



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, August 31, 2023

City to build \$1M hangar to meet rent demand

By Lori Sorenson

A \$1 million six-unit hangar and taxilane construction project is included in next year's airport capital improvement plan.

Luverne City Council members approved the project and CIP at their Tuesday, Aug. 22, regular meeting.

"This has been in the long-term plan for years, and this just follows the CIP," said Mayor Pat Baustian.

Council member Kevin Aaker serves on the airport board and said the project will meet a longstanding demand for hangar space.

"We have a considerable backlog of people who want to rent, and it just seems to keep growing," he said, adding that a recently constructed hangar is already full.

The six-unit T-hangar will accommodate six planes with rent payments of \$660 per quarter for each plane.

Rental payments are applied toward the city's share of construction costs.

"I think it's a good investment," said City Attorney Ben Vander Kooi. "Because frankly you're getting more planes in, more fuel sold and more activity. I think it's a great thing and a justified expense."

The project is shown in the airport's 2024 budget, with additional reimbursements in 2025 and 2026 as additional funding becomes available.

Airport hangar/see page 5

Flying driving and eating pancakes



Jan Fodness (right) and Roxie Olson admire a restored 1948 Chevrolet Road Master with a Chevrolet Nomad.

The annual Fly-In or Drive-In at Luverne Municipal Airport drew visitors from the tri-state area Saturday morning when car and airplane enthusiasts shared their vehicles with the public. While clouds delayed the Young Eagles' flights, the children and adults explored cars, trucks and planes in addition to an inflatable bouncy house.

Mavis Fodness photos/0831 Fly In 2023



Above, spectators ready their cell phone cameras as an aircraft approaches the Luverne runway at Saturday's airport fly-in and drive-in event. Below right, Doug Van't Hof of Sioux Falls photographs his grandsons Kyler and Oliver in front of the Sanford Health airplane Saturday morning. Pilots said cloud cover kept the usual medical helicopter on the ground, and visitors were able to get a rare look inside the medical transport airplane.



Above, McKinley Paquette (left) and Skylar Paquette of Sioux Falls sit in their grandfather David Paquette's airplane, using the headphones to talk to one another. At left, Tony Klave with Chris Cakes makes a fast batch of pancakes.



Luverne family loses home to fire caused by wireless charger

By Lori Sorenson

LHS sophomore Jaxon Lais returned home from football practice Wednesday morning to find smoke coming from his house on North Cedar Street in Luverne.

He called 911 and then called his parents, Mark and Kari Lais. When firefighters arrived

moments later, they noticed a thin curl of smoke coming from a small vent on the back side of the home.

But when fire chief David Van Batavia entered the kitchen from the garage, he encountered smoke so thick that he couldn't see past the door.

"I quickly closed the door and set up our team," Van Batavia said

Monday. "It wasn't terribly hot, but the smoke was thick."

The smoldering fire struggled for oxygen and produced "a ton of soot," he said, and intense heat caused the interior pane of a double-paned basement window to shatter.

"If the outside pane had broken, there would have been leap-

ing flames," Van Batavia said.

As it turns out, smoke and soot affected the entire interior of the house and claimed the lives of the family pets, a cat and a dog.

"The loss of Coco and Leo really hurts, but the good news — if there is any in a situation like this — is that we are all safe, and most of our meaningful keepsakes that

we store away are pretty much salvageable," the Lais family shared on a Facebook that was signed "Mark, Kari, Tiana and Jaxon."

Van Batavia said early indications point to a wireless phone charger in the basement living room as the cause of fire.

Lais house fire/see page 5

Wanted: Home for vintage windmills and 'passionate' machinist to care for them

By Lori Sorenson

Retired Jasper welder Terry Rodman is hoping to find a home in Luverne for his vintage windmill collection.

He approached Luverne City Council members Tuesday night, Aug. 22, with a request to use city property south of the fairgrounds as a park to display more than 40 windmills of assorted heights and sizes.

"We'd have a building with 18 or 20 in the building that are smaller, and the bigger, taller ones would be outside with some kind of sign explaining a bit about them," Rodman said.

Knute Oldre, who serves on the Rock County Historical Society and on the Luverne Area Community Foundation, is assisting Rodman in finding a secure home for the windmills.



KARE 11 2021 image

Retired Jasper welder Terry Rodman is hoping to bring his vintage windmill collection to a city-owned space south of the fairgrounds in Luverne.

"For decades Terry's worked to build, ship and work on a number of different windmills at his home between Jasper and Ihlen just off Highway 23," Oldre told the

council. "They're very visible. It's a one-of-a-kind collection."

Rodman's collection includes **Rodman windmills/see page 14**

Hockey club, school sign new five-year agreement

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne School Board members adopted a new five-year agreement between the district and the Luverne Hockey Club to continue interscholastic ice hockey

Under the new agreement approved Aug. 24, the district will allocate more financial support to the 25-year-old program for boys' and girls' teams at the middle and high school levels.

"We took on a little more expense on the school side," said Superintendent Craig Oftedahl. "Otherwise it stayed the same from the school standpoint."

Since 1998, when boys' hockey was first organized, the Luverne Hockey Club covered the transportation expenses that exceeded \$10,000.

The girls' team offering

began a year later in 1999.

Oftedahl estimated last year's transportation costs for both teams at \$11,200.

"We've taken on whatever that number is for all the contests," he said.

Covering the entire transportation cost brings the hockey program in line with the other sports offerings.

However, in the event a hockey team qualifies for a state tournament and the club decides a charter bus is desired, the club will cover travel expenses over and above the school bus costs.

The district will continue to pay stipends for head and assistant coaches as well as the purchase cost of game uni-

Hockey agreement/see page 2



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Springwater Township meets

The Springwater Township Board regular meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, in the township hall.

Senior Nutrition Assistance Program set for Sept. 7

The Nutrition Assistance Program for those 60 and older, sponsored by A.C.E. of SWMN, will be from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, with drive-through distribution in the parking lot off Maple Street at the new office location on the east side of the Generations Event Center. Pre-registration is required. Call Linda Wenzel at 507-283-5064.

Fishing Derby set for Sept. 10

The Luverne Optimist Club will host its annual fishing derby from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10, at the Veterans Home pond in Luverne for ages 15 and younger accompanied by an adult. Food will be available and prizes will be awarded. Call Travis Pierce (220-5191) or Stan Steensma (227-0681).

'Rock the Ride' Sept. 12

The Substance Free Coalition of Rock County will host a Rock the Ride bike ride event Tuesday, Sept. 12, on the Loop starting at 6 p.m. at the Luverne Aquatics and Fitness Center.

Ride at your own pace and at 7:15 p.m. enjoy free pizza at Luverne City Park. This is a family-friendly event open to the public to support those living a substance-free life. Call 507-227-1978 with questions.

Library book sale set for Sept. 20

Friends of the Library Annual Fall Book Sale will be in the Rock County Library basement from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday Sept. 22, and from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday Sept. 23. A "Friends Members Only" pre-sale will be from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Sept. 20.

'Out of the Darkness' walk Sept 16

The "Out of the Darkness" suicide awareness and prevention walk will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, in the Luverne City Park. Registration and breakfast are at 8:30 a.m. Preregister online at afsp.org/luverne

Census info requested for community preschoolers

Families new to the community are encouraged to call Luverne Community Education at 507-283-4724 with information on children ages 0 up to kindergarten. The district uses the information for planning purposes and to alert families about school opportunities. Families with 4-year-olds not yet screened for preschool should call to schedule a screening prior to kindergarten.

SAIL classes in Beaver Creek

SAIL classes meet from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday through Wednesday 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.

SAIL classes in Luverne New SAIL classes meet from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Sept. 28 at Generations Event Center in Luverne. The free classes, Stay Active and Independent for Life, improve strength and balance. Call A.C.E. of SWMN manager Linda Wenzel, 507-283-5064 or A.C.E. volunteer Corey Ziegler, 507-920-0587.

'Living Works Safe Talk' set for Sept. 30 in Hills

Learn the warning signs of suicide and how to prevent it at a four-hour workshop, Living Works Safe Talk, Saturday, Sept. 30, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills. Call Diana Buffington, 507-920-2506, for registration information.



Mavis Fodness photo/0831 Lineage Ribbon Cutting 1

Lineage Logistics celebrates ribbon-cutting

The Luverne Area Chamber and the Luverne City Council welcomed Lineage Logistics to Luverne Saturday afternoon with a ribbon-cutting at the new freezer warehouse located in the industrial park. Pictured are (front, from left) Chamber member Adam Gereats (holding ribbon), Chamber Board member Amanda McDonald, Cora McDonald, Lineage Logistics regional vice president of operations Terry Dunker, Luverne warehouse general manager Zach Olivier, director of business development Tony McCaa, human resources business partner Kathy Reimers, office manager Erin Feikema, operation manager Jason Spidel, Chamber Board member Nancy Scheidt (holding ribbon), (back) project manager Trent Kelly, Luverne City Council member Kevin Aaker, Mayor Pat Baustian, council member Caroline Thorson, council member Dan Nath, city administrator Jill Wolf, Missouri River Energy representative Wade Sand, and Chamber Board member Tony Schomacker.

