



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, September 7, 2023

City finance director on leave, two city liquor store employees resign

By Lori Sorenson

City of Luverne finance director Robyn Wessels is on a leave of absence from her employment in city hall, according to a statement released Tuesday afternoon.

"The City of Luverne wishes to briefly address certain inquiries and information related to finance director Robyn Wessels' employment status with the city," the statement read.

"Robyn Wessels is employed by the city as finance director. Finance director Wessels is currently on a leave of absence from employment with the city,"

City Administrator Jill Wolf declined to comment further on the details of the leave, due to personnel privacy laws. However, the action coincides with two recent resignations in the city liquor store department.

Wolf confirmed last week that liquor store manager Kenny Rolling and liquor store employee Christy Wilson both resigned amid an internal investigation into the department's finances.

The city's legal team, Flaherty and Hood, is heading up that investigation, which Wolf said does not have criminal implications and will not result in disciplinary action since the affected employ-

ees have resigned.

The outcome of the investigation will be made public at a future council meeting when it has concluded.

Wessels has been employed with the city since 2001 and was named finance director in May 2019.

Former city finance director Barbara Berghorst has been retained to assist the city in Wessels'

absence. She's contracted at a rate of \$50.16 per hour for 20 hours a week.

In her statement Tuesday, Wolf said all city finance obligations are being met in the interim.

"The city's finance department will continue to provide effective and efficient finance functions for the city and the community in finance director Wessels' absence," she said.

City council considers hiking levy by 16.85 %

By Lori Sorenson

The city of Luverne tax levy proposed for 2024 is \$3,232,740, an increase of \$466,180.

Luverne City Council members reviewed budget plans for 2024 and discussed the impact of the levy on taxpayers.

The budget calls for \$2 million in the general fund, \$692,900 for the Luverne Aquatics and Fitness Center, and \$440,140 for principal and interest on existing debt.

City Administrator Jill Wolf acknowledged that a nearly 17-percent levy increase is significant, but she said taxpayers will not bear that increase in their actual property taxes.

That's thanks to the city's robust market rate overall.

"The tax levy increase for 2023 was 9.34 percent in 2023, but it resulted in an overall .8-percent decrease in total tax rate," Wolf said at the Aug. 29 meeting.

She pointed to the \$25 million Lineage Logistics freezer warehouse coming on the tax rolls next year, adding more than \$771,000 in real estate taxes per year.

The city will finalize budgets this month and certify the levy in December.



Senior sunrise 2023

Mavis Fodness photo/0907 Senior Sunrise 2023

LHS seniors start last first day of school together

Students in the Luverne High School Class of 2024 gathered Tuesday morning on the football field to watch the sunrise on their last first day of school.

The annual event, organized by student council members, was open to all seniors to attend the early morning gathering. Sunrise on Tuesday was 6:52 a.m.

At right, Morgan Hadler, Anika Boll, Halle Bork (back Addison Huiskes and Kira John) pose for a 2024 Senior Sunrise photo inside the official frame. Behind them in the background, seniors (from left) Torie Serie, Sarah Stegenga, Kiesli Smith and Belle Smidt take a selfie against the backdrop of a colorful sunrise.



Home built by Cardinals for Cardinals

Luverne grads build home for teacher

By Mavis Fodness

Last week's home build on Manfred Drive in Luverne was a high school reunion of sorts for five LHS graduates.

Jake Guy, LHS Class of 2013, is the licensed general contractor with G3 Homes LLC, a business established in 2020 with his brother, Joe (Class of 2018), and dad, Tim.

Recruited with the Guy brothers to complete the construction were Matthew Sterrett (Class of 2013) and Dalton Jacobsma (2014).

G3 Homes is a Wausau Homes Builder, which uses pre-made trusses and custom-crafted framework to construct a home.

A crane is necessary to lift and set the pre-made framework and trusses into place, a process that takes a couple of days to complete.

Jake Guy scheduled a crane from Barnhart Crane and Rigging in Sioux Falls on Aug. 22 and 23 to assist with the task.

When the crane operator



Five Luverne High School graduates (from left) Dalton Jacobsma, Joe Guy, Matthew Sterrett, Jake Guy and Brian Barnhart (in crane) came together last week to set the framing and trusses for a home being built for Angela and TJ Newgard (a Luverne teacher). Submitted photo

Rock County has most volunteers in the region

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County boasts 563 volunteers, according to the recently released A.C.E. of SW Minnesota annual report.

"I am really honored to work with all the volunteers of Rock County," said program manager Linda Wenzel.

"We have the best group in the whole state of Minnesota."

Wenzel presented the report to commissioners Aug. 27. Volunteers will be honored Sept. 7 at the annual appreciation dinner in Luverne.

"The Senior RSVP program is thriving," she said. "Volunteers bring years of experience through every aspect of their diverse careers, hobbies and accomplishments."

In 2022, the 563 local volunteers completed 49,566 hours, the highest amount recorded in the past five years.

The hours are the second-highest in the six-county region that includes Rock,

Nobles, Murray, Cottonwood, Redwood, Lyon and Lincoln.

Redwood County topped the volunteer hours with 50,919.

Cumulatively, the counties tallied 2,337 volunteers who gave 256,034 hours to various organizations.

Using the Minnesota value of volunteer time (\$34.47 per hour), the volunteers donated more than \$8.8 million in service time. Locally, volunteers contribute more than \$1.3 million (\$29.95 per hour) in labor savings to area organizations, Wenzel said.

The Top 10 volunteer sites in Rock County, the number of volunteers, (hours donated by those volunteers) and the number of people served at that site include:

Volunteers/see page 5A



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Vienna Township meets Sept. 12

Vienna Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, in the Kenneth Community Center.

Senior Nutrition Assistance Program 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.

Optimist Fishing Derby 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).

Adrian blood drive Sept. 12

Sanford Health Adrian Clinic will host a community blood drive 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, in the Adrian EMS Building. Donors can schedule at www.cbblifeblood.org or call 605-331-3222. Walk-ins are welcome, appointments are preferred. All donors receive a \$10 Subway gift card.

'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.

'Out of the Darkness' 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

Blue Mound Lutheran Festival

Blue Mound Lutheran Church Fall Festival will be at 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, with guest pastor Craig Grams. A catered meal will follow the service in the parish hall. Everyone is invited.

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.

Preschoolers census info needed

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 continues 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.

Living Works Safe Talk Sept. 30

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.

SAIL in Luverne until Sept. 28

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. manager Linda Wenzel, 507-283-5064 or volunteer Corey Ziegler, 507-920-0587.

Star Herald poised to launch updated website, offers one month of free browsing for readers

Over the past several months the Rock County Star Herald staff and website hosts have been working on a new and improved Star Herald website presence.

The site promises easier navigation, bigger photo-

graphs, more content and a better mobile-friendly version for cell phones and other devices.

"We're really excited to introduce the site's new features to our online readers and advertisers," said Star Herald production manager

Heather Johnson, who has taken the lead on the site's new design and back-end capabilities.

"It's going to be better on so many levels and it will be nice to showcase our Star Herald news and photos in the upgraded online

format."

The new website is coincidentally timed with the Star Herald's 150 anniversary, and the site launch will be accompanied by a news story featuring the paper's business presence in the community since 1873.

RCO honors direct support professionals during National DSP Week Sept. 10-16

National Direct Support Professionals Week is Sept. 10-16, and Rock County Opportunities will honor the professionals that serve its operation in Luverne.

They include Kennedy Maschino, Connie Carda, Erika Camarillo, Cassandra Yonzon, Jenna Coffman, Janine Brands, Elizabeth Magnuson, Tessa Shuler, Krista Kurtz and Pam Tieszen.

Direct support professionals (DSPs) assist people with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities in realizing their full potential and becoming valued and participating members of their communities, according to RCO director Eric Sage.

"Their work is complex and goes well beyond caregiving," he said.

"DSPs require skills including independent problem solving, decision making, behavioral assessment and prevention, medication administration, health and allied health treatment, teaching new skills, crisis prevention and intervention and more."

He said the job duties of a DSP may resemble



National Direct Support Professionals Week is Sept. 10-16 and Rock County Opportunities is honoring the professionals that serve its operation. They are (front, from left) Kennedy Maschino, Connie Carda, Erika Camarillo, Cassandra Yonzon, Jenna Coffman, (back) Janine Brands, Elizabeth Magnuson, Tessa Shuler, Krista Kurtz and Pam Tieszen.

those of teachers, nurses, social workers, counselors, physical or occupational therapists, dietitians, chauffeurs, personal trainers and others.

"A DSP's work requires strong communication skills and the ability to build relationships with the people they support and

their families," Sage said.

"DSPs may work in a variety of places such as family or individual homes, intermediate care facilities, residential group homes, community job sites, vocational and day programs and other locations."

He said their work is

determined by the unique needs and preferences of the individuals they support, and they are held to high ethical and professional standards.

"Every year we recognize DSPs for their tremendous contributions to some of our most vulnerable individuals," Sage said.

LHS grads build home for teacher /continued from page 1A

arrived on Aug. 22, he was someone all the LHS graduates on the construction site were familiar with: Brian Barnhart (Class of 2013.)

"We knew Brian worked for them, but we didn't know he was going to be our operator," Joe Guy said.

In 100-degree heat, the five schoolmates worked together to frame the two-story, four-bedroom home in two days.

"It was so much fun doing this set with these guys," said Jake. "They powered through the heat and really helped this set go smoothly."

Joe said, "A lot of random jokes from 10 years ago were said here and there. That put the whole construction site in a better mood."

The single-family home is the first to be built in Luverne by G3 Homes.

Jake said the work of construction and home remodeling is second nature for the brothers, who often helped their parents, Tim and Renee Guy, with remodeling themselves while living in their home.

After high school, Jake chose construction as a career and was working in construction when the Guys took advantage of the



On Monday, Aug. 28, Jake Guy (driving the telehandler) and Matthew Sterrett (on scaffolding), along with Joe Guy (inside), complete roofing work at the home they are building on Manfred Drive. The three are all Luverne High School graduates. (Submitted photo)

booming Sioux Falls home construction market and started their own business.

However, the plan was sidelined by the coronavirus pandemic, as it curtailed face-to-face contact with potential customers.

"The (building) process is different and it's hard to build trust in a whole new market and a whole new way of doing things (without

meeting with the public face to face)," Joe said.

Now they're turning attention to building homes in their hometown.

Their first home on Manfred Drive is being built for TJ and Angela Newgard.

TJ is a teacher at Luverne Elementary and Joe was a student in TJ's physical education classes He was one of the football coaches

both Guy brothers remembered while playing on the high school team.

Working with someone familiar has added significance in the design of the new home. "It makes it a lot easier if you know the person," Joe said.

And the same familiarity on the construction site also makes the months of working together easier.

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Mavis Fodness photos/0907 School Open House 2023

School open house for Luverne students

Kindergarten through 12th-grade students were able to find their classrooms, greet teachers and deposit supplies into lockers and desks in preparation for the 2023-24 school year at Luverne Public Schools Wednesday, Aug. 30, during the district's open house. Classes officially began in Luverne on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Above: Lucah (left) and Laina Barron greet kindergarten teacher Brooke Van Essen as the twins search for their cubby spaces and desks during the elementary open house.

Above, right: Luverne Elementary paraprofessional Heidi Remme greets families and hands them a district calendar as they enter the school for the Wednesday, Aug. 30, open house.

At right: Carter Wermager (center) receives a warm welcome by second-grade teacher Laura Louwagie. Mya Wermager (left), Carter's sister, is also pictured.

Far right: Band instructor James Jarvie shows sixth-grader Justin Mulder where to store his instrument during the middle school open house.



H-BC Elementary promotes theme: 'It's your game. Take control.'



Mavis Fodness photos/0907 H-BC Elementary First Day



Students at Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary School were greeted for the first day of the 2023-24 school year Tuesday morning by several students and staff dressed as Mario and Luigi, brothers from the popular video game. In the school's morning assembly in the gymnasium, each staff member was introduced to cheers from the students with Principal Todd Holthaus encouraging students to remember to the school year's theme, "It's your game. Take control." The theme is a reminder for all students to embrace learning and retain knowledge to achieve the highest level possible in school. Above: Secretary Brenda Plimpton greets visitors and staff dressed as Mario.

Above, right: Third-grader Hunter Cronberg, dressed as Mario, takes advantage of Tuesday's cool temperatures to swing prior to the start of the first day of school at H-BC Elementary.

Far left: Lucy Lynde gives teacher Rex Metzger a high-five followed by Brooke Kellenberger and Ava Anderson Tuesday morning at Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary School. The teachers and staff formed a tunnel to greet students to the first day of the 2023-24 school year.

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

PESTICIDE CONTAINERS MUST:

- Be #2 HDPE Plastic (identifier shown on bottom of container)
- Be clean, dry and properly rinsed (inside and out)
- 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

WILL NOT ACCEPT

- Bags (either plastic or paper)
- Aerosol containers
- Glass containers
- Mini-bulks or containers larger than 55 gallons

CONTAINERS MUST BE TRIPLE RINSED

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Taking the hand of a child is sometimes all the courage you need

The weather this past Labor Day weekend met (and even exceeded) the predicted hot and humid forecast.



RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

I was his only hope ... swallowing hard, I said I would take him down the slide.

I was his only hope ... swallowing hard, I said I would take him down the slide.

With his little hand in mine, we climbed those stairs together.

With each step, his firm grasp gave me the courage to climb to the top of the platform.

I was by far the oldest waiting in line for the slide.

No matter, I thought, I had a duty to do, and I had a little boy depending on me to come through.

