



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Tri-State Band Fest is Sept. 30

By Lori Sorenson

Twenty-three bands and 1,500 students from around the tri-state area will perform Saturday in the 72nd annual Tri-State Band Festival.

The parade competition begins at 9:30 a.m. on Luverne's Main Street.

Seventeen bands will be part of the parade, with bleachers available for spectators at the intersection of McKenzie Avenue and Main Street, where the judging station is also located.

Nine bands will participate in Saturday's field competition beginning at 12:30 p.m. on the Luverne High School football field.

Admission to the field competition is the purchase of a festival button for \$10. This year's button was designed by LHS junior Ryker Johnson.

Hosts for the Tri-State Band Festival are the Luverne middle and high school bands, who will participate but will not compete.

Bands from Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa attending Saturday's event include:

•From Minnesota: Adrian-Ellsworth, Murray County Central, Pipestone, Marshall, Stewartville, Tracy and Worthington.

•From South Dakota: Baltic, Brandon Valley, Dell Rapids, Garretson, Lennox, Madison Central, Sioux Falls Christian, Sioux Falls Lutheran, Sioux Falls O'Gorman, Sioux Falls Roosevelt, Tea Area and West Central.

•From Iowa: Boyden-Hull and George-Little Rock.

The Tri-State Band Festival is one of the longest-running community marching band competitions in the region, according to the Luverne Area Chamber.

Many of the bands, including Luverne, will also compete in Saturday evening's Big Sioux Review in Brandon, South Dakota.

More information can be found at tri-statebandfestival.com. The Luverne Area Chamber can be reached at 507-283-4061.



Mavis Fodness photos/0928 H-BC Coronation 2023

Grace Anderson (third from left) reacts as last year's homecoming queen, Taylor Huisman, places a crown on her head. Pictured (from left) are Sylvia Fick, Avril Susie, Anderson and Taylor Gehrke.

H-BC celebrates Homecoming Week



Riley Tatge (second from left) smiles as 2022 homecoming king Cody Moser settles the crown on his head as the 2023 H-BC homecoming king. Also pictured (from left) are king candidates Logan Susie, Tatge, Cooper Gehrke and Justin Roelfs.

By Mavis Fodness

Hills-Beaver Creek High School kicked off its homecoming festivities Monday with the coronation of the homecoming queen and king in an evening ceremony.

Grace Anderson and Riley Tatge were crowned the 2023 homecoming royalty.

Other members of the royal court were classmates Taylor Gehrke, Avril Susie, Sylvia Fick, Logan Susie, Cooper Gehrke and Justin Roelfs.

H-BC homecoming/see 14

City finance director is no longer employed

By Lori Sorenson

City of Luverne finance director Robyn Wessels has been on a leave of absence since Aug. 25, and her last day of employment with the city was Sept. 25, according to a statement released Tuesday.

"The city of Luverne wishes to briefly address certain inquiries and information related to former Finance Director Robyn Wessels' employment with the city," the press release stated.

"Robyn Wessels was employed by the city as finance director. Wessels' last date of employment with the city was Sept. 25, 2023."

City Administrator Jill Wolf declined to comment further, due to personnel privacy laws.

The city's legal team, Flaherty and Hood, advised her not to answer several Star Herald questions.

For example, she declined to answer whether Wessels resigned or was terminated, whether there was a severance payment offered or whether there were complaints or charges against her.

When reached by text message Tuesday afternoon, Wessels said she resigned and gave 30 days' notice on Aug. 25.

City finance director/see p. 3

History Center generates nearly \$2M for local economy

By Lori Sorenson

The Rock County Historical Society is asking the city of Luverne for funding for maintenance and operation of The History Center.

Betty Mann of the Rock County Historical Society approached Luverne City Council members at their Sept. 19 meeting.

The request includes continued \$25,000 per year for operations support and also a contribution for the History Center's

\$200,000 current expansion project.

She thanked the council for its previous support.

•From 2015 to 2020 the city and Rock County each allocated \$25,000 per year for six years to help pay off the History Center construction loan.

•In 2021 the city and county each agreed to continue yearly contributions of \$25,000, which allowed the History Center to have a full-time director, Wendel

Buys.

Today, Mann said the Historical Society needs continued support from the city and county to keep a full-time presence at the History Center.

"We have just begun to grow our programming, but some of these activities would likely be discontinued [without continued funding]," she said.

"For a long time, we were not open on Mondays, and have been open on Mondays since Wendel

has been there. Yesterday (Monday) we had over 20 people and we gave three tours."

Mann updated the council on the History Center's current fundraising goal of \$200,000 for a 30-by-60-foot addition to the west side of the current building.

Earlier this year, a grant-funded assessment of the History Center recommended more climate-controlled storage at the

History Center funds/see p. 5

Beaver Creek, county seek solution for 'overflowing' rural recycling shed

By Lori Sorenson

Beaver Creek city leaders and Rock County officials are again considering options for the rural recycling shed in Beaver Creek's city limits.

The roll-off container inside the shed is chronically full and overflowing, and Beaver Creek maintenance supervisor Travis Helgeson is seeking a solution.

"It's getting ridiculous," he told city council members at their Sept. 20 meeting.