More green space coming to Main Street

By Lori Sorenson

The parking lot on the corner of Main and Estey streets will gain green space after a city project is complete along the Main Street sidewalk.

City workers this week removed a 10-foot strip of asphalt and concrete along the north end of the lot to make space for soil that will be planted with grass, shrubs and trees.

The city owns the property and will pay for the nearly \$8,000 landscaping project that will also include Sioux quartzite boulders and a donated Sioux quartzite bench.

The project dates back several years when the design committee of the LIFT Board (Luverne Initiatives For Tomorrow) suggested green space beneath the post cards mural on the west side of the building adjacent to the lot.

LIFT asked Luverne horticulturalist George Bonnema (also a member of the LIFT Board) to draw up a plan for the space, but he said nothing happened after the plans were submitted.

Then last year the Burmeister family approached Bonnema, who is presi-



Lori Sorenson photo/0831 greenspace

City of Luverne workers dig out a 10-foot strip along the north end of the parking lot on Main Street and Estey Street Monday afternoon to make room for future green space.

dent of Generations, about donating an engraved Sioux quartzite bench to Generations in memory of their parents, Richard and Betty Burmeister.

"I responded that it would be dwarfed by the size of the Generations building and I could not visualize a place where it would look appropriate in

"Now it's one more project to add beauty to Luverne's Main Street."

— George Bonnema, landscape designer

our setting," Bonnema said.

"However, I said that if the city would develop the green space on the north side of the parking lot, that would be a beautiful setting for the bench, and the green space would be a wonderful addition to augment our downtown area."

He said the Burmeisters were happy with that suggestion.

"So I redesigned the space and went back to [public works director] John Stoffel to find out how to get the project moving," Bonnema said.

"He told me the protocol to use, and now it is being implemented. Now it's one more project to add beauty to Luverne's Main Street."

The goal is to have the landscaping and memorial bench in place by the end of September.

Hockey Club agreement with school/continued from page 1

forms.

Players, however, are responsible for the cost of two pairs of socks, estimated at \$60.

In turn, the hockey club continues to be responsible for renting the Blue Mound Ice Arena, equipment, player registration to the Minnesota State High School League and tournaments, miscellaneous sup-

plies, referee stipends and administrative supervision.

Also, the club will continue to retain 100 percent of gate fees, participation fees and concession receipts.

The new agreement is valid through June 30, 2028.

In other business

Thursday the board:

•hired Levi Klinkner and Jonathon Dolo as full-time

custodians beginning Aug. 16 and Aug. 1 respectively.

•hired part-time Title 1 paraprofessionals Heidi Remme and Kylee Cohoon, effective Aug. 28.

•hired full-time special ed paraprofessionals Grace Egenes, Barbara Weber Friese, Julie Christensen and Michaela VanGrootheest, beginning Aug. 28.

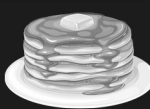
•accepted resignations

of Jason Berghorst as mock trial coach, effective Aug. 17, and Maryln VanGrootheest as paraprofessional, effective Aug. 24.

•approved Mike Maurer as volunteer high school football coach.

•adjusted Doug Rozeboom's position from two-hour food service worker to five-hour food service worker.

Security Savings Bank Luverne 15th Anniversary



Come celebrate with us by joining us for pancakes!
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Five new teachers join Luverne Schools staff

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne Public Schools welcomes five new teachers to its staff Tuesday, Sept. 5, when the 2023-24 school year begins.

Three of the five teachers return to the site of their elementary and secondary years.

Amy (Helle) Lysne said she “graduated as a Cardinal in 2007” before attending Minnesota State University – Mankato, where she received a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and a specialty in middle school communication arts and literature in May 2011.

She’s currently pursuing a master’s degree in educational leadership from Southwest Minnesota State University and is set to graduate in May 2024.

She will teach third grade at Luverne Elementary.

“I am really looking forward to being in the same district as my own three children,” she said.

“We’ve been going separate ways their whole lives, and I can’t wait to see them in the halls of Luverne. I’m also excited to get back into the elementary classroom after nine years in middle school.”

Lysne most recently taught reading and language arts to middle schoolers in Adrian. Prior to that, she was a substitute teacher. She spent a year filling in at Hills-Beaver Creek elementary, where she taught first grade from 2012-2013.

Lysne recently pur-

chased a house in Luverne and has three children, Allison (sixth grade), Owen (fourth grade) and Madilyn (first grade).

Her parents are Gordon and Vicki Helle and Sheila and Jay Steensma.

Skyler Wenninger (LHS Class of 2013) joins his dad, Mike, as a physical education teacher in the Luverne School District. His mom is Lauri Wenninger.

The junior Wenninger will teach elementary physical education and health along with sections of seventh-grade physical education.

Like his dad, Wenninger will also be a coach, assisting with the middle school football, high school girls’ hockey and high school baseball programs.

Wenninger attended South Dakota State University in Brookings, where he played baseball, and graduated with degrees in physical education and teacher education.

After graduating from college in 2018, he moved back to Luverne and is married to LHS grad Ellen (Dahl) Wenninger. The couple has a son, Calihan, and is expecting their second child in January.

For the past five years, Wenninger taught ninth-grade physical education and health at Worthington High School.

In 2021 he earned a degree in health education from Bemidji State University.

“I look forward to being



Mavis Fodness photo/0831 New Teacher 2023 Luverne

Luverne School District welcomes five new teachers for the opening of the 2023-24 school year. Pictured are (from left) special education teacher Kathy Hawes, elementary speech-language pathologist Sara Gorter, eighth-grade math teacher Jake Haugen and third-grade teacher Amy Lysne. Not pictured is physical education and health teacher Skyler Wenninger.

back, teaching in the town I grew up in,” Wenninger said.

“Luverne sets a great example as a community and school district to help develop students in the lifelong journey by helping them achieve their maximum potential in becoming a productive citizen. I can’t wait to be a part of the process.”

LHS 2019 graduate **Jake Haugen** begins his teaching career with eighth-grade mathematics as well as assisting with the wrestling and baseball programs.

The son of Kurt and Julie Haugen, he attended the University of Sioux Falls and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics.

Last spring he worked as a paraprofessional substitute in Luverne Schools.

He and his wife, Rylie (Hokeness) Haugen, live in Luverne. Rylie is a first-grade teacher at Luverne Elementary.

“I’m looking forward to getting to know the students and staff, and to teach in the school that I grew up in,” he said.

Kathy (Westerbur) Hawes comes to Luverne Middle School as a special education teacher.

For the past five years, she’s taught elementary special education in Ellsworth. “Luverne is a wonderful school with lots of opportunities, great staff and students, and my own children go here, so I’m looking forward to all of it.”

Hawes and her husband, Craig, have two children, Perceyis, a senior, and Marayna, a seventh-grader.

A graduate from

Pipestone Area High School, Hawes grew up in Jasper and attended Minnesota State University - Mankato.

Years later she returned for her teaching license and second bachelor’s degree from Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

Sara Gorter will be the elementary speech-language pathologist after spending the past three years working as a pathologist for a contract company. She worked in the Kansas City and Plattsburg, Missouri, school districts.

Gorter grew up in LeMars, Iowa, graduating from Gehlen Catholic High School in 2014.

She attended Augustana University in Sioux Falls where she majored in communication disorders and special education with a minor in American Sign Language.

Gorter earned her master’s degree in communication sciences and disorders from Rockhurst University in Kansas City in 2020.

Earlier this year, she moved with her husband, Brent, and golden retriever, Gus, to Luverne to be closer to family and friends. Brent’s parents are Phil and Denise Gorter.

“I’ve heard such wonderful things about Luverne Schools. The community seems to have great support for them,” Gorter said.

“Selfishly, I am ready for the short commute to work. I am excited for all the things I will learn and experience here.”

H-BC hires four new teachers

By Mavis Fodness

Hills-Beaver Creek School District will have four new teachers on staff when the 2023-24 school year opens Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Three of the four teachers will be familiar to students and other staff members.

April Prohl will teach special education at the secondary school.

She currently lives in Beaver Creek with her spouse, Troy, and daughters, Sarah (an H-BC sophomore) and Grace (a fifth-grader).

For the past four years, Prohl worked as a paraprofessional in the district.

She grew up in Machesney Park, Illinois, and graduated from Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville and Colorado Technical University.

Prohl earned a master’s degree in library science from Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas. Last year Prohl obtained her substitute teaching license.

“I am looking forward to continuing to work with students and staff in a new capacity,” she said. “It will be a great year, and I am looking forward to everything that the new adventure brings.”

Tyson Metzger returns to H-BC to teach grades 6 and 7 science and grades 7 and 8 English and language arts. He will also coach the junior varsity boys’ basketball team.