Three times we slid down that spiraling tube, with me screaming all the way to the bottom.

Aidyn laughed each time. The other three kids cheered at our finish.

Years from now, those kids won't remember those presents and other material items that I purchased for them.

What I hope they will remember is all those times "MeeMaw Mavis" took their hands, joining in on their fun instead of sitting on the lawn chair or, worse yet, choosing not to be there at all.

To beat the heat, I spent a portion of Sunday at a water park with my oldest grandchildren.

We happily joined other adults and children who chose to don swimsuits and jump into the cooling water.

As I looked at the faces of the other adults, I noticed not many were old enough to be grandparents.

I realized that I may have been the oldest person there. (Definitely the oldest wearing a swimsuit.)

Grandparents don't know what they were missing.

I talked and listened to my 4- and 6-year-old grandchildren as we slowly floated on innertubes around the lazy river.

We climbed and slid down all the elements in the splash park area.

We paddled across the open pool area.

My grandchildren decided we needed to go down the indoor water slides.

Glancing up at the three-story staircase that carried swimmers to the top of the slide, I knew this activity wasn't for me.

Heights terrify me.

The height didn't deter the grandkids or my 3- and 6-year-old great-nephew and niece, who joined in on the waterslide fun.

As I sat on the lawn chair at the bottom of the slide, I watched the foursome splash to a finish with grins on their faces and a gleam in their eyes that indicated, "We want to do it again!"

At age 3, Aidyn didn't meet the height limit to ride the green spiraling slide by himself.

Now's the time to dial up students' safe behaviors

Minnesota Department of Public Safety divisions share back-to-school safety tips

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Calling for help is an important skill for children to develop, but dialing 911 can be challenging or confusing for them.

In a recent study, none of the kindergarten and first-grade students tested could dial 911 and report an emergency, and only 16 percent of second- and third-grade students were successful with the same task.

Children need these skills because sometimes they might be the only ones who can call 911. Their parent or guardian could be choking; a friend might have an asthma attack walking home from the bus stop; a fire might spark in the home after school and before their parents return from work.

"One of the first phone numbers every child must learn how to properly use early in life is 911," said Dana Wahlberg, director of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Emergency Communication Networks (ECN) division.

"This is so important because dialing or texting 911 becomes their lifeline when they or someone they love needs help.

Part of the issue is education. Children in the study struggled to recognize an emergency.

Before children become overwhelmed with the start of school, new classes and new friends, DPS officials are encouraging parents to sit down with their kids to discuss when to call 911.

- Let kids know they should call 911 if they see someone who needs help right away because of an injury or an immediate danger.

- When calling 911, tell children they need to do so from a safe loca-

tion where they aren't in danger.

- Ensure kids understand that when it comes to calling 911, it's better to be safe than sorry. If it turns out that the situation wasn't a true emergency, let children know it's OK they called 911 anyway because they were trying to help — and that's a good thing.

Talking to public safety telecommunicators, or 911 dispatchers, can also be scary for children. But if parents give them the information, they need to navigate the call, they'll have the confidence to do it when necessary.

When calling 911, children need to do their best to stay calm, describe the emergency and share the address or location of the emergency.

Traditionally, children are also taught how to dial 911 using landline phones.

However, more and more often, families are relying on cell phones instead of landlines. It's important to make sure children have access to a phone even when adults aren't around.

They also need to know how to unlock and dial 911 using a smartphone. Parents can help them practice by roleplaying different emergency situations with their families.

Mobile phone apps that allow children to simulate 911 phone calls are another tool for parents to use to

reinforce these behaviors and skills.

In Minnesota, **texting 911** is also an option. Since the service began in 2017, there have been several instances of children texting 911 when their parents were in verbal or physical conflict and they knew making a call would put them in danger.

Some of the state's public safety dispatch centers also have built-in language translation capabilities for their texting programs.

'See it, Say it, Send it'

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's (BCA) 'See It, Say It, Send It' tip app is a resource for students, parents and school personnel to report threats of violence at Minnesota school facilities.

The app is intended to supplement law enforcement and school safety plans by quickly identifying incidents that may involve more than one facility.

The app can be used to anonymously send photos, videos or other information.

These tips will be reviewed by the BCA and shared with local law enforcement.

"Our goal is to prevent incidents before they have the chance to occur," BCA Superintendent Drew Evans said. "But in the event of an immediate threat or ongoing incident, the first call should always be to 911."

Thone: 'This government is corrupt to the core...'

To the Editor:

In God's court he requires us to love him with all of our heart, mind and soul. To love others and ourselves.

In your court you require us that love God to pay you and get your permission to move, protect ourselves, eat, drink, smoke, buy, sell, own and live.

I and everyone else don't need to pay you or anyone else to move in public, buy guns or live. You in government have made yourselves gods. We must pay you and get your permission to do what God already gave us for free at our conception.

Me paying you and getting your permission to move, bear arms, etcetera, doesn't make me use my blinkers more or drive better. It doesn't stop school shootings. It doesn't make my house more livable.

Financially raping us and forcing us to get your permission to do what God already granted gives you corrupt government criminals more money and control.

You in government exist to punish only those that violate the innocent.

You the sheriff exist to uphold our rights granted to us by our Creator at our conception. Instead, you

use the power you have to financially rape those who have not violated the innocent's rights.

You in government are everything that's wrong in our Constitutional Republic. You presently exist to do the bidding of people like George Soros, Bill Gates, Blackrock, Klaus Schwab, etcetera.

You who exist to uphold the Laws of God's court are using your courts to financially rape and control the people who are innocent.

This government is corrupt to the core and you exist to serve us, not the criminals.

Terry Thone, Luverne

How long is a furlong? The question was first answered 10 years ago

I don't know if you believe in coincidences, but here is proof they do happen from time to time.

Last week Mary and I happened to be at the horse races in Des Moines, Iowa. So the Monday morning office conversation centered around horse racing.

During the conversation I asked if anyone knew the distance of a furlong. Not sure why, but at the time nobody googled it, so the furlong question went unanswered.

Now fast-forward to earlier



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

this week. I was starting to write this column but just stared at my computer wondering what to write about. Then I wondered what I wrote about at this time ten years ago. I

pulled up my column for the first week of September 2013.

The column back then was about the Sanford Wellness Step by Step Challenge. The goal was to walk

yourself to a healthier you.

In the column I wrote about how many steps I had taken so far in the challenge and how many steps were in a mile, and so on.

I copied and pasted the following from the third paragraph of that 2013 column here:

By the way, do you know why there are 5,280 feet in a mile? The mile is an ancient length unit, commonly used by the Romans (equal to 5,000 Roman feet). So when the British started using it as a length

unit, it was necessary to relate it to a furlong, which was a very common length unit used in agriculture. One furlong is 660 feet. It was decided that one mile should be 8 furlongs long, thus 660 feet times 8 furlongs equals 5,280 feet.

Now in my mind, that is fate.

And by the way, long before Google and still today.

For the past 150 years when you need to find out something about Rock County, the Rock County Star Herald is the place to go.

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ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Aug. 25
 •Training in session at the airport in Luverne.
 •Complainant on Plaza on Main Street reported property damage.
 •Complainant on Dakota Road reported a fire.
 •Complainant on S. Cedar Street reported threats.
Aug. 26
 •Complainant on N. Cottage Grove Avenue reported trespassing.
 •Complainant reported trespassing.
 •A warrant was issued on W. Main Street.
 •Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Valley Springs, South Dakota, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne, requested assistance from another department.
 •Complainant on E. Main Street reported found property.
 •Complainant on E. Barck Avenue reported property damage.
Aug. 27
 •An outage was reported.
Aug. 28
 •Complainant on Redbird Road reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on N. Cedar Street reported fraud.
 •Complainant on County Road 4, Magnolia, reported debris.
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 14, Magnolia, reported debris.
 •Complainant north-bound on County Road

17, Manley, Valley Springs, South Dakota, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 6, Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.
 •An outage was reported.
Aug. 29
 •An outage was reported.
 •Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported a public assist.
 •Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported an abandoned vehicle.
 •Complainant on Maple Street reported a civil issue.
 •A warrant was issued in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
 •Complainant on Spring Street and Fairway Drive reported suspicious activity.
Aug. 30
 •Complainant on W. Virginia Street reported a disorderly.
 •Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported an assault.
 •Complainant reported fraud.
 •Complainant on S. Steen Street reported theft.
 In addition, officers responded to 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 vehicle in ditch, 3 transports, 9 ambulance runs, 7 animal complaints, 3 fingerprint requests, 3 burn permits, 1 driver's license check, 1 alarm, 2 purchase and carry permits, 2 stalled vehicles, 31 traffic stops, 1 abandoned 911 call, 2 welfare checks and 1 follow-up.

ACE volunteers tally impressive hours/continued from page 1A

- ATLAS/Redeemed Remnants 58 (4,830) 23,277.
- Grace Quilters 17 (3,969) 292.
- Rock County Historical Society 35 (3,248) 3,524.
- Sanford Luverne Medical Center 41 (2,646) 7,203.
- LLS Meal Site at Generations 46 (2,070) 4,667.
- Friendly Visiting Rock Co. 24 (1,994) 219 volunteers.
- St. Catherine's Sewing Center 10 (1,694) 382.
- St. John Lutheran Church 11 (1,612) 259.
- Blue Mound Area Theatre 28 (1,414) 12,159.

There are 62 volunteer sites in Rock County. Volunteers can be of any age.
 In Rock County, volunteers' ages range from 11 to 95.
 In the annual report, only the numbers and hours worked by those volunteers ages 55 and older are included.



Contributed photo

Blue Mound Area Theatre volunteers Karen Buss (left) and Charlie Berzins make and box up popcorn at a recent event at the Palace Theatre. BMAT volunteers served 12,159 people in 2022, according to a recent volunteer report.

Theatre or BMAT.
 In 2022, the number of people served topped 12,159 (some duplication due to multiple visits).
 "Volunteers do everything at the Palace," said manager Shawn Kinsinger.
 "From making the popcorn, stocking the soda coolers and taking tickets, to cleaning after the events, the Palace could not function without the volunteers."
 The BMAT board operates the Palace for the

city of Luverne.
 Kinsinger and Mary Carroll with the Palace Box Office are the only paid employees.
 Twenty-eight volunteers assisted with events in 2022.
 "Without volunteers, the Palace simply would not be open to the public," Kinsinger said.
 "The fact that the Palace has operated on the spirit of volunteerism for decades says a lot about our community."

Volunteers sought for home-delivered meals
 While the number of hours volunteers gave in 2022 climbed to the highest amount since 2018, the number of volunteers in 2022 declined by 27 individuals from the five-year high in 2021.
 The impact of fewer volunteers impacts the senior nutrition program, which has some gaps in the delivery of weekday meals.
 "There's a challenge to complete home-delivered meals," she said. "Churches have been organizing, but then have some people not show up."
 As a result, Wenzel is organizing a list of volunteers who could fill in at the last minute.
 "We need a short list to be able to make that flow," she said.

A.C.E. is not just volunteers
 Volunteering is one aspect of the Advocate Connect Educate (A.C.E.) program.

Wenzel also oversees the self-supporting services, caregiver services, SW MN Dementia Network, health and wellness programming and medical equipment rental.
 The health and wellness programming expanded outside of Luverne and continues to do so in 2023, Wenzel said.
 SAIL or Stay Active and Independent for Life now take place in Hills, Beaver Creek, Magnolia and Hardwick.
 For more information about A.C.E. volunteering, programming or adding volunteer sites, contact Wenzel, 507-283-5064 or email her at ace.rock@co.rock.mn.us



Mavis Fodness photo/0831 Rebate Check for Lineage

Energy efficiencies leads to rebate for Lineage

The newly built, energy-efficient Lineage Logistics freezer warehouse in the Luverne Industrial Park earned a rebate check of \$41,939.60 Saturday from Missouri River Energy Services. Wade Sands, field representative for Missouri River said Lineage earned the rebate check for choosing energy-efficient lighting, refrigeration and HVAC systems for the 234,000-square-foot facility that will employ 60 people with the option to add more employees. From left are Lineage Logistics Regional Vice President Terry Denker, Lineage Luverne general manager Zach Olivier, Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian and Missouri River Energy Services field representative Wade Sands.

Minnesota offers free entrance to state parks Saturday, Sept. 9

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is waiving vehicle permit fees at all 75 state parks and recreation areas on Saturday, Sept. 9.
 This "Free Park Day" is one of four days each year on which the Minnesota DNR waives the requirement for a vehicle permit at state parks and recreation areas.
 "September is such a great time to be outdoors as we look forward to the changing seasons," said Ann Pierce, director of the Minnesota DNR Parks and Trails Division.
 "We hope Minnesotans who haven't been to a state park before or haven't visited in a while will come out to enjoy time in nature and make memories with friends and family."
 Most Minnesotans live within 30 miles of a state park.
 Visitors looking for certain recreational opportunities or amenities can use the park finder tool at mndnr.gov/parkfinder to find the best state park or recreation area for their trip.
 Visitors on Sept. 9 will have many activity options:
 Hiking is the most popular state

park activity. Find hiking tips and locations on the Minnesota DNR hiking page, mndnr.gov/hiking.
 All-terrain track chairs are available to borrow at 13 state parks, giving visitors with limited mobility the opportunity to explore trails that aren't accessible with a regular wheelchair.
 Find details at mndnr.gov/track-chairs.
 Visitors can bike, walk or roll on paved trails at 33 state parks. Find paved trails at the mndnr.gov/biking.
 Picnic areas are plentiful and provide great places to enjoy a meal with family and friends. Find picnic planning tips, recipes and more at mndnr.gov/picnic.
 Visitors are advised to look for alerts and notices at mndnr.gov/parks before heading out to be aware of construction, trail closures or other circumstances that might impact their trip.
 For more information, visit mndnr.gov/freeparkdays.

