



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, August 3, 2023

Locals prepare for marijuana legislation

City leaders support uniform countywide marijuana ordinance

By Mavis Fodness

Recreational marijuana use will be limited in Rock County if a countywide ordinance is adopted later this month.

City leaders from Beaver Creek, Hills, Steen, Magnolia, Luverne, Kenneth, Jasper and Hardwick met with Rock County commissioners July 25 to discuss the state's recent marijuana legislation and how it will be implemented locally.

County attorney Jeff Haubrich will draft a countywide ordinance, and each city council will adopt a resolution in support of that same ordinance at their upcoming August meeting.

Commissioners are scheduled to act on the proposed ordinance Aug. 22.

City and county leaders met in response to state legislation that makes adult use, possession and personal growing of marijuana in small amounts legal as of Aug. 1.

Local officials have lamented that the state has provided limited guidance about how to enact the new law.

County Administrator Kyle Oldre organized the hour-long public meeting with city leaders in the library basement where the meaning of "public use" and "public places" as it pertains to their communities was discussed.

"If you have a sidewalk restaurant or sidewalk seating at a restaurant, should you or would you as a city or county want to regulate that (marijuana use) and not allow it?" Oldre asked.

"At least for tonight's conversation purposes — and part of the

Marijuana law/see page 3



Fair play

Rock County Fair photos by Mavis Fodness

Calf moving was the first exercise of Ag Olympics Friday night at the fair. In front, left, are Ross Bergman and Maren Stegenga with the "City Slickers" team, and at right with the "Rock Crew" team are Cassidy Madison and Kayla Vander Schaaf. Behind them is Morgan Bonnett. In the photo at top right, Gracie Fagerness shows her market barrow Thursday in the 4-H arena. In the lower photo at right, Dylan Mente loses a shoe as he falls off his donkey named "Hemorrhoid" during Wednesday's Celebrity Donkey Races in the grandstands. See page 12 for more fair photos and information.



Rock County Fair wraps up 2023 events, activities

Heat hinders county fair attendance

By Mavis Fodness

Weather conditions always factor into the attendance at the Rock County Fair, and this year was no exception.

"The first two days of the fair definitely were a struggle," said Lee Sells, president of the Rock County Agricultural Society. "The excessive heat made it difficult for people to leave their AC and attend the fair attractions."

Wednesday night, July 26, featured the Celebrity Donkey Races in the grandstand.

Lee said attendance was down from last year but still a nice crowd gathered for the repeat event from last year.

"The participants (50 riders) all had a blast," Sells said. "Spectators enjoyed all the attempts to reach the finish line."

High humidity and temperatures into the 90s greeted fair-goers on Thursday, July 27, for the tractor pull event in the grandstand.

"The tractor pull attendance was

Rock County Fair/see page 12



Kyle Oldre kisses a 2-day-old piglet held by Beth Kalass during Friday night's Ag Olympics in the grandstands. The "Kiss the Pig" fundraiser raised \$1,200 for Carson's Cause, a local foundation promoting community brain health.

Two longtime teachers tender resignations in H-BC School District

By Mavis Fodness

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board members accepted resignations of two tenured secondary teachers during their meeting last week.

Randi Oftedahl submitted her resignation to Superintendent

Todd Holthaus on July 19, effective July 24, and Kale Wiertzema submitted his resignation July 20, effective immediately.

Oftedahl taught middle school science and social studies. She requested the resignation to be effective July 24.

Wiertzema resigned from his secondary special education teaching position as well as the district head boys' basketball coach.

"These folks are going to be missed dearly," Holthaus said. "But they are moving on."

Oftedahl taught at H-BC for seven years, while Wiertzema taught and coached in the district for 10 years.

Both positions will be posted to start in September for the 2023-24 school year.

"We have some hiring to do

— we have a little time to do that but not a lot of time," Holthaus said.

In addition to the two secondary positions, the district is still interviewing for an agriculture teacher and a paraprofessional.

Klobuchar talks rail issues in Luverne

By Mavis Fodness

U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar spent an hour in Luverne Monday afternoon talking with leaders of the Buffalo Ridge Regional Railroad Authority.

"To be a sustainable rail line, you need efficiency," Klobuchar said.

The Ellis & Eastern Company of Sioux Falls leases the rail line along the southern half of Rock County and ending in Worthington in Nobles County.

EE is overseeing the \$33.9 million rehabilitation of the rail line

Dan Kippely, EE's business developer, said the project will

Klobuchar/see page 5



Mavis Fodness photo/0803 Klobuchar Visit BRRR Eric Berning (left), roadmaster for the Eastern & Ellis Company, shows U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar pictures from the Buffalo Ridge Railroad rehabilitation project. Klobuchar helped Rock and Nobles counties secure \$14 million for the \$33.9 million rehab project.

History Center expansion to accommodate growth

By Jason Berghorst

A modest expansion of the Rock County History Center will begin soon.

The Rock County Historical Society (RCHS), which owns and operates the History Center in downtown Luverne, recently announced the building project.

The expansion includes a 30-by-60-foot addition attached to the west end of the current building.

Construction will begin soon and is expected to be complete before winter. The new space will be used for storage of the society's

ever-growing collection of artifacts.

"We are simply out of storage space," said RCHS Executive Director Wendell Buys.

According to the July RCHS newsletter, the expansion is largely the result of a grant-funded assessment performed by a specialist from the Midwest Art Conservation Center in May.

Some areas of need identified by the assessment included a collections management system and additional help to inventory and put things into such a system, ac-

History Center/see page 3



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Meetings

Beaver Creek Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14, in the township hall.
Vienna Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8, at the Kenneth Community Center.
Sanford Luverne Pink Ladies will meet at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14, in the Blue Mound Room at Sanford Luverne. Attendance is important at this meeting when critical decisions will be made. Call Sharon Zinnell, 507-227-3321, with questions.

Beaver Days set for Aug. 4-5

Beaver Creek will celebrate Beaver Days Aug. 4 and 5. A 5K run/walk is at 7:30 a.m. Saturday followed by a 10 a.m. parade. A vendor fair, car show and family activities at the splash pad will be from 10:30 to 2:30 p.m. Community meal is at the fire hall from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. followed by the street dance from 7:30 to midnight. See the City of Beaver Creek Facebook page for details.

Blood Bank at Take 16 for 'Pint for a Pint' Aug. 4

Take 16 Brewing Co. will host a community blood drive from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4. Donors can register inside Take 16 Brewing, online at www.cb-blifblood.org or by calling 605-331-3222. Walk-ins welcome, but appointments are preferred. Donors receive an event T-shirt and a pint of their favorite brew.

SAIL classes start in Beaver Creek Aug. 7

New SAIL classes meet from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday through Wednesday, Aug. 7 through Oct. 25 in the Beaver Creek City Council Meeting Room. The free classes, Stay Active and Independent for Life improve strength and balance. Call A.C.E. of SW MN manager, Linda Wenzel, 507-283-5064 or A.C.E. volunteer Nancy Lange, 605-838-5915.

Steen Carnival set for Aug. 9

The Annual Steen Carnival is from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 9, in the Reformed Church of Steen parking lot. The event features free inflatables, a Cruisin' for Christ car, tractor and cycle show and a pork sandwich meal. Donations accepted for the Sunday school department. Call 507-227-6664 for details.

Palisade Lutheran Pie and Ice Cream Social Aug. 13

Palisade Lutheran Church Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. following 10 a.m. outdoor worship on the lawn at the church in rural Rock County (corner of County Road 5 and Highway 23) west of Luverne.

Menu includes grilled hamburgers or hotdogs, salad, chips and homemade pie with ice cream. Outdoor lawn games and watermelon will follow.

'Living Well with Diabetes' starts Aug. 23 at A.C.E. in Luverne

Living Well with Diabetes Workshop will be at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Aug. 23 and 30 and Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27, at A.C.E. of SW MN Rock County, 102 Estey St. Luverne. Learn how to manage diabetes with simple lifestyle changes. Call 507-283-5064

Youth prayer breakfast Aug. 24

Rock The Edge will host its third annual Community and Youth Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, Aug. 24, at Luverne High School.

Breakfast is at 6:30 a.m. in the commons and the program is at 7 in the performing arts center with guest speaker Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken.

Make reservations by noon Aug. 21 by calling 283-4061. Donations will be accepted. The public is invited to attend.

Free summer events at Plaza

Furs and Fossils is a free "feel and learn" event for kids hosted by the Rock County Historical Society at the Plaza from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 3.

National Root Beer Float Day is Aug. 6. Take 16 Brewing and the Luverne Chamber will host golf cart tours of the historic Luverne downtown at 2 and 4 p.m. and serve root beer floats at the Plaza. Call 507-283-4061 to reserve a seat.

Super Summer Books a child reading outreach, is hosted by the Rock County Community Library at the Plaza on Main from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Aug. 15.

Yard Games & Fellowship Free fun activities will be available at the Plaza on Main from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, hosted by Rock County Opportunities. Wildflowers Food Truck will be available for lunch.



Mavis Fodness photo/0803 Fair 2023 Open Class

Open class grand and reserve champion winners available for a photo Friday in the floral hall include (front, from left) Aubrey Nuffer, Calla Thone, James Eggebrecht, Kallista VanGrootheest, (second) Daryl Hilfers, Kristin Suhr, Sharon Zinnel, Jackie Gertz, Cheryl Nath, Melva B. Boeve, (third) Nancy Walgrave, Carol Walgrave, Afton Nuffer, Trinley VanderBerg, Becky Ossefoort, Marian Schneekloth, Lori Oechsle, (back) Jason Cook, Eric Fick, Emma Wieneke, Coy Thone and Ava Steinhoff.

Open class fair winners announced

The Open Class superintendents said they were pleased with all who exhibited this year and for their patience with the heat during entry times.

Judges commented on the high quality and how difficult it was to select the champions.

Results reported for the Open Class competition at the 2023 Rock County Fair are as follows:

Floral
 •Best of Show: Lynette Jauert.
 •Reserve: Jennifer Ainsworth.

•Champions: Mary Crawford, Melba Boeve, Lynette Jauert, Shirley Connor.

•Reserve Champions: Judy Knutson, Mary Crawford, Melba Boeve, Deb Wynia, Stacy Mente.

•Youth Champion: Kallista Van Grootheest.
 •Reserve Youth: Gregory Gainey.

Bucket of Flowers
 •Best of Show: Ramona Walker.
 •Reserve: Delores Halverson.

Baking
 •Best of Show: Becky Sehr.
 •Reserve: Emma Petersen.

•Adult Champion: Becky Sehr.
 •Reserve: Melissa Lemme.

•Youth Champion: Emma Petersen.
 •Reserve: Coy Thone.

Home Preserved Food
 •Best of Show: Becky Ossefoort.
 •Reserve: Carol Boelman.

•Youth Champion: Bradey Lemme.
 •Reserve: Piper Meiners.

Vegetables
 •Best of Show: Stacy Thone.
 •Reserve: Judy Knutson.
 •Youth champion: Rose Gainey.

•Reserve: Bria Lessman.

Field Crops
 •Best of Show: Eric Fick. Tallest Corn: Coy Thone.

Reserve: Calla Thone. Bean stalk with most pods Champion: Eric Fick.

•Reserve: Hatcher Petersen.

Sewing
 •Best of Show: De Wiskus.
 Reserve: Dawn Vander Beek.

Champions: Lori Oechsle, Dawn Vander Beek, Marian Schneekloth (2), De Wiskus (2).

Reserve: Barb Sandbulte, De Wiskus (3), Debi Scholten, Debra Van Heerde.

Needlework
 •Champions: Debra VanHeerde, Delinda

Jansma, Jackie Gertz, Lori Oechsle.
 Reserve: Marian Schneekloth, Dawn Vander Beek, Debra Van Heerde.

Junior Sewing and Needlework:
 •Best of Show: Brynlie Bork.
 Reserve: Gabriella Porter.

Champions: Brynlie Bork, Gabrielle Porter.
 •Reserve: Gabriella Porter, Cambrie Bork, Charlotte Happeny.

Arts and Crafts
 •Best of Show: Twila VerSteeg.
 •Reserve: Melissa Lemme.

•Champions: Cheryl Nath, Melissa Lemme, Dawn Vander Beek, Twila VerSteeg.

•Reserve Champions: Melissa Lemme, Emma Wieneke, Jill Swenson, Dawn Vander Beek.