"If the neighbors don't end up picking it up, I do, and we put it in our city garbage."

He said the county recycling drop-off center in Beaver Creek's city limits is supposed to be the county's responsibility, but the material that doesn't fit in the container become the city's problem when it overflows.

"It makes our city look trashy," Helgeson said, adding that he and residents worked



Submitted photo

This photo of the Beaver Creek rural recycling shed was taken two weeks ago. It illustrates the perpetual state of overflowing materials that often find their way into neighboring city yards and properties.

especially hard to stay on top of it when the city hosted its first community celebration, Beaver Days, in August.

Helgeson spoke with Rock County Land Management Director Eric Hartman ahead of Wednesday's meeting.

"We had a pretty good talk," Helgeson said. "He's going to talk to the county commissioners about a second recycling bay."

This would essentially double the size of the current recycling

Beaver Creek recycling/see 2

Go Big Red!

'Cardinal Clothing Exchange' aims to put school spirit on everyone

By Mavis Fodness

More than 100 T-shirts and sweatshirts will be given away today, Thursday, Sept. 28, during the first Cardinal Clothing Exchange.

Organized by the LHS Student Council, the exchange provides a pathway for used school spirit apparel to be given to someone else for free.

Four student council members sorted and folded the clothing onto tables Monday night for this evening's distribution.

Kylie Vander Lugt, Ann Banck, Olivia Lund and Kylie Kindt said they were surprised at the amount of donated clothing dropped off at the school since the drive started earlier this month.

They said the overflowing collection will help meet their goal of increasing red and white apparel to support Luverne school activities.

Cardinal Clothing/see page 3



Mavis Fodness photo/0928 Cardinal More than 100 donated sweatshirts and T-shirts await distribution.

"It's a way for kids who are new to our school to feel welcome."

Kylie Vander Lugt, LHS student council



COMMUNITY EVENTS

'Night Before Gettysburg' Sept. 29 at Vets Home

"The Night Before Gettysburg" will be performed at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, at the Minnesota Veterans Home, Luverne. Playwright Chuck Johnson, Perham, brings President Abraham Lincoln's thoughts to life in a short, three-act play that offers a glimpse of the 16th president's state of mind as he writes his "Gettysburg Address."

The event is free, thanks to a Legacy Grant through the Arts Council, and the public is invited to attend.

Living Works Safe Talk presented Sept. 30 in Hills

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

Historical Society meeting and event at Palace Oct. 2

The Rock County Historical Society Annual Meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at the Palace Theatre. There will be a brief business meeting, historical reenactment and video presentation, updates, election of directors for the RCHS board. Free popcorn and water will be available. The event is free and open to the public.

CoffeeBreak Storyhour Oct. 3

CoffeeBreak starts at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, featuring speaker Marilyn Uithoven. The group meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays to study the Bible, starting with Mark 9-16.

StoryHour is for children 3 years old through Kindergarten. Nursery is available for the littlest ones. There is no charge or no prior Bible knowledge is necessary. All faiths and all ages are welcome. Call Kristi Stroeh at 507-227-5102 with questions, or email kristi.stroeh@hotmail.com

Shredding truck Oct. 7

St. Catherine Carmelites will host the Dakota Shred-It truck from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 7, at the Luverne Laundry Room parking lot. Freewill donations are accepted. Watch your paper being shredded on the truck monitor. No need to remove staples or paperclips.

Rock the Edge hosts food drive

Rock The Edge will host the 8th Annual City-wide Food Drive on Sunday, Oct. 8. Youth will be canvassing the city of Luverne beginning at 3 p.m. Please place non-perishable food items in a bag and place on your porch or outside your front door (please, no out-of-date items). Help us help others.

Bloodmobile in Jasper Oct. 11

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will accept donations from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Make an appointment at redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767. A blood donor card or driver's license are required at check-in.

Community Ed announces classes and offerings

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

Register by Sept. 29 for **Cardinal League Com. Ed Basketball** for grades 3-6. Fee is \$50. (Participants (grades 3-6) that want to travel out of town in addition to the local Cardinal League, should register for the Harrisburg League at www.bsybl.com prior to October. (That will take care of your Cardinal League registration, too).

Join the **Rock County Master Gardeners** on Oct. 2 for a garden tour in Brandon, South Dakota. Talk with experts at Oakridge Nursery & Landscaping and Cherry Rock Farms to answer your questions. Fee is \$12 and includes a box lunch.

Have you ever wondered about your ancestors? Where did they come from, where they lived? Learn how to find the answers at **Beginning Genealogy** on Oct. 9. Fee is \$10.

Taking **Defensive Driving Classes** allows adults 55 years of age and older to save on insurance premiums. After the beginning 8 hour class, every 3 years drivers take a 4 hour refresher class. The schedule for Luverne classes follows:

Refresher 4 Hour Classes -October 9, November 13, or December 11; Beginner 8 Hour Class - February 5 & 12 (4 hours each evening)

H-BC district levy to increase 179 percent

Voter-approved debt drives maximum levy higher

By Mavis Fodness

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board is proposing a \$2.5 million increase in the district's levy to start paying on its latest bond referendum.

The state Department of Education determined the local levy, increasing the amount 179.49 percent over 2023.