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	Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny Friday, September 8 Saturday, September 9 Sunday, September 10 Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 - 12 th grade, \$7 for adults	PG-13 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 2:00 pm

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Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County represented by 32 youth exhibiting at Minnesota State Fair

Leenderts shows grand champion British slick-shorn steer; participates in Purple Ribbon Auction

By Mavis Fodness

Thirty-two 4-H'ers from Rock County traveled to St. Paul to compete in the 2023 Minnesota State Fair.

Fourteen of those 4-H'ers competed at the livestock encampment on Aug. 23-27.

Their animals were among the 2,562 brought to this year's Great Minnesota Get-Together.

Danette Leenderts of Hills took the champion ribbon for her British slick shorn steer. She was also a finalist in the beef project interview and competed in the beef showmanship grades 9+ contest.

Justin Mente of Magnolia received two reserve champion ribbons. His Maintainer heifer finished in the reserve champion position as well as reserve champion beef heifer senior division showman.

There were 579 beef entries, the most of any project.

A purple ribbon was earned by Paige Blom of Hardwick for her dairy crossbred.

There were 422 dairy exhibits, the second-most among the livestock projects.

Other livestock results include:

- Nathan Kinsinger, fourth, British slick-shorn steer, breeding beef showman gr. 9+ participant.

- Lanae Elbers, sixth, Maine Anjou steer, market beef showman grades 9+ participant.

- Claire Knobloch, ninth, market heifer, market beef showman grades 9+ participant.

- Peyton Blom, seventh blue, dairy crossbred.

- Caleb Raak, fourth blue, dairy red and white junior.

- Cooper Cauwels, blue, fall yearling meat breeding goat doe, market breeding doe showman grades 6-7 participant.

- Grace Sandbulte, blue,



Danette Leenderts, champion British slick-shorn steer



Justin Mente, reserve champion Maintainer heifer, reserve breeding heifer showman gr. 9+

rabbit mini rex.

- Jed Fagerness, sixth blue, crossbred breeding gilt.

- Mallie Fick, eighth blue, market gilt.

- Grace Fagerness, sixth blue, crossbred market barrow.

- Drew Fick, ninth blue, crossbred market barrow.

Static project results

Eighteen local 4-H'ers entered static projects at the state fair.

They participated in a peer-jury process in their selected project areas. A purple ribbon is the top award.

Andrea Honken of Ellsworth was awarded a purple ribbon in the crafts grades 9+ project for her two glass cups with wooden

lids and spoons.

Norah Maloney of Garretson, South Dakota, earned a purple ribbon in the indoor gardening grades 6-8 project of a fairy garden in a basket.

Other static project placings include:

- Krista Burkman, clothing and textiles, sewn non-garment grades 9+, blue.

- Fox Forrest, clothing



Above: Paige Blom, purple, crossbred dairy heifer



At left: Norah Maloney, purple, indoor gardening



Below: Andrea Honken, purple, crafts grades 9+

Ava Steinhoff, photography grades 6-8, blue.

Ashlyn Johnson, photography grades 9+, blue.

Klarissa Burkman, quilting grades 6-8, blue

Zachary Uhl, self-determined grades 9+, blue.

Egypt Forrest, filmmaking grades 9+, blue.

The Blue Ribbon 4-H Club earned a red ribbon in the state club banner competition.

Purple ribbon auction

Danette Leenderts of Hills was among the 115 4-H'ers of market animals invited to participate in the 2023 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction for her champion British slick-shorn steer. She received a bid of \$8,500 for her steer.

The grand champion market steer exhibited by Ethan Evenson of Faribault County was purchased for a new auction record of \$60,000.

The auction took place Aug. 26.

Overall, the auction raised a record-setting \$1.3 million for Minnesota 4-H and the participating exhibitors.

and textiles sewn non-garment grade 9+, blue.

- Aubrey Van Belle, crafts grades 6-8, blue.

- Allison Honken, fine arts grades 6-8, blue.

- Larissa Steinhoff, fine arts grades 9+, red.

- Lillian Maloney, food review grades 6-8, blue.

- Luella Johnson, foods grades 6-8, blue

- Joshua Honken, wood-working grades 6-8, blue.

- Gabriella Porter, needle arts grades 6-8, blue.

- Brianna Kinsinger, performing arts grades 9+, blue.

- Colton Buchholz, photography grades 6-8, blue.

1943: John Ingelson moves with family to Luverne at age 10

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 Jan. 6, 1944.

Perhaps one of the happiest 10-year-old boys to come to Rock county in 1878 was John P. Ingelson, now a resident of Luverne. When Paul Ingelson, Mr. Ingelson's father, decided to come to Rock county in May of that year, he selected young John to assist him and an older son, Ed, in moving here from Calmar, Winnieshiek county, Iowa, mainly because he was old enough to help drive the cattle that also made the journey, but still a little bit too young to be of much help to his mother and the rest of the family who came later by train.

As Mr. Ingelson recalls it, there were three or four covered wagons in the "train", two of which were owned by his father. Each of the new settlers had a few cattle, and Mr. Ingelson together with several others helped to drive the cattle as they slowly moved northward. Traveling across the wide expanse of prairie was adventure indeed for the lad, and it provided him with experiences that he will never forget.

On their way up here, Mr. Ingelson recalls that there were many days they were unable to travel



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
Rock County Historian

because of the wet ground. Wagons would become stalled, and the others in the train would have to help them out.

He also recalls that they met several wagons coming back to Iowa from South Dakota. These people tried to discourage them from going west because they had lost everything they had in the grasshopper plague.

Born in Iowa

Mr. Ingelson was born near Calmar May 30, 1868. He spent the first 10 years of his life on the small farm his father owned near there, learning to work before he learned to read and write.

In 1877, his father came to Rock county, and becoming impressed with the vast amount of still unbroken fertile soil, decided to sell his place in Iowa and come here the following year. While in Rock county, he made a deal to buy the homestead rights to a quarter section in Springwater township. A

Mr. Chesley, who had the right to homestead it, had obtained that right from the original owner who had given up a tree claim. Chesley acquired it in payment for a board bill, Mr. Ingelson related.

When the Ingelsons arrived, only 10 acres, that which had been planted to trees, was broken, the rest being virgin prairie. There were no buildings on the place, not even a dugout, so the family stayed with a neighbor, John Halvorson, until their home was built. The building is still standing, he said, and is now the kitchen part of the home on that farm at the present time. One of the first frame houses in that neighborhood, it was built of lumber shipped into Beaver Creek. At that time, the railroad extended no farther west.

Lived at Home

Mr. Ingelson states he only worked "away from home" about two or three months in his whole life. Although too young to help with

the breaking of the prairie, he soon reached the age where he had to help with much of the work on the place. He had spent many hours walking behind a walking plow, a one-horse cultivator, harrow, etc. He never bound grain on the ground, he said, but he has bound grain on a table on a harvester. His father had one of the first twine binders in this section of the country, but it was never successful, and the binder portion was removed, leaving it up to two men to tie the grain as it was cut.

He spent one week away from home helping at the stone quarry at the Palisades. "Guess I was too lazy, because I only had the job a week," he related.

He then took a job with John La Due, a business man at the town of Palisades which was located south of the present site of Garretson. Before the Great Northern railroad was built northeast from Sioux Falls, Palisades was a thriving little community with its store and its mill. Water was deep behind the dam, and as no bridges had been built at that time, the river was crossed on a ferry boat which was towed from one side of the river to the other, across the mill pond.

"It was a lot of fun fishing from that old ferry," recalls Mr. Ingelson, who is an ardent fisherman, "and we used to catch some pretty nice fish

Bits, continued on page 7A

MENU

Monday, Sept. 11: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, dinner roll, fresh orange.

Half-Price Day sponsored by American Reformed Church.

Tuesday, Sept. 12: Baked chicken, baked potato, peas, bread, fruit.

Wednesday, Sept. 13: Chicken salad sandwich, cucumber and tomato salad, tropical fruit.

Thursday, Sept. 14: Taco salad with salsa, sour cream and corn chips, fresh apple, dessert.

Half-Price Days sponsored by Main Street Financial.

Friday, Sept. 15: Pork loin, scalloped potatoes, carrots, bread, dessert.

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.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2013)

Area coffee lovers will be happy to learn about "The Bean," coming soon to South Highway 75 in Luverne. Luverne High School grad Leah Radisewitz has purchased a coffee wagon that she hopes to turn into a permanent drive-up coffee shop.

For now, The Bean is located just south of the McClure Plumbing and Heating business on the west side of Highway 75. ...

The Bean will offer all kinds of coffees and eventually fresh fruit smoothies.

25 years ago (1998)

The life story of Luverne native Harold Dunkle Jr. was scheduled to air on national television this week. As of this writing, producers of the CBS news magazine "Public Eye with Bryant Gumbel" had assured Harold and Gwen Dunkle, Luverne, that the segment on their son would air Wednesday, Sept. 9.

It features Dunkle's life in Spencer, Iowa, highlighting episodes such as the time in 1994 when he saved a man's life with CPR.

The story about how he was selected for the story is possibly more interesting than the story itself.

According to news articles that appeared in the Spencer Daily Reporter, Dunkle was contacted at his home on the evening of Aug. 11 with an interview request for "Public Eye."

The CBS news crews had chosen him randomly for a story, based on their theory that "everyone has a story." An interview with a former illegal immigrant living in a mobile home in Texas has already aired. The second segment told the story of a retired heart surgeon from Utah living in New Mexico. Both stories were decided by the path of a dart thrown at a map of the United States.

To find Dunkle, the CBS crew attended a 5-year-old's birthday party at a Chucky Cheese pizza parlor near Los Angeles. Instead of pin the tail on the donkey, she played pin the tail on the map. The little girl stuck the pin in Spencer, Iowa.

50 years ago (1973)

Marion Jochims moved out of her Palace Theatre apartment Saturday.

Her new address is Preston, Minn. She will be living permanently with her niece, Mrs. Maryon Hayes, and her three children, with whom she has spent much of her time the past three years.

Mrs. Jochims lived in Luverne for 23 years. She came here after she and the late Herman Jochims, who founded and operated the Palace Theatre for many years, were married in 1950. The spacious second floor Palace apartment had been home to her ever since.

With Herman, she helped operate the theatre. After his death, she operated it herself for several years until she leased it and finally sold it.

It was during those years that Marion became acquainted with the people of Luverne, and the people of Luverne became acquainted with her.

75 years ago (1948)

Eight years of work in 4-H livestock production paid dividends to Francis Crawford, Beaver Creek, last week.

The 18-year-old Willing Workers club member was named the outstanding individual meat animal demonstrator at the Minnesota State Fair. For winning the honor, he will receive an all-expense trip to the National Club Congress in Chicago in December. His demonstration was on feeding sheep.

Anita Sandager, of the Hills Blue Ribbon club, was the other state championship winner from Rock county. Her demonstration in the activities division on home pasteurization of milk was judged the best in that division.

100 years ago (1923)

From the standpoint of entertainment, features the 15th annual Rock county fair which opens next Monday bids well to being one of the most successful events in years. The entertainment committee of the fair board has been fortunate in securing several numbers for afternoon performance which are in instructive as well as entertaining.

Perhaps one of the best of these attractions, and the one which will be of greatest interest to the people, will be the horseshoe pitching tournament which will be held on the last two days of the fair, Tuesday and Wednesday.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Local resident receives 2023 Spirit Award

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota has recognized Jeanne Vandehoef, Luverne, with the prestigious 2023 Spirit Award for her work with the organization.

Vandehoef is senior cook at LSS Meals which serves local residents in Generations Event Center and through home-delivered meals.

The Spirit Award honors LSS employees who demonstrate outstanding commitment and dedication to the vision and mission of the organization.

"The cabinet and I look forward to Spirit Awards all year,"

said Patrick Thueson, president of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.

"Our 2023 Spirit Award recipients are individuals who bring energy, passion and commitment to their work. It's a great opportunity for us to celebrate the deep dedication, caring presence and cheerful spirit they share in their service to others."

Vandehoef was nominated by her supervisors and recognized among 85 other Spirit Award honorees at a luncheon celebration in St. Cloud Aug. 15.

Bits by Betty/continued from page 6A

there, too."

Drove on New Grade

Speaking of the construction of the railroad from Sioux Falls to Garretson, he recalls that one time before the rails were laid he drove on the railroad grade from Palisades to Sioux Falls with a team.

He never attended school except in the winter time when the farm work was slack. However, he did take advantage of every opportunity he had to get an education, and was still going to school when he was about 20 years old. As a matter of fact, he said, he was going to school in district 44 in Beaver Creek township when the blizzard of 1888 struck, and he and several other students and the teacher, Cora Raymond, were forced to remain in the building overnight.

"We are lucky that we had plenty of fuel and could get ahold of it," he said. "Some of us had a little lunch left in our baskets, and this we divided between us. The next morning Jane Hendershot, who lived about a half mile from the school, brought us hot biscuits and they were really appreciated. Among the other students who were forced to remain in the building all night was L.G. Larson, Beaver Creek, also a Diamond Club member.

Although he has lived in Rock county over 65 years, he recalls that he was out in only one strong wind storm. He and a helper were hauling a load of hay when the wind arose, and when it subsided, practically all the hay except that on which they were sitting, was blown out of the rack. At that same time, the school building in district 20 was blown from its foundation.