Junior Arts and Crafts
 •Best of Show: Trinley Vanderburg.
 •Reserve: Ava Steinhoff.

•Champions: Trinley VanderBurg, Ava Steinhoff, Kenzie Petersen, Sean Bonilla-Soto.

•Reserve: Ava Steinhoff, Kallista Van Grootheest, McKinlee Gillette.

Photography
 •Best of Show: Jason Cook.

•Reserve: Carol Wynia.
 •Champions: Jason Cook, Carol Walgrave.

•Reserve: Mallory Nath, Kristin Suhr.
 •Professional Champion: Megan Jensen.

•Reserve: Carol Walgrave.
 •Junior Champion: Afton Nuffer.

•Junior Reserve: Aubrey Nuffer.
Wood
 •Best of Show: Daryl Hilfers.

•Reserve: Ike Brake.
 •Youth Champion: James Eggebrecht.

•Reserve: Ava Steinhoff.
Senior Citizens
 •Large Quilt Best of Show Champion: De Wiskus.

•Reserve: Sharon Zinnel.
 •Champions: Jackie Gertz, Sharon Zinnel, Barb Sandbulte, Mary Crawford, De Wiskus.

•Reserve: Deb VanHeerde, Sharon Zinnel, Marian Schneekloth.

Gifts
 •Best of Show: Becky Ossefoort.

•Reserve: Shirley Connor.
 •Youth Champion: Coy Thone.

Fabric Challenge
 •Best of Show: Debi Scholten.
 •Reserve: Amie Reker.

Blue Mounds park announces August programs

The Blue Mounds State Park has announced its August programs and events. Contact bluemounds.statepark@state.mn.us or 507-283-6050 with questions or special requests.

Colors of the Prairie: Hike with the naturalist from 10 to 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 4, to see wildflowers and learn some basics on how to use a wildflower identification field guide. The hike may cover up to one mile. Come prepared

with sun and insect protection, a water bottle and good walking shoes. All ages are welcome.

Tiny Acorn – Big World: Meet at the Eagle Rock Vista at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, for a one-hour journey through the big world of the Burr Oak tree. Learn about the mighty lives stored in tiny acorns and the web of plants and animals that live with them. Come prepared with water, insect protection and good

walking shoes. All ages are welcome. Note: The trail is not stroller or wheelchair friendly.

Creatures of the Night: Frogs and Toads. Meet at the picnic area from 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, to learn about the amazing transformation that frogs and toads go through to reach adulthood.

Night Hike: Meet at the picnic area at 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, to immerse in a full sensory

experience on a 1- 1/2-hour adventure to explore the park at night using all five senses to make the most of the time spent in nature. Come prepared with good walking shoes and insect protection.

Bringing Prairie Home Participants meet at the picnic shelter at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, for a one-hour class on learning about designing, planting and maintaining your own patch of prairie.

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• Chiropractic

Marijuana legislation/ continued from page 1

things the county is concerned with — we have law enforcement contracts with most of you in here and we want to make sure what we are enforcing is somewhat uniform.”

Use, possession and growing small amounts of marijuana is legal, but opening a retail cannabis business isn't expected to be legal until after Jan. 1, 2025, when the state will likely begin issuing licenses.

Rock County's unique location in the state draws local concern

Rock County borders the states of Iowa and South Dakota where recreational marijuana is not legal, and local leaders anticipate traffic coming into the county for that purpose.

“I worry about our people and our town,” said Hills City Council member Cory Metzger. “... people coming in making a mess, then leaving.”

Haubrich said a strict ordinance, such as the one adopted by Stearns County, would prohibit smoking marijuana in public areas.

“They basically said in Stearns County, other than in the privacy of your house, you're not going to do it,” Haubrich said.

The Stearns County ordinance defines a public place as “a public park or trail, public street or sidewalk, any enclosed, indoor area used by the general public, including, but not limited to, theaters, restaurants, bars, food establishments, places licensed to sell intoxicating liquor, wine or malt beverages, retail businesses, gyms, commons areas in buildings, public shopping areas, auditoriums, arenas, or other places of public accommodations.”

A fine of \$300 (a

“Keep in mind, we've already had inquiries for legal marijuana sales from out of state. They are looking at Rock County as a gold mine.”

— Commissioner Greg Burger

petty misdemeanor) can be issued in Stearns County to anyone smoking marijuana in public.

Interest high in opening marijuana retail business locally

City and county leaders say they've received phone calls about opening retail stores in the various communities.

State law says local governments can limit the number of cannabis retailers to one for every 12,500 residents.

The only restriction to sales is that buyers must be 18 or older.

While each city can have one or more recreational marijuana retail businesses, council members at the July 25 joint meeting supported allowing one license for the entire county.

The state is not issuing licenses until the Office of Cannabis Management is established.

The state is responsible for issuing licenses, but local communities are notified of applications and whether locations meet setback requirements from schools, day cares, churches or other public places.

County officials expect that interest for the retail licenses will be high.

“Keep in mind, we've already had inquiries for legal marijuana sales from out of state,” said Commissioner Greg Burger. “They are looking at Rock County as a gold mine.”



Above, the sun sets behind the big screen at the Verne Drive-In Saturday night following the car and truck meet and before the “Barbie” movie started.

A group of classmates of the late Carson Ehde gather near classic cars at the Verne Drive-In Saturday night during the Carson's Cause Car and Truck Meet that was organized to raise awareness of community brain health and suicide prevention.



Verne Drive-In Car and Truck Meet raises money for Carson's Cause

Family and friends of Carson Ehde honored his memory and raised more than \$20,000 for Carson's Cause Saturday night at the Verne Drive-In's Car and Truck Meet ahead of the evening movies.

Carson's girlfriend, Gracie Rozeboom, organized the event at her family's drive-in business, lining up dozens of sponsors and attracting nearly 100 vehicles.

“I put my whole heart into this,” she said about the event that also featured Carson's beloved 1997 Chevy Silverado pickup.

“Carson loved his truck, and that's why we decided to do this to raise money for Carson's Cause.”

She and Carson's mom, Lori Sorenson, started Carson's Cause last fall after Ehde died at age 21 of suicide.

He had expressed shame in his lack of motivation and frustration with poor access to effective treatment, and his family believes others struggle similarly with their own



Gracie Rozeboom interviews with a Dakota News Now TV photojournalist about Carson's Cause and the Car and Truck Meet she organized at her family's business, the Verne Drive-In, Saturday night in Luverne.

approach to brain health.

“The words we use matter, especially when it comes to brain health,” Sorenson said.

“With Carson's Cause we're working to change the dialogue around brain health.”

Rozeboom said it's a matter of approaching

brain health no differently than taking care of other physical health. “Going to a counselor should be no different than going to the dentist,” she said.

She and Sorenson said they understand it's hard to change longstanding stigma, and that's why they're focusing Carson's Cause ef-

forts on children.

“Kids are smart,” Sorenson said.

“They've learned that we don't use the ‘R’ word and they can spot a bully a mile away. The same can be true for how we approach brain health and how we talk about it.”

Carson's Cause last year purchased age-appropriate children's books for all Luverne Elementary School students, and the foundation is poised to do the same in the 2023-24 school year.

In addition, the foundation will fund new curriculum through Climb Theatre, which is writing new material focused on brain health dialogue.

During Saturday's event at the Drive-In, Rozeboom shared a tribute video she had prepared to remember more than 60 other suicide victims in the community and surrounding area.

It encourages individuals and families to make their brain health a priority and to support each other.

History Center Expansion/continued from page 1

according to the newsletter.

“The new addition will help the RCHS accomplish these important goals,” Buys said.

“Not all of our collection can be on display at all times. Some artifacts are on display at certain times and then need to be cycled out to allow for other items to be displayed and to keep our museum fresh and interesting for visitors.”

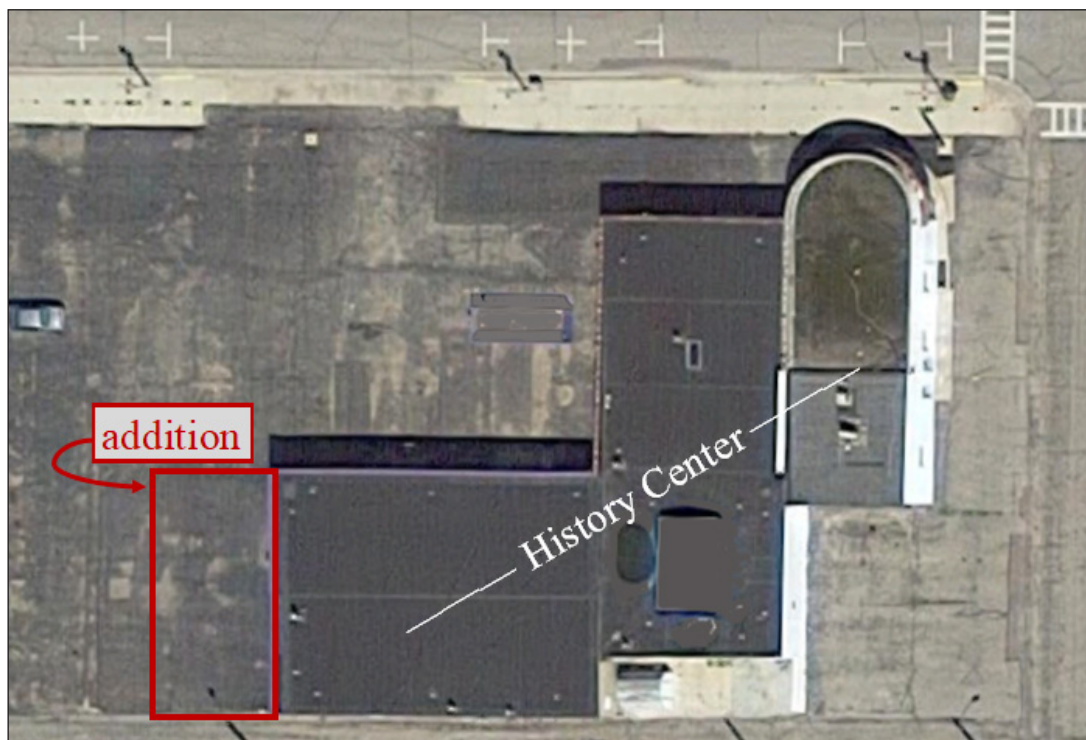
He said the organization needs a safe, environmentally controlled area to store incoming and non-display items that also provides for proper organization.

In addition to the expansion project, repairs to the west wall of the History Center have already begun.

“We had no choice but to make those repairs,” said former RCHS president Betty Mann. “That wall is from 1915 and the clay bricks are hollow and deteriorating.”

Historical Society leaders have recently begun a capital campaign to fund the expansion and repair projects. They are also asking elected leaders in Rock County and the city of Luverne to direct public funds toward the projects.

Estimated total cost is \$200,000, including



Above, a rendering shows how the addition will be added to the west side of the History Center. Pictured below, the west wall was built in 1915 and the clay bricks are hollow and deteriorating.



the building addition, HVAC and electrical, shelving storage and the west wall repair.

“It's really a manageable amount of money,” Buys said. “The bids ended

up being lower than we expected, to be honest.”

The first capital campaign in 2014 to create the History Center in the former Herman Motor dealership on Main Street raised \$1.1 million over six years.

Buys said those who donated to the previous campaign will be invited to give a donation first, followed by RCHS members and the community as a whole.

“We will be happy to accept any and all donations toward this important project,” he said.

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The missing ingredient

In search of Mom's potato salad recipe

Dad and I hold our forks in mid air, staring into space the way people do when they sample food.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

We're trying to figure out Mom's potato salad recipe.

Potato salad was Mom's premier dish. Her barbecued chicken was good, and so was her apple crisp, but nothing compared to the potato salad.

It was the German version – heavy on the mustard and onions. She used Miracle Whip, not mayo. A little salt – but not too much. (You can always add more later.)

No sugar.

She didn't use fancy things like chopped celery or relish. The potatoes were always just a tiny bit undercooked. (Or they turn to mush when you mix it all up.)

The hard-boiled eggs were dropped into ice water to make them peel more easily. (And never use fresh eggs.)

Mom's batches of potato salad were large. Really large. There was always enough for 20 people and leftovers. (It's better the second day.)

And so, Dad and I carry on the potato salad experiments.