H-BC School Board members approved the maximum amount for the preliminary levy during their Monday, Sept. 25, evening meeting.

The district's general fund will receive \$79,904 or 11.14 percent increase in 2024 for a total of \$797,169.

The community service fund receives a half-percent increase totaling

\$17.18, bringing the fund to \$33,970 for next year.

The debt service fund increases by \$2.498 million or a 363 percent increase to \$3.188 million in 2024.

Voters approved a \$29.975 million bond referendum earlier this year.

The bond will pay for facility improvements to the current secondary building and Hugo Goehle gymnasium in Hills, along with the construction of a new elementary school in Beaver Creek.

The bond will be repaid over 20 years.

The district's truth-in-taxation public hearing will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11.

Final property tax estimates will be released by the Rock County Auditor's

office. The proposed 2024 property tax statements are mailed to property owners in late November.

Enrollment increases for current school year

Enrollment in Hills-Beaver Creek School District increased by eight students for the 2023-24 school year.

Superintendent Todd Holthaus presented enrollment figures from the first week of the new school year at the Sept. 11 school board meeting.

Enrollment for the current school year totals 348 K-12 students as of Sept. 11.

Holthaus said the increasing enrollment is positive news for H-BC.

"Eight new students are a big deal with us," he said.

An increase of eight new students for the 2023-24 school year brings an additional \$57,104 in per-pupil funding to the district.

School officials had projected a budget deficit for the general fund for the 2023-24 school year, assuming no new students for the current year.

Revenue is projected at \$4.925 million with expenditures of \$5.197 million. Increasing enrollment alleviates the projected \$272,047 deficit, Holthaus said.

Enrollment at H-BC has varied over the past 20 years.

The highest enrollment was 380 students during the 2020-21 school year with a low of 294 students in 2004-2005.



Mavis Fodness photos/0928 Alumni Garden

Alumni Garden dedication, Hall of Fame inductions set for Oct. 6

In the photo at lower right, students Will Serie, Kai Buss, Tyler Arends and Belle Smidt visit the Luverne Public Schools' Alumni Garden Tuesday afternoon. A special dedication ceremony is planned for 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, at the garden where the inaugural Luverne Alumni Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized. The garden features an outdoor classroom setting and large open spaces for gatherings. Warren Herreid II and his wife, Jeannine Rivet, made the donation to the Luverne Education Legacy Foundation to fund the planning and construction of the garden on the east side of the middle-high school.

At lower left, six individuals and the 1964 basketball team are the first inductees to the Luverne Alumni Hall of Fame.



Beaver Creek rural recycling overflow/continued from page 1

drop-off center.

Beaver Creek operates with the same setup as other rural recycling drop-offs in Magnolia, Steen, Hardwick, Kenneth and Kanaranzi.

They each have a 12-by-14-foot, three-sided steel shed with a sloped roof that houses a six-yard rear-loaded recycling container. The rural recycling center in Hills is 24-by-14 feet and has two containers.

Rock County has a contract with Ketterling Services to transport the recyclable materials from the rural recycling sheds.

Under the five-year

agreement, which expires at the end of this year, Ketterling empties the rural sheds once a week. However, there is language in the contract to provide additional pickup at recycling sheds if needed.

Helgeson said the Beaver Creek container is emptied every Monday and the first and third Wednesday of the month.

He said more frequent pickups and/or a larger container would go a long way toward addressing the problem in Beaver Creek.

"It's pretty much overflowing every day," Helgeson said. "If you don't get

there by Wednesday, you're not going to have room for your recycling."

The rural recycling locations are supposed to be for rural Rock County residents who don't have access to city refuse services.

However, Helgeson acknowledged that Beaver Creek city residents and South Dakota residents often use the county site.

Also, the increased use of Amazon delivery has resulted in extra cardboard boxes, which are supposed to be broken down, but often aren't. These take up extra space and fill the

recycling container more quickly.

Hartman said Tuesday that delivery boxes were a result of covid no-contact purchasing.

"The fallout from the pandemic has greatly increased the use and need to take in and recycle shipping boxes," he said.

"When you look at the contents of one of these containers, more boxes are not broken down than are broken down. When you consider the volume of material going through the recycling stream in the drop off locations, it has greatly increased."

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Hills city preliminary levy to increase a half percent for 2024

By Mavis Fodness

Increases in insurance and law enforcement prompted Hills City Council members to raise the levy for 2024 by just over a half percent at .529.

The increase will add \$761 to the 2024 budget, which covers a projected shortfall.

The council spent more than an hour reviewing each budget line item with city clerk Connie Wiertzema.

The levy increase offsets a projected deficit of \$750.

The city is expecting \$527,230 in revenue for 2024, according to Wiertzema.

Of the total revenue for the general fund, \$242,380 is local government aid with projected investment and fee revenues of \$72,850 and, at the current levy percentage, \$144,562 will be asked from city property owners.

Expenditures for the general fund in 2024 are estimated at \$527,990 for a projected shortfall of \$760.

Increases in insurance and the law enforcement contract are leading to the potential shortfall, Wiertzema said.

Council members set the final levy amount and adopted the 2024 budget at their Sept. 13 meeting.

They have until late December to adopt the final levy percentage. They can keep the percentage the same as the preliminary amount or lower the levy amount. The council cannot increase the preliminary amount.