Excellent Hunting

As a young man he enjoyed good hunting and fishing in Rock county. There were numerous prairie chickens to be obtained, and pickerel and other game fish could be obtained in almost any creek or stream.

Mr. Ingelson began farming for himself on the home farm, and later purchased the place. He always raised hogs and cattle, and produced as much grain as he could. He retired from farming in 1919, and has since made his home in Luverne.

Mr. Ingelson was married in 1905 to Annie C. Carstens, and they became the parents of three children, Mrs. Fred (Evelyn) Herman, Luverne; Paul Ingelson, Luverne, and Everett Ingelson, who is now in Massachusetts working with the U.S. Geodetic survey. Mrs. Ingelson died in 1932.

Was County Commissioner

While Mr. Ingelson was on the farm, he served two and one half terms as county commissioner, representing Springwater and Beaver creek townships, and also served a number of terms as township assessor, township supervisor, and as member of the school board of district 20.

Mr. Ingelson's favorite pastime is fishing, and he spends many of his hours in the summer time at Mound lake, the Rock river and other nearby spots. Usually, he and two or three others go to a northern lake for the opening of the season every year. In the party usually John Rober and August Rathjen of Luverne. The late Warnie Beers also was a member of the party when he was alive.

There are thrills aplenty for anyone who fishes in the border lakes in Northern Minnesota, Mr. Ingelson will tell you. One time, he and his party of three others landed four northern pike which weighed a total of 80 pounds.

Hard Narrow Escape

Storms on lakes such as Kabetogama are numerous, and on one occasion, he and the other men were almost sure that they'd never get to shore alive. The storm arose, as they were towing one boat

behind the other. After trying desperately to make island, but finding themselves virtually helpless, they dropped anchor on the boat they were towing, and loosed it from the boat in which they were riding. They have themselves up for lost, but drifted with the wind, finally ending up on another island. Fortunately, the island was bare of rocks and reefs, and they got to shore safely. In 15 minutes the storm had subsided, and looking out to the lake, they saw their other boat bobbing up and down on the waves as if nothing had happened.

"We were most glad to be alive," Mr. Ingelson said, "but we were plenty glad to see that boat too, because in it was our fishing tackle and another motor. We almost decided after that experience that that was our last trip there, but we've been back since."

Of a family of six children, Mr. Ingelson, and one brother, Ed, are still living. The latter lives in Sioux Falls. Mr. Ingelson has six grandchildren.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to manmade@iw.net.

OBITUARIES

Terry Morse

Rev. Dr. Terry W. Morse, age 77, of Luverne, Minnesota, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, while at the Luverne Hospice Cottage.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Luverne.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the church in Terry's honor.

Arrangements are under the care of Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. To sign an online registry, please visit www.hartquistfuneral.com.

A passion for ministry and a deep love for his family marked the life of The Reverend Doctor Terry W. Morse, who passed away on Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023. Our aching hearts stand as a testament to the overwhelming love, selfless dedication, and remarkable impact he left on his family, friends, congregation and community.

Terry was a compassionate listener with a loving heart and ready smile who fostered connections with everyone. He was a lifelong learner and an avid reader who enjoyed traveling and model railroads. Most of all, Terry loved working together with people in serving God.

Terry grew up near Grand Rapids, Michigan, and earned his undergraduate degrees in psychology and religion at

a small private college in Houghton, New York. He knew in college he was headed for the ministry, and he continued his education at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, where he earned his Master of Divinity and his Doctorate of Ministry.

As a student, he pastored in Virginia and New York and wrote "Custom-Fitting Your Wedding Ceremony," which contains suggestions for blending different worship traditions. He also served in numerous community and civic organizations.

Terry and his wife, Martha, lovingly served congregations in California, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Minnesota. He ministered in Yosemite National Park and most recently served Luverne Presbyterian Church, where he retired in 2012 and was bestowed Pastor Emeritus in 2023.

Recently Terry and Martha celebrated their 55th anniversary.

Their family includes children Eric and Alyssa (James); and grandchildren Evvie, Ellie, Alex and Maggie.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Elizabeth Morse; sister Rosalie; and brother Duane.

Terry loved people and ministered to the end of his life. His dignity and compassion will always be remembered.



Ardath Schmidt

Ardath Schmidt, age 91, of Luverne, died Monday, Sept. 4, 2023, at the Mary Jane Brown Good Samaritan Home in Luverne.

She was born July 24, 1932, in Jasper, Minnesota, to Howard and Eloise (Drew) Wohlford.

She was a member of St. Catherine Church in Luverne. She enjoyed knitting and sewing. She also loved traveling and adventure.

Ardath is survived by her children, Terry Schmidt, Douglas Schmidt, Ellie Drew and Harvey Schmidt;

grandchildren Neil and Lacy Schmidt, Jerri, Duane, Chelsey, and Arielle Schmidt, Kai and Koll Christenson, Cameron, Cody, Lysje, MacKinzee, Rebekah, and Jessica Schmidt; and many great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her siblings, Harold Wohlford and Elizabeth Young.

A private family service will take place at a later date. Dingmann Funeral Home & Cremation Services, in Luverne, is assisting the family with arrangements.

DEATH NOTICE

Vernon Walsh

Vernon Walsh, age 90, of Worthington, died with his family by his side Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023, at Sunset Hospice Cottage in Worthington.

Visitation will be Saturday, Sept. 9, from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church, in Sioux Valley, Minnesota.

Funeral will be 11 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sioux Valley, with Pastor Jacobsen officiating. Military honors will be held after the service outside the church.

Burial will follow the service at the Garfield Township Cemetery in Webb, Iowa.

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Conspiracy Tattoo artists sweep 2023 awards in Morton

By Lori Sorenson

Artists with Luverne's Conspiracy Tattoo business took home seven awards, including Best of Show, during competition in the annual "Jackpot Junction Tattoo Function" Aug. 25-27.

Conspiracy Tattoo operators Tony and Christina Perez attended the event in Morton where Tony won:

- first and second place in the Cartoon/Super Hero category.
- first and second place in the Gamer/Nerd/Pun category.
- first place in the Trick/Bio-Mechanical category.
- Best of Show, an award given to the best of the first-place winners of the day.

"The Cartoon/Superhero category brought home the big win for us," Christina said about the colorful tattoo on the arm of Luverne's Donovan Conklin.

He is manager of Herb 'N Legend, which does business adjacent to Conspiracy Tattoo in downtown Luverne. Both businesses are owned by Terry Gray and Monte Hagedorn. Conklin came up with



Lori Sorenson photos/0907 conspriacy tattoo awards

Conspiracy Tattoo operators Tony (left) and Christina Perez (right) are pictured with their friend and colleague, Donovan Conklin, who designed (and wears) one of the Tony's winning tattoos. It was Conklin's idea to make a full-color, full-sleeve tattoo from the anime Naruto (pictured at right). "Every single tailed beast in the show is on my arm," said Conklin, a 2017 Luverne High School graduate and manager of Herb 'N Legend. "The tattoo was my idea and Tony brought it to life."

the design idea for the award-winning tattoo on his arm. "The tattoo was my idea and Tony brought it to life," Conklin said.

Christina said the announcer at the awards ceremony referred to Tony as "the

man, the myth, the legend," because of the number of awards he was winning.

"Other artists were checking Donovan's tattoo Tony did and talking about how smooth and technically perfect his



work is," she said.

"When he won Best of Show, the whole room started clapping and cheering. It was a surreal moment."

The Best of Show was awarded among 13 first-place winners.

"The competition was very tough," Christina said. "The other categories had anywhere from five to 25 competitors."

Tony said he prefers not to take credit for the creative awards. "I don't want to take any credit from the Lord," he said. "All the honor and glory go to him."

The three-day convention was in the Dacotah Exposition Center and hosted by Tattoo You Midwest Conventions.

It included live tattooing and piercing, tattoo contests and \$3,000 in trophies and awards.

Tony also took second place in Men's Large Color in live competition Saturday for a full-color sleeve done for a client from Huron.



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Blackshire Farms Pumpkin Patch is open noon to 7 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday at 953 74th Avenue west of Beaver Creek



Photos and text by Lori Sorenson



At left, George the cat makes her way behind a pumpkin variety named "One Too Many," marked by a lacy pattern on a pale color. "They must have decided there were actually too many varieties, and this one is 'one too many,'" Sean said. Pictured in the center are owners Sean and Marcella McFarland and their son, Cedar. In the foreground are large white polar bear pumpkins. Pictured at right are heirloom hubbard squash, which are also good for eating. However, Sean acknowledges that they're mostly used in fall displays.

Everything's coming up pumpkins!

The Blackshire Farms Pumpkin Patch near Beaver Creek is now open for the season with nearly two acres offering 50 different pumpkins, squash and gourds, many of them heirloom varieties. The patch is open from noon to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday (every day except Monday) at 953 74th Avenue. "We stretch the boundaries of what goes into a pumpkin patch," Sean said. "Almost everything that's not an orange jack-o-lantern has traditionally been a culinary squash, many of them heirloom. You can eat an orange jack-o-lantern, but it doesn't taste very good. The others taste really good, especially the Galeux d'eyssines." "I spend a lot of time in the winter deciding which varieties to grow."

At right is a pumpkin affected by the mosaic virus harmless for human consumption but results in a multi-colored skin.



Below is a galeux d'eyssines pumpkin, AKA "peanut shell pumpkin" for warts formed by sugar crystalizing under its peach-colored skin. It's a French heirloom squash with a sweet flavor. "They taste good, but people like them for decorating," Sean said.

Below right is a colorful and good-tasting turban squash.



In the center photo, Sean holds a large flat pumpkin aptly named "flatso." Above right, Cedar holds a popular three-lobe pumpkin. Beside him is a pumpkin showing the effects of the mosaic virus, which causes the pumpkin skins to turn variegated colors. At right, the "Cinderella" pumpkin is named for its carriage shape.



What is the process of land acquisition for habitat? Part 1

I was asked a while back about what goes into the decisions made when land is purchased for habitat restoration. This is a topic many folks are curious about so I thought I would explain in a series of columns what happens when new public lands are added in your county.

When you see a new Wildlife Management Area pop up in your area, it's hard to believe that many of them have been in the making for many years. In my experience doing this sort of work, I estimate that almost all of the new public lands in Minnesota are a result of a private land owner contacting either the Minnesota DNR, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or a conservation organization like Pheasants Forever.

State wildlife resource managers and non-profits like Pheasants Forever only buy land from a will-



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, outdoors columnist

ing seller. Never in my 45 years has there ever been an eminent domain proceeding to acquire public lands for hunting purposes.

Most of the parcels that are brought forward by willing sellers are actually turned down. More than 90 percent of all offers to sell to the Minnesota DNR are declined due to those parcels not meeting the habitat goals used to determine what would be a good fit and what wouldn't.

Reasons that a particular parcel might be declined are many. If the parcel is very small or isolated and far from any other habitat or existing public lands, that is one of the more common

reasons to pass on considering a particular parcel.

Small isolated parcels are not economical to maintain. Other potential acres might be too close to a busy highway or too close to a town or community. Parcels that are land locked or otherwise don't have a solid public access are most often declined as well.

Attributes that make a parcel attractive for consideration are many. If the spot has restorable wetlands on it, this gives it a higher priority. If it connects to other existing public habitat, this will increase its desirability. Larger habitat complexes have a higher carrying capacity than the same

number of acres split up into, say, five or six smaller spots that are 3 miles apart from one another.

If there is any of the rare native prairie left in Minnesota included in a potential acquisition, the prospects get much brighter. All of the possible tracts are scored twice per year, and a priority list is compiled. The highest wildlife value parcels will be at the top of the list, and others with less potential will end up at the bottom of the list.

The willing seller is then contacted by an acquisition project coordinator, and the process is begun. I have been involved as an acquisition coordinator with over 50 of these projects all over the southern half of Minnesota. A meeting is set up with the potential seller and a physical onsite visit is completed. This visit puts eyes on the ground looking for all sorts of things. Is there existing habitat?

What condition is it in? Are there any junk piles of ravines full of chemical cans or other possible pollution concerns? Do there appear to be any encroachment issues? Background information is compiled with information from the seller. Are there any acres in CRP? Did the farmer sign up for a wind or solar easement?

These competing interests can outweigh otherwise good wildlife habitat values. Are there any other forms of easements that need to be considered? Some tracts have lifelong CREP or RIM easements for which many of the most common sources of grant funding will not be allowed.

The site visit also looks for other potential dangers. An open well would be an example. Burn pits and abandoned appliances or junk cars would need attention before any considerations or offers could be considered. An interesting

question on the site visit form asks if there are any human remains buried on the site. These would obviously need further investigation in order to be handled properly. More than we would all like to admit is the possibility that an old abandoned structure might have used or look like it was used for meth production. These areas can remain toxic for a very long time.

Other documents like a copy of the deed, property tax forms, and copies of any contracts on the property are collected so an appraiser can have all the necessary information to prepare an appraisal.

We will start next week on how that appraisal process works and what steps will follow its completion. Until then, get outside. Fall is getting closer.

Scott Rall can be reached at scottarall@gmail.com.

LHS football team wins home opener vs. Trojans

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne football team faced off against Worthington Thursday, Aug. 31, at home.

The Cardinals beat the Trojans 25-20, holding off a second half surge by Worthington.

In the first quarter, senior Elliot Domagala turned a 15-yard run into Luverne's first six points.

Senior Patrick Kroski missed the extra point field goal to keep the lead to six.

In the second quarter, junior Marcos Diaz scored on a 12-yard punt return deep in Worthington's zone to make the score Luverne 12, Worthington 0.