The first attempt was a dismal failure because I used mayonnaise and not enough mustard and onion.

Dad added an entire onion and said it was getting

closer.

The second attempt began with a trip to the grocery store for Miracle Whip. I'm not sure I've ever bought it before.

I searched for "German potato salad recipes" and found a few that used a lot of mustard and onion. (Like they are supposed to.)

One called for apple cider vinegar which I'm not sure Mom ever used. (You don't need it if you add enough mustard.)

One said the onions were optional. (That's what you think.)

I settled on a recipe that seemed most similar to Mom's and followed the instructions to a T.

(Oh for Pete's sake, just add things until it tastes right.)

I used homegrown potatoes and onions, half a dozen hard-boiled eggs, Miracle Whip and enough mustard to make it bright yellow.

We sample.

It's better.

The fresh onions are delicious. The potatoes are cooked just right. The Miracle Whip helped.

But, again, we stare into space and think ... something is still missing.

Supporting brain health and wellness for public safety professionals is good for all of us

On Friday local first responders will meet with Angela Nolz, a licensed clinical counselor and integrated health therapist at Sanford Luverne, and we're happy to hear our caregivers will get some care for themselves.

When a tragedy happens in a community, public safety professionals absorb that pain. They experience significantly more traumatic events than the average person, resulting in higher rates of stress-related conditions like depression, anxiety, substance abuse and PTSD. But our local heroes don't often seek help for themselves.

Friday's meeting coincides with the recent launch of Minnesota's Public Safety Wellness Initiative, which supports wellness for first responders as a shared, community responsibility that starts with a culture of awareness and compassion.

Rock County is blessed with some of the best firemen, emergency medical responders and law enforcement in the region, and we're hoping that by keeping them healthy, they'll continue doing what they do best.

Minnesota public safety professionals are leaving the profession at an unsustainable rate,

and their employers are seeking solutions to prevent traumatic injuries and help individuals heal.

The Minnesota Public Safety Wellness Initiative aims to spread awareness about the importance of talking about struggles (accept), being proactive about wellness (prevent), and knowing that healing is possible (treat). Accept – Prevent – Treat is a mantra for all who share in this mission.

The goals are to normalize mental health conversations in Minnesota's public safety community, promote proactive wellness programs, and educate people that post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is treatable.

As a part of this campaign, the Initiative is urging every community to support public safety organizations in their efforts to accept, prevent and treat mental injuries that stem from traumatic on the job experiences. We hope Friday's meeting is a positive step in that direction.

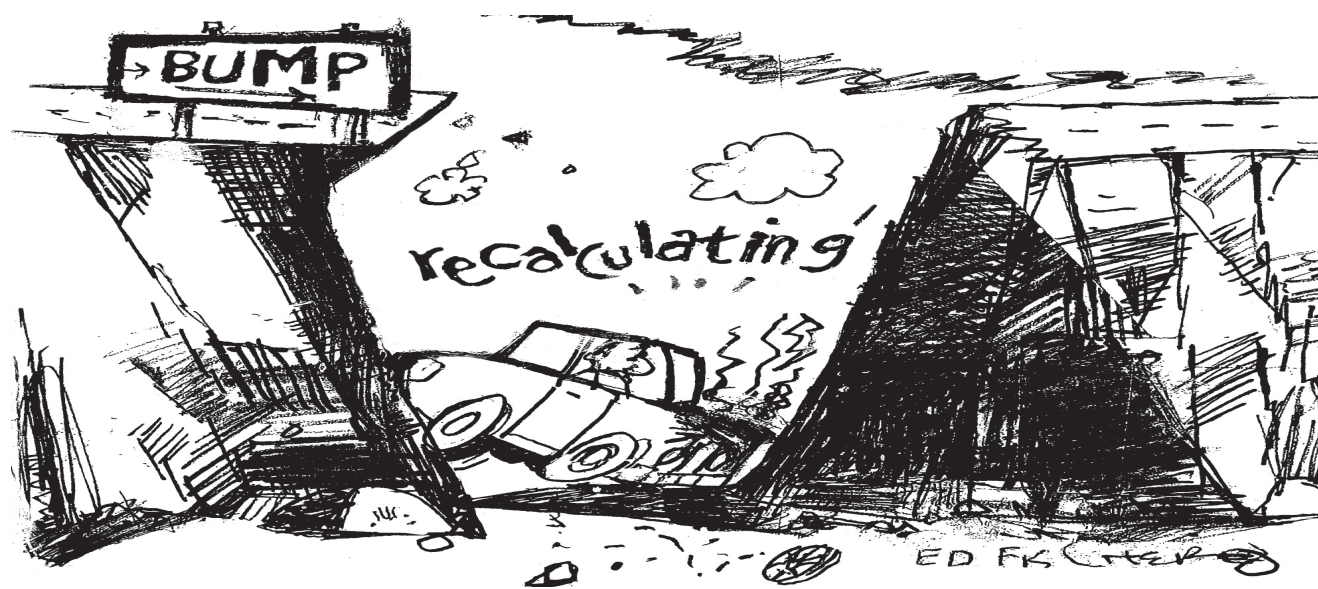
Founded in 2022, the Minnesota

Public Safety Wellness Initiative is a group of 12 organizations working together to bring attention to the concern of mental health among Minnesota's public safety professionals.

It includes the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota, League of Minnesota Cities, Metro Cities, Minnesota Sheriffs' Association, Minnesota Association of Small Cities, Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training, Minnesota Inter-County Association, Association of Minnesota Counties, Peer Support Advisory Board, and the First Responder Chaplain Division of the Spiritual Care Association.

With this kind of support for so many of our local heroes, it's an encouraging step in the right direction for all of us.

Brain health is health, and what's good for our public safety professionals is good for all of us.



Turning something negative into a positive

By Gracie Rozeboom
Star Herald advertising and design intern

On Saturday my family and our Verne Drive-In family of workers hosted the first annual "Carson's Cause Car & Truck Meet" to raise awareness about brain health and suicide prevention.

It was a chance to remember Carson Ehde who died last fall from suicide at age 21. And it was a chance to raise money for the foundation we started in his memory.

I poured my whole heart into this event – because I loved Carson and because I know how much he loved his 1997 Chevy Silverado.

We had dated for two years, and I spent hours with him while he detailed every inch of his truck and talked about the next big thing he'd do to make it more special.

Today, his family keeps it parked in the shop under a blanket, but we take it out for special occasions to remember Carson and to promote Carson's Cause.

Saturday's car and truck meet



at the drive-in was the perfect occasion to do that.

I wanted the event to be big, and I wanted it to be meaningful. So, the work started

months in advance to promote it and to involve the right people.

Social media channels drew in the younger crowd, and printed flyers were posted around town and in every auto parts store in Sioux Falls to reach an older crowd with the classic cars.

Next, I reached out to the news outlets in Sioux Falls to see if they'd do a story before the meet. There was no promotional coverage, but to my surprise, Dakota News Now came to the meet.

Photojournalist Sam Tastad captured images of the event and he spent time interviewing us about Carson, his truck and brain health and our mission.

An hour later he left to work on the story, and we were left hoping our message came across right.

When the segment aired Sunday night, we exhaled. The story was amazing, and we were grateful to have Carson's Cause shared with a larger audience.

As we look back on the night, we realize how grateful we are for all the volunteers and support we received.

Professional Ag Marketing donated hamburger patties for Uncle Mike to grill, Linda DeSplinter from Green Lantern volunteered her talents at the fryers, and we had donated prizes from Wayne's Body Shop, Get Money Golf, Luverne Livestock Auction, Custom Offsets and Henry's Window Tinting.

At the end of the night, we raised over \$20,000 for Carson's Cause, and donations are still coming in. These funds join all the other generous donations that have poured in since we started the

Positive, continued on page 5

If I can do it, you can, too Weight loss journey isn't perfect, and there will be 'cheat' days, but it's possible

I have been on a journey to lose weight over the course of two years dating back to September of 2021.

For background, I am 5 feet 9 inches tall and weighed 275 pounds at my heaviest. I am down 75 pounds and currently weigh 200. This isn't my lightest so far, but it is where I am today.

I've been working as an ad sales rep at the Star Herald over the past year, and I really wanted to use this space to give others the motivation they may need to start their health journey or to continue it.

From my experience, a lot of people will either quit after their first mistake or cheat meal. So my advice would be not to let one cheat meal turn into a cheat week or a cheat month.

Another piece of advice I would offer is not to stop doing things you enjoy because you want to start dieting. The goal is to work the diet into your daily living.



My Two CENTS

By Wyatt VanSteenberg,
Ad sales representative
Rock County Star Herald

When I first started dieting, I would turn down going out with friends because I didn't want restaurant food and drinks to "ruin"

My Two Cents, go to page 5

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ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

- July 21**
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 18, Magnolia exit, reported a transient.
 •Complainant on N. East Park Street reported weapons.
 •Complainant on County Road 5 and 110th Avenue reported a driving complaint.
- July 22**
 •A weather alert was issued.
 •Complainant on U.S. Highway 75 reported trespassing.
- July 23**
 •Complainant on E. Dodge Street reported weapons.
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Valley Springs, South Dakota, reported road and drive laws.
 •Complainant on 100th Avenue, Hardwick, reported trespassing.
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 12, Luverne, requested roadside assistance.
- July 24**
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on E. Warren Street reported theft.
 •Complainant north-bound on Highway 75 from the Iowa border requested assistance from another department.
 •Complainant on S. Central Avenue, Hills, reported a missing person.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested extra patrol.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported drunkenness.
- July 25**
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on W. Luverne Street reported theft.
 •Complainant on S. Estey Street reported a disorderly.
- Complainant reported training in session.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported debris.
- July 26**
 •A weather alert was issued.
 •Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported a fire.
 •Complainant south-bound on Highway 23, mile marker 10, Jasper, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on McKenzie and Warren streets reported suspicious activity.
 •Extra patrol was requested at the fairgrounds.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported lost property.
- July 27**
 •Complainant on S. Estey Street reported disturbing the peace.
 •Extra patrol was requested at the fairgrounds.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Street reported a fire.
 •Extra patrol was requested at the fairgrounds.
 •Complainant at Verne Drive-In requested an unlock.
 •Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Luverne, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on W. Koehn reported an accident to property damage.

In addition, officers responded to 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 deer accident, 1 transport, 1 escort, 12 ambulance runs, 6 parking violations, 2 paper services, 5 animal complaints, 4 burn permits, 1 alarm, 2 purchase and carry, 3 purchase and carry permits, 4 stalled vehicles, 52 traffic stops, 6 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 2 welfare checks, 2 reports of cattle out and 1 OFP.

Positive/continued from page 4

fund last fall. The money will help us continue reaching children at Luverne Elementary School and expand into other schools. Losing Carson was heartbreaking, but we hope the tragedy can result in something good. Thank you, everyone,

who joined us at the drive-in Saturday night and supported Carson's Cause. With your help and with every dollar donated, we're changing how we talk about brain health, and we hope to prevent others from losing hope and taking their lives.

My Two Cents/from page 4

my diet for the week. However, when I did that, I felt myself feeling down and resenting the diet, and it made me fail in the diet even worse than if I just went out with friends for a night. Losing weight is as much a mental hurdle as it is physical or just choosing better food options. I learned when I first started this journey to stop overthinking bad days or bad food choices. Everyone has them occasionally. An occasional craving

for a Taco John's breakfast burrito or a Pizza Ranch Buffalo Chicken Pizza on thin crust can be satisfied ... As long as it doesn't turn into a week, a month or even a year of unhealthy eating. I still have a fair number of miles to go on this journey ahead of me, and there is a lifetime of healthy choices I'll need to consider along the way. Meanwhile, I hope "my two cents" can help other people on their journey toward weight loss and healthier living.



This drone photo shows where a switching system is ready for installation near Manley. This portion of the Buffalo Ridge Railroad rehabilitation project has been delayed for the past 14 months by the officials at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Work on installing the switching system is expected to begin in September. Pictured below, More than 10,000 railroad ties are expected to be replaced on the Buffalo Ridge Railroad as part of a \$33.9 million rehabilitation project for the rail line that runs through the southern half of Rock County and ends in Worthington in Nobles County.