Metzger graduated from H-BC in 2003 and attended the University of Sioux Falls. For the past 15 years he’s taught in the Brandon-Valley School District.

“I am so excited to be back at my alma mater and teaching in this great school district,” he said.

Metzger and his wife, Jenna, have four children, Ellie (third grade), Finley (second grade), Briley (preschool) and Case



“I am looking forward to helping grow our students’ love for learning and science by working with our students, staff and community,” she said.

Untiedt makes her home in Hills.

She grew up in Okabena and graduated from Heron Lake-Okabena High School.

Untiedt attended South Dakota State University in Brookings, where she received a bachelor’s degree in biology secondary education and a coaching certificate in 2021.

Hills-Beaver Creek School District will have four new teachers at the secondary school to begin the 2023-24 school year. Pictured are (from left) ag teacher Paul Opheim, science teacher Kaylan Untiedt and special education teacher April Prohl. Not pictured is Tyson Metzger, middle school science and English teacher.

Mavis Fodness photo/0831 New Teachers 2023 H-BC

(age 2). They live in Beaver Creek.

Paul Opheim is new to teaching but brings decades of real-life experience to the classroom as the secondary school’s agricultural teacher and FFA adviser.

He graduated from H-BC in 1982 and after earning a bachelor’s degree from Augustana University in Sioux Falls, he began farming.

“I’m looking forward to educating students on the role of agriculture in our world,” he said.

Opheim and his wife, Emily, and their four children live in rural Beaver Creek.

Kaylan Untiedt will teach high school science. She comes to H-BC after spending a year working on her master’s degree (she’ll graduate this week) from Grand Canyon University and substitute teaching in



Mavis Fodness photo/0831 H-BC Walk Through 2023

Buildings ready for start of school next week at H-BC

Hills-Beaver Creek School Board members complete the annual tour of district buildings Monday night in Beaver Creek and Hills. Tami Rauk, H-BC Education Association representative Megan Klumper, Superintendent Todd Holthaus, Travis Helgeson, Chris Harnack, Arlyn Gehrke, Ethan Rozeboom, Tim Bosch and Eric Uittenborg visit one of the elementary classrooms in Beaver Creek currently being readied for students. School begins Tuesday, Sept. 5, in the district. Superintendent Holthaus said since the elementary school will be demolished in two years when the new school construction is finished, no major building projects are planned for the Beaver Creek location.

EMPTY PESTICIDE CONTAINER COLLECTION & RECYCLING

Monday, Sept. 11 • 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Ketterling Services at 401 S. Cedar, Luverne (north of the fairgrounds)

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS:

- Farmers
- Commercial Applicators
- Golf Courses
- Government Agencies

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- Aerosol containers
- Glass containers
- Mini-bulks or containers larger than 55 gallons

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- Have caps removed
- Have labels removed as best you can

For more information about the empty pesticide container collection event, contact:

Rock County Land Management Office, Phone 507-283-8862

Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 1-605-201-6540

CONTAINERS MUST BE TRIPLE RINSED



REUSE REDUCE RECYCLE

Zip lining

Wisdom does not always come with age

"How about zip lining?!" I said with the confidence of a person who did not know



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

what she was talking about. My three besties and I all turned 60 this year. To celebrate, we took our second "significant decade birthday trip." This time we went to Montana – land of big skies, grizzly bears and zip lines.

I didn't actually want to go zip lining. I just wanted to be the kind of person that other people thought might go zip lining.

I also didn't think my friends would agree to the proposal. I thought I would get credit for sounding brave without actually having to be brave.

They agreed. We bought the tickets. And there we were, four 60-year-old ladies, standing on a platform, dressed up in safety gear preparing to fly across a canyon strapped to a cable.

Staring at the tree tops, I reflected on the fact that I've never been the adventurous sort. I don't like riding the Ferris wheel at the county fair. When my bike hits 20 miles per hour, I tap the brakes.

I like the feel of solid ground under my feet. I reflected on the consequences of having half-baked ideas like "How about zip lining?!" and the wisdom of my mom's words, "You don't have to say everything you think."

I consoled myself by

thinking, "Most people survive this or they wouldn't keep selling tickets for it."

In the distance, I watched a helicopter take off and wondered if it was part of a mountainside construction project or if it was a medical evacuation chopper used for hauling out the broken bodies of elderly zip-liners.

I pondered Scripture, "Fear not. For I am with you," and wondered if God is truly present with people doing stupid things.

Praying "Dear God, please grant me safety as I jump off this tower strapped to a cable so I can fly across this canyon" just seemed – frivolous.

Where was the wisdom that comes with age?

It wasn't coming from my friends standing behind me on the platform encouraging me to jump.

So I did. Traveling across the canyon, I realized there was no going back. No more thinking, pondering or reflecting to be done. No more "should I or shouldn't I?"

There was just "I did." Trees and rocks and ground whizzed by. The wind blew in my face and, surprisingly, the cable and harness held firm.

Admiring the scenery and enjoying the thrill of flying across the canyon strapped to a cable, I thought, "Gosh, I have good ideas."

As students head back to school, let's all focus on safety

As students head back to school, we urge motorists to slow down and stay alert, and we urge families with children to talk about safety.

This time of year is particularly dangerous with young inexperienced drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists who will all share the road in the early morning and afternoon hours.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers these tips to help keep kids safe this school year.

Slow down. Speed limits in school zones are reduced for a reason. A pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling 25 mph is nearly two-thirds less likely to be killed compared to a pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling just 10 mph faster. A difference between 25 mph and 35 mph can save a life.

Eliminate distractions. Children often cross the road unexpectedly and may emerge suddenly between two parked cars. Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just two seconds doubles your chances of crashing.

Reverse responsibly. Every

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

vehicle has blind spots. Check for children on the sidewalk, driveway and around your vehicle before slowly backing up. Teach your children to never play in, under or around vehicles – even those that are parked.

Talk to your teen. Car crashes are one of the leading causes of death for teens in the United States, and more than one-quarter of fatal crashes involving teen drivers occur during the after-school hours of 3 to 7 p.m.

Come to a complete stop. Research shows that more than one-third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods. Always come to a complete stop, checking carefully for children on sidewalks and in crosswalks before proceeding.

Watch for bicycles. Children on bicycles are often inexperienced,

unsteady, and unpredictable. Slow down and allow at least three feet of passing distance between your vehicle and the bicycle.

Stop for school buses. Motorists are required to stop when approaching a school bus that is stopped with its red lights flashing and STOP arm extended. The only exception is on a highway with separate roadways and the bus is on a different roadway.

Include safety in education. Advise your children to use sidewalks and marked crosswalks, and they should avoid texting or wearing headphones so they can detect nearby traffic.

While waiting for a school bus or to cross a street, they should stay at least five feet from the roadway and avoid horseplay. If riding a bike to school, a properly fitted helmet should be worn.



Know basic vehicle checks, where to find safety recall information

Question: We are well into summer, but can you please talk about some basic vehicle checks? I stopped to help someone who had broken down alongside the road the other day, and they had no clue to what I thought was common sense stuff: coolant, fluids, battery maintenance and lights. Thanks for keeping people informed.

Answer: As a state trooper, we see a lot out on the highways, and I am always glad to help educate and provide some insight. I'd rather you read it here than experience it along the side of the road. Here are some things to look at:

•Cooling System — Make sure you have enough coolant in your vehicle, and that the coolant meets the manufacturer's specifications. See your vehicle owner's manual for specific recommendations on coolant. You or a mechanic should check the cooling system for leaks,



ASK A TROOPER

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol

test the coolant, and drain or replace old coolant as needed.

•Fluid Level — Check your vehicle's oil level periodically. As with coolant, if it's time or even nearly time to have the oil changed, now would be a good time to do it. Also check the fluid levels for your brake, automatic transmission or clutch, power steering and windshield washer. Make sure each reservoir is full; if you see any signs of fluid leakage, take your vehicle in to be serviced.

•Batteries — Have a mechanic check your battery and charging system, then have them make any necessary repairs or replacements. For hybrid-electric vehicles, keep gasoline in the tank to support the gasoline engine.

•Lights — Check your headlights, brake lights, turn signals, emergency flashers, and interior lights. Be sure to also check your trailer brake lights and turn signals, if necessary.

•Wiper blades — After the heavy toll imposed by winter storms and

spring rains, windshield wiper blades may need to be replaced. Like rubber belts and hoses, wiper blades are vulnerable to the summer heat. Examine your blades for signs of wear and tear on both sides. The blades can also deform and fail to work properly in both directions. If they aren't in top condition, invest in new ones before you travel.

Question: I bought a used vehicle a while back. Where can I check to see if there have been any safety recalls on it? Thank you.

Answer: There are several different ways and places to get this information. One place to look is the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) website.