The Cardinals failed to score on a two-point conversion play.

Worthington got on the board with a 70-yard pass and failed the two-point conversion, cutting the lead to 12-6 in favor of the Cardinals.

Domagala scored his second touchdown on a two-yard run late in the first half.

Luverne failed again on a two-point conversion, and the Cardinals led 18-6 going into the second half.

Senior Sam Rock rumbled into the end zone on a seven-yard run, extending the Cardinals' lead to 24-6.

Kroski was able to kick the extra point, and Luverne took a 25-6 cushion into the fourth quarter.



Senior Sam Rock rushes through a large hole provided by his offensive line Thursday, Aug. 31, at home vs. Worthington. The Cardinals won their home opener 25-20 shutting down a late surge by the Trojans.

Worthington mounted a scoring drive toward the middle of the fourth quarter with a 10-yard touchdown but failed the two-point conversion, cutting the score to 25-12.

Luverne turned the ball over on downs and Worthington was able to score again on a 25-yard pass, beating the Cardinals deep in the endzone.

The Trojans scored on a two-

Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 lhsfb rock

point conversion run pulling to within five points of the Cardinals.

Even though the Cardinals

LHS football team/see page 6B

Luverne cross country teams crown two new champions

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne cross country team participated in the Metcalf Invitational at Mountain Lake Golf Course Friday, Sept. 1.

Luverne was one of 15 teams at the event.

In the varsity and junior varsity events, the Cardinals had 11 runners place in the Top 15.

Junior Owen Janiszkeski and senior Jenna DeBates each placed first as individual champions in the 5,000 meter.

"I thought we did a nice job of getting out, competing and challenging ourselves to get better," head coach Pete Janiszkeski said. "We showed a lot of growth from last week in Beresford, and the kids raced with a lot of confidence."

In team results, Luverne took first place in the boys' varsity 5,000 meter and the girls' junior varsity 4,000 meter events.

Cross country/see page 6B

H-BC Patriots beat Coyotes 51-6

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Patriots hosted Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda Thursday, Aug. 31, in nine-man football competition.

The Patriots beat the Coyotes 51-6 in the opening season game.

The Patriots did not waste any time scoring, taking their first drive into the end zone with a nine-yard pass from sophomore Jamin Metzger to junior Jackson Gacke.

Metzger converted on a two-point rush, giving the Patriots an 8-0 lead.

H-BC scored again in the first quarter with a four-yard keeper by Metzger for a touchdown.

Junior Beau Bakken caught a pass from Metzger for the two-point conversion.

The Patriots closed the first quarter leading 16-0.

In the second quarter H-BC scored on a 17-yard rush by Metzger for a TD.

The extra point pass was no good.

The Patriots scored again when sophomore Micah Bush caught a 9-yard pass from Metzger.

Senior Justin Roelfs added two more points running in the two-point conversion.

The Patriots closed the half with a 30-0 lead over HLOF.

In the third quarter H-BC scored once on a 12-yard pass to senior Riley Tatge from Metzger.

The two-point conversion was no good.

In the fourth quarter Bakken scored on an 8-yard run for a TD.

Junior Cameron Allen missed the extra point kick.

HLOF was able to get on the board late in the fourth with a 1-yard TD run but missed on the two-point conversion.

The Patriots closed the scoring when sophomore Mason Shaffner rumbled in on a 65-yard TD run.

Freshman Riggins Rheault ran in the two-point conversion.

The Patriots closed the game with a score of 51-6.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 hbcfb metzger

H-BC quarterback, sophomore Jamin Metzger, throws past a Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda defender Thursday, Aug. 31, at the Patriots' first home game of the season.

H-BC Individual Stats			
Passing	Cp/Att	Yds	TD
Metzger	14/20	192	3
Rushing			
	Yds	TD	
Bakken	77	1	
Shaffner	67	1	
Metzger	64	2	
Roelfs	10	0	
VandenBosch	9	0	
Receiving			
	Rec.	Yds.	TD
Bosch	6	82	0
Tatge	2	47	1
Bush	4	39	1
Gacke	1	9	1
Bakken	1	0	0

	Tackles	Sacks
Bush	4.5	0
Peterson	0.5	0
Wegener	2	1
Roelfs	2.5	0
Tatge	2.5	1
Bosch	0.5	0
Wallin	2.5	0
Allen	5	0
Kruger	4	0
Susie	2	0
VandenBosch	3.5	0
Leuthold	2	0
Leenderts	1	0
Shimp	2	0
Rheault	2.5	0
Gacke	1.5	0
Bakken	1	1
Bartels	1.5	0
Shaffner	4	0
Klosterbuer	1	0

attending the game.

His wife, Erin, and three sons, Brodie, Brooks and Briggs, were there to help him celebrate the occasion.

Metzger said, "H-BC football has a rich tradition, and when I took over

in 2010 for Dan Ellingson, I just tried to keep things rolling."

When asked what's the best part of reaching the 100th win, Metzger said, "Probably the best part of reaching 100 wins was the former players that reached out to congratulate me. I'm pretty lucky to have the assistant coaches that I have. They are all former H-BC guys and have been with me on staff most of the way."

Metzger's first win was against Janesville-Waldorf Pemberton back in the first game of the season in 2010.

Metzger said one season that really stands out in his mind was the football season when Trenton Bass got hurt.

"That was a tough year for everyone," Metzger said.

"I think about Trenton and the guys on that team all the time. Trenton is such a great kid, and the guys on that team like Luke LaRock and Easton Harnack have told the story about that night to numerous groups of people and have had such an impact in our community and surrounding communities about their faith and their journey."



Samantha McGaffee/metzger

H-BC head coach Rex Metzger, along with his wife, Erin, and their sons, Brodie (blue shirt), Brooks (holding the football) and Briggs, is honored after his 100th varsity team win Thursday, Aug. 31, in Hills.

Rex Metzger gets 100th career varsity win

The game marked head coach Rex Metzger's 100th career varsity win.

He was honored with a game ball by his team and a standing ovation by those



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 beers

Declan Beers reacts to the frustration of the Redbirds not being able to produce at the plate against Bluffton in Dassel Sept. 2. Luverne ended its season 26-2.

Redbirds end season, falling to Bluffton 1-0 at the state tourney

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne Redbirds lost to the Bluffton Braves 1-0 Saturday, Sept. 2, in Dassel, ending an extended playoff season that boasted a 26-2 record.

The Braves were able to score one run in the first inning, and that is where the score stood for the entire game.

Late in the seventh inning the Cardinals looked as if they might tie the game up.

Nick Smith got walked with two outs.

Smith then advanced to second and then third base on an error by the pitcher.

In a heads-up play, Smith led off third base and acted as if he might steal home, trying to distract the Braves at the same time.

It seemed to work, with the Bluffton pitcher seeming to have balked before a pitch.

If the pitcher were called for a balk in that situation, Smith would have to be granted a base, a base that would have tied the game at 1-1.

It was possibly a missed call by the field umpire and was never acknowledged as a balk. Bluffton went on to

get the third out and retire the seventh inning with the Braves still ahead 1-0.

Luverne was unable to get any good traction in the eighth inning and didn't score in the top of the ninth inning, giving the Braves a 1-0 win in the Sweet 16 bracket.

The Redbirds ended the season with an impressive 21-2 record and reached the Sweet 16 for the second time since 2015.

"It was a tough game for us offensively," team manager Brooks Maurer said.

"Ben threw really well and gave us a chance to win. When you get to the final weekend, everyone is really tough and you need to have one little thing go your way, but unfortunately that didn't happen for us."

"It was an incredibly fun season. You can't hang your head after only losing two games all year and finishing in the top 16 at state."

The Braves went on to beat Delano 1-0 in the Elite 8 and fell to Maple Lake 8-6 in the final four.

Redbirds season/see page 3B

Box Scores					
Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
HLOF	0	0	0	6	6
H-BC	16	14	6	15	51

Team Totals	HBC	HLOF
First Downs	21	13
Penalties/yards	2-10	5-30

H-BC volleyball team comes from behind to beat Viborg 3-2

By Greg Hoogeveen
The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team went on the road to take on Viborg, South Dakota, Tuesday, Aug. 29.

The Patriots gave up the first two games 25-21 and 26-24 to the Cougars. "At first we definitely had some first game jitters and made quite a few unforced errors in the first two games," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

In Game 3, the H-BC athletes collected themselves and won the game 30-28.

"Game 3 was pretty much back and forth," Zylstra said.

"I called a timeout and told the girls they weren't going to give up, and to go all out so we could go to Game 4."

Zylstra said her team came together after that.

"We were hitting well, blocking well, our passes were great and we were communicating well," Zylstra said.

The Patriots won the fourth game 25-14 and tied the match at two games apiece.

The fifth and final game would be played to 15 points.

"I think the girls were

very determined to win Game 5 and get their first win," Zylstra said.

"They were so excited after having not won at all last season."

H-BC won Game 5 by a score of 15-9 and got their first match win since the 2021 season.

Senior Brynn Rauk posted two blocks, 20 set assists, four digs and six ace serves in the match.

Freshman Brynn Bakken had 10 kills, four digs and four ace serves.

Lanae Elbers, a senior, had 10 kills, eight blocks and three ace serves for H-BC.

Senior Larissa Steinhoff had seven kills, two blocks and four ace serves.

Freshman Olivia Deelstra had 10 kills, two blocks, four digs and five ace serves.

Sophomore Abbie Harris had 13 set assists and three digs.

Senior Grace Anderson had 12 digs and one ace serve.

Sophomore Claire Knobloch had nine digs for the Patriots.

H-BC was scheduled to host Edgerton Tuesday, Sept. 5, and participate in a tournament in Luverne Saturday, Sept. 12.

Redbirds end season/from page 2B

Maple Lake then took on Bird Island for the championship and won 6-4 on Monday, Sept. 4, in Delano.

Box Scores									
Inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
RBirds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLFF	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x

Luverne Redbirds				
BATTING	AB	R	H	RBI
S. Wenninger	4	0	0	0
Serie	4	0	0	0
Smith	2	0	0	0
Paquette	3	0	0	0
Johnson	3	0	0	0
Lundgren	3	0	0	0
Beers	3	0	0	0
Sehr	3	0	1	0
C. Wenninger	2	0	0	0
2B: Sehr				
Total Bases: Sehr 2				

PITCHING					
IP	H	R	ER	SO	
Serie	7.5	8	1	1	3
Pitches-Strikes: Serie 119-77					
Batters Faced: Serie 35					



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 double play
Third baseman Derek Lundgren watches first baseman Newt Johnson complete a double play against Bluffton Sept. 2. The Redbirds lost the game 1-0 to Bluffton in the state tourney.

Team manager Brooks Maurer steps down

Maurer announced days after the state tournament that he would be stepping down as the team manager after nine years at the helm.

"I am not sure who is going to step in yet, but the team knew at the end of last year this was going to be my last year so we have been talking about different options," Maurer said.

"I am going to help whoever the next manager is with the transition and anything they need help with, and I plan on showing up to dress for a few games when it works out."

Maurer said that it's



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 Maurer
Redbirds team manager Brooks Maurer announced his retirement after this year's state tournament.

gotten harder to make things work coaching softball, football and the Redbirds with a growing family.

When asked about his favorite memories with the team, Maurer said the entire experience has been memorable.

"It's really hard to pick a favorite memory. There have been so many," he said.

"Obviously the five state tournaments come to mind, but honestly just getting to hang out with the boys and watching my son run around on the field after games are my Top 2."



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 lhsvb john
Senior Kira John jumps to spike the ball past two West Lyon blockers Thursday, Aug. 31, at the Luverne Triangular. Luverne beat West Lyon 25-22 and 26-24 and defeated Murray County Central 25-21 and 25-21 in an earlier match.

LHS volleyball team wins two games but falls to Eagles

By Greg Hoogeveen
The Cardinals volleyball team is 3-1 for the season after a series of games over the past week.

Luverne lost to Southwest Christian 3-0 Tuesday, Aug. 29, on the road.

The Cardinals beat Murray County Central and West Lyon 2-0 in both games Thursday, Aug. 31, at a Luverne Triangular.

Luverne was scheduled to take on Marshall on the road Tuesday, Sept. 5, and will travel to Westbrook Walnut Grove Thursday, Sept. 7, before hosting an invitational Saturday, Sept. 9.

of 14 with one ace from the service line.

Hannah Sneller, a junior, had six set assists and was six for six from the service line.

Junior Kylie Vander Lugt had six digs for the Cardinals.

Junior Amira Cowell provided eight set assists in the three sets.

Senior Kira John had two blocks assists and one solo block.

Senior Tori Serie posted six kills in the contest.

"Missing 12 serves in three games really does

some damage," DeBeer said.

"Those are easy points other teams don't have to work for."

Luverne Triangular
The Luverne volleyball team hosted a triangular Thursday, Aug. 31, with Murray County Central and West Lyon.

In Luverne's first game the Cardinals beat Murray County Central in two sets 25-17 and 25-14.

LHS volleyball/see page 6B

Cardinal tennis team loses 4-3 to Fairmont in home meet

By Greg Hoogeveen
The Luverne girls' tennis team lost a close meet to Fairmont at home, 4-3, on Tuesday, Aug. 29.

The Cardinals lost all four singles matches and won their three doubles matches against Fairmont.

In singles play, Luverne's No. 1 match, senior Sarah Stegenga lost two sets 6-1, 6-1 to Hope Klanderud.

LHS senior Morgan Hadler gave up two sets to Abigail Peyman 6-0, 6-0 in the No. 2 match.