Klobuchar visits Luverne to discuss rail/continued from page 1

bring the Buffalo Ridge line up to industry standards. "We have a problem pulling fully loaded tanks now because of our limited capacity," he said. Once finished, the rail line would be able to safely support today's heavier 286,000-pounds railcars and travel up to 25 mph. Currently, EE transports lighter loads at a top speed of 10 mph, due to the condition of the track. The rehabilitation project will also connect the Buffalo Ridge to the nationwide rail system operated by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) near Manley.



That rail line was abandoned 40 years ago, Kippley said, and almost eight miles of the track is being completely rebuilt. "The key factor here is that we keep trucks off the roads, which is safer and helps the infrastructure of the county," Kippley said. He outlined several industries that would benefit from the transport of project by railcars instead of by semitrailers. In addition to sand, gravel, cement powder and energy products, another commodity that could benefit from rail transportation is liquid petroleum gas (LP). Kippley said farmers use a tremendous amount of LP to power grain dryers in the fall as well as for home heating. All of the LP is brought to the area by trucks. "When we get this done, we will bring in LP gas from North Dakota," he said. "We hope to have an LP tank farm set up in the area."

Unforeseen delays

However, Kippley said installing the necessary switching system is taking longer, due to delays created by officials at BNSF railroad. He said the BRRRA almost contacted Klobuchar's office to help get the project moving again. The issue involved connecting the Buffalo Ridge line to the BNSF near Manley, which requires a switching system between the tracks. "They are the only ones that can work in their right of way," Kippley said. "We offered to do it but they said they'd do it — of course we will pay for it." The project was scheduled to be completed 14 months ago. The work is now scheduled to begin in mid-September. Klobuchar serves on the commerce, science and transportation committee,

which oversees the railway systems in the U.S. She assisted commissioners in Rock and Nobles counties along with EE to secure a \$14.4 million Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement grant for the rehabilitation project in 2017. The project is expected to be completed in late 2027, according to Eric Berning, project manager with EE. Meanwhile, inflation has increased costs by \$6 million. Berning said the increase is primarily due to steel prices. EE was recently notified that the project will receive an additional \$4.7 million in supplemental funding to offset the inflationary pressures. Klobuchar also talked about workforce issues, housing and child care. Attending the meeting were BRRRA representa-

tives, Rock County commissioners Stan Williamson and Sherri Thompson, Rock County Administrator Kyle Oldre, Nobles County Commissioners Gene Metz and Bob Pappow, and Nobles County Administrator Bruce Heitkamp. **About the BRRRA** The BRRRA is made up of Rock and Nobles county representatives, who own the 41-mile short rail line from Manley in Rock County to Worthington in Nobles County. Ellis & Eastern (EE) company of Sioux Falls leased the rail line in 2017. The EE is owned by Knife River of Bismarck, North Dakota. Five years ago, EE was awarded a \$14 million federal Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement grant. EE is investing \$19.5 million in the project.

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TREE & BRUSH REMOVAL NOTICE: WESTSIDE TOWNSHIP, NOBLES COUNTY

Notice is here by given to all landowners or tenants to remove all trees, brush and thistles from your ditches **by August 15**. The township will take action to address these issues and will charge the landowner on their taxes for any costs incurred. Any questions can be addressed to the Township Board.

Karen Cook Westside Township Clerk

PALACE

PALACE THEATRE

UPCOMING EVENTS

	<p>BANK NITE MOVIE: The Little Mermaid</p> <p>Thursday, August 3 6:00 pm</p> <p>Sponsored by: First Farmers & Merchants Bank and Papik Motors</p> <p>FREE ADMISSION</p>	PG
	<p>Missoula Children's Theatre: The Princess and the Pea</p> <p>Friday, August 4 3:00 AND 5:30 pm</p> <p>Tickets: \$5</p>	
	<p>Barbie</p> <p>Saturday, August 5 7:00 pm Sunday, August 6 7:00 pm</p> <p>Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 – 12th grade, \$7 for adults</p>	PG-13

104 E. Main St. • Luverne, MN 56156 • 507.283.4339
WWW.PALACETHEATRE.US



Mavis Fodness photos/0803 Missoula 2023

Fifty-four area youth will perform "The Princess and the Pea" at 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Friday at the Palace Theatre in Luverne. The performances are part of a week-long camp conducted by two instructors with the Missoula Children's Theater.

"The Princess and the Pea" takes to the Palace stage Friday

By Mavis Fodness

Fifty-four children will take to the Palace Theatre stage Friday, Aug. 4, for the Missoula Children's Theater production of "The Princess and the Pea."

Friday's performances at 3 and 5 p.m. culminate the five-day camp for local children ages 5 to 18.

They learned lines, staging, songs and movement for the public performances.

"Hopefully they develop a liking for it and want to come back," said Palace manager Shawn Kinsinger.

The annual event is sponsored by the Green Earth Players, Blue Mound Area Theatre and Luverne

'Hopefully they develop a liking for it and want to come back.'

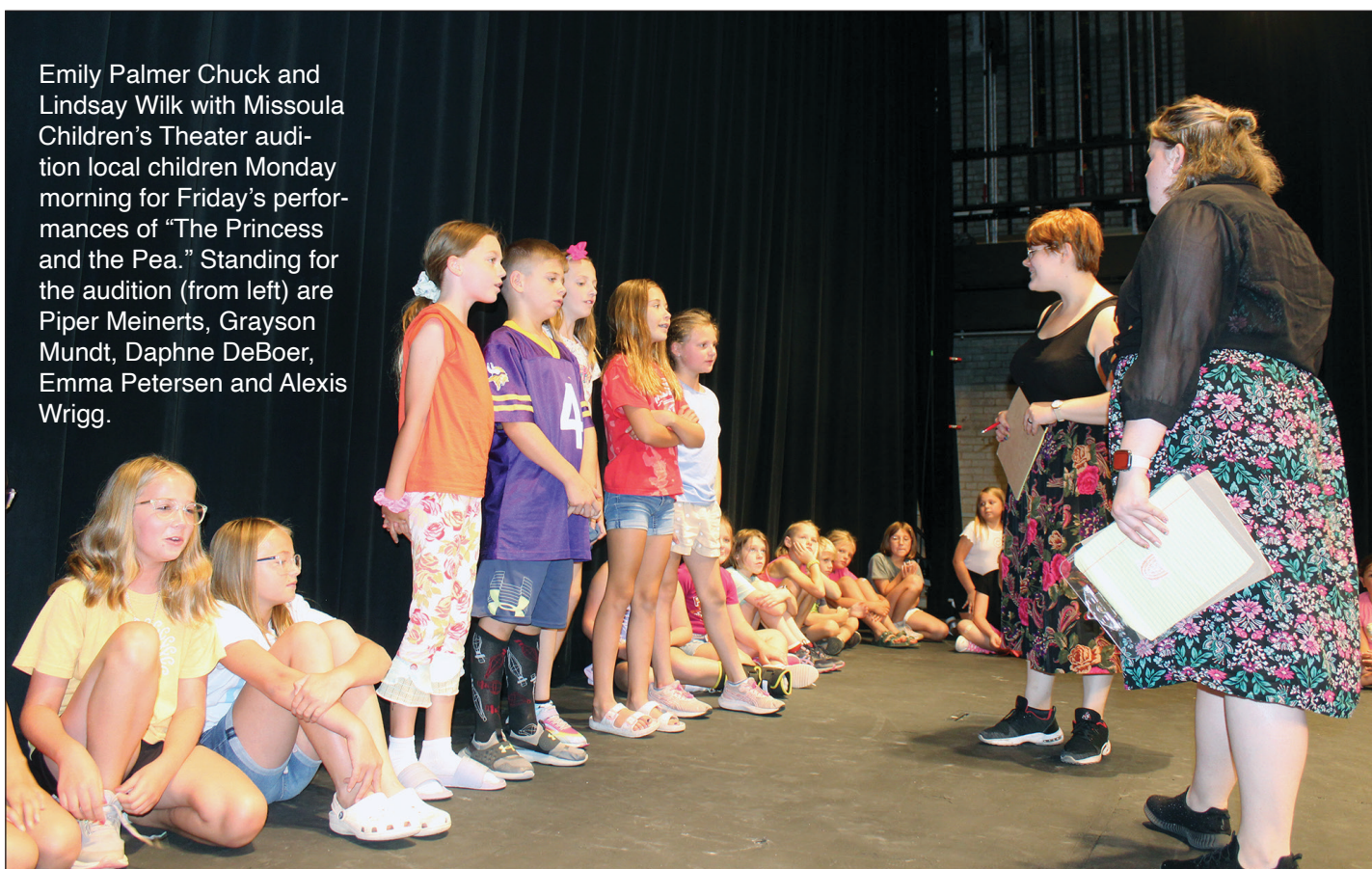
— Shawn Kinsinger,
Palace Theatre manager

Community Education.

The Missoula Children's Theater production of "The Princess and the Pea" combines the classic Hans Christian Anderson fairytale of the prince finding a true princess with the plethora of various added characters.

Those characters include winter wind workers, blizzard bringers, icicle sharpeners, snow smoothers, river runners, flower gardeners, green shoot growers and tree barkers.

Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Palace Box Office.



Emily Palmer Chuck and Lindsay Wilk with Missoula Children's Theater audition local children Monday morning for Friday's performances of "The Princess and the Pea." Standing for the audition (from left) are Piper Meinerts, Grayson Mundt, Daphne DeBoer, Emma Petersen and Alexis Wrigg.

CELEBRATIONS

Card shower

Mary Lutmer will celebrate her 90th birthday on Thursday, Aug. 10. Greetings may be sent to Minnesota Veterans Home - Luverne, Attn: Mary Lutmer, 1300 N. Kniss Ave., PO Box 539, Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU AT GENERATIONS

Monday, Aug. 7: Salisbury steak with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, dinner roll, fresh orange.

Tuesday, Aug. 8: Taco salad with salsa and sour cream, corn, fresh apple, dessert.

Wednesday, Aug. 9: Baked chicken, baked potato with sour cream, peas, bread, dessert.

Thursday, Aug. 10: Chicken salad sandwich, cucumbers, fruit.

Friday, Aug. 11: Kiel-

basa, scalloped potatoes, carrots, bread, dessert.

Half-Price Day sponsored by McClure Electric.

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.

COLLEGE NEWS

Walgrave earns master's degree

Michael Walgrave, Luverne, graduated following the Fall 2022 semester from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie, Wisconsin, with a Master of Science in Sustainable Management.

Baustian receives doctorate

Tanner Baustian, Luverne, earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the Spring 2023 semester commencement at the University of Wisconsin Madison.

1943: Fritz is one of best-known Luverne residents

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 Nov. 25, 1943.

Perhaps one of Luverne's best known residents is Frank H. Fritz, retired plumber, whose experiences if listed in chronological order and in detail would fill a good size book, and would be as interesting, perhaps, as any biography of a mid-westerner ever written.

Mr. Fritz has virtually been on "his own" since he was seven years old. One of a family of 17 children, he left home to live with his grandparents, after his grandfather had promised to give him a



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

pony.

"Grandfather was in favor of union hours," Mr. Fritz said, "only his viewpoint was somewhat different from those of this day and age. He believed in an eight-hour day,

Bits, continued on page 7

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2013)

•Luverne salon owner Diane Elbers is moving Hair Ltd. From 101 South McKenzie Street to 111 West Main (the tiny building with the "Vineyard Growth Associates" sign just west of the Manitou Hotel building).

Elbers said that one of the best parts of moving the business is "that sign will finally come down. It hasn't been Vineyard for years and years."

Elbers said the move from a larger space to a smaller one will help give her clients a more relaxing salon experience.

"I've wanted a smaller, more intimate setting so we decided, rather than go bigger with more chairs, we'd go bigger with more service."

25 years ago (1998)

•The intersection of East Maple Street and South Cedar Avenue will take on a new appearance this summer. Gary Papik plans to demolish the old Schoon/Papik Motors building later this month.

The buildings have been vacant since 1996 when Papik Motors moved to a new facility on I-90.

Papik said the buildings have been for sale since they were vacated, but that with costly repairs or demolition needed, few buyers have shown interest.

"I've got some parts of the building with the roof caved in.

I can't do anything with the building. I'll have more options with bare land. It seems that is what people are looking for when they come to town."

Economic Development Director Tony Chladek inspected the building and consulted with commercial contractor Curt Valnes and Luverne Building Inspector Joe Kauth.