NHTSA's recalls look-up tool lets you enter your vehicle identification number (VIN) to quickly learn if your vehicle has a critical safety issue that has not been repaired. It also tells you how to get

that repair done for free. You can also download NHTSA's SaferCar app and enter your vehicle and equipment information. If a recall is issued, you'll get an alert on your phone.

NHTSA's recall look-up tool is <https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls>
NHTSA's Safer Car app is <https://www.nhtsa.gov/campaign/safercar-app>

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths

If you have any questions concerning issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

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Office manager: Deb Lusty
Office assistant: Jennifer Nelson
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News staff:
Lori Sorenson, editor
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The *Star Herald* encourages letters to the editor expressing the opinions of readers and intends to print all letters. Letters not meeting the guidelines will not be printed. The *Star Herald* will verify the authenticity of all letters. Letters must have the name of the writer, a signature and address. Unsigned letters will not be considered. The *Star Herald* will edit for grammar, spelling and clarity. We don't publish letters with offensive language, libelous or slanderous material, or misleading or false information. Letter writers in these cases will be contacted. The *Star Herald* will not publish letters written with the sole intent to advertise or serve as a thank-you. Letters with more than 300 words may be edited. The deadline for letters is Monday 10 a.m. They may be delivered or mailed to the editor, *Rock County Star Herald*, P.O. Box 837, 117 W. Main St., Luverne, Minn. 56156.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Aug. 18

- Complainant east-bound on I-90, mile marker 2, reported debris on roadway.

- Complainant on North Kniss Avenue reported abandoned vehicle.

- Complainant on West Luverne Street in Magnolia, reported theft.

- Complainant east-bound on I-90 mile marker 16 reported a driving complaint.

- Complainant on Jackson Street in Valley Springs requested assistance.

- Complainant on South Kniss Avenue in Luverne reported theft.

- Property damage was reported to Sheriff's Office.

Aug. 19

- Complainant on Evergreen Drive in Luverne reported a parking violation.

- Complainant at Mead Court requested assistance.

- Complainant on West Brown Street in Luverne reported vandalism to property.

- Complainant on Hwy. 23 near Jasper reported a driving complaint.

Aug. 20

- Complainant on I-90 westbound, mile marker 18, reported a driving complaint.

- Complainant on South Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant at Memorial Gardens Cemetery near Luverne reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant on East Main Street reported trespassing.

- Rock County Sheriff's Office assisted another department.

- Deputy responded to alarm on County Road 4.

Aug. 21

- Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant at 150th Avenue, Hardwick, reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant at South Kniss Avenue reported a civil issue.

Aug. 22

- Luverne Fire Department responded to a call on South Walnut Street.

- Luverne Fire Department responded to a call on North Kniss Avenue.

- Complainant at Brown and Kniss street reported a driving complaint.

- Complainant east-bound on I-90 mile marker 13 reported an abandoned vehicle.

- Complainant on Brandenburg Street requested assistance.

- Complainant at Magnolia Park reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant at County roads 3 and 4 near Magnolia reported an abandoned vehicle.

Aug. 23

- Complainant west-bound on I-90 mile marker 18 reported a driving complaint.

- An outage was reported at County Road 4 and 20th Avenue near Manley.

- The Luverne Fire Department responded to a call on North Cedar Street.

- An injury accident was reported at South Kniss Avenue and Edgehill Street.

- Complainant reported suspicious activity on South Kniss Avenue.

Aug. 24

- Deputy responded to an alarm on East Main Street.

- Complainant on South Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant on County Road 6 near Hills reported suspicious activity.

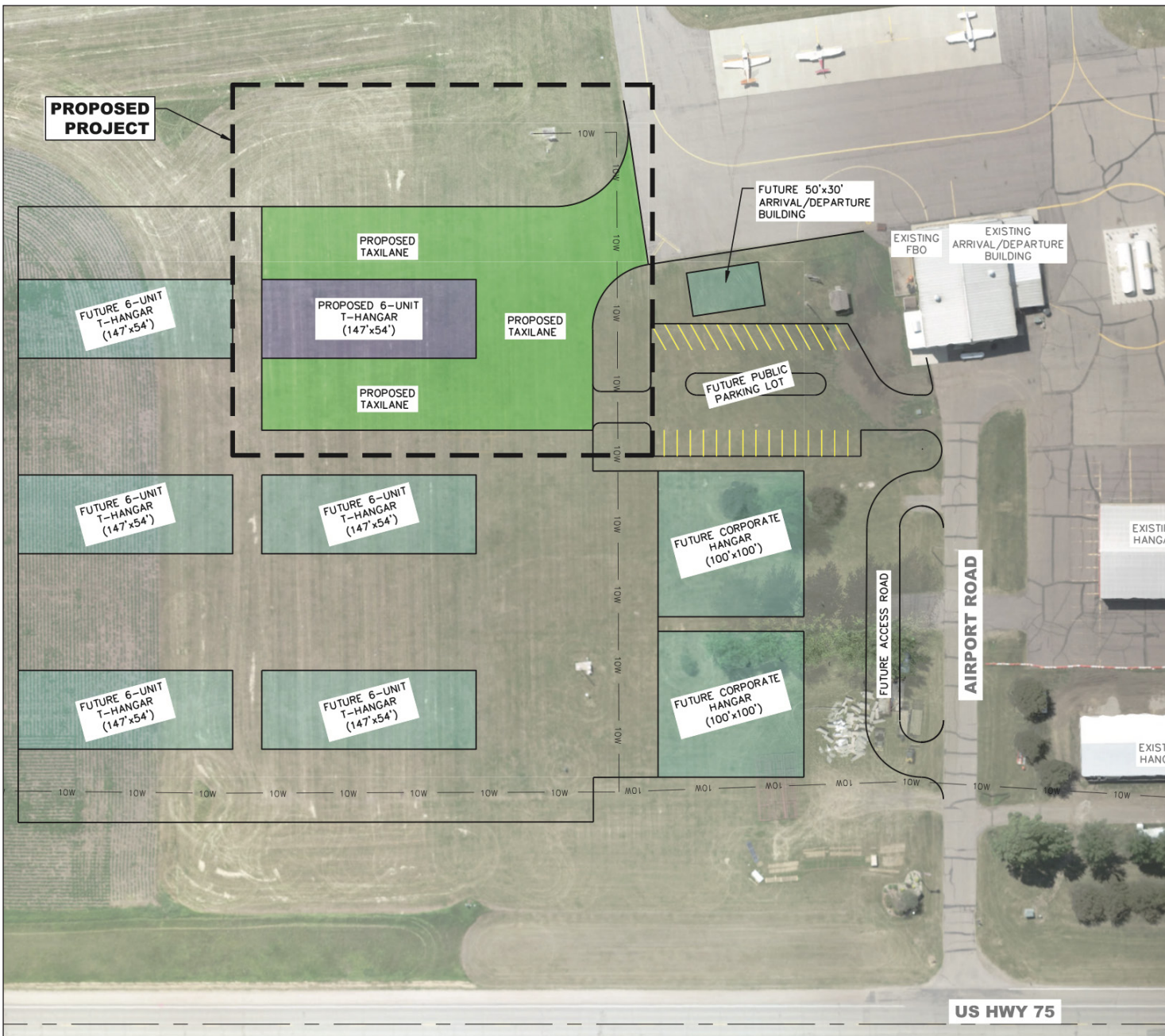
- Rock County Sheriff's Office assisted another department.

Aug. 25

- Training was reported at the Luverne airport.

- Property damage was reported at the Plaza on Main Street.

In addition, officers responded to 3 motor vehicle accidents, 3 stalled vehicles, 2 escorts, 5 ambulance runs, 3 paper services, 6 animal complaints, 4 fingerprint requests, 1 burn permit, 1 purchase and carry permit, 3 stalled vehicles, 54 traffic stops, 11 abandoned 911 calls, 2 welfare checks, 2 tests, 2 background checks, 2 lost and found issues, 1 report of cattle out, and 2 follow-ups.



A \$1 million six-unit 147-by-54-foot T-hangar and taxilane construction project is included in next year's airport capital improvement plan. Luverne City Council members approved the project and airport CIP at their Tuesday, Aug. 22, regular meeting.

Luverne to build new airport hangar/continued from page 1

The estimated cost of the project is \$1,080,000 with a five percent state share and five percent local share. The rest is covered by federal FAA grant funds.

As part of Tuesday's council action, the mayor and city administrator are authorized to prepare, sign and submit an FAA pre-grant application for the hangar and taxilane project.

Bond schedule for day care

In other business at Tuesday's meeting, the City Council approved a schedule for general obligation tax abatement bonds to cover construction costs of the Kids Rock! community day care center.

This bond issue is similar to the tax abatement bonds that were issued for the Pool and Fitness Center

"I think it's a good investment, because you're getting more planes in, more fuel sold and more activity. I think it's a great thing and a justified expense."

— Ben Vander Kooi, Luverne city attorney

improvements.

The process begins with the Council adopting a resolution on Sept. 12 calling for a public hearing.