In No. 3 singles, LHS senior Rayann Remme lost her first set 6-4 and her second set 6-1 to Elly Stegge.

Cardinals junior Katia Jarchow lost No. 4 singles 6-1, 6-1 to Emelia Klanderud.

In doubles play, Luverne won all three matches.

Juniors Augusta Papik and Caitlin Kindt defeated Madisyn Peyman and Brynn Gustafson in two sets 6-2 and 6-4 in the No. 1 doubles match.

In the No. 2 doubles match, seniors Roselynn Hartshorn and Cassi Chesley beat Ellie Plumhoff and Jaydan Moses 6-2, 6-3.

Juniors Emma Nath and Corynn Oye won their doubles match at No. 3 6-1, 6-1 against Claire Brockman and Carly Gustafson.

The Cardinals tennis team has five wins and two meet losses for the season.

Luverne was scheduled to travel to Blue Earth Area Tuesday, Sept. 5, and will host Marshall Thursday, Sept. 7.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 tennis remme
Senior Rayann Remme returns a serve in her match against Fairmont Tuesday, Aug. 29, in Luverne.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 tennis nath
Junior Emma Nath returns a volley against her Fairmont opponent Tuesday, Aug. 29, in Luverne.

Southwest Christian 3, Luverne 0
The Luverne volleyball team traveled to Edgerton to take on Southwest Minnesota Christian Tuesday, Aug. 29.

The Cardinals lost three sets 25-16, 25-20 and 25-21 in a close contest.

"Southwest was ready to play," head coach Sarah DeBeer said. "We just couldn't get anything started on our side."

Junior Ella Reisdorfer led Luverne with eight digs, six kills and was 13

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A 'Back to School' prayer

'Tis the season for back-to-school shopping, checking off supply lists, implementing lesson plans, and adjusting to new classes and schedules.

Yet there is one thing you won't find on the back-to-school checklist, but it is one of the most profound things you can do no matter what your connection to the school is this year — pray.

Here are some suggestions with the help of Scripture to pray for our community's schools, teachers and students:

1. Pray with thankfulness. Be thankful for God's providence shown through the educational institutions and resources available here and those willing to pour into our students. "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone." 1 Timothy 2:1.

2. Pray for wisdom. Applying well what is learned is a lifelong endeavor that can begin in our homes and classrooms. "He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; he who cherishes understanding prospers." Proverbs 19:8

3. Pray for diligence. Beginning with a posture of gratitude and humility will lead to an eagerness to learn and work hard. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23.

4. Pray for protection. May school grounds not only be safe, but also be protected from evil and free from social pressures that question a person's unique worth as created by God. "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:14.

5. Pray for love. May not only the students be

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Joe Steenholdt, Christian Reformed Church, Luverne

able to discern between right and wrong, but be enamored by the love that is revealed through Jesus Christ, and in turn show that love to others. "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ." Philipians 1:9-10.

6. Pray for changed hearts. May there be opportunities for students to share their faith with others and that more in our community will hear the message of hope Christ brings. "They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom." Psalm 145:11-12.

7. Pray for joy. Pray that this can be a year that is not full of frustration and discouragement, but one filled with peace and satisfaction that is found in bringing all things before the Lord. "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thesalonians 5:16-18.

There are so many more things that can be considered, but may this be the start of a school year bathed in prayer. "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." Psalm 145:18.

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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/stsclluverne/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 — www.fbcluverne.org
Walt Moser, Pastor

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

Grace Lutheran Church

500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Thursday, Sept. 7: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Sunday, Sept. 10: 9 a.m. Rally Sunday worship service under the tent. 10 a.m. Breakfast, carnival and games. 4 p.m. Senior High youth kickoff at Overgaard's. Monday, Sept. 11: 5:30 p.m. Frolic Family Time. Tuesday, Sept. 12: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. 2-4 p.m. GriefShare session. Wednesday, Sept. 13: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 6 p.m. Acolyte training and confirmation orientation. 7 p.m. National youth gathering information meeting. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online worship: Sundays 9 a.m. at www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab; or Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church

720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School and Bible class. 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well (at els.org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. 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
Friday, Sept. 8: Mission shingling project. 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. Sunday, Sept. 10: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Patio Party — Sunday school kickoff. 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, Sept. 12: 9:45 a.m. Bible study fellowship. 12 p.m. Staff meeting. 7 p.m. Consistory meeting. Thursday, Sept. 14: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew.

Rock River Community Church

1075 110th Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-9070; email: info@rockrivercommunitychurch.com
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.

United Methodist Church

109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529
Wednesday, Sept. 6: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. 6:15 p.m. FUEL Rally Night. 6:30 p.m. Organized Prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Sept. 7: 8 p.m. NA meeting. Saturday, Sept. 9: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, Sept. 10: 9:30 a.m. FUEL/Adult Sunday School. 9:45 a.m. Coffee. 10:30 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion. Live streamed on Facebook and radio. Prayer Warriors after service. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible study. Monday, Sept. 11: Pastor Community Event — Georgia National Convention. 6:30 p.m. Genesis to revelation Bible study. Tuesday, Sept. 12: 1:30 p.m. Sewn in Faith. 7 p.m. Scouts. Wednesday, Sept. 13: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. 6:15 p.m. FUEL. 6:30 p.m. Organized Prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting.

First Presbyterian Church

302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: fpcemilie@gmail.com
Wednesday, September 6: 10:50 a.m. Home Delivered Meals. 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal. 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal. 7:15 p.m. Committee meetings. Thursday, September 7: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. Friday, September 8: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. 2:30-3:45 p.m. Getting to Know Dementia, Session 6, by Alzheimer's Alliance LLC. Saturday, Sep-

tember 9: 10:30 a.m. Celebration of Life for Rev. Dr. Terry Morse. Sunday, September 10: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School Rally Day and Ministry Fair for all ages. 10:15 a.m. (Note change in time) 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. Monday, September 11: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. Tuesday, September 12: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. Wednesday, September 13: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. 4:00 p.m. Music staff meeting. 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir. 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir. 7:15 p.m. Session.

St. John Lutheran Church

803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316; email: stjoh@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.

Living Rock Church

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

New Life Celebration Church

101 W. Maple, Luverne
Ph. (605) 368-1924; email: newlifecel@iw.net

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, Sept. 10: 10 a.m. JOINT Worship with Holy Communion at First Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @First-LutheranValley Springs; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

Palisade Lutheran Church

211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — palisadechurch@alliancecom.net
www.palisadelutheran.org
Sunday, Sept. 10: 9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Palisade Lutheran Church. Blessing of the Backpacks during worship. 10 a.m. Sunday School. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @PalisadeLC; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish. Thursday, Sept. 14: 1:30 p.m. Palisade WELCA. 7 p.m. Palisade council meeting.

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: magnoliamnumc@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.

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

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County Board sets hearing for Sept. 19 on public use of cannabis

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF CANNABIS AND CANNABIS DERIVED PRODUCTS IN PUBLIC PLACES
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Rock County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on September 19, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Herreid Board meeting room located at 204 E. Brown Street, Luverne, Minnesota for the purpose of hearing public comment for a proposed ordinance regulating the use of cannabis and cannabis derived products in public places and places of public accommodation within Rock County.
The full text of the proposed Cannabis Use Ordinance is on file at the Rock County Administrator's Office at 204 E. Brown Street, Luverne, Minnesota, or can be viewed at www.co.rock.mn.us. Written comments should be submitted to the Rock County Administrator by 5:00 p.m., September 18, 2023. All persons desiring to be heard shall be given an opportunity to present testimony.

Dated: August 22, 2023

By Order of the Rock County Board of Commissioners
Kyle Oldre, Rock County Administrator
PO Box 509
Luverne, MN 56156
507-283-5065

(09-07, 09-14)

Rock County seeks crack sealing bids by Oct. 2

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
BITUMINOUS CRACK SEALING / S.A.P. 067-030-016
BIDS CLOSE @ 11:00 A.M. October 2, 2023
LUVERNE, MINNESOTA

Sealed proposals will be received by the Rock County Highway Department at Luverne, Minnesota until 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 2, 2023.
READ CAREFULLY THE PROVISIONS FOR THE WAGE RATES AS CONTAINED IN THE PROVISIONS, AS THEY WILL AFFECT THIS PROJECT.
Attention is called to the fact that the contractor must comply with the ****Special Equal Employment Opportunity Provisions**** as contained in this Proposal.
Proposals will be opened and read publicly in the presence of the Rock County Highway Engineer at the Rock County Highway Building located at 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne, MN, immediately following the hour set for receiving bids for the following Rock County Highway work. Bids will be awarded on Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023, at the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting.
The project consists of a Bituminous Crack Seal Treatment. The project is located on various roads in Rock County

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

The **non-refundable cost for plans and one proposal will be \$30.00.**
Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or corporate surety bond drawn in favor of the Rock County Treasurer in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the proposal.

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked **"PROJECT NO. S.A.P. 067-030-016"**
The Board of Rock County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects therein.

Rock County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Mark R. Sehr, P.E.
Rock County Highway Engineer
(09-07, 09-14, 09-21)

H-BC School Board meets Aug. 14

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Minutes
Aug. 14, 2023

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:02 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Board room, 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN.
Board members and Administration present were Gehrke, Harnack, Helgeson, Rauk, Rozeboom and Uittenbogaard. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Kellenberger and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Bosch was absent.

Motion by Harnack, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve the agenda. Addition to agenda: 7.7.

Visitor to the meeting was Megan Klumper.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Building/Grounds Steering Committee- 8/3/2023, Personnel/Finance Committee- 08/8/2023
Motion by Rauk, second by Harnack, and carried to approve consent agenda:
-Minutes—7/24/2023 and 08/04/2023 Special Meeting
-Bills
-Breakfast price for adults and extra entree price for breakfast and lunch for adults and students
-Resignation of Courtney Kruger as assistant volleyball coach.
-Accepting Arlen Leenders resignation as bus driver effective September 1, 2023.
-Assigning Tyson Metzger as Assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2023-2024 School Year
-Assigning Lydia Scruggs as Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year
-Assigning Mark Top as am bus route driver for the 2023-2024 School Year.
-Hiring Paul Opheim as Full Time Secondary Agriculture Teacher and FFA Advisor with required license approval for the 2023-2024 School Year
-Hiring April Prohl as Full Time Special Education Teacher with required license approval for the 2023-2024 School Year
-Entering into Contract Negotiations with Superintendent/Elementary Principal, Todd Holthaus
-2023-2024 District Testing Calendar
-Setting 90 Chromebooks as excess district property and directing the Superintendent to sell or dispose.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve awarding Liquid Propane Provider for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Motion by Harnack, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve awarding Fuel Oil Provider for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Motion by Rauk, second by Helgeson, and carried to approve high quote for the sale of the 2015 Dodge Caravan.

Motion by Uittenbogaard, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Freese School District Tax Abatement Request for five years beginning with the 2021 Tax Year and for the next five years as requested and in alignment with the district's tax abatement program.

Motion by Harnack, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve a resolution declaring Supt. Todd Holthaus as the identified official with authority for the MN Department of Education and Identity and Access Management System.

Motion by Harnack, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve American Fence Quote to remove and install a new fence along the west side of football field complex.

Motion by Uittenbogaard, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve assigning Chad Rauk as Head Boys Basketball Coach for the 2023-2024 School Year under grounds of district policy #210. Tamara Rauk abstained from voting.

DISTRICT NON ACTION ITEMS:

-Secondary Principal Report
-Superintendent Report

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING:

Walkthrough of Buildings- Begin meeting at Elementary School in Beaver Creek
Motion by Harnack, second by Rauk, and carried to approve adjournment of meeting.
Time of Adjournment 7:49 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(09-07)

DEADLINE FOR LEGALS IS MONDAY AT 10 A.M.

LAND FOR SALE

LEGAL: Approximately 142.85 acres located in the SW1/4 of 1-103-44, Rock County, MN, unimproved, highly productive farmland.

TERMS: Sealed bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., September 22, 2023, at 130 East Main, Luverne, MN. All bidders who have submitted a bid prior to said deadline will have the opportunity to submit additional bids until property is sold. Highest bidder will be required to sign a Purchase Agreement with a ten percent (10%) non-refundable earnest money down payment on the date of the sale and the balance at closing with possession going to Buyer for 2024.

Sale is subject to approval by Doris Nelson as Heir of Jim and Dorothy Ask. For further details and an information packet contact Douglas Eisma, Eisma & Eisma, Attorneys at Law, (507) 227-2829.

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GARAGE SALES

Swanson-Nelson Huge Holiday and Party Sale—Thurs., Sept. 7, 4-8 p.m.; Fri., Sept. 8, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 9, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Hills American Legion Clubroom on Main Street in Hills. Top brands: Department 56, Eddie Walker, Crate and Barrel, Hallmark, Pottery Barn, Pier 1, Tag, Cliff Avenue Greenhouse, and more! Vintage collectibles, decor, kitchenware, tableware, bakeware, barware, linens, cards, gift ideas, wrapping and holiday attire. (8.31-9.7)

Ellsworth City-Wide Rummage Sales: Thurs.-Sat., Sept. 14, 15 & 16. Vintage, collectibles, lawnmowers, tools, shoes, purses, Elvis items, misc. Can pick up listing at Ellsworth Food Center. (9.2-9.7)

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Application packets are available online at www.cityofluverne.org/employment.

For additional information, contact Luverne Aquatics & Fitness Center manager Sam Honerman at 507-449-5036. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, first review date is September 11, 2023

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LHS volleyball/ from page 3B

In the second game Luverne beat West Lyon 25-22 and 26-24.