In a memo, Chladek wrote, "Both buildings are clearly substandard and economically unsalvageable."

50 years ago (1973)

•Don Suprenant, owner of Myhre's Studio, has been using cameras for many years.

And during those years, he's sold a lot of them ... different makes, different sizes, and for different purposes.

But, he says, he's never been as excited about a new innovation in picture taking as he is in the new Polaroid SX-70, unless it was the original Polaroid, the first instant picture camera when it was introduced a number of years ago.

"I read about the SX-70, when it was first introduced," Don said, "and I figured it must be something with advantages that you don't get in other cameras. Now that I've seen it, I can only say it's almost unbelievable what it can do."

75 years ago (1948)

•Rock county's 1948 free fair is going to have entertain-

ment that is different, according to Secretary George Golla.

A thrill show, and two nights of midget auto racing are scheduled as entertainment for the grandstand spectators the three nights of the fair.

The nationally famous "Death Drivers" will present a thrill-packed performance on the night of August 31. They will "jump" cars over trucks, drive through flaming walls, and have a number of other chilling acts, featuring both cars and motorcycles.

Midget auto racing, featuring some of the Upper Midwest's best cars and drivers, will headline the programs on the evenings of September 1 and 2. "We've booked a good racing program for these two nights," Golla said, "and racing fans both young and old will have the time of their lives on these two nights."

100 years ago (1923)

•A new athletic organization for Luverne, to be known as the Luverne Horseshoe Club, was organized at a meeting held Monday evening at I.O.O.F. hall. Ray Geerdes was elected president of the club; John Lamm, vice president; D.W. Campbell, secretary; James McKeon, treasurer.

Three courts have been installed in the back of the McGrath building on the south side of Main street, and this has been electrically lighted and otherwise fitted out in excellent condition for playing. At least two more courts, it is expected, will be put in during the summer.

OBITUARIES

Glen Uithoven

Glen Lee Uithoven, age 60, peacefully passed away on Saturday, July 29, 2023, after a short hospitalization at Sanford Worthington Medical Center.

Glen was born August 8, 1962, the son of Marcus Jr. and Viola (VanRoekel) Uithoven in Luverne, Minnesota.

While Glen was still an infant, he was diagnosed with microcephaly, possibly the result of a severe case of rubella. While the condition prevented developmental milestones, it did not prevent Glen from having a positive impact on his family and all who interacted with him. Glen always seemed to have a positive nature and enjoyed life, usually with a mischievous grin on his face indicating that he knew something that you didn't.

In 1973, in an effort to better manage Glen's condition, he became a ward of the state and was placed in care facilities at Sauk Centre and Willmar, Minnesota, before moving to a group home in Worthington, Minnesota, in 1986. He spent the remainder of his life in Worthington which allowed easy access for his family and church friends to visit.

Glen enjoyed visits, especially a drive through the countryside and if possible, a stop for an ice cream cone.

While in Worthington, Glen was active at the Nobles County Developmental Center. When at home, and not eating, Glen enjoyed watching television, finding humor in his own special thoughts.

Glen enjoyed his 24 years working at the Nobles County

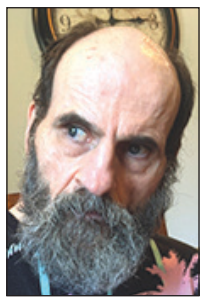
DAC in Worthington. He was known there for reminding staff of his presence by displaying his ever so loving "jazzy" side. When Glen loved you, he would let you know by his "signature" body language and giggle. Glen was full of life, even at work. He looked forward to his days at the DAC as he greeted everyone off the bus with a smile. He worked hard but enjoyed his leisure time socializing with staff as they tried getting their work done. Glen's DAC family will cherish the memories they shared with him. He will be greatly missed by all who worked with him.

Glen is lovingly survived by four siblings, Gary Uithoven of Las Cruces, New Mexico, Greg (Marilyn) Uithoven of Magnolia, Minnesota, Leanne (Jim) Zarling of Fairmont, Minnesota, and Lisa Uithoven of Omaha, Nebraska; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins; and his extended family and caring staff of adult residential homes and Nobles County D.A.C. staff.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister-in-law Marcia Uithoven; niece Amanda Uithoven; and nephew Shawn Uithoven.

A private graveside committal service for family and staff will be Friday, August 4, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Luverne.

Arrangements are under the care of Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. To sign an online registry, please visit www.hartquistfuneral.com. Memorials preferred to Nobles D.A.C.



Audrey Watzek

Audrey (DeYong) Watzek, 87, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, formerly of Luverne, Minnesota, passed away on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at Edge-wood Memory Care in Sioux Falls.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2023, at George Boom Fu-

neral Home & On-Site Crematory in Sioux Falls. Visitation will be from 3:00 until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, July 30, 2023, also at the funeral home. Additional obituary information, online guestbook, and link to view the service are available at www.georgeboom.com



Bits by Betty features Diamond Club member Frank Fritz/continued from page 6

alright; eight hours in the forenoon and eight hours into the afternoon.

"As a matter of fact," he added jokingly, "sometimes when we got up in the morning, we'd meet ourselves just coming to bed."

Born in Wisconsin

Mr. Fritz was born in Durand, Wisconsin, October 22, 1868, the son of Jacob and Caroline Fritz. His father, a cabinet maker by trade, had taken up a homestead in Wisconsin in 1858. He had served seven years as an apprentice cabinet maker in France before coming to this country, and had also served three years with the German army during the Franco-Prussian war.

After Mr. Fritz went to live his grandfather, he helped on the latter's farm until 1882. As a boy, he bound grain side by side with a man on one of the old reapers which had just come into being. He earned the first money he could call his own, however, by picking up lumber along the river and selling it to the local lumber dealer. He explained that a sawmill was located up the stream from Durand, and the finished lumber was floated down on rafts. Occasionally, lumber would fall into the

water and float onto sand bars, and it was this that he picked up and sold. He collected \$8 worth one Sunday, he recalls.

Another way he earned money was by taking fishermen out at night to spear fish. At this job, he earned as high as \$1.50 per night.

Speaking of fish spearing, he related that he can also take credit as being a professional fisherman. He speared various kinds of fish in the Chippewa river, and these

sold to the meat markets for two cents a pound. The dealers retailed the fish for four cents a pound, he said.

Learned Tinner's Trade

In 1882, he hired out to a man in Durrand to learn the tinner's trade. The first year he earned \$75, the second \$100, and the third, \$125, but during the latter year, he had to pay for his board out of his earnings. During those years, he not only helped his employer with his trade, but

he took care of his team, and milked the family cow besides. Despite the seemingly meager wages, he managed to save \$100 in those three years, and at the same time, he bought his own clothing.

He finished learning the trade in July, 1886, and he then decided to go to South Dakota to help with harvest. He got as far as Glenwood, Minn., and there he obtained work with a railroad grading crew, hauling provisions with four miles and a wagon from

Glenwood to Elbow Lake.

"I've hated a mule ever since," Mr. Fritz said, and explained his dislike for the hybrid equine by stating that every time he crossed ground that was soft underfoot, one of the mules would lie down. "The only way I could get that mule started again was to unload the wagon by packing whatever I was hauling on my back to dry ground, and then reload it again."

"Good Old Days"

In his younger days, he also did some logging in the northern woods. "Lots of times," he said. "I'd be standing in icy cold water clear up to my armpits. Those really were the good old days!"

The spring after he worked at Glenwood he came to Luverne, arriving here May 5, 1887. He immediately entered the employ of the late J.W. Gerber, pioneer hardware merchant, and worked for him until January 1893. (continues next week.)

CLASS REUNIONS



Submitted photo

LHS Class of 1968 celebrates 55th reunion

The Luverne High School Class of 1968 celebrated their 55th class reunion July 22. Attending the reunion are (front, from left) Mary (Foight) Sites, Sandy (Haakenson) Parpart, Linda (Wessels) Schoon, Cheryl (DePauw) Enger, Monica (Swenson) Hintze, Karen Rademacher, Carole (Bowman) Hemme, Dianne (Lorenzen) Ossenfort, (second) Gregg Fitzer, Keith Rapp, Tim Burns, Steve Leslie, Becky (Frakes) Sherwood, Linda (Gabrielson) Smith, Joan (Hemme) Boomgaarden, Xavier Suniga, Karen (Mann) Mensen, Larinda (Van Iperen) Braun, Bruce Ohlsen, Rodger Ossenfort, (back) Mike Olson, Lyle Utley, Rick DeBates, Al Schmuck, Ken Madison, Jim Jacobson, Dennis Oldre, Rob Fitzer, Bob Rinkel, Dan Engebretsen, Connie (Vegge) Connell, Dave Eberlein, Harlan Ott, Gregg Helland, Randy Boeve and Dave Bowen. Not pictured are Dave Mollberg, Greg Gabrielson, John Saarloos, Dale Dreessen and Kim Sandbo.



H-BC Class of 1973 meets for 50th reunion

The Hills-Beaver Class of 1973 met for their 50th class reunion on July 29 at Take 16 Brewery. Pictured are (front, from left) Lex (Van Wyhe) DeWit, Carol (Wallenburg) Nelson, Joyce (Sandager) Norton Wulf, Beth (Oolbekkink) Gravley, Laurie Schlueter-Hynes, Cathy Aykens, Carolyn (Schubbe) Randall, Sandy (Stoltenberg) Sisk, (second) Bill Stegemann, Wayne Beyenhof, Brad Larson, Rodney Bajema, Becky (Leuthold) Wulf, Lila (Bos) Kroon, (back) Darwin Hoeck, Ken McFarland, Kathie Hull, Paul Ahrendt, Don Bosch, Kristi Rollag, Merlyn Sandstede, Glenn Fick, Donna (Deragisch) Schneider.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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

Cake Decorating Camp will be Aug. 8 and 9 for students in grades 6-8 (in the 22-23 school year). Learn to bake and decorate cake. Fee is \$100.

Students in grades 3-5 (as attended during the 22-23 school year) can join **Introduction to Coding** with Block Programming on Aug. 8, 9, 10. Fee is \$60.

Boys and girls in grades 2-7 (as attended in 2022-23) can compete in **Punt, Pass and Kick** on Aug. 16. Fee is \$10.

Adults age 65 and older can register by Aug. 18 for **MN State Fair Trip** on Aug. 28. Fee is \$90 per person for this chartered bus trip, including entrance fee.

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

LUVERNE PUBLIC SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

Families that would like to register a new student for the 2023-2024 school year are encouraged to call Luverne Public Schools to set up an appointment.

The Luverne Elementary office phone number is **507-283-4497 option 4** and the Luverne Middle School/High School office phone number is **507-283-4491 option 5**.

OPEN HOUSE

AUGUST 30

Open House will be held August 30th

Elementary School 4 - 6 PM

Middle School and High School 4 - 7 PM

BACK TO SCHOOL SALE FOR THE FAMILY

Rock County EYE CLINIC

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Redbirds flying through regional opponents *Luverne wins eight straight games, qualifies for state play*

By Greg Hoogeveen

Luverne took the Region 13C playoff series against Heron Lake 2-0.

The Redbirds beat Heron Lake 15-0 at home July 26 and finished the Lakers on the road 3-0 July 29.

The Luverne Redbirds move on to the Final Four against the Hadley Buttermakers in a best-of-three series while qualifying for the state tournament.

Luverne's first game against Hadley will be at Redbird Field at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2.

Game 2 will be in Hadley Saturday, Aug 5, at Laurie Mahon Field.

Game 3, if needed, will be at Redbird Field Sunday, Aug. 6, at 2 p.m.

Redbirds 15, Lakers 0

The No. 1-seeded Redbirds hosted No. 8-seeded Heron Lake Wednesday, July 26, beating the Lakers 15-0 in Game 1 of a possible three-game series in the Region 13C tournament.

Ben Serie dominated the mound, striking out 11 of the 26 batters he faced.

Serie pitched seven innings, allowing zero runs on three hits in the game.

The first three innings went by without a score from either team.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, Nick Smith ignited the team



Redbirds catcher Declan Beers scoops up a bunt and throws out the Heron Lake batter at first base. Luverne beat the Lakers 15-0 July 26 at home to take Game 1 in the Region 13C playoffs.

by successfully stealing home from third base on a sleeping Lakers infield.

"I felt like we needed a spark, and I took my chance stealing home for the first run," Smith said.