The EDA Director is coordinating with USDA to close the \$2.6 million

grant prior to the start of construction in February 2024.

Bond proceeds must be in the bank prior to closing the grant, and the schedule indicates the proceeds will be available on Dec. 20, 2023.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a payment of \$336,554 to Henning Construction for work on the Lopau Addition. Henning has completed the grading, subgrade prep, granular base and all utility work. Hulstein Excavating was planning to be on site Aug. 18 to slipform the curb and gutter.

- Approved a liquor license for The Bullpen, the bar and restaurant opening in the former Bluestem property. The license is effective Sept. 1 through Dec. 31, 2023.

Lais house fire ruins home interior/continued from page 1

"There was a burnt cord from the wall outlet to the battery pack," he said.

Mark said he'd used the wireless phone charger Tuesday night and left it plugged into a six-way adapter strip with a three-foot cord.

The power strip and charger were resting atop a wooden end table — away from flammable material.

"My parents had a housefire in 1994 that was started by an extension cord on the carpet," Lais said.

"Ever since then I've been really careful about things like that. I unplug things all the time."

He learned from his insurance adjuster that the suspected cause of the fire — a VRURC portable wireless phone charger — had been recalled this summer due to fire. One fire reportedly happened when that particular charger was being used on an airplane.

Lais said he and his family were able to salvage some clothing and possessions, but the entire home will need to be gutted down to the studs and rafters.

For the short term, the family will stay with relatives, but they'll soon make their temporary home in a Luverne house recently vacated by Lorena Hoiland and her late husband, Jim.

"Mike Hoiland called Thursday morning to offer the home," Lais said. "It's fully furnished; they just have to get some belongings out after moving his mom to Poplar Creek."

Lais said that gesture is among many others that were offered in the days fol-



Lori Sorenson photo/0831 greenspace

Luverne firefighters work at 1114 N. Cedar Wednesday, Aug. 23, when fire and smoke damaged the home of Mark and Kari Lais. A wireless phone charger is the suspected cause of the fire.

lowing the fire.

"We are blessed to live in such a close-knit community. ... so many people dropping by, calling, texting," Lais wrote on Facebook. "It blows our minds ... [we're] overwhelmed, you could say."

He also thanked the Luverne Fire Department for their quick response. "Dave Van Batavia and his crew take a backseat to no one when it comes to small town volunteer fire departments," they wrote on Facebook.

Van Batavia said the call came in at 11:37 a.m. and by 11:39 he was on the scene.

"The first truck left the fire hall at 11:40 and our first team made entry in the house by 11:45," he said.

"That was some pretty good time as far as getting something going."

Among those early responders were Eric Lamert, Derek Elbers and

Aaron Altman, all of whom work for the city of Luverne. They were followed close by Scott Ketterling and Jesse Woodley (of Busse Plumbing and Heating).

"We always try to hire guys who work in town for the benefit it brings to

the department's response time," Van Batavia said.

The Lais home is insured, but friends and neighbors started a GoFundMe site to help cover the incidental expenses incurred with the temporary move.

Thank you



The family of Jim and Delores (Dee) Harner would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during these difficult months. Our family truly appreciates the visits, food, flowers, donations, cards, and kind words. Many thanks to the Sanford Medical staff both in Luverne, MN and Sioux Falls, SD for their dedicated care, as well as the staff of the Mary Jane Brown

Home and the Hospice Cottage in Luverne. Special thanks go to Pastor Mark Eliason and the care of Grace Lutheran Church. We are grateful for the support of the community and the many tributes to Jim and Dee that have been expressed to the family. ~Brad Harner, Pam Harner Van Erem, Cindy Harner, and families

Luverne Christian School Society
Pork Loin & Hamburger Supper
 Wednesday, Sept. 6
 5:30-7:30 p.m.
 Pork loin, hamburgers, potato salad, cucumber salad, tea rolls and ice cream
 Freewill donation will be accepted
 Luverne Christian Reformed Church | 605 N Estey St.
 There will be a sign up sheet in Luverne CRC to pre-order pork loins.
 Half Loins - \$25, Whole Loins - \$50.
 Orders can also be placed w/ Theron Feikema (507-920-6054) by Aug 31

PALACE THEATRE **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning Part 1 PG-13
 Friday, September 1 7:00 pm
 Saturday, September 2 7:00 pm
 Sunday, September 3 7:00 pm
 Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 - 12th grade, \$7 for adults

BANK NITE MOVIE PG
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem
 Thursday, September 7 6:00 pm
 Sponsored by: First Farmers & Merchants Bank and Papik Motors
FREE ADMISSION

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

'Making a Difference' during the 2023-24 school year

School superintendent encourages teachers, staff to be 'M.A.D.'

By Mavis Fodness

Superintendent Craig Oftedahl encouraged teachers and staff returning to school next week to be "M.A.D."

Make a Difference. Oftedahl presented his annual message to staff Monday morning during the first of five in-service days in Luverne.

He was inspired by South Dakota State University's retired football coach John Stiegelmeier who spoke to the Luverne community last spring.

"One of the points stuck with me," he said. "He wanted all of his players to play M.A.D., as in Making a Difference."

In January Stiegelmeier's team won the national title.

Oftedahl now wants staff to be M.A.D. as the new school year starts Tuesday, Sept. 5.

He said Making A Difference can be simple everyday greetings such as "hello" or "great to have you riding the bus this morning."

Or it could mean offering a smile as students come through the lunch line.

Staff can show they are M.A.D. by having rooms, gymnasium, hallways and

"Set the bar high for your expectations. Help in the process of correcting mistakes. Offer encouragement and praise when appropriate. And every day —

Make a Difference.

— Superintendent Craig Oftedahl

bathrooms sparkling clean for students.

"If you say it, mean it," he said. "That also goes for letting them know that they did not meet your standards and expectations and that you expect more from them."

Afterall, teachers and staff may not know what impact the Making A Difference attitude may have on students.

Oftedahl said he made an impact 36 years ago when he was a first-year elementary teacher in Fosston, Minnesota.

"Most days you are just trying to hang on and figure things out," Oftedahl said. "I'm not sure what it was that I specifically did to leave that impact, but I think part of it was being involved."

A sixth-grader in his class and participant on his sporting teams ultimately became a teacher and now a school superintendent due to Oftedahl's influence.

"Everything you do matters. Students are watching, paying attention, observing and gathering information," he said.

"Set the bar high for your expectations. Help in the process of correcting mistakes. Offer encouragement and praise when appropriate. And every day — Make a Difference."

As a reminder, each teacher and staff member received a T-shirt with the words "I'm M.A.D." on the front and "Making a Difference" on the back.



Mavis Fodness photo/0831 Back to School M.A.D.

Luverne Public Schools staff pick up red or gray T-shirts with the messages of "I'm M.A.D." on the front and "Making a Difference" on the back at Monday's Back-to-School inservice.

K.A.H.R Foundation, Thomson Reuters sponsor Luverne educators for BestPrep summer workshop

This summer a group of professionals from Luverne School District attended BestPrep's Technology Integration Workshop, a summer program designed to improve technology skills and teach career skills students need for success in the future.

The Luverne educators included Angie Swenson, Mike Wenninger, Angie Hageman, Tony Sandbulte, Jason Berghorst, Amy Cook, Kathy Hawes and Marie Atkinson-Smeins.

They attended the workshop July 31 through Aug. 3 at Cargill's headquarters in Wayzata.

The K.A.H.R. Foundation and Thomson Reuters provided sponsorships for the local professionals to attend the program and stipends to cover any



Luverne School District professionals (from left) Tony Sandbulte, Kathy Hawes, Amy Cook, Becky Rahm, Angie Swenson, Jason Berghorst, Angie Hageman and Mike Wenninger attended the BestPrep Technology Integration Workshop July 31 through Aug. 3.

expenses associated with attendance.

The program was developed and organized

by BestPrep, a Minnesota nonprofit dedicated to preparing students with business, career and

financial literacy skills. During the workshop,

Educators, go to page 7

CELEBRATIONS

Card shower

Sam and Joyce Hansen will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, Sept. 1. Greetings may be sent to PO Box 197, Hardwick, MN 56134.

MENU AT GENERATIONS

Monday, Sept. 4: Labor Day — Closed.

Tuesday, Sept. 5: Turkey noodle casserole, broccoli, cinnamon baked apple slices, dinner roll.

Half-Priced Day sponsored by Christian Reformed Church.

Wednesday, Sept. 6: Meatloaf, baked potato, corn, bread, fruit.

Thursday, Sept. 7: Barbecue pork on a bun, coleslaw, pineapple.

Friday, Sept. 8: Baked

fish, rice pilaf, California Normandy vegetables, apple sauce.

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.

1943: Baseball picture prompts remembrance letter of players from Zillah Wilson

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 Dec. 16, 1943.

An old autograph, sent here recently by Leo D. Meany, of Austin, Minn., and mentioned briefly in "Chaff" brought back many memories to a number of the early day residents of the community.