The city's truth in taxation hearing to review the 2024 budget and to adopt the final levy percentage is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12.

Notices of the 2024 estimated property taxes are mailed from the Rock County Auditor's Office in late November.

Finance director/from page 1

"At that point they wouldn't let me return to work, along with a whole list of other things I was prohibited from doing," Wessels said. "I have no idea why. I intended to work the 30 days on good terms. Yesterday was the last day."

She added that she's had "amazing support from those that 'knew better.' I'm very grateful."

Wessels' situation coincides with two recent resignations in the city liquor store department.

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

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 employees have resigned.

The outcome of the investigation will be made public when it has concluded.

Wessels has been employed with the city since 2001 and was named finance director in May 2019. Her most recent salary was \$103,168.

Former city finance director Barbara Berg-horst 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," she said.



Mavis Fodness photos/0928 Cardinal Clothing Exchange

Luverne High School student council members Anna Banck (left), Kylie Vander Lugt, Olivia Lund and Kylie Kindt sort through more than 100 donated items of school spirit apparel Monday night in the school commons for the first Cardinal Clothing Exchange. Students, parents, grandparents and LHS supporters who are interested in the school clothing may pick up items from 6 to 7 p.m. today, Thursday, Sept. 28, for the Cardinal Clothing Exchange event at the school.

Cardinal Clothing Exchange/continued from page 1

They said the exchange is also having secondary effects of welcoming new Cardinals.

"It's a way for kids who are new to our school to feel welcome," said Vander Lugt, a junior.

"And to use extra clothing that doesn't fit anymore," added Lund, a freshman.

The clothing ranges in sizes from youth to adult 2XL and is laundered before being exchanged.

Grandparents, parents, students and community members can "shop" for Cardinal apparel from 6

"The parents have been so grateful and appreciative. They are also very impressed this idea came from our students."

— Becky Banck, LHS school secretary

to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, at the middle-high school commons.

Clothing not selected Thursday night will be available Friday, Sept. 29, for students to choose.

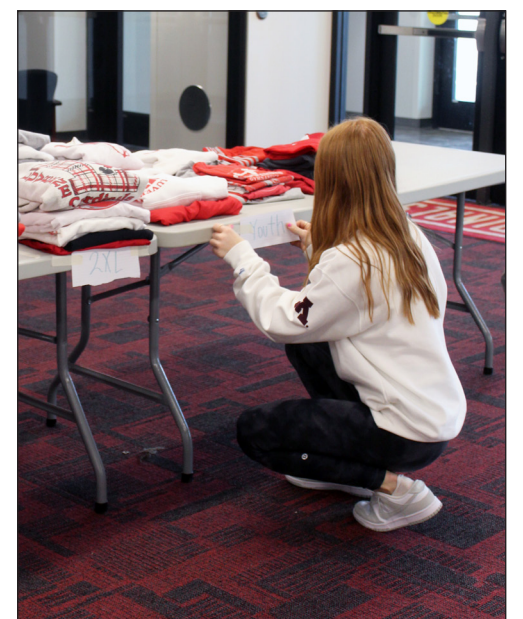
Several items have already been distributed.

As new families registered for the current school year, school secretary Becky Banck offered the clothing to each family member.

"The parents have been so grateful and appreciative," she said. "They are also very impressed this idea came from our students."



At left, clothing awaits distribution at the Sept. 28 Cardinal Clothing Exchange. Pictured at right, Luverne Student Council member Anna Banck places a temporary sign for the youth-sized Luverne Cardinals spirit clothing.



Grants available for projects to foster social connections for older adults

Southwest Initiative Foundation launches Fostering Social Connection in Later Life grant

Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) has launched a new grant program, Fostering Social Connection in Later Life with funds from the Paul and Alma Schwan Aging Trust Endowment Fund.

This program will provide funding to southwest Minnesota-serving organizations working to reduce and prevent social isolation and loneliness among older adults in the region.

Social isolation and loneliness are serious public health risks that can have a negative impact on both physical and mental health.

Older adults are particularly at risk, with approximately one-quarter of Americans, age 65 and older, considered socially isolated, according to the National Institutes of

Health. Data from Minnesota Compass show that 20 percent of southwest Minnesota's population is age 65 or older.

"We know that social isolation and loneliness can have a devastating impact on the health and well-being of older adults," said Nancy Fasching, Vice President of Community Impact at SWIF.

"That's why we're launching this new grant program to support organizations that are working to create opportunities for older adults to continue to thrive and be valued members of our communities."

Fostering Social Connection in Later Life grants will invest in coordination of activities and direct interventions to improve people's connections through social support,

enhanced interactions, or adaptive cognition.

Examples could include connection to opportunities, meaning making and volunteer programs, online and physical program coordination or caregiver support.

SWIF has allocated a total of \$250,000 for individual grant awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 over a one-year term. Grant eligibility and


application details are available at swifoundation.org/grants. The grant application deadline is 5 p.m. on Oct. 31.

About Southwest Initiative Foundation

Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) is a nonprofit community foundation connecting people, investing in ideas and building communities to create a southwest


Minnesota where all people thrive. Since its founding in 1986, SWIF has distributed more than \$115 million

through its grantmaking and business finance programs. Learn more at swifoundation.org.