Smith started the drive by stealing second base, advanced to third on an overthrow at second, and stole home when Heron Lake was still gathering the ball in the infield.

Many team members congratulated him on his heads-up play.

From there Derek Lundgren doubled to center, scoring Newt Johnson and Casey Sehr.

Jake Haugen singled a line drive to center field to score Lundgren.

Skyler Wenninger singled to left field, driving in Haugen.

Smith finished the big inning drive by singling a deep ball to center to score Skyler Wenninger and Ben Serie.

Luverne was able to add eight more runs in the sixth inning, closing the door on any hopes Heron Lake may have had on making it a closer game.

In the sixth inning, Haugen stole second base, drawing a throw to tag him out. Cade Wenninger was able to easily score from third base on the throw.

Smith singled to center field and advanced to second on a late throw by Heron Lake back to second base.

Skyler Wenninger was able to score from second on the play, and Serie advanced to third base.

A few minutes later Serie was able to score on a wild pitch.

Sehr singled to left, scoring Smith, and Johnson advanced to third.

Declan Beers singled to right field scoring Johnson.

Redbirds rolling /see page 11

Minnesota DNR posts hunting regulations online; significant changes in store for this fall

Deer hunters will have more ways to hunt in Minnesota this fall, and deer hunting licenses can be purchased starting Aug. 1.

"We're excited for deer season. Hunters have a lot to look forward to this year," said Barb Keller, big game program leader. "We encourage all hunters to review the new hunting regulations and make a plan for hunting success."

New this year, crossbows are allowed for all deer hunters with an archery license, synthetic ground blinds on public lands are required to have blaze orange cover-

ing, some chronic wasting disease zones have changed, nontoxic ammunition will be required for special hunts in state parks or in scientific and natural areas where hunting is allowed, and some harvest limits are reduced in northeast and north-central Minnesota while most areas have similar bag limits as last year.

Deer hunting specifics can be found on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/hunting/deer). Electronic copies of all 2023 Minnesota hunting regulations are available now online (mndnr.gov/

Hunting regulations /see page 11



Mavis Fodness photo/0803 H-BC Gym Floor

Nicole Hahn (left) and Laurel Behrend finish painting the words "Hills-Beaver Creek" on the gymnasium sideline.

Hills-Beaver Creek gym receives makeover

FLR Sanding of Princeton began refinishing the gymnasium floor at the Hills-Beaver Creek Secondary School in Hills this summer, and on July 26 workers began painting the lines and new school logo.

A scheduling conflict moved the project from last

summer to this July. The \$28,150 project was finished July 27.

The gym project is among other building improvements the district is working on to prepare for the start of the 2023-24 school year Sept. 5.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0803 redbirds smith

Nick Smith gets Luverne on the board first, stealing home in a broken play by Heron Lake that ignited a seven-score inning in the Redbirds' 15-0 win July 29 at Redbird Field.

Region 13C baseball playoff recap

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Redbirds swooped in and knocked Heron Lake out of the Region 13C playoffs, beating the Lakers 15-0 Wednesday, July 26, and 3-0 Saturday, July 29 in a best-of-three series.

Here is a recap of other Region 13C baseball playoff action.

Game 1 Wednesday July 26
Windom 6, Hadley 3
Fairmont 10, Lakefield 0
Jackson 17, Milroy 0

Game 2 Friday July 28
Fairmont 10, Lakefield 0 - Martins win Series 2-0 and clinch a

state berth
Jackson 2, Milroy 1 - Bulls win series 2-0 and clinch a state berth

Game 2 Saturday July 29
Hadley 5, Windom 0 - Buttermakers tie Series 1-1

Game 3 Sunday July 30
Hadley 10, Windom 6 - Buttermakers win Series 2-1 and clinch final state berth

The final four winning teams are Luverne, Hadley, Fairmont and Jackson, and per league rules, they were able to draft one pitcher from the eight teams eliminated to join their team

to help with pitching in the remainder of the tournament.

The Luverne Redbirds drafted Collin Lovell from the Windom Pirates, Fairmont drafted Ross Ackerman from the Windom Pirates, Hadley drafted Luke Gilbertson from the Windom Pirates, and Jackson drafted Brandon Alfson from the Pipestone A's.

After the final four series, the two teams remaining will get to draft two more pitchers from the eliminated teams.

Weekly regional racing results including Rock County Fair Enduro

Following are racing results for local drivers competing in Luverne, Rock Rapids, Hartford, Slayton, Worthington and Brandon for the week of July 25-31.

Rock County Speedway July 29 Luverne, MN Rock County Fair Enduro Race Class A

1st-#46 Stacey Krohnberg, 200 laps
2nd-#78 Trey Anderson, 194 laps
3rd-#16 Scott Jones 189 laps
4th-#79 Carter Anderson, 185 laps
5th-#36 Andy Krohnberg, 169 Laps
6th-#12 Steven DeJong, 113 laps
7th-#70 Nick Van Belle, 84 laps
8th-#51 Brian Campbell, 64 laps
9th-#5 Josh Connell, 62 laps
10th-#8 Brent Whitcomb, 60 laps
11th-#17 Alex Obermoller, 2 laps

Class B
1st-#40 Chase Overgaard, 189 laps
2nd-#20 Jasmine Kalass, 189 laps
3rd-#9 Brody Goemmel, 180 laps
4th-#58 Adam Jackson, 160 laps
5th-#5 Collin Schoneman, 78 laps
6th-#2 Austin Kiggins, 65 laps

Rapid Speedway July 28 Rock Rapids, IA Sportsmen

8th-#24H Brock Harnack, Hills
DNF-#17 Brandon Boeve, Beaver Creek
DNF-#5 Colin Schoneman, Steen
Hobby Stock
1st-#22E Eric Gaul, Luverne
B-Modifieds
5th-#52 Trevor Kracht, Luverne
Stock Cars



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0803 #46 enduro

Stacey Krohnberg of Walters, Minnesota, won the 2023 Rock County Fair Enduro Race at the Rock County Speedway Saturday, July 29. Krohnberg finished with 200 laps within the two-hour time limit.

1st-#46 Colton Arends, Luverne
2nd-#40 Scott Overgaard, Luverne
5th-#69 Cadyn Wessels, Luverne
8th-#4D Cory Kelderman, Hills
11th-#21 Larry Kracht, Magnolia
12th-#15 Thomas Kracht, Luverne

**Murray County Speedway
July 28 Slayton, MN
No local drivers**

**I-90 Speedway
July 29 Hartford, SD**

Hobby Stock
12th-#10 Blake Schneekloth, Brandon

**Worthington Speedway
July 29 Hartford, SD
No races**

**Huset's Speedway
July 30 Brandon, SD
Sprint Car**
10th-#96 Blaine Stegenga Valley Springs
Street Stock
16th-#20K Spenser Kalass, Luverne

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. 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

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 6:30 p.m. Evening worship service. We are streaming Sunday services live on YouTube at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Send him 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](mailto: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.gracelutheran.org
graceluv@iw.net

Thursday, Aug. 3: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Saturday, Aug. 5: No activities. Sunday, Aug. 6: 9 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion. Tuesday, Aug. 8: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. 6:45 p.m. Ministry meetings. 8 p.m. PPC meeting. Wednesday, Aug. 9: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online worship: Sundays 9 a.m. at www.graceluv.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. 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, Aug. 3: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew. Friday, Aug. 4: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. Wedding rehearsal. Church Campout Fri-Sun. Saturday, Aug. 5: Morgan Stratton and Luke Daniels wedding. Sunday, Aug. 6: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 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. Tuesday, Aug. 1: 12 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Aug. 2: 6:30 p.m. Apologetics study. Thursday, Aug. 3: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew.

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

Wednesday, Aug. 2: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. 6:15 p.m. FUEL and Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Friday, Aug. 3: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Salad Luncheon. Saturday, Aug. 5: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, Aug. 6: 9:30 a.m. FUEL/Adult Sunday School. 9:45 a.m. Coffee. 10:30 a.m. Worship service. Live streamed on Facebook and radio. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible study. Monday, Aug. 7: 6:30 p.m. Genesis to revelation Bible study. Tuesday, Aug. 8: 1:30 p.m. Sewn in Faith. Wednesday, Aug. 9: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Aug. 10: 1-3 p.m. Salad Luncheon.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; [email: fpcemillie@gmail.com](mailto:fpcemillie@gmail.com)

Sunday, Aug. 6: 9:30 a.m. In-person Worship service. 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). 10:30 a.m. Fellowship coffee hour. Wednesday,

Aug. 9: 7 p.m. Committee meetings.

St. John Lutheran Church
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316; [email: stjohn@iw.net](mailto:stjohn@iw.net)
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org

Saturdays: 5:30 p.m. Worship Service. Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 10 a.m. Fellowship Time. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study. Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Bible Study. 6:30 p.m. Catechesis Class. 6:30 p.m. Kids for Christ. 7:30 p.m. Youth Group. 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.

Rock River Community Church
1075 110th Ave., Luverne

Ph. 507-283-9070; email: info@rockrivercommunity.church
Bob Junak, Pastor

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.

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;

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

Sunday, Aug. 6: 10 a.m. JOINT Worship at First Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @FirstLutheranValley Springs; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.

Ph. (507) 597-6257 palisadechurch@alliancecom.net
www.palisadelutheran.org

Sunday, Aug. 6: 10 a.m. JOINT Worship at First Lutheran Church. All are welcome. 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. Worship Service 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

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 9 a.m. Sunday school. 10 a.m. Worship Service. 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
Praveen Muthasamy, Pastor

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 5 p.m. Evening worship service.

Jesus gives us true rest

Our family recently enjoyed a vacation out to Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. It was amazing to view this part of our country and witness God's beautiful creation there.

We also enjoyed family time together and time for rest in our cabin after hiking awe-inspiring trails near waterfalls and tranquil lakes.

In Matthew 11:28 Jesus issues a gracious invitation: "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Jesus speaks to all who are burdened with the weight of their guilt and mistakes, with the many problems of this life, of trying to please God by their own efforts. Is Jesus speaking to you? Then he is inviting you to come and receive the rest he freely offers.

Jesus' words in the Bible addressed people who knew what it was to labor and be heavy-laden. The Pharisees (Jewish religious leaders) would load heavy weights on people's backs. They taught that the law was something you could keep if you worked hard enough. That was how you could be counted righteous before God – by your works. And that is a heavy burden to bear. Only the best and most dedicated could hope to live up to that standard.

The Pharisees thought they could manage the law and master it. But what they did was to take the teeth out of the law so they could outwardly keep it. Take, for example, the Sabbath commandment. People should rest from their work on the Sabbath in order to hear God's Word. But instead, the Pharisees made up their own regulations – how many steps one could take on a Sabbath day's journey – and they missed the whole point. They turned it into a manageable law, one they could master. But that really sidesteps the force of the law. God's law is meant to show us the sinfulness of our heart. It exposes us as sinners who do not want to do God's will. In this way, God shows us our need for a Savior.

But the Pharisees deluded themselves into thinking they were keeping God's law. To make themselves seem righteous, they also had to look better than everyone else. That was their game. What was the effect this had on people? They felt weighted down, burdened. By directing them to the law and the added human regulations, the Pharisees tied heavy loads on people's backs. It was unbearable.

The law is a heavy yoke that you and I are not able to bear. Keeping

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Andrew Palmquist
Bethany Lutheran Church,
Luverne

all the commandments of God is an enormous weight, and we are not strong enough to lift it. This battle within us, the conflict between the new person who wants to obey God and the Old Adam who serves only self is real, and it weighs heavily on our conscience.

Do you realize that you have not loved God as you should, that you have not loved your neighbor as well as you could? That you have not kept God's commandments, and that the law of God condemns you as a sinner and sentences you to death?

Friends, it is only through Christ that you are delivered, that the load is lifted, the burden removed. That's why Jesus can say to you today, "Come to me, and I will give you rest." Jesus is the only one who can do this for you. He is the only one strong enough to carry the load that is the weight of the law. That's what our Savior did. He kept God's law completely in our place.

Then Jesus did something more. He died the death of sinners, hanging on a cross, suspended between heaven and earth, mocked by men and forsaken by God. That is a heavy load to bear. Jesus really did carry the weight of the world on his shoulders. Christ carried the sins of us all to the cross.