Because of the interest, the Star-Herald this week is taking the liberty of printing a few reminiscent facts as taken from a letter written by Mrs. Zillah E. Wilson, who now lives at Seattle, Washington.



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
Rock County Historian

Mrs. Wilson writes: "When I read the article concerning the baseball picture, I made a 'B'-line to the attic to hunt out the companion picture, the 'fats'. You know it was a competing game between the fats and the leans—the 'thicks' and the 'thins' with the 'thins' winning the game.

"I have the picture of the 'fats', one of whom was my husband, W.H. Wilson, and I have contacted Harry U. Rogers, who was my neighbor in Luverne, and also

here in Seattle. He has both pictures. He used to live just north of the J.H. Harroun home—now owned by Russell Sherman—on the ground now belonging to the La Due property, in which J.H. Harroun's father and mother lived. I am quite sure that the entire 'fat' nine have crossed the 'Great Divide'; I am certain seven of them have.

"Harry U. Rogers, son of the 'fat' Rogers, lives here and is an optometrist living at 914 No. 76 St. He was in the same business in Luverne,

only he had jewelry with the eye work. He was with the slims."

Mrs. Wilson did not send the names of the members of the "fat" team, but she furnishes the following names for the "thins." In the event anyone has the photograph, here are their names: standing, Otto Enger, O.P. Huntington, H.U. Rogers, George C. Huntington and Guy Maxwell. Sitting left to right Elias (?) Howe, John Fisher, Sid Dyer and Bert Green.

Otto Enger, Mrs. Wilson recalls, was a barber son of the Engers who owned and operated "Hotel Lincoln" on east Lincoln street, now owned by Mrs. Mae Wynn.

O.P. Huntington is the son of George C. Huntington in the same picture. He (O.P.) now lives in Los

Angeles, Calif., as does his brother, Guy Huntington. He has one sister, Mrs. Bert La Due, of Sioux City.

Harry U. Rogers, is a son of Emulus S. Rogers, in the "fats" picture. Both lived in Luverne, with jewelry and optical goods as a business. Harry now lives only a few blocks from me. Is married and has no children. His father and mother are both deceased.

George C. Huntington and his wife both passed away at their home at 405 No. Freeman, years ago.

Guy Maxwell is married, has been in the hardware business in Sioux Falls for years. His parents are both deceased.

Elias (?) Howe (I am not sure of his first name) was in the real estate business and I was a land owner. The last I

knew, Mrs. Howe was living.

John Fisher was manager of the Manitou hotel.

Sid Dyer—I have lost all track of that family.

Bert Greene—Mrs. W.E.E. Greene should know about Bert.

In connection with Mr. Greene, it might be said that several recall him as being the operator of a shooting gallery here. Others recall that he was an expert rifle shot himself and one time traveled with a show as an exhibition sharp-shooter. He was related in some way by marriage to one of the Ringlings of circus fame, it is said.

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

Redbirds beat Plato 4-3, advance to Sweet 16

By Greg Hooegeven

The Luverne Redbirds are headed to the Sweet 16 of the 2023 Class C Baseball State Tournament.

The Redbirds knocked off the Plato Blue Jays in a walk-off 4-3 win Saturday, Aug. 26, at Delano Municipal Ballpark.

The come-from-behind win in the ninth inning left a lot of fans and players breathless.

"That was an intense game," team manager Brooks Maurer said. "Nothing better than a walk-off win to send us to our first Sweet 16 appearance since 2015."

This year marks the Redbirds' 15th appearance in the state tournament.

Luverne's other state appearances were in 1990, 1992, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.



Ben Serie celebrates winning the game against Plato 4-3, in the bottom of the ninth inning Aug. 26 in Delano. Serie beat the throw to home plate after teammate Derek Lundgren hit a line drive toward third base for the walk-off win.

Luverne 4, Plato 3

Plato took a 2-0 lead in the second inning and held it until the end of the sixth inning when Luverne finally got on the board.

Declan Beers singled on a fly ball to left field, and Nick Smith scored from second base.

In the top of the seventh Plato added one more run to extend the lead to 3-1.

In the bottom of the seventh, Luverne pulled within one run when Phil Paquette singled on a line drive to right field and advanced to second on the throw, scoring Jake Haugen from second base.

With the score Plato 3, Luverne 2 after the seventh inning, the eighth inning



Above, Jake Haugen reacts to tying the game against Plato in the bottom of the ninth inning in Delano Saturday. At right, the Redbirds team swarms Derek Lundgren after his game-winning hit that scored Ben Serie and beat Plato 4-3 in the state tournament Aug. 26 in Delano. Luverne beat Plato 4-3 to move on in the state tournament. (Greg Hooegeven photos/0831 rb haugen, rb win)

saw no scoring.

In the top of the ninth inning Luverne kept Plato from extending its lead, holding them at three runs.

In the bottom of the ninth inning, Luverne mounted a come-from-behind drive.

Jake Haugen started the drive, reaching first by being hit by a pitch.

Ben Serie stepped up next and singled to left, moving Haugen to second base.

Smith then doubled on a line drive to center field, scoring Haugen for the tying run and advancing Serie to third base.

Plato then intentionally walked Paquette to first with Smith still at second and Serie at third base.

The walk filled the bases and would potentially force an out at any base.

Johnson struck out at the plate for out No. 1.

Derek Lundgren came up to bat with one out and three men on base.

He fouled off the first pitch but connected with the second, driving the ball toward third base and reached first on an error by the third basemen.

"I was just trying to put the ball in play," Derek Lundgren said.

"I knew he would probably come with an off-speed pitch to start with. I fouled off the first curveball and then managed to put the second curveball in play."

"Good things happen when you put the ball in play and force them to make a throw," Lundgren added.

Meanwhile, Serie took off from third and beat the

Redbirds win/see page 13

LHS Tennis team wins three matches

By Greg Hooegeven

The Luverne girls' tennis team beat Lac Qui Parle 5-2 and Montevideo 5-2 on the road Aug. 24, won the Worthington Tournament Aug. 26, and fell to River Valley Coop 4-3 at home Aug. 28.

The Luverne tennis team is scheduled to host Fairmont Tuesday, Aug. 29 and travel to Blue Earth Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Luverne 7, Yellow Medicine East 0

On a balmy and bright morning Tuesday, Aug. 22, the LHS girls' tennis team beat Yellow Medicine East seven matches to zero at home.

Luverne was scheduled to take on MCCRAY in a second game, but that was canceled due to extreme heat warnings.

LHS versus MCCRAY will be played at a time yet to be determined.

In the No. 1 singles match, senior Sarah Stegenga defeated her opponent in two matches 6-0, 6-0.

The No. 2 singles match was won by senior Rayann Remme in two matches 6-4, 6-5.

In No. 3 singles, senior Morgan Hadler won two matches 6-1, 6-4.

In the No. 4 singles match, junior Corynn Oye won her two matches 6-2, 6-0.

In doubles, the No. 1 match saw juniors Augusta Papik and Caitlin Kindt defeat their opponents 6-0, 6-0.

In the No. 2 doubles match, seniors Roselynn Hartshorn and Cassi Chesley won in two matches 6-0, 6-0.



Greg Hooegeven photo/0831 stegenga Senior Sarah Stegenga volleys against her River Valley Coop opponent Monday, Aug. 28, at the Luverne tennis courts.



Greg Hooegeven photo/0831 jarchow Junior Katia Jarchow digs for the ball in a volley against her River Valley Coop opponent Aug. 28 in Luverne.

In No. 3 doubles, junior Katia Jarchow and sophomore Addyson Mann won two matches 6-0, 6-0.

Luverne 5, Lac Qui Parle 2

The Luverne girls' tennis team went on the road

to beat Lac Qui Parle five matches to two Thursday, Aug. 24.

In No. 1 singles, Stegenga lost her first set 3-6 but came back to take the next two sets 6-3 and 10-6 to win the match.

In No. 2 singles, Hadler lost to her opponent 6-2, 6-2.

In No. 3 singles, Remme lost her first set 6-3, came back to win her second set 6-3, but ended losing her third set 10-6 and the match to her opponent.

No. 4 singles player Jarchow beat her opponent 6-3, 6-3.

In the No. 1 doubles match, Papik and Kindt defeated their opponents 6-1 6-2.

In No. 2 doubles, Nath and Oye lost their first set 6-1 and won their last two sets 6-4 and 10-4 to win the match.

In No. 3 doubles, Hartshorn and Chesley won in two sets, 6-2 and 6-3.

Luverne 5, Montevideo 2

The Luverne girls' tennis team beat Montevideo 5-2 in their second game Thursday, Aug. 24.

In No. 1 singles, Stegenga lost two matches to her opponent 6-0, 6-0.

In No. 2 singles, Hadler was defeated 6-0 and 6-3 in her matches.

In No. 3 singles, Remme won her match 6-2, 6-1.