This vintage farmer will be 90 ON October 2

Send birthday greetings to
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Luverne
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OCTOBER 2 & 3

We will be closed Monday & Tuesday, October 2 & 3 for inventory and new software installation.

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SPRINGWATER MOWING NOTICE

Landowners are responsible for mowing road shoulders. The last mowing should be done by October 1st, 2023. Failure to do so will result in the township hiring it done at \$100 per half mile to be assessed on landowners taxes.

Springwater Township Board

PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

	The Equalizer 3	R
	Friday, September 29	7:00 pm
	Saturday, September 30	7:00 pm
	Sunday, October 1	2:00 pm
	Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 – 12 th grade, \$7 for adults	
	BANK NITE MOVIE	
	TBD	
	Thursday, October 5	6:00 pm
	Sponsored by: First Farmers & Merchants Bank and Papik Motors	
	FREE ADMISSION	
Mason Dixon Line Presents: Born on the Bayou		
The Music of John Fogerty and Creedence Clearwater Revival		
Saturday October 28 7:30 pm		
Tickets on sale now!		
Tickets: \$20 for students, \$25 for adults		
104 E. Main St. • Luverne, MN 56156 • 507.283.4339		
WWW.PALACETHEATRE.US		

Loss of family pet made harder by hit-and-run driver

A teal-colored envelope arrived in our mailbox last week, days after our farm dog, Lucy, was struck by a car.



RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

The card inside read, "There will forever be a place in your heart for such a good and faithful friend."

Its message brought tears, and they spilled over to sobs when four squares of paper slipped out of the card.

Inked on each square was a single paw print – for each of Lucy's four paws.

The thoughtful staff at Rock Vet Clinic inked the prints after the decision not to pursue surgery was made not to pursue surgery ... a humane decision was made instead.

Lucy was brought home and buried in the plot containing other faithful companions.

As I stared at the inked paw prints, I could hear the rapid pattering sounds they made across our gravel for years as she chased a thrown ball, frisbee or even a plastic pail lid.

The prints also remind me of her last days.

Lucy's broken and dislo-

cated legs left her unable to stand. She waited in the ditch near her home for two days before she was found and carried into the vet clinic.

The X-rays revealed the damaged and dislocated bones. Despite her injuries, Lucy would wag her tail rapidly and nudge your hand in order for you to pet her head.

She didn't understand why chasing this car ended with such pain.

Saturday night the driver admitted he hit Lucy and left her in that ditch so near her home.

He knew Lucy liked to chase cars when driving past her house a week earlier. He could have easily chosen a different road the next time.

She saw racing a speeding vehicle as a challenge. She didn't seem to want to chase those vehicles passing by at a reasonable speed.

Lucy was no threat to anyone. She was just the protector of her family's home.

Protect your child and yourself with proper car seat and seat belt safety

National research shows about half of parents install their child's car seat incorrectly, and more than a third of children under 13 who died in crashes were unrestrained.

To help protect the youngest Minnesotans and motorists of all ages, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Office of Traffic Safety recently coordinated a Click It or Ticket enforcement and awareness campaign.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provides campaign funding for overtime enforcement and awareness in support of the Toward Zero Deaths traffic safety program.

"Reach, pull, click. Take two seconds to do that with your seat belt and you increase your chances of surviving a crash," said OTS Director Mike Hanson.

"For a young child, they trust you to be the responsible adult and make sure they're properly restrained as well. It's the most loving and caring decision you'll make in that moment."

Proper car seat use protects little ones

In Minnesota crashes from 2018-2022, preliminary figures show:

- Of the 13,705 children ages

0-7 properly restrained, 88 percent were not injured. Another 9 percent sustained only minor injuries.

- Twenty-three children ages 0-7 were killed in motor vehicles. Of those, only nine were known to be properly secured.

Most Minnesotans' choice to wear a seat belt has helped reduce the number of severe crash injuries. In 1987, there were 4,176 vehicle occupants who suffered severe injuries in traffic crashes. That number was 1,244 last year.

Minnesota car seat law

All children must be in a child safety seat until they are 4 feet, 9 inches tall or at least 8 years old, whichever comes first.

Rear-facing seats: All infants and toddlers should ride in a rear-facing car seat until they have reached the height and weight limits allowed by the car seat manufacturer. It is safest to keep children rear-

facing up to the maximum weight limit of the car seat.

Forward-facing seats with harness: Toddlers and preschool-age children who have reached the height and weight limits of the rear-facing car seat should use a forward-facing seat with harness. They should use this seat until they reach the weight limit of the harness allowed by the car seat manufacturer.

Booster seats: School-age children who have reached the height and weight limits of the forward-facing seat can sit on a booster seat. The booster must be used with a lap and shoulder belt.

Seat belts: Buckling up with a seat belt is for children 8 years old or who have reached 4 feet, 9 inches. Children are ready for adult seat belts when they can sit with their back against the vehicle seat, knees bent comfortably and completely over the vehicle seat edge without slouching, and feet touching the floor.

