck, sophomore Levi Gonnerman, eighth-graders Will Bergman, Andrew Deutsch, Martin Fick, Dylan Hoff and Charles Mostad and seventh-graders Saul Hoven and Jaiden Klay.

Looking toward the new season, Sichmeller said the team's goal will be to win the section team meet and qualify for the state tournament.

"We have a lot of kids that really love golf," he said.

"And I am excited to see their progress throughout the season."

"Luverne High School boys' golf team will rely on the returning student leadership"

**— John Sichmeller
LHS boys' golf team head coach**

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LHS Softball Team

LHS softball team to use athleticism to build success

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne High School softball team looks to lean on returning players and successes to carry them past the section finals this year, according to coach Brooks Maurer.

"We have eight girls returning from last year that all had various levels of varsity experience," he said. "We will look to all of them to show leadership qualities throughout the season."

He said he'll rely on the leadership of seniors Carly Olson and Kaysie Lenz to help the other players improve as a team.

"We'll need to use their athleticism to the team's advan-

tage," Maurer said.

"This year's team is packed with girls who have prior success this season in other sports."

He said they'll build on those successes to help the 2023 softball season.

"We have girls on the softball team that played in a section basketball championship game, state hockey, state gymnastics, state tennis and state girls' wrestling," he said.

Maurer is in his seventh season as the head coach of the softball team and is assisted by Tara Sudenga and JJ Olson.

"I became a coach because my dad coached high school



Greg Hoogeveen photos/LHS softball
The Cardinal softball team returns two seniors, Kaysie Lenz (left) and Carly Olson, to this year's team.

football and middle school wrestling and baseball plus my mom is an athletic director," Maurer said.

"I had a lot of influential coaches in my life growing up, and I want to make the same impact on kids that coaches have made on my life."

He said he's inspired by the athletes' drive to succeed.

"Seeing all the hard work the girls have put into the softball program over the past seven years and creating an environment ... it isn't just about winning, but also about being good teammates."

This year's roster includes seniors Kaysie Lenz and Carly Olson, juniors Elizabeth Smidt, Tori Serie, Kenedee Francken, Anika Boll and Gracie Nath, and sophomores Regan Mehlhaff, Ella Reisdorfer, Amira Cowell, Maren Stegenga, Payton Behr, Caitlin Kindt and Piper Wynia.

LHS Tennis Team

LHS tennis team in rebuilding year

By Greg Hoogeveen

After several years in a row of earning trips to state, the Luverne High School boys' tennis team is looking this year to rebuild its program.

Having graduated 10 seniors last year, seven of them starters, and introducing a new coach, the 2023 team will focus this year on fundamentals.

Nathan Rud has stepped into the head coach role this season, assisted by Corey Stroeh.

"Our focus this year is to, over the course of the season, have fun playing tennis while developing sound swing mechanics," Rud said.

"This will help the younger players transition to varsity positions."

Luverne returns two starters to the team, seniors Ethan Nath and Logan Ommen.

Ommen returns as an All-Conference Honorable Mention player last season.

Rud will work with a roster of 11 total players.

They include seniors Ross Bergman, Parker Carbonneau, Ethan Nath and Logan Ommen, sophomores, Kaleb Hemme and David Happeny, freshmen Zander Carbonneau, Elijah Henrichs, Caleb Kracht and Austin Sandbulte.

As of March 27, the Luverne tennis courts were under several inches of snow.

LHS custodial staff members, with help from students and volunteers, have since then cleared the courts of snow in order to allow the sun to successfully remove the ice underneath.

The Cardinals played their first season matches April 1 in the indoor Swanson Tennis Center at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter.

Their first home event is set for April 14, weather permitting, against Fairmont.



Greg Hoogeveen photos/LHS tennis
The Luverne boys' tennis team is led by four senior players, (from left) Ross Bergman, Parker Carbonneau, Ethan Nath and Logan Ommen.

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H-BC Trap Team



Greg Hoogeveen photos/HBC trap

Hills-Beaver Creek trapshooting team members include (front, from left) Lukas Hubbard, Clayton Kellenberger, Olivia Bork, Blake Leenderts, Sawyer Bosch, Alexis Gardner Swenson, (back) Luke Fuerstenberg, Cooper Gehrke, Cameron Allen, Jack Moser and Cody Moser. Not pictured are Jayden Kueter, Alex Harris, Cael Noteboom and Johnathan Tiesler.

H-BC trap shooting team to rely on leadership and shooting skills from upperclassmen

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek trap shooting team is looking to build success in the 2023 season with upperclassman leadership and strong participation numbers.

“The upperclassmen and those who have experience are our leaders,” said head coach Travis Dwire.

“They will show the techniques they have learned and will encourage our younger shooters along the way.”

The Patriots trap team has 29 active members.

“We added sixth grade this year and also welcome students from Hills Christian,” said Dwire, who is in his third year as the head coach for H-BC’s trap team.

“I enjoy the sport and wanted to see it continue, so I offered to take on the role.”

He said assistant coaches for the team are volunteers and parents willing to commit to the season and help wherever needed.

“We have a great group of parents with backgrounds in safety, the sport, and a heart for coming in and being a part of the team,” Dwire said.