The weight of your sins has been lifted. That heavy load is gone, just as surely as the huge stone was rolled away on Easter morning. Sin is forgiven, death is destroyed. Jesus now says to you: "Come to me, and I will give you rest." What a relief! What rest for our souls!

Come to Jesus, and find the rest you need. Rest for those worn out by their own sins. Rest for weary Christians who are troubled by the internal battle within. Rest from all the burdens of sadness and pain, heartache and loss.

Come and find true spiritual rest in Christ, both for this life and for the age to come – peace with God, the forgiveness of sins and the certain hope of eternal rest in heaven. Come to God's house and experience this true rest!

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Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

ISD #2184 School Board meets June 22

MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2184, ROCK COUNTY, LUVERNE, MINNESOTA

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, ISD #2184, was held in the District Office on June 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Ryan DeBates, Eric Hartman, Tim Jarchow, and Zach Nolz. Absent: Michael DeBates, Randy Saker, and David Wrigg. Also present: Craig Oftedahl, Tyler Reisch, Ryan Johnson, Jason Phelps, Becky Rahm, and Mavis Fodness - Rock County Star Herald.

Chairperson Tim Jarchow opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. It was noted there is an addendum to the agenda. Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Ryan DeBates, to approve the agenda with addendum as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl shared a video from the Minnesota State High School League titled "More Than Membership, Partnership".

Administrative reports were given.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to approve the May 25, 2023, school board meeting minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to accept the following donations:

- Miles and Mary Brown - \$100 for Angel Fund
- Papik Motors - \$100 for FCCLA
- Sioux Valley Energy - \$1,500 for Robotics Team

Motion unanimously carried.

Business Manager Tyler Reisch reviewed the bills with the School Board. Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Zach Nolz, to approve payment of the Student Activity and District bills as presented in the amount of \$1,118,207.12 with payroll in the amount of \$2,244,152.33 for a total of \$3,352,359.45. It was noted that this includes the payroll for teaching staff. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Ryan DeBates, to receive the Student Activity report showing the balances as of May 31, 2023. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Zach Nolz, to approve the Annual Title Grant Authorization. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Zach Nolz, second by Eric Hartman, to officially adopt a revised school calendar for the 2022-2023 school year showing the last day with students as May 26, 2023. The school district had 167 student days. We met all requirements for the number of teaching minutes required by the Minnesota Department of Education. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Ryan DeBates, to request bakery products quotations be received by July 14, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Motion unanimously carried. Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Ryan DeBates, to request dairy products bids be received by July 14, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Ryan DeBates, to authorize Conway, Deuth & Schmiessing, PLLP, to conduct the audit of the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to authorize the auditor to make those final transfers and adjustments, when they audit the finances, that are necessary and according to general accounting principles, resolutions, and standards. Motion unanimously carried.

Business Manager Tyler Reisch presented a very preliminary budget for the 2023-2024 which was necessary in order to continue financial business beyond June 30, 2023. He noted he is still waiting for information from the Minnesota Department of Education in regard to the funding the school district will receive for the 2023-2024 school year. The preliminary revenue budget is \$18,794,260.00 and the preliminary expenditure budget is \$19,586,536.00. Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Eric Hartman, to approve this preliminary budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Zach Nolz, second by Ryan DeBates, to continue membership in the Minnesota School Board Association with dues in the amount of \$4,934.00 and policy services in the amount of \$750. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Eric Hartman, to continue membership in the Minnesota Rural Education Association with dues in the amount of \$2,364.00. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Zach Nolz, second by Ryan DeBates, to set the following adult food service prices: \$3.50 per meal for breakfast and \$5.50 per meal for lunch. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to set the following non-classified staff rate of pay to be effective July 1, 2023: Housekeepers - \$16.00 per hour and Two-Hour Food Service Workers - \$15.50 per hour. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Ryan DeBates, to set the following transportation rates of pay to be effective July 1, 2023:

- Regular Route - \$100 per day
- Sioux Falls Route - \$100 per day
- Pipestone Route - \$100 per day
- Preschool Route - \$50 per day
- Activity Trips - \$18.00 per hour
- Daily Overnight Trip - \$135.00 per day

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to approve the Agreement to Extend Probationary Period for Lindsey Schomacker, Special Education Teacher through the 2023-2024 school year. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Zach Nolz, to approve the following summer school contracts: Matt Fodness - 15 days - Agriculture - \$3,491.60 and Lindsey Schomacker - 45 hours - MS/HS Special Education - \$1,701.45. Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl reviewed information from the Minnesota Department of Transportation in regard to the landscaping and ADA ramp by the tennis courts. Member Eric Hartman introduced the following resolution that was duly seconded by Member Ryan DeBates:

IT IS RESOLVED that the Independent School District 2184 enter into Limited Use Permit No. 6705-0003 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for maintenance and use by the Independent School District 2184 upon, along and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 75 and the limits of which are defined in said Limited Use Permit.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the School Board of the Independent School District 2184, Luverne, Minnesota, that the Superintendent is authorized to execute the Limited Use Permit.

A roll call vote was taken. Those who voted in favor of the resolution: Eric Hartman, Tim Jarchow, Zach Nolz, and Ryan DeBates; those who voted against the resolution: none; those who were absent: Michael DeBates, Randy Saker and David Wrigg. The resolution was passed.

Superintendent Oftedahl reviewed Policy 516.5 - Overdose Medication with the School Board. This policy is required by recent legislation that was adopted by the State of Minnesota. This policy was developed by the Minnesota School Board Association. This is the first reading of this policy. The second reading will be held at the July 27, 2023, school board meeting.

Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to accept the retirement of Cathy Rust, Elementary Teacher, effective May 26, 2023. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Eric Hartman, to approve the hiring of Stacy Thone as Prom Advisor. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Ryan DeBates, second by Zach Nolz, to approve the hiring of Sara Weber as Prom Advisor. Motion unanimously carried.

There were no committee reports. Superintendent Oftedahl did mention that the Policy Committee may need to meet to review policies that may be affected by legislative changes.

The upcoming meeting dates were reviewed. Motion made by Eric Hartman, second by Zach Nolz, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. Dated: June 22, 2023

David Wrigg, Clerk
(08-03)

H-BC School Board meets July 10

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671

Minutes

July 10, 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 and Uittenbogaard. Superintendent Holthaus and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Principal Kellenberger and Board members Bosch and Rozeboom were absent.

Motion by Helgeson, second by Harnack, and carried to approve the agenda. Addition to the agenda: 8.3.

Visitors to the meeting were Mavis Fodness - Rock County Star Herald, Megan Klumper and Samantha McGaffee.

Chairman Summary of Superintendent Evaluation for the 2022-2023 School Year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Policy 6/26/2023

Motion by Rauk, second by Harnack, and carried to approve Consent Agenda:

- Minutes—6/26/2023
- Bills
- Fiscal Year 2025 Long Term Facility Maintenance Statement of Assurances -Calling for requests for quotes of Liquid Propane and Fuel Oil for the 23-24 school year. Quotes due to the district office by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, August 9, 2023.
- Wire Transfer for July 24, 2023, Scheduled Bond Payment -2013A&2019ABonds -Set 2015 Dodge Caravan As Excess District Property and direct the Superintendent to liquidate.
- Accepting Katie Schreurs resignation as related services nurse effective end of workday July 12, 2023
- Assigning Lydia Scruggs as Middle Level Communication Arts/Literature 1 FTE for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- Hiring Allesia Kolles as K-12 Vocal Music Teacher for the 2023-2024 School Year
- First Reading Policies:
 - 102- Equal Educational Opportunity
 - 418- Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School
 - 419- Tobacco-Free Environment
 - 424- License Status
 - 425- Staff Development
 - 506- Student Discipline
 - 507- Corporal Punishment and Prone Restraint
 - 509- Enrollment of Nonresident Students
 - 513 Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design
 - 514 Bullying Prohibition Policy
 - 516.5- Overdose Medication
 - 524- Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy
 - 532- Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams
 - 534- School Meals Policy
 - 602- Organization of School Calendar and School Day
 - 603- Curriculum Development
 - 604- Instructional Curriculum
 - 613- Graduation Requirements
 - 616- School District System Accountability
 - 617- School District Insurance of Standards
 - 708- Assessments of Student Achievement
 - 620- Credit for Learning
 - 621- Literacy and the Read Act
 - 624- Online Instruction
 - 708- Transportation of Nonpublic School Students
 - 709- Students Transportation Safety Policy
 - 806- Crisis Management Policy

Motion by Rauk, second by Harnack, and carried to approve Resolution adopting Independent School District no. 671 FY 2025 long-term facilities maintenance ten-year plan.

Motion by Uittenbogaard, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve purchase of 2023 Honda Minivan as part of the District's ESSER Funds to replace existing Dodge Caravan.

Motion by Harnack, second by Uittenbogaard, and carried to approve high quote for the sale of the 2012 Chevrolet Impala.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

-Superintendent Report

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Regular Board meeting, Monday, July 24

Regular Board meeting, Monday, August 14

Motion by Harnack, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve adjournment of meeting.

Time of Adjournment: 7:40 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(08-03)

Mortgage foreclosure sale set for Aug. 31

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 3, 2004

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$42,800.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Steven K. Baumgard and Rosalia H. Baumgard, Husband and

Wife

MORTGAGEE: First Premier Bank

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: March 16, 2004, Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 158299

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

And assigned to: Washington Mutual Bank, FA

Dated: March 3, 2004

Recorded: March 16, 2004, Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 158300

And assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association

Dated: December 23, 2021

Recorded: December 27, 2021, Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 201638

And assigned to: Community Loan Servicing, LLC

Dated: December 23, 2021

Recorded: December 27, 2021, Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 201639

And assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

Dated: June 28, 2022

Recorded: June 28, 2022, Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 202740

Transaction Agent: Not Applicable

Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: Not Applicable

Lender/Broker/Mortgage Originator: First Premier Bank

Residential Mortgage Servicer: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock

Property Address: 109 S. Cottage Grove Ave, Luverne, MN 56156

Tax Parcel ID Number: 20-0855-000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The S 1/2 of Lot in Block 3 in Kniss

Park Addition to the City of Luverne, Rock County, Minnesota

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$31,275.57

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: August 31, 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 February 29, 2024, or the next business day if February 29, 2024, 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: July 5, 2023

MORTGAGEE: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

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

(07-13, 07-20, 07-27, 08-03, 08-10, 08-17)

City of Beaver Creek Public Hearing Notice

The Beaver Creek City Council will hold a public hearing on **August 7th at 7 pm** in the Council Chambers located at **301 E First Ave** for proposed ordinance amending Beaver Creek City Code, Chapter 4 – Beer, Wine and Liquor licensing and regulation to remove the requirement of beer, liquor and on-sale wine licenses not be located within a certain distance from schools or churches if the license existed before the school or church was constructed. Copies of the full text of the proposed amendment are available for review at the City Clerk's office. Interested agencies, groups, or persons attending the public hearing shall have the right to provide written or oral comment.

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DEADLINE FOR LEGALS IS MONDAY AT 10 A.M.

Redbirds rolling/from page 8

Cade Wenninger singled on a ground ball to center field, scoring Sehr and Beers. Ethan Beyer then came in to bat for Skyler Wenninger. Beyer was able to single on a fly ball to right field, scoring Lundgren for the Redbirds' fifteenth point. The Redbirds now lead Heron Lake 1-0 in the three-game series. Luverne will travel to Heron Lake for Game 2 Saturday, July 29. If a third game is needed, Luverne will host Heron Lake Sunday, July 30.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0803 redbirds haugen Jake Haugen strikes the ball for a single. Haugen had two hits, one run and one RBI July 29 at home. The Redbirds beat the Lakers 15-0 in the first playoff game in the series.

BOX Score

Inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	FINAL
Heron	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RBirds	0	0	0	7	0	8	x	15

BATTING

Luverne	AB	R	H	RBI
S. Wenninger	4	2	2	1
Beyer	1	0	1	1
Serie	4	2	2	0
Smith	3	2	2	3
Ripka	1	0	0	0
Johnson	3	2	1	0
Sehr	4	2	3	1
Beers	4	1	1	1
Lundgren	3	2	1	2
C. Wenninger	4	1	2	2
Haugen	3	1	2	1

2B: Lundgren
Total Bases: Sehr 3, Lundgren 2, Serie, C. Wenninger 2, Haugen 2, Smith 2, S. Wenninger 2, Beers, Johnson, Beyer

PITCHING

Luverne	IP	H	R	ER	SO
Serie	7	3	0	0	11

Pitches-Strikes: Serie 114-84
Batters Faced: Serie 26

Redbirds 3, Lakers 0
 On Saturday, July 29, the Redbirds beat the Lakers 3-0

in Heron Lake in Game 2 of their playoff series.