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Fick: 'Let the doctors decide if this drug is needed'

To the Editor:
Glad to see the decisions made by the county commissioners and

other people of authority in regard to the marijuana situation. Let the doctors decide if this

drug is needed and or beneficial to the individual.
Robert Fick, Luverne

Kracht shares list of 'facts' he has researched

To the Editor:

My last two letters that I sent in were rejected, citing untruths and conspiracy theories. Here is a list of facts that I have researched and base my opinions on.

There is no such thing as federally funded, state funded, or paid for by the county or city. It is all taxpayer funded.

The U.S. Constitution is not being followed by our government. They are also not enforcing several federal laws.

I have not seen any Joe Biden flags, banners, signs or shirts showing support for him. With 81 million people who voted for him, they should be everywhere.

People who have entered this country illegally are illegal aliens. There are a lot of fancy names such as migrants, but they are illegal aliens.

In the House of Representatives, 219 Republicans voted to protect women's sports from male intrusion. No Republicans voted against it. No Democrats voted to protect women's sports from male intrusion. 203 Democrats voted against it. Read that again.

If you are offended by a country music song, the real world is gonna

be hard for you.

The N.I.H., under Dr. Anthony Fauci's supervision, and with American tax dollars, funded gain of function research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology in China. And then he lied about it to congress, the American people, and the world.

Inflation is not going down. The White House is telling you it is, but in reality, the rate that it is going up is slowing. Inflation is still very high. Everything is more expensive. The American dollar is worth 17 cents less than it was three years ago.

There are people in congress and the White House who are mentally incompetent. It is sad and hard to watch. Everyone knows this but are hesitant to address it.

There is 11,000-plus hours of Jan. 6 camera footage that the F.B.I will not allow to be released.

It is always wrong to kill an innocent child.

You can get more accurate information from the news in other countries about the United States than you can get from the media in the United States.

It has been reported that the U.S. government has sent \$113 billion worth of aid to Ukraine. There are roughly 168 million taxpayers in this

country. It has cost every taxpayer in the U.S. \$672.62. I don't know about you, but I could sure use that money.

The Democrat-run "Sanctuary Cities" welcomed illegal aliens and said they would take care of them. Now they are screaming that they don't want illegal aliens in their cities, and can't take care of them.

The defund the police advocates are now saying they need more police.

The people who preach to us about hate hate Donald Trump.

All the predictions made by the Climate Change advocates have been wrong. In the 60's we were going to run out of oil in 10 years. The 70's predicted another ice age. In the 80's we were told acid rain was going to ruin the world. The 90's predicted the ozone layer was going away. The 2000's said the polar ice cap would melt in 20 years.

Today, they call it man made climate change anytime we have bad weather. They were wrong on all of it. But the American citizens were taxed for it.

This country needs to stand on its own two feet again. That's not going to happen with people who can't tell you what a woman is.

Mert Kracht, Luverne

Weber, Schomacker: 'Luverne Municipal Electric Utility contributes to the community's well-being'

To the Editor:

During the first full week in October, municipal electric utilities nationwide will celebrate Public Power Week. Municipal Power is also known as Public Power. Public power utilities provide clean, reliable, and affordable electric energy to more than 49 million customers across the U.S.

Luverne's Municipal Electric Utility is community-owned, not-for-profit, locally controlled, and is invested in and accountable to you, the owner. You have a voice in the utility's operations and policies.

As a citizen of Luverne, you pay less for reliable electricity because you own the utility, and do not have to meet stockholder demands for a rate of return. Any funds not invested in the utility system are reinvested in the community to benefit all residents and businesses.

As a valuable community asset with a proven track record, Luverne Municipal

Electric Utility contributes to the community's well-being through energy efficiency programs, responsive customer service, economic development, and a clean, diverse, and reliable power supply for today and in the future.

In addition, our locally owned municipal electric utility provides local employment, local control over programs, and local utility management.

As Minnesota legislators, we are proud to recognize the people behind public power who put our residents, businesses, and community before profits. We also urge constituents to attend Public Power Week events in their communities or read more about public power utilities at PublicPower.org.

Congratulations to Luverne Municipal Electric Utility and all public power utilities across the nation.

**Sen. Bill Weber
Rep. Joe Schomacker,
Luverne**

E-mail: editor@star-herald.com Web site: star-herald.com

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Lori Sorenson, editor

Mavis Fodness, reporter

Esther Frakes, copy editor

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The *Star Herald* encourages letters to the editor expressing the opinions of readers and intends to print all letters. Letters not meeting the guidelines will not be printed. The *Star Herald* will verify the authenticity of all letters. Letters must have the name of the writer, a signature and address. Unsigned letters will not be considered. The *Star Herald* will edit for grammar, spelling and clarity. We don't publish letters with offensive language, libelous or slanderous material, or misleading or false information. Letter writers in these cases will be contacted. The *Star Herald* will not publish letters written with the sole intent to advertise or serve as a thank-you. Letters with more than 300 words may be edited. The deadline for letters is Monday 10 a.m. They may be delivered or mailed to the editor,

Rock County Star Herald, P.O. Box 837, 117 W. Main St., Luverne, Minn. 56156.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Sept. 15

•A warrant was issued on E. Minnesota Avenue in Steen.

Sept. 16

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported an assault.

•A warrant was issued on E. Minnesota Avenue in Steen.

•Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported an open door.