The assistant coaching staff for the team include Arlyn Gehrke, Kraig

“The Hills-Beaver Creek trap shooting team is looking to build success in the 2023 season with upperclassman leadership.”

— Travis Dwire

H-BC trap shooting head coach

Scholten, Stacey Bork, Laura Leenderts, Aaron Blank, Scott Harris and Shaun Hubbard.

Trap shooting team members practice and complete competition rounds at the Garretson, South Dakota, Sportsmen’s Club.

The Patriots participate in a five-week season, shooting two 25-target rounds each week.

Scores are entered weekly to the Minnesota State High School Clay Target League.

H-BC is assigned to a conference based on the size of the team.

Each week students are recognized for shooting perfect rounds.

“All students can compete if they have passed hunter safety and

completed registration,” Dwire said.

“We encourage all students who come in to have a good attitude, be ready to learn, work for themselves and their team and express good sportsmanship.”

The Patriots’ trap shooting team members include 23 boys and five girls.

The boys are seniors Luke Fuerstenberg, Alex Harris and Cody Moser, junior Cooper Gehrke, sophomores Cameron Allen, Sawyer Bosch, Lukas Hubbard, Blake Leenderts, Jack Moser and John Tiesler, freshmen Clayton Kellenberger and Michael Ykema, eighth-graders Camdyn Broesder

and Hunter Leenderts, seventh-graders Garrett Blank, Brekken Boen, Gunner Bork, Keaton Huisman, Karson Metzger, Maddox Metzger and Max Sammons, and sixth-graders Gracyn Wegener and Cash Wilsey.

The girls on the team include senior Olivia Bork, junior Alexis Gardner Swenson, freshman Jayden Kueter, eighth-grader Brooklynne Hubbard and sixth-grader Karis Dwire.

Last season the H-BC trap team ranked third in Conference 3A, and individually Journey Dwire took first place and Danette Leenderts took eighth place in the Conference 3A female competition.

Cooper Gehrke placed eighth in Conference 3A.

Coach Dwire said he’s looking forward to the upcoming season with his young team and continuing to build on team skills.

His goals are “... to have good attendance, continuous individual and team improvement, strong presence in numbers, competition at state tournaments and make great memories this year.”

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LHS Trap Team



Greg Hoogeveen photos/LHS Trap
The LHS trap shooting team returns a solid group of leaders for the 2023 season. They include (front, from left) Tyson Cowell, Jacob Henning, Cameron Wieneke, (back) JT Remme, Grant Wieneke, Austin Ossefoort and Lucas Hansen.

LHS trap shooting team eyes a run at state level competition in 2023 season

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne High School trap shooting team will rely on a solid group of upperclassmen for leadership in the 2023 season.

Head coach Scott Loosbrock has led the team for seven years and said he's optimistic for post-season competition this year.

"Trap shooting is a sport of concentration. Focus is key to success," Loosbrock said.

"We are looking to have a good year with a great group of seniors, and we hope to be making a run at team state this year."

He said last year Hunter Ahrendt was the first shooter from Luverne to compete in the Minnesota State High School League Clay Target Tournament.

Ahrendt eventually finished his state appearance in 16th place.

"This should show the kids that hard work can pay off," Loosbrock said.

"At the beginning of the year some kids may shoot a score of one or two points, and by the

"We are looking to have a good year with a great group of seniors and we hope to be making a run at team state this year."

— Scott Loosbrock

LHS trap shooting head coach

end of the season they score a 10 or more."

The 2023 LHS trap shooting team roster includes Landon Ahrendt, Cash Bonnett, Morgan Bonnett, Tyson Cowell, Alex Dewispelaere, Fox Forrest, Lucas Hansen, Jacob Henning, Samuel Honerman, Gavin Hoven, Andrew Kinsinger, Linkon Knorr, Jacob Madison, Lucas Madison, Austin Morseman, Liam Murphy, Makayla Oechsle, Austin Ossefoort, Holden Overgaard, David Rathman, Jaden Reisch, JT Remme, Rayann

Remme, Tucker Remme, Sawyer Saker, Grant Wieneke, Cameron Wieneke and Piper Wynia.

This list includes grades 9-12 boys and girls from both Luverne and Adrian districts.

Loosbrock said he's proud of the recent interest in the program among both middle school and high school students.

"Back when we started the team, we had 12 kids," he said. "Today we have 68 kids shooting from grades six to 12. ... It's

a sport kids can do their entire life."

He said his assistant coaches for the trap team are well trained in how trap shooting works, and he's looking for an eventual head coach to take over.

Assistant coaches include Doug Deutsch, Rick Ossefoort, Delbert Gangestad, Rich DeSchepper, Joe Loosbrock, Curtis Honerman, Dave Stearns and Tom Remme.

Team managers are Anitra Overgaard, Julie Wynia and Lisa Loosbrock.

The high school league will compete in five weeks of competition.

Each week, trap teams across Minnesota shoot two 25-clay rounds with a perfect score being 50 points.

The season culminates in the trapshooting championships in Alexandria in June followed by the Minnesota High School League State Tournament.

Scores from the athletes in the local high school league count toward conference standings.

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