"I thought our girls came out ready to work hard. We served aggressively, hit and blocked very well," DeBeer said.

"Everyone took care of what their job was in those matches and exceeded my expectations after coming off a tough loss to Southwest Christian."

Stats for the games were not recorded, due to game scheduling at the triangular.



Correction:

The Aug. 31 Rock County Star-Herald incorrectly identified the Women's Club Champions in photograph. The correct caption is (from left) Sharla Reisch, Melissa Sandbulte, Susan Schneckloth and Dana Klay.

Cross country/ from page 2B

In the **boys' varsity 5,000 meter**, Luverne took first place in the team competition.

Luverne junior Owen Janiszski took first place and was the individual champion with a time of 16:01.29.

Senior Ryan Fick finished in fourth place at 16:36.07.

Sage Viessman, a junior, finished in 15th with a time of 17:28.42.

Junior Leif Ingebretsen finished in 22nd at 17:57.73.

Freshman Marcus Papik finished at 23rd with a time of 18:03.32.

Zach Terrio, a senior, finished in 33rd at 18:38.94.

Junior Dylan Ommen rounded out the Luverne runners in 46th with a time of 19:20.09.

In the **girls' varsity**

5,000 meter, Luverne had two runners and did not place as a team.

Senior Jenna DeBates placed first in the race and was the individual champion with a run of 18:24.67.

Freshman Khloe Visker finished in ninth place with a time of 21:52.82.

In the **boys' junior varsity 4,000 meter**, Luverne had two runners in the event.

Junior Eli McLandon finished in fifth place with a time of 16:34.01 and sophomore Zander Fountain placed 24th at 21:09.11.

In the **girls' junior varsity 4,000 meter**, the Luverne team place first in the event.

Freshman Reinha John placed second with a time of 20:01.82.

Mariah Knorr, a fresh-

man, placed third at 20:27.46.

Senior Kayla Bloemendaal placed fifth with a time of 21:08.67.

Freshman Olivia Lund finished in sixth place at 21:33.55

Junior Jaelyn Arp finished in seventh place with a time of 21:45.41.

Senior Brynn Boyenga placed 11th with a time of 22:41.36.

Andrea Luitjens, a junior, placed 17th with a time of 24:49.32.

Freshman Anna Reisdorfer placed 23rd with a time of 29:45.12.

Sophomore Maddy Schepel placed 24th with a time of 30:54.68.

The LHS cross country team will host a multi-team event Saturday, Sept. 9.

LHS football/ from page 2B

were unable to score late in the fourth quarter, they toughened their defense, sacking the Trojans' quarterback to end the game at 25-20 for the win.

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Luverne	6	12	7	0	25
Worthington	0	6	0	14	20

Team Totals	LHS	WHS
Total plays	65	45
Total yards	251	231
Passing yards	62	239
Rushing yards	189	-8
First downs	17	7
Turnovers	1	0
Penalties	7	2
Penalty yards	75	10

Luverne Individual Stats	Passing Cp/Att	Yds
Connell	5/7	51
Sehr	2/2	11

Rushing	Yds	TD
Rock	68	1
Domagala	60	2
Diaz	38	0
Connell	8	0
Sehr	8	0

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	TD
Rock	1	30	0
Domagala	3	12	0
DeBeer	1	11	0
Stroh	1	9	0

	Tackles	Assists	Sacks
Connell	4	2	0
Kruger	4	0	0
Stroh	2	0	1
Diaz	2	1	0
Rock	1	0	0
Woodley	1	3	0
Ahrendt	1	2	0
Lais	1	1	0
Sauer	1	1	0
Kracht	1	0	0
Sasker	1	0	0



Greg Hoogeveen photo/0907 connel LHS senior Conner Connell reaches the Worthington quarterback just as the ball left his hand. Luverne beat Worthington 25-20 Thursday, Aug. 31, at home.

Weekly local race results

Following are racing results for local drivers competing in Luverne, Rock Rapids, Hartford, Slayton, Worthington and Brandon for the week of Aug. 29 - Sept. 4.

Murray County Speedway Slayton, MN

Last race of the season, Hub City Rumble, is scheduled for Sept. 30.

I-90 Speedway

Sept. 2 - **Hartford, SD**
Blake Schneckloth, #10 from Brandon DNF the A Feature Hobby Stock race. He placed third in Heat 1.

Worthington Speedway Worthington, MN

Last race of the season, Turkey Town Throw Down, is scheduled for Sept. 16.

Huset's Speedway

Sept. 2 - **Brandon, SD**
Blaine Stegenga, #96 from Valley Springs finished in fifth place in the 360 Sprint Car A Feature.
Sept. 3 - **Brandon, SD**
Stegenga, #96 finished in 10th place in the 360 Sprint Car A Feature.

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Cover photos by Mavis Fodness



LHS Football



2023 seniors (front, left) Elliot Domagala, Cade Kracht, Sam Rock and Tucker Dammann (back) Jack Voorhees (manager), Will Serie, Conner Connell, Jacob Stroh, Patrick Kroski, Gavin DeBeer

Seniors lead 2023 season

By Greg Hoogveen

Nine returning seniors and three underclassmen starters provide a solid base of experience for the 2023 LHS football season.

Head coach Todd Oye said he has a lot of talent on his team, primarily with this year's returning seniors.

The Cardinal seniors are Conner Connell, Tucker Dammann, Gavin DeBeer, Elliot Domagala, Cade Kracht, Patrick Kroski, Sam Rock, Will Serie and Jacob Stroh.

Connell provides the team with three years of starting experience, playing both offense and defensive positions.

"He is one of the top players in southwest Minnesota," Oye said.

Connell was one of twelve regional players featured in this year's Dakota News Now Pigskin Preview for his ability and leadership on the field.

Dammann plays strong defense and adds good size to the Cardinal defense. "He is a vocal leader on and off the field," Oye said.

DeBeer is a very athletic player at wide receiver on offense and linebacker on defense. "He has big play ability," Oye said.

Domagala can play many positions and will be the Cardinals' starting tailback.

Kracht, after many position changes, has found a fit at the fullback position.

Kroski will be the Cardinal kicker again this year and can play several other positions if needed.

Rock missed last year due to injury. He is a physical player who can play both sides of the field.

Serie has started at right guard since his sophomore year and will anchor this year's offensive line.

Stroh has transitioned into a starting tight end this year.

"His size and athleticism make us hope he has a big senior season," Oye said.

Returning all-conference players for the Cardinals are Connell and junior Eli Woodley.

Last year the Cardinals ended with a season record of 5-5 and a conference record of 1-3.

In the Section 3AAA playoffs, Luverne beat New Ulm 49-7 at home and ended up losing to Fairmont 35-0 on the road to end the season.

Head Coach: Todd Oye

Assistant Coach: Mike Wenninger, Jon Schomacker, TJ Newgard, Tony Sandbulte, Brooks Maurer, Mike Maurer

Athletic Trainer: Chelsea Miles and Dr. Josh Crabtree

Cheerleading advisors: Leah Radisewitz

LHS Football 2023 Roster

#	Name	Position	Height	Weight	Year
1	Zachary Overgaard	WR/DB	6'3"	150	11
2	Jacob Stroh	TE/LB	6'2"	190	12
3	Joshua Hansen	QB/LB	6'0"	160	10
4	Marcos Diaz	RB/LB	5'8"	165	11
5	Carter Sehr	QB/DB	6'0"	160	11
6	Cade Kracht	RB/DB	5'10"	175	12
7	Levi Gonnerman	RB/DB	5'10"	135	11
8	Ashton Hood	WR/DB	6'0"	170	11
9	Kasey Buss	TE/LB	5'10"	155	10
10	Caden Kruger	WR/DB	5'10"	130	11
11	Elliot Domagala	RB/DB	5'11"	175	12
13	Sam Rock	RB/LB	5'10"	185	12
14	Landyn Lais	RB/LB	5'11"	170	10
15	Jaxon Lais	WR/DB	6'0"	160	10
16	Tucker Remme	WR/DB	5'10"	150	11
17	Patrick Kroski	WR/LB	6'1"	190	12
20	Blake Sauer	RB/LB	5'9"	160	10
21	Maddux Domagala	WR/DB	5'9"	140	10
22	Traytan Sayavong	RB/DB	5'7"	130	10
23	Coulter Thone	TE/DB	6'1"	150	11
24	Gavin DeBeer	WR/LB	6'3"	200	12
30	Connor Bose	WR/DB	5'11"	150	10
31	Tucker Holwell	WR/DB	5'7"	135	10
35	Blake Swenson	TE/LB	6'0"	155	10
40	Jaydon Johnson	QB/LB	6'1"	175	10
41	Aaron Kindt	WR/DB	5'8"	145	10
42	Conner Connell	QB/LB	6'4"	230	12
47	Rayden Boyenga	RB/LB	5'8"	125	10
48	Nicholas Mann	WR/DB	5'8"	125	10
50	Tyler Hodge	OL/DL	5'11"	175	10
51	Elijah Woodley	OL/DL	6'4"	240	11
52	Dawson Holtz	OL/FB/LB	5'6"	155	10
53	Jack Gangestad	OL/DL	6'3"	180	11
54	Adam Ask	OL/DL	6'2"	185	11
55	Will Serie	OL/DL	6'1"	240	12
56	Ryker Johnson	OL/DL	6'3"	250	11
58	James Hoffenkamp	OL/DL	5'9"	160	10
59	Zeke Frahm	OL/DL	5'10"	175	10
63	Layne Saker	OL/DL	6'2"	265	11
64	Keaton Ahrendt	OL/DL	6'3"	250	11
65	Masyn Akkerman	OL/DL	6'2"	230	11
66	Samuel Hinz	OL/DL	6'3"	285	10
67	Tucker Dammann	OL/DL	6'2"	280	12
70	Levi Huisman	OL/DL	5'7"	160	10
74	Damien Ahrendt	OL/DL	6'0"	205	10
77	Dayson Fritz	OL/DL	5'10"	270	10

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H-BC Football



2023 seniors (left) Riley Tatge, Alex Dysthe, Cooper Gehrke and Justin Roelfs

Patriots lean on up-and-coming athletes

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek football team will lean heavily on its four senior players this season.

The seniors are Riley Tatge, Alex Dysthe, Cooper Gehrke and Justin Roelfs.

Tatge was named to the Red Rock Conference All-Conference Team last season.

He was also part of the Worthington Globe All-Area Team.

Other returning all-conference players this season are juniors Beau Bakken and Sawyer Bosch.

"This year we are a young team with having only four seniors on the roster," head coach Rex Metzger said.

"We have really good team speed and just a lot of good athletes on our roster this year, and we have some guys that we can play multiple positions and guys that can make some big plays."

Metzger is looking to underclassmen to step up and fill some key positions this season.

"We will look to some of our juniors and sophomores that gained experience on the field from last year, quarterback Sawyer Bosch, running back Beau Bakken and offensive lineman Jack Moser, to help lead this team in 2023."

The Patriots finished the 2022 season with a record of 7-3 and a conference record of 6-2.

H-BC is looking to build on last year's success by developing their players in the off-season and on the field.

"The effort of our kids during the off-season is very important to our program," Metzger said.

"The commitment of our kids in doing so helps us to put a solid team on the field every year."

Metzger is in his fourteenth year as the Patriots head coach.

"I'm looking forward to seeing these guys compete on the field this fall," Metzger said.

"Even though we are a young team, I think we have the players to surprise some teams."

H-BC Football 2023 Roster

#	Name	Position	Height	Weight	Year
1	James VandenBosch	WR/DB	6-1	170	11
2	Sawyer Bosch	QB/DB	5-11	170	11
3	Cameron Allen	RB/LB	6-2	175	11
4	Beau Bakken	RB/LB	6-5	215	11
5	Riggins Rheault	RB/DE	6-1	185	9
6	Jamin Metzger	QB/LB	6-5	205	10
7	Micah Bush	WR/DB	6-0	165	10
8	Blake Leenderts	TE/DE	5-11	165	11
9	Alex Dysthe	TE/DE	6-2	180	12
10	Justin Roelfs	RB/DB	5-11	165	12
12	EJ Wegener	TE/LB	6-0	165	10
13	Cooper Gehrke	WR/DB	6-1	145	12
15	Jamesyn Klosterbuer	WR/DB	6-0	150	11
20	Camdyn Broesder	WR/DB	5-4	110	9
22	Mason Shaffner	RB/LB	5-10	170	10
23	Callum Bartels	WR/DB	5-8	120	10
28	Jed Fagemess	TE/LB	6-0	150	9
30	Jackson Gacke	TE/LB	6-2	180	10
32	Tryg Tollefson	WR/DB	5-6	140	9
40	Wyett Shimp	OL/DL	6-3	205	10
51	Jayden Poulos	OL/DL	5-9	175	10
54	Hunter Leenderts	OL/LB	5-11	145	9
55	Gavyn Leuthold	OL/LB	5-8	180	10
60	Talon Steensma	OL/DL	5-10	200	11
61	Quintice Susie	OL/DL	5-10	170	10
71	Jack Moser	OL/DL	6-5	240	11
80	Bode Kruger	WR/DB	6-0	160	10
81	Jacob Wallin	TE/DE	6-2	160	10
82	Riley Tatge	TE/DE	6-3	200	12
86	Lukas Hubbard	WR/DB	5-8	140	11
95	James Peterson	OL/DL	5-8	195	10

Head Coach: Rex Metzger

Assistant Coach: Jason Rauk, Dalton Bass, Dylan Gehrke, Chris Harnack, Eric Harnack

Managers: Logan Susie, Brodie Metzger, Josh Ternus

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LHS Volleyball



2023 seniors (front, left) Hallie Bork, Tori Serie, Ava Loosbrock and Belle Smidt (back) Kira John, Kiesli Smith, Morgan Ahrendt, Elle Halverson

Seniors to lead Cardinals in 2023

By Greg Hoogveen

The Luverne volleyball team hands over the reins to a solid athletic core of eight seniors with playing experience.