In No. 4 singles, Jarchow won her first set 6-2, lost her second set 2-6 and won her third set 10-3 to take the match.

LHS tennis/see page 13

Morning dove season opener is Sept. 1

By Scott Rall

Pheasant road side counts are completed, and as we ease our way to the end of the month, the next outdoor opportunity is the mourning dove hunting season opener on Sept. 1.

This season always invokes a fair amount of emotion between those who think it is a barbaric tradition and those who enjoy the ability to go out and participate in a renewable harvest of the most abundant game bird in North America.

Mourning doves are the most hunted game bird in North America with a hunting tradition that rivals all others.

Sure, the deer season or the waterfowl seasons garner thousands of participants, but the dove season spans more hunters and more states than any other.

A few interesting facts about mourning doves: They have a natural life expectancy of only about 11 months. Natural mortality accounts for the majority of dove deaths.

Dove populations across the nation exceed 350 million. Minnesota accounts for about 18 percent of them with the estimated population in Minnesota being 2.3 million birds.

Needless to say, this game bird is not suffering like many other native



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

game birds in North America. Sage grouse, which live in the western United States, have seen populations decline more than 70 percent in the past 10 years alone. Sharp-tailed grouse and prairie chickens, which also used to total in the many millions, are now reduced to only a fraction of their original numbers.

Doves are hunted in Minnesota for only about two weeks even though the season lasts for several months.

The reason behind this is that doves have the least tolerance for cold temperatures. Give my county one or two solid frosts and 95 percent of the doves will be gone almost overnight.

Below-freezing temperatures will send them packing for warmer climates, but there are other factors that determine how long they will stick around.

I missed opening day a few years back. The hunters on that weekend had very good results. On the following Monday we had a 50-mile-per-hour wind that lasted for only one day, and when I went hunting on Tuesday, there was not a dove to be found.

Anyone who thinks dove hunting must be pretty easy has never tried it. If a really

Morning dove/see page 13

H-BC volleyball team opens 2023 season at Adrian tournament

By Greg Hoogeveen
The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team traveled to Adrian for a quad tournament Saturday, Aug. 26.

The Patriots played without two of their main players, senior Lanae Elbers and sophomore Claire Knobloch, who will be back for H-BC's next match.

"Overall, I was really happy with how the team played without having our full starting lineup," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

Zylstra did not keep stats for the game since the team was missing two players and some junior varsity players that were on the squad for the tournament.

"The team did a lot of



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0831 hbc vb team
Patriots' sophomore Abbie Harris (from left), senior Silvia Fick, freshman Brynn Bakken and senior Grace Anderson celebrate their comeback against Central Minnesota Christian Aug. 26.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0831 hbc harris
Sophomore Abbie Harris sets the ball during the game with Central Minnesota Christian at the Adrian tournament Aug. 26.

good things and had lots of good volleys," Zylstra said. "It seemed like a lot of the long volleys they had, they had to battle and just never ended up going our way."

H-BC lost two sets to Adrian in the first game 25-17 and 25-15.

In the second game against Central Minnesota Christian, H-BC lost a close first set 25-19, came back to win the second set 26-24 and gave up the third set 15-10.

In their final game the Patriots lost to Martin County West 25-20 in the first set and 25-20 in the second.

The Patriots are scheduled to travel to Viborg Hurley Tuesday, Aug. 29 and to host Edgerton Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Luverne Country Club crowns 2023 champions

By Greg Hoogeveen
Ben Nath won the Men's Club Championship Aug. 19-20 and Melissa Sandbulte won the Women's Club Championship on Aug. 22 during their respective 2023 events at the Luverne Country Club.

Nath won the **Men's Club Championship** for the fourth year in a row with a low gross score of 151 in the two-day, 36-hole tournament Aug. 19-20.

Andrew DeBoer placed second in the champions' bracket with a score of 164, and Coy Gonnerman took third with a score of 166.

Nath said the tournament was a good experience, thanks to all involved in hosting it.

"I would like to thank the grounds crew for preparing the course for the tournament, the club house staff for the great service, and the board and others involved for helping put on a fun tournament this year," he said.

In the President's



Men's Club Tournament winners are (from left) First Flight winner Nathan Nekali, President's Flight winner Gaige Nath, Club Champion Ben Nath and Second Flight winner Mike Wenninger. Not pictured: Third Flight winner Dave Gangestad and Fourth Flight winner Brady Dinger. The Luverne Country Club Women's Club Tournament winners are (from left) President's Flight winner Sharla Reisch, Club Champion Melissa Sandbulte, First Flight winner Tracy Hansen and Second Flight winner Dana Klay.



Greg Hoogeveen photos/0824 men, womens flights

bracket Gaige Nath finished first with a low gross score of 174.

Eric Lammert finished behind Nath with a 175, and Aaron Moerke followed with a 176 for third place.

Flight winners were as follows:

In Flight 1, Nathan Nekali and Tom Kopp tied at 176; Nekali took top honors after a short playoff.

Dan Kern placed third with a score of 177.

In Flight 2, Mike Wenninger finished with a 181,

and Devin Heitkamp tied with Gary Kurtz with a 187.

In Flight 3, Dave Gangestad led with a 184 followed by Tony Sandbulte with a 185 and Jeff Stratton with a 190.

In Flight 4, Brady Dinger placed first with a 197, and Brian Boll finished

second with a 201.

In the Women's Club Championship Tuesday, Aug. 22, Melissa Sandbulte was crowned the Club Champion.

Sandbulte shot a low-gross score of 78 in the two-day, 18-hole tournament. Mary Jo Graphenteen

placed second with a score of 79, and Paula Lammert placed third with a 91.

In the President's Bracket Sharla Reisch finished in first place with a score of 102, Colleen Nath placed second with a 106 and Staci Busse-Remme took third with a score of 112.

Flight winners were as follows:

In Flight 1, Susan Schneekloth and Joan Kindt both finished with a final score of 98.

Schneekloth was awarded first place using the scorecard handicap to break the tie.

Kindt placed second and Tracy Hansen placed third with a 99.

In Flight 2, Dana Klay and Abbey Behr both finished the tournament with a score of 111, and Klay took first after the scoreboard handicap determined the winner.

Hailey Nath took third place with a final score of 115.

Cardinals post two individual champions and six medalists in Beresford cross country invite

By Greg Hoogeveen
The Luverne cross country team started the 2023 season participating in the Beresford, South Dakota, XC Invite Friday, Aug. 25.

Luverne was among 30 teams invited to the event at the Bridges Golf Course.

"I was super proud of each and every runner today that had the courage to stand on the starting line and test their limits," said Luverne head coach Peter Janiszkeski.

The Cardinals had six Top 20 performances (medalists) for the day and two individual event champions.

Owen Janiszkeski took first in the boys' varsity 5,000 meter and Jenna DeBates took first in the girls' varsity 5,000 meter.

The Cardinals took second

place as a team in the **boys' varsity 5,000-meter** event with a team score of 85 behind Sioux Falls Christian's score of 53.

Cardinal runners and times are as follows:

- 1st. Junior Owen Janiszkeski 15:54.30
- 6th. Senior Ryan Fick 16:46.50
- 18th. Junior Sage Viessman 17:31.34
- 28th. Freshman Marcus Papik 18:11.72
- 34th. Junior Leif Ingebretsen 18:36.56
- 36th. Junior Dylan Ommen 18:51.26
- 41st. Senior Zach Terrio 19:08.42
- 46th. Junior Kaleb Hemme 19:42.05

In the **girls' varsity 5,000-meter** event, the Luverne had just two runners.

- 1st. Senior Jenna DeBates 18:27.02
- 35th. Freshman Khloe Visker 22:25.42

In the **boys' junior varsity 4,000-meter** event, the Cardinals had two runners participate.

- 35th. Junior Eli McLendon 17:07.56
- 94th. Sophomore Zander Fountain 19:33.89

In the **girls' junior varsity 4,000-meter** event the Cardinals finished eighth as a time with five runners competing.

- 19th. Freshman Reinha John 19:12.72
- 36th. Freshman Mariah Knorr 20:51.59
- 57th. Senior Brynn Boyenga 22:39.79
- 68th. Junior Andrea Luitjens 25:36.75
- 79th. Sophomore Maddy Schepel 28:13.34

The Luverne cross country team will travel to Mountain Lake Friday, Sept. 1, for the Paul Metcalf Invitational at the Mountain Lake Golf Course.

Other invited teams are Adrian/Ellsworth, Fairmont, St. James Area, United South Central and the host, Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey.

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Cardinals beat Fairmont in volleyball opener

By Greg Hoogeveen
The Luverne volleyball team traveled to Fairmont for the Cardinals' first game of the season Saturday, Aug. 26, taking three games 25-15, 25-19 and 29-19.

Junior Amira Cowell led Luverne with 15 set assists, and junior Hannah

Sneller had 10 set assists.