Haugen took the mound for the Redbirds, pitching nine innings, allowing one hit and zero runs, while striking out six batters.

Luverne scored first in the top of the first inning when Serie hit a ground ball to the shortstop and was thrown out at first. Lundgren was able to score on the throw to first.

In the second inning Gaige Nath bunted and reached first on an error and took second base on the same error, driving Haugen home from second base.

The Redbirds' final run came in the seventh inning with Johnson singling to left field, scoring Lundgren from first base.

BOX Score

Inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	F
RBirds	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
HRHL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15

BATTING

Luverne	AB	R	H	RBI
Lundgren	5	2	1	0
Sehr	5	0	1	1
Serie	5	0	1	1
Johnson	3	0	2	1
Overgaard	0	0	0	0
Beers	5	0	1	0
Haugen	4	1	1	0
Ripka	4	0	1	0
Nath	4	0	1	0
Maurer	2	0	0	0

2B: Nath, Lundgren
Total Bases: Johnson 2, Nath 2, Lundgren 2, Beers, Serie, Ripka, Haugen

PITCHING

Luverne	IP	H	R	ER	SO
Haugen	9	1	0	0	6

Pitches-Strikes: Haugen 86-73
Batters Faced: Haugen 30

Deer hunting regulations/from page 8

regulations/hunting). Printed copies will be available by the end of August wherever licenses are sold.

After a tough winter, deer hunters in northern Minnesota might see fewer deer. In central and southern Minnesota, deer likely fared well.

"Hunters in most of Minnesota can expect a season similar to last year in terms of how many deer they can harvest," Keller said. "The lower bag limits in northeast and north-central Minnesota aim to allow deer populations to recover after back-to-back severe winters.

Deer are resilient and we are hopeful deer populations there will gradually recover along with lower harvests, especially if we get some mild winters."

The Minnesota DNR increased the bag limit or lottery permits in 12 deer permit areas this year, 80 DPAs have the same designation as last year, and 38 DPAs have reduced bag limits or lottery permits.

Information about specific DPA bag limits and other season information is available on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/hunting/deer).

The crossbow change allows all hunters who purchase an archery deer license to take deer with a crossbow throughout the archery deer season. Previously, only hunters 60 years or older, individuals with a disability who had a valid permit, or any hunter with a valid firearms license hunting during the firearms season could use crossbows. Hunters will be asked whether they harvested their deer

with a crossbow or vertical bow when they register their deer.

The change on ground blinds requires that fabric or synthetic blinds on public land must have a blaze orange safety covering on top of the blind that is visible from all directions, or a patch made of blaze orange that is at least 144 square inches (12x12 inches) on each side of the blind. CWD sampling continues.

It's important for hunters to get their deer tested in CWD zones. This year, some DPAs were added to CWD zones and some were removed. Hunters should check the requirements and available sampling options for the DPAs where they hunt.

Hunters can find this DPA-specific information by visiting the make a plan tool (mndnr.gov/deerhunt).

Hunters are required to have their deer 1 year or older sampled for CWD in all CWD management and surveillance zones during the opening weekend of the firearms A season (Nov. 4-5).

In all areas outside CWD management and surveillance zones, hunters will have other options to get their deer sampled for CWD.

Sampling options (mndnr.gov/cwd/cwd-testing.html) include requesting a mail-in kit (mndnr.gov/cwd/cwd-kits.html) before hunting or utilizing kits obtained but not used last year. Hunters also may participate in the partner sampling program (mndnr.gov/cwd/cwd-partners.html).

Visit the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/cwd) throughout the deer season for the most up-to-date information, find sampling locations or request a mail-in sampling kit.

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

GARAGE SALES

Rummage Sale: 817 N. Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne. Thursday, Aug. 10: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Clothing, toys, household items. (8.3)

CARDS OF THANKS

From the family of Earl Madison, we would like to thank everyone for their support and kindness during our time of great loss. A huge shoutout to the ER personnel both in Luverne and Sioux Falls, Sanford, for all their help, compassion and kindness trying to save our father, grandfather and husband. Many thanks to Dingmann Funeral Home, Monsignor Colletti, family, friends and community who showed support and kindness. Also to the ladies who served the perfect "farm lunch." We are forever humbled and grateful. Words do not adequately express our feelings. (7.29-8.3)

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FOR SALE

HILLS-BEAVER CREEK ISD #671

FOR SALE: 2015 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN

The Hills-Beaver Creek ISD #671 Board of Education has designated the following item as excess property and has placed the item for sale.

2015 Dodge Caravan Details:

- Odometer - 173,170 miles
- Exterior: Silver
- Interior: Black Cloth Seats
- 2nd row captains chairs and 3rd row bench seats
- Brand New Tires - less than 100 miles
- ITEM SOLD AS IS NO WARRANTY

PROCESS: Sealed quote must be submitted by Noon on Monday, August 14, 2023. Quotes received at 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN 56138 District Office. BUYERS MUST USE SEALED QUOTE FORM available at the District Office or <https://tinyurl.com/56y9z5n>

ACTION: Hills-Beaver Creek Board of Education will act on quotes at their Meeting the evening of August 14, 2023. Hills-Beaver Creek Board of Education Reserves the right to refuse any and/or all quotes submitted.

Questions about the vehicle or to test drive, contact Dalton Bass at 507-962-3240 x2400 OR d.bass@isd671.net.

Vehicle Located at 205 E 2nd St., Hills, MN, for your viewing.

FOR SALE

EMPLOYMENT

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KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 has FT paraprofessional position opening for 2023-2024. Apply at www.kms.k12.mn.us or send letter of interest, resume and three letters of recommendation to: KMS District Office, Box 168, Kerkhoven, MN 56252

KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 has Special Education Teaching position beginning Fall 2023. Qualifications: Current MN Education license. Apply: www.kms.k12.mn.us. Attach letter of interest, resume, copy of license, transcripts and three letters of recommendation.

KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 has middle school level Math Teaching position beginning Fall 2023. Qualifications: Current MN Education license. Apply: www.kms.k12.mn.us. Attach letter of interest, resume, copy of license, transcripts, three letters of recommendation.

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Rock County Fair/from page 1

down due to the heat — with lots of local pullers,” Lee said. “We look forward to bringing it back next year.”

Friday night, July 28, brought the first Ag Olympics to the grandstand with a few more people coming to watch participants compete in the five events.

Lee said nine four-person teams competed for the gold medal.

The enduro races closed the grandstand activities on Saturday night.

The weather was also more cooperative.

“With the low car count this year, that didn’t stop people from coming out to watch the race,” Lee said. “We had great attendance and the attendees were very

patient with us as we had difficulties with our scoring system.”

Overall, Lee is pleased with the community response to the annual event.

“As soon as it cooled off, the community came out and supported the fair,” he said. “The compliments we received in regard to the variety of vendors providing entertainment to all ages was great.”

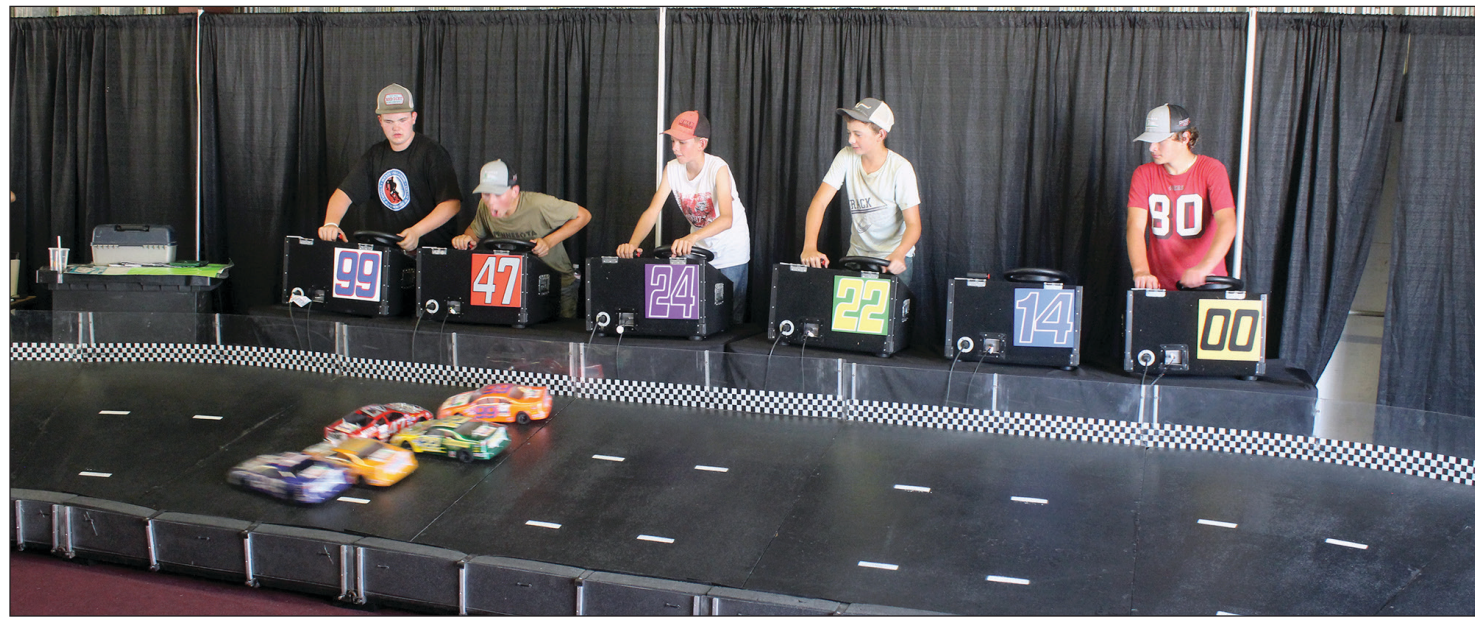
Many of those vendors are being booked for 2024.

“I want to personally thank the community for all their support and the fair board for all their hard work,” Lee said. “Without the help of all our board members, the fair would not be what it is.”

Right: “Bubbler & Juggler” Steve Russell entertains diners outside the 4-H Food Stand. **Below:** Cooper Cauwels (from left), Adam Ossefoort, Owen Overgaard, Kale Versteeg and Vaughn Sandbulte compete in the remote control car races.

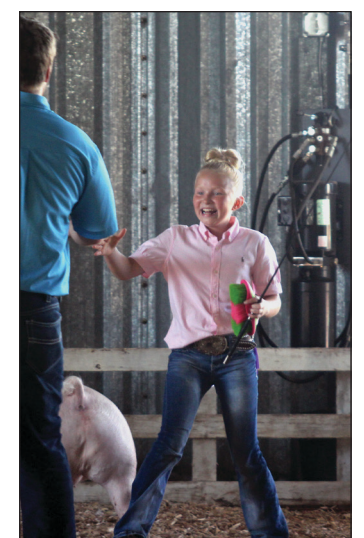


Photos by Mavis Fodness



Above: Annie Lovett (left) and Brenna Reker enjoy a carnival ride Friday afternoon. **Below:** Morgan Bonnett reacts to the sudden tilt of the wheelbarrow by teammates Madi Wenzel and Rayden Boyenga during Friday night’s Ag Olympics.

Above: Daniel Sima watches the judge, Jackson Neil, in the junior 4-H beef showmanship class Friday morning. **Above, right:** Casey Christensen, caricature artist, draws Teresa Gengler Petersen holding son, Leo, with grandmother Marcella Gengler. **Below, left:** Christina Koedam holds her son Matthew’s baby beef entry Friday morning during the 4-H beef show. **Below, center:** Reagan Spath exhibits her horse, Lucky, in Friday’s intermediate English pleasure class. **Below, right:** Ivy Tiesler reacts happily to judge Austin Rohrs selecting her hog as reserve champion barrow.



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Congrats to last week’s winner, Denise Lee!!

There were **29** ice cream cones hidden!

Thanks for Playing!

Keep watching for more opportunities to play and win in the future!

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