This year's seniors are Kira John, Kiesli Smith, Morgan Ahrendt, Elle Halverson, Hallie Bork, Tori Serie, Ava Loosbrock and Bella Smidt.

Head coach Sarah DeBeer is also looking forward to developing a good junior class of players.

"Juniors Amira Cowell, Ella Reisdorfer, Kylie Vander Lugt and Payton Behr will all have significant roles in our 2023 season," DeBeer said.

The Cardinals graduated 12 seniors last year that had major roles on the team.

DeBeer is looking forward to having a team of athletes that love the game of volleyball.

"They don't just play to be involved, they truly love the game," DeBeer said.

"These players have a lot of drive and feed off each other's work ethic."

DeBeer has been part of the Luverne volleyball program since 2007.

Starting as a B-squad coach, DeBeer took the head coaching position in 2020.

"I look for players to have open minds about where they will play or what role they will have on the team, players who are willing to take feedback and make the changes needed to progress their game, and athletes that like to work with others," DeBeer said.

"Luverne volleyball has some great crowds at our matches which include supporters that have never had any involvement with the sport before, but they will never miss a game today," DeBeer said.

"Our program so appreciated all of our supporters and hopes to bring them another enjoyable season."

LHS Volleyball 2023 Roster

#	Name	Height	Year
12	Hannah Sneller	5'6	11
14	Kiesli Smith	6'1	12
2	Ella Reisdorfer	5'7	11
9	Payton Behr	5'8	11
7	Amira Cowell	5'7	11
18	Morgan Ahrendt	6'0	12
10	Blaycie Remme	5'8	11
3	Kaelyn Braun	5'7	11
15	Hallie Bork	5'9	12
4	Elle Halverson	5'9	12
8	Kylie Vander Lugt	5'4	11
6	Belle Smidt	5'4	12
5	Tori Serie	5'9	12
13	Kira John	5'10	12
11	Ava Loosbrock	5'9	12
1	Lilian Palmquist	5'4	11

Head Coach: Sarah DeBeer
Assistant Coach: April Wallace

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H-BC Volleyball



2023 seniors (left) Jessica Jones, Taylor Spykerboer, Larissa Steinhoff, Grace Anderson, Sylvia Fick and Brynn Rauk (not pictured Lanae Elbers)

Lady Pates seek full season success

By Greg Hoogveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team is looking to build upon returning players and a strong core of seniors this season.

This year's seniors are Jessica Jones, Taylor Spykerboer, Larissa Steinhoff, Grace Anderson, Sylvia Fick and Brynn Rauk.

"We have a good foundation to build on for this year," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

"They've been working so hard on fine-tuning things."

H-BC was not able to get a win last year, so this year they hope to rebuild on the leadership and determination of returning players.

"We have four seniors that will play

and start, so they will be able to provide a lot of leadership for us. Brynn Bakken is someone to watch. She's a freshman, but she's very athletic and aggressive," Zylstra said.

Senior Larissa Steinhoff returns with good experience, having been named to the Red Rock All-Conference Team last year.

Zylstra looks for coachable girls willing to do what it takes, even if it's uncomfortable to them – players willing to give it their all and not hold back.

Zylstra is in her third year as head coach at H-BC.

"I love seeing how much they grow from the beginning of the season and the relationships that are developed," Zylstra said.

H-BC Volleyball 2023 Roster

#	Name	Height	Year
1	Claire Knobloch	5-5	10
2	Silvia Fick	5-2	12
3	Brynn Rauk	5-7	12
4	Brynn Bakken	5-9	9
5	Taylor Gehrke	5-6	12
6	Abbie Harris	5-6	10
7	Ella Sammons	5-11	10
8	Bailey Spykerboer	5-8	11
9	Larissa Steinhoff	5-8	12
10	Lanae Elbers	6-2	12
11	Jessica Jones	5-7	12
12	Olivia Deelstra	6-0	9
13	Emma Deelstra	5-10	11
16	Grace Anderson	5-4	12

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Assistant Coach: Lydia Scruggs

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LHS Cross Country



2023 seniors (left) Kayla Bloemendaal, Makena Nelson, Jenna DeBates, Brynn Boyenga, Zach Terrio and Ryan Fick

Coach encourages 'hungry and humble' athletes

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne cross country team is looking forward to improving each week and building on running their best at the end of the season, head coach Pete Janiszkeski.

"Every year is a new puzzle that we have to put together with the members of the team," he said.

"It's always exciting to watch the kids learn, grow and improve as they collectively strive for excellence and becoming the best versions of themselves both on and off the course."

This fall the Cardinals have six seasoned seniors returning to lead the team.

They are Kayla Bloemendaal, Makena Nelson, Jenna DeBates, Brynn Boyenga, Zach Terrio and Ryan Fick.

Last season DeBates and Fick were named to the Big South All-Conference Team. They also qualified for the state individual competition and earned all-state honors at the state meet.

Last season the boys' team won six of 11 meets, including a conference and section title and were runner-up at the state meet.

The girls won four meets last year, includ-

ing an eighth consecutive conference title, and they finished third in the section meet just shy of qualifying for their eighth consecutive state meet.

Janiszkeski says he looks to the juniors and seniors to take leadership roles on the team.

"Leadership is more than a title. It's about how you treat and respect others and encouraging them to strive for excellence and being their very best," Janiszkeski said.

"It's just about staying healthy and staying humble and hungry to grow and improve each time out."

This will be Janiszkeski's 22nd year coaching cross country in Luverne.

"I coach to teach athletes to persevere and strive to get better, not only as an athlete but also as a student, teammate and person," Janiszkeski said.

"I enjoy coaching the mindset side of athletics and strive to help athletes learn how to maintain a positive mindset in hopes that they will realize their fullest potential as a person and a competitor."

LHS Cross-Country 2023 Roster

Name	Year
Jenna DeBates	12
Makena Nelson	12
Kayla Bloemendaal	12
Brynn Boyenga	12
Ryan Fick	12
Zach Terrio	12
Maria Rops	11
Andrea Luitjens	11
Jaelyn Arp	11
Owen Janiszkeski	11
Sage Viessman	11
Leif Ingebretsen	11
Kaleb Hemme	11
Eli McLendon	11
Dylan Ommen	11
Ella Schmuck	10
Maddy Schepel	10
Zander Fountain	10
Khloe Visker	9
Mariah Knorr	9
Olivia Lund	9
Reinha John	9
Anna Reisdorfer	9
Marcus Papik	9
Grace Kempema	8
Emma Wieneke	8
Natalie Berning	8
Summer Mollberg	7
Sophia Nolz	7
Ahna Totteland	7
Harper DeWispelaere	7
Mallory Berning	7
Bridget Sandager	7
Ridha Kadhim	7
William Gehrke	7

Head Coach: Peter Janiszkeski
Assistant Coach: Jodi Nelson

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FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES • FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

2023

LUVERNE



FOOTBALL

Aug 26	Worthington - Scrimmage	A
Aug 31	Worthington	H
Sept 8	Jordan	A
Sept 15	Sibley East	H
Sept 22	Minnesota Valley Lutheran	A
Sept 29	Blue Earth Area	A
Oct 6	Pipestone Area (Homecoming)	H
Oct 12	Jackson County Central	A
Oct 18	Redwood Valley	H
Oct 24	Section Quarters	A
Oct 28	Section Semi Finals	A

VOLLEYBALL

Aug 26	Fairmont	A
Aug 29	SW Minnesota Christian	A
Aug 31	Triangular	H
Sept 5	Marshall	A
Sept 7	Westbrook Walnut Grove	A
Sept 9	Invitational	H
Sept 14	Adrian	A
Sept 16	Invitational - Jackson County	A
Sept 19	Redwood Valley	H
Sept 21	Pipestone Area	H
Sept 26	Worthington	H
Sept 28	St James Area	A
Oct 2	Edgerton	H
Oct 5	Jackson County Central	A
Oct 10	Windom	A
Oct 17	Hills-Beaver Creek	A
Oct 27	Section Quarters	H
Oct 31	Section Semis	H
Nov 2	Subsection Finals	A

GIRLS' TENNIS

Aug 19	Morris Area	A
Aug 19	Benson	A
Aug 22	Yellow Medicine East	H
Aug 22	MACCRAY	H
Aug 24	Lac Qui Parle Valley	A
Aug 24	Montevideo	A
Aug 26	Worthington	A
Aug 28	River Valley	H
Aug 29	Fairmont	H
Sept 5	Blue Earth Area	A
Sept 7	Marshall	H
Sept 12	Worthington	H
Sept 14	Pipestone Area	H
Sept 18	Sioux Falls Lincoln	A
Sept 19	St James Area	A
Sept 21	Redwood Valley	A
Sept 26	Big South	A
Oct 3	Section Quarters	H
Oct 5	Section Team Semi/Finals - SF	A
Oct 12	Section Individual - Sioux Falls	A
Oct 17	Section Individual Finals - SF	A
Oct 24	State Tournament	A

HILLS-BEAVER CREEK



FOOTBALL

Aug 31	HLOF	H
Sept 8	Lanesboro	A
Sept 15	Cedar Mountain	H
Sept 22	Mountain Lake	A
Sept 29	Renville County West	H
Oct 6	Edgerton	A
Oct 13	Westbrook Walnut Grove	A
Oct 18	New Ulm Cathedral	H

VOLLEYBALL

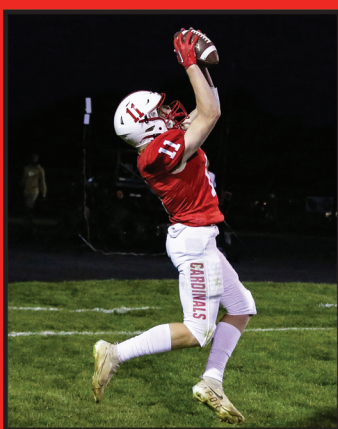
Aug 26	Adrian Tournament	A
Aug 29	Viborg Hurley	A
Sept 5	Edgerton	H
Sept 9	Luverne Tournament	A
Sept 12	Westbrook Walnut Grove	A
Sept 14	Mountain Lake	A
Sept 19	Red Rock Central	A
Sept 22	Edgerton	A
Sept 26	MCC	H
Sept 28	Russell-Tyler Ruthton	A
Oct 3	HLOF	H
Oct 6	SMSU Tournament	A
Oct 7	SMSU Tournament	A
Oct 10	Adrian-Ellsworth	A
Oct 16	Southwest MN Christian	H
Oct 17	Luverne	H

CROSS COUNTRY

Aug 25	Beresford	A
Sept 1	Mountain Lake	A
Sept 9	Multi-Team	H
Sept 14	Multi-Team	A
Sept 19	Jackson County Central	A
Sept 26	St James Area	A
Sept 30	Willmar Invitational	A
Oct 5	Multi-Team	H
Oct 10	Adrian	A
Oct 17	Big South Championship	A
Oct 26	Section 3A Tournament	A
Nov 4	State Tournament - Saint Olaf	A

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LHS Girls' Tennis



2023 seniors (left) Morgan Hadler, Roselynn Hartshorn, Cassi Chesley, Rayann Remme and Sarah Stegenga

Cardinals look to return to state tourney in 2023

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne girls' tennis team is poised for another great season this year, according to head coach Jon Beers.

Having lost three key doubles players to graduation last year, this year's team retains experience and a strong singles unit.

Beers said he looks to this year's seniors to lead the team.

Seniors this year are Sarah Stegenga, Rayann Remme, Morgan Hadler, Roselynn Hartshorn and Cassi Chesley.

Stegenga, Remme and Hadler primarily play singles, while Hartshorn and Chesley are doubles partners.

Beers looks to his junior class for strong play throughout the year and possible varsity action.

Juniors are Augusta Papik, Caitlin Kindt, Emma Nath, Corynn Oye and Katia Jarchow.

Last year Luverne had a season

record of 13-6, 3-4 in conference play and were section champions.

They were the first team to make it to the state tournament, and many players are now included on this year's team.

Returning all-conference players this year are Stegenga and Hartshorn.

"The goal for this year is to make it back to the state tournament," Beers said.

"I feel that the conference is very even this year."

Last year Luverne won all three matches in the section tournament by scores of 4-3.

"Any one of those teams could have beaten us, so I don't think that this year will be much different," Beers said.

This is Beers' fifth season as Luverne's head coach.

"My team is filled with very impressive young ladies," Beers said.

"They are a very special group, and I am proud that they represent Luverne High School the way that they do."

LHS Tennis 2023 Roster

Name	Year
Cassi Chesley	12
Morgan Hadler	12
Rayann Remme	12
Sarah Stegenga	12
Roselynn Hartshorn	12
Caitlin Kindt	11
Augusta Papik	11
Nora Louwagie	11
Madison Hansen	11
Katia Jarchow	11
Audrie DeBates	11
Emma Nath	11
Corynn Oye	11
Kaitlin Conger	11
Makala Oechsle	10
Elizabeth Mulder	10
Addyson Mann	10
Jessika Tunnissen	10
Hannah Kempema	10
Bergen Ask	10
Zoey Smeins	10

Head Coach: Jon Beers
Assistant Coach: Zoe DeBates

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