Sept. 17

•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 23, Magnolia, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•Complainant on 251st Street and 20th Avenue, Jasper, reported an abandoned vehicle.

•Complainant on S. Church Avenue, Hills, reported threats.

•Complainant on W. Virginia Street reported threats.

•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 20, Magnolia, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

Sept. 18

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested assistance from another department.

•Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported a runaway.

•A warrant was issued on E. Minnesota Avenue, Steen.

•A warrant was issued on S. Walnut Service Drive.

•A warrant was issued on 61st Street, Beaver

Creek.

•Complainant on E. Church Avenue, Steen, reported suspicious activity.

Sept. 19

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant on Koehn Avenue reported suspicious activity.

Sept. 20

•Miscellaneous public assist was reported.

•Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office issued a warrant.

•An outage was reported on Service Drive.

Sept. 21

•Complainant on Oak Drive reported a fire.

•Complainant on E. 4th Street, Hills, reported theft.

•Complainant on 161st Street reported vandalism.

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported a disorderly.

Sept. 22

•Complainant on W. Virginia Street reported disturbing the peace.

•Complainant reported threats.

In addition, officers responded to 7 motor vehicle accidents, 1 vehicle in ditch, 2 transports, 2 escorts, 16 ambulance runs, 3 parking violations, 5 paper services, 3 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 3 burn permits, 4 alarms, 4 purchase and carry permits, 1 stalled vehicle, 27 traffic stops, 3 abandoned 911 calls, 1 welfare check, 1 report of cattle out and 3 follow-ups.

MnDOT asks motorists to share road during harvest

Motorists traveling on Minnesota roads this fall should be aware of large farm equipment transporting crops to markets, grain elevators and processing plants, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

"Harvest season is ramping up across Minnesota, and farmers need the highways to access their fields and deliver crops to market," said Scott Thompson, traffic engineer.

"Both motorists and farm equipment operators have a shared responsibility for highway safety."

Farm equipment is large and heavy, making it hard for operators to

accelerate, slow down or stop.

The equipment also makes wide turns and can sometimes cross over the center line.

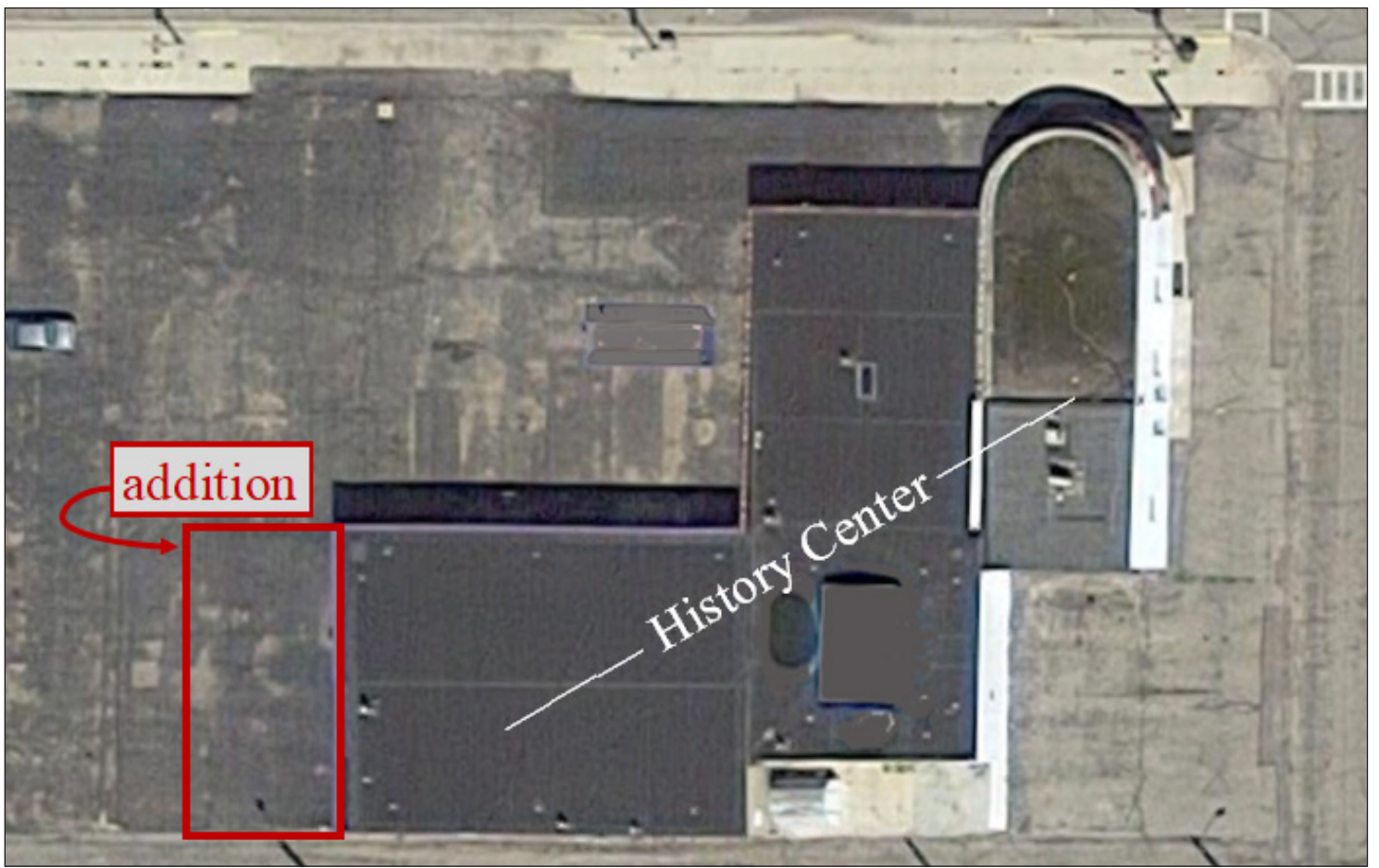
These vehicles can also create large blind spots, making it difficult for operators to see approaching vehicles. All of these factors can cause serious crashes.