Junior Ella Reisdorfer had nine kills for the Cardinals, senior Morgan Ahrendt had eight kills, senior Kira John had seven kills and senior Tori Serie had six kills.

Kira John led Luverne with two solo blocks and four assisted blocks.

Ahrendt was 17 of 18 serving with three aces, Cowell was 12 of 13 with 1 ace, and Serie was 11 of 11 with two aces.

Junior Kylie Vander Lugt had 14 digs for the Cardinals, with senior Belle Smidt, Reisdorfer and Ahrendt each coming up with 10 digs.

Luverne heads to Southwest Minnesota Christian to take on the Eagles Tuesday, Aug. 29, in Edgerton.

The Cardinals will host a triangular Thursday, Aug. 31. Luverne will be taking on Murray County Central at 3:30 p.m. and West Lyon at 4:40 p.m.

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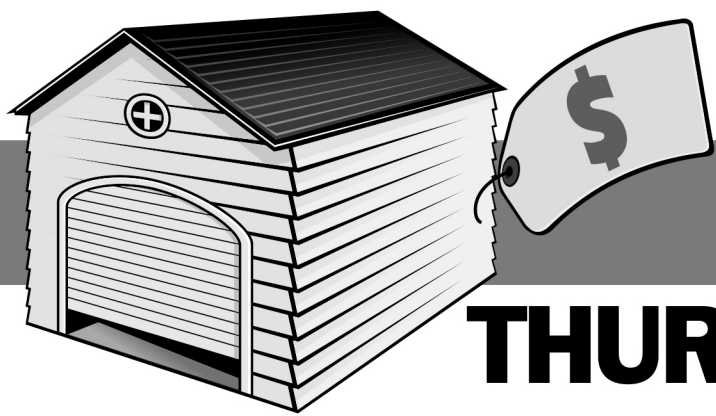
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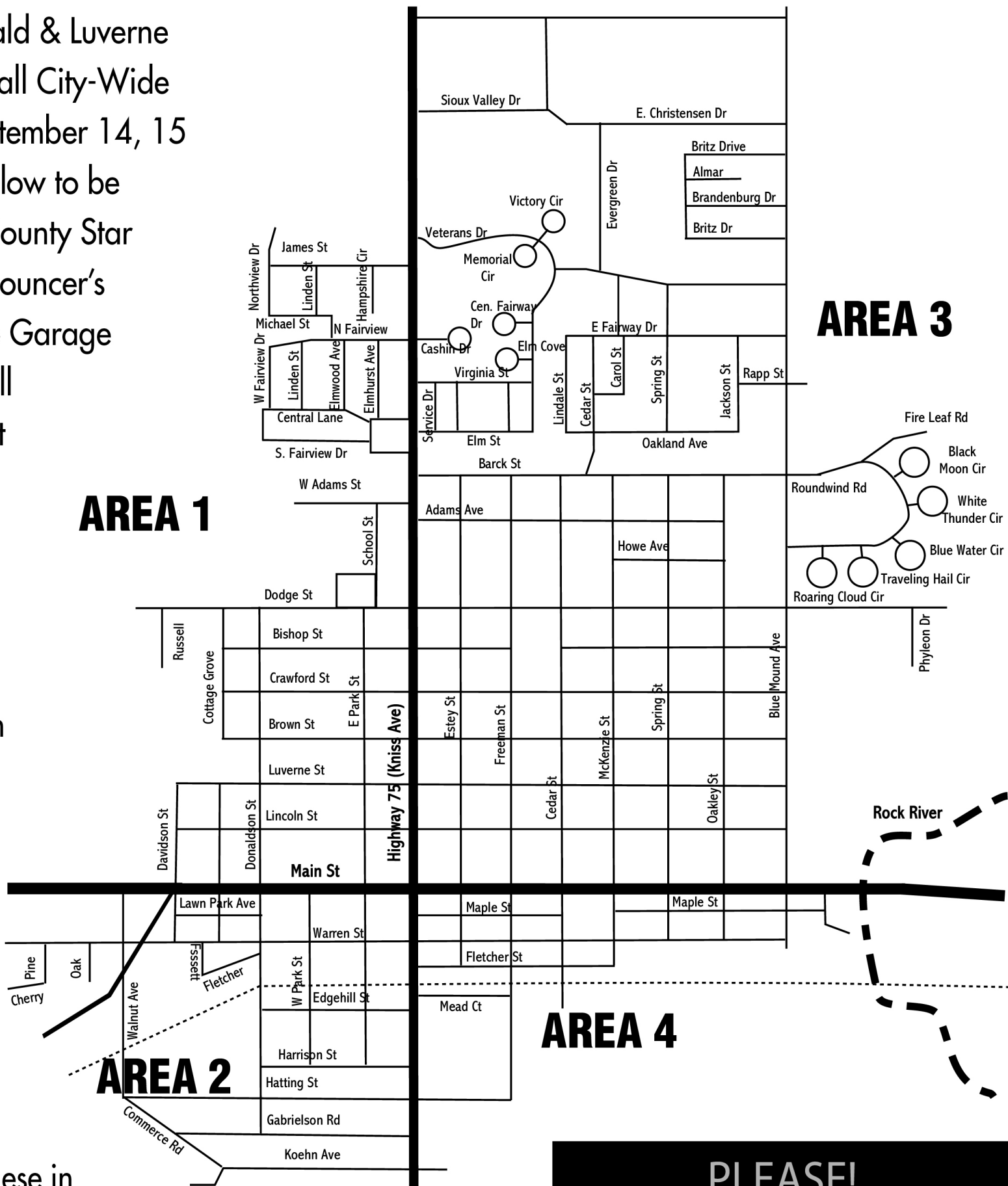
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Ads must be paid for before they will run.

All of the garage sale ads will be published in the Rock County Star Herald and Luverne Announcer with a Garage Sale header & September 14, 15 & 16 date on top of the page - you don't need to include these in your ad. Also included will be a map divided into 4 areas. The garage sales will be divided by area on the page to assist those going to your sale.



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Rodman seeks home for vintage windmills on city-owned land near fairgrounds/continued from page 1

windmills from 10 different countries — Brazil, France, Mexico, Canada, Australia, Africa, China, Spain and the Netherlands.

“Some are truly unique and no longer exist in a wider market. Terry’s been working to bring them back. Many of them were shipped over disassembled and he reassembled them over here in the states.”

Rodman said all the windmills he hopes to bring to Luverne are functioning and in good shape.

“I go through everything to make sure they have new bearings and shafts,” he said. “Some of the older ones that I put up first won’t come here.”

Among the originals staying behind at his farm is a wooden Dutch windmill that he gave his wife, Kris, as a gift more than 20 years ago.

The proposed windmill park would be south of the fairgrounds on city land formerly owned by Warren Baker and east of the acreage along the Luverne Loop trail.

“It’s really an ideal location because the ground is



A Flickr photograph by Earl Leatherberry in 2021 shows Terry Rodman’s vintage windmills at his farm near Jasper.

so low, you can’t do anything else with it,” Rodman said.

Knute said ideally the property could be leased to

a partner non-profit entity and possibly included in the city’s parks system.

“It is simply a project that Mr. Rodman would like to be visible to the public and open to the public when weather allows,” Oldre told the council.

“Currently at his farm, its visible and accessible by roadway, but obviously that end of Hatting Street isn’t open year-round, so it would be closed in winter months.”

A 50-by-60-foot building would be available by

appointment through the Historical Society, which has agreed to be the host of this project.

“Hopefully it would be open during Fair week when staff would volunteer,” Oldre said.

“It would be similar to the model the Hinkly House uses, which is by appointment as well as one set week to focus on tours.”

Rodman currently hosts tours at his farm, often with people viewing the windmills from their vehicles.

City Attorney Ben

Vander Kooi said the council could consider a more direct option for accommodating the windmills.

“From a legal perspective, since the city owns the land ... the city can do whatever it wants to set up a park there,” he said.

Oldre said if that’s the case, the request could be rephrased another way.

“Does the city of Luverne and its council want to take on another park?” he said.

“And if they do, the windmills will be donated

with an agreement that the Rock County Historical Society act as conservators of the assets.”

Rodman would be responsible for transporting and setting up the windmills and would handle initial maintenance.

Also, he’s establishing an endowment through LACF to cover future costs of maintenance.

“He’s working to find a perpetual care team of individuals who will be able to maintain the windmills in his legacy in perpetuity,” Oldre said.

“They are very complicated machines. Some of them require technology that is proprietary — that Terry built himself. He’s looking to find someone passionate in the welding space who he can pass on some of that wisdom to. That search is ongoing. If anyone knows a metal worker who is passionate about what they do ...”

Luverne City Council members did not act on the windmill park request Tuesday but assigned staff to research it and report back at a meeting in the near future.

When asked about the timeline for the project, Oldre said, “Terry’s prepared to begin the moving project immediately after engineering work is complete. He wants to move it along as quickly as he can and hopefully start before next spring in order to be complete before the 2024 Rock County Fair.”



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