Motorists should:

•Slow down and use caution when approaching farm equipment. Don't assume the operator can see you.

•Watch for roadway debris dropped by farm equipment and trucks. It's safer to brake or drive

Share road/see page 14



This drawing shows the planned 30-by-60-foot addition planned for the west side of the current History Center. It will provide a needed expansion to the center's climate-controlled storage areas to preserve negatives and other items.

History Center funding, tourism dollars/continued from page 1

museum.

For example, Mann said newspaper negatives from the Star Herald (including the Herald dating back to the 1800s) Myhre Studio are stored in the basement.

"We need to have them in climate-controlled storage," she said. "Right now, they're in the basement, and that's not climate controlled."

The project would also address a deteriorating exterior west wall.

"The west wall was built in 1915 by R.B. Hinkly, and the exterior bricks are hollow, which means stucco doesn't have anything to attach to," Mann said.

When the climate-controlled addition is built, the west wall will have a matching metal exterior.

The total fundraising goal is \$200,000, which covers heating and cooling for the addition as well as shelving and storage supplies.

History Center generates \$1.96 million in financial return to community

At Tuesday's meeting, Mann spelled out the economic benefits of the History Center to the city of Luverne in terms of tourism dollars.

She said over 7,000 people visited the History Center last year.

"Many of these people came from a distance to do research, to visit our collection, to see the nutcrackers and to shop in our store," Mann said.

"Many of these people came from outside the community and drove down Main Street to get to the History Center."

She said when people



The expansion project will also address deteriorating bricks on the west wall of the History Center.

visit the museum, the History Center staff and volunteers always mention other attractions in town and share with them what Luverne has to offer.

"This spring we had tour buses from North Dakota with about 50 people [in each bus] spending a day in Luverne," she said.

"This happened for three consecutive weeks — one bus each week, with these visitors staying in our motels, eating in our restaurants and shopping in our stores."

Mann said the bus driver had mentioned his passengers had spent over \$2,000 when they were in town.

She calculated the economic multiplier effect of the 7,000 visitors last year, assuming each person spends a few hours in town and spends \$150 \$200 on purchases, gas, dining and lodging.

"If only 20 percent of the 7,000 visitors stay around Luverne a couple of hours, we can estimate a direct economic benefit to Luverne of \$280,000," Mann said.

"Using the multiplier ef-

fect of money circulating in the community seven times, the History Center generates \$1,960,000 in financial returns to our community. That is a real economic benefit to our retail and service business without any additional cost to public infrastructure."

She said this tourism is increasing because the History Center's reputation is growing as one of the best museums in the nation.

"Many groups comment that they appreciate how our museum is arranged, exhibits are presented and how the facility is maintained," Mann said.

"For example, this summer one of our visitors was wrapping up a tour of county museums in Minnesota — he was trying to get to all of them, and said that ours is undeniably the best he had visited."

She said local visitors are equally impressed.

"Some want to do research about ancestors, and many are surprised to find out how expansive the History Center is. Even re-

turning visitors are stunned by how much has changed since a previous visit."

With adequate funding and staffing, she said the History Center has been more active in community events and in providing programming.

Some examples are kids' activities at Winterfest, Tales from the Graves during Buffalo Days, Tin Can Phones and Typewriters on the Plaza and the Summer Kitchen Tour and Corn Shelling at the fair.

The Historical Society has increased its digital presence with Facebook posts about upcoming events and iconic black-and-white photos that generate discussion online among former Luverne residents.

"These posts are often shared and get the word out about Luverne and what it has to offer," Mann said.

City and Historical Society to have management agreement

The Luverne City Council didn't take action on the request at Tuesday's meeting but will review it with staff.

"I'd like to thank you all for the work you put in," Mayor Pat Baustian said. "You're a great presence on Main Street."

He said the next step will be to establish a management agreement like those in place for Blue Mound Ice Arena and the Palace Theatre that the city supports.

He also mentioned that the city will pay the 2023 allocation of \$25,000 that had not yet been paid due to an oversight.

Oil Change SPECIALS

VALID THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2023

Ford is offering **PICK UP AND DELIVERY**

In order to qualify for this special, vehicles must be picked up and delivered within 20 miles of the city limits. Vehicles over the limit are subject to an extra charge.

- \$35.99*** 6 QUART OIL CHANGE
- \$99.99*** 13 QUART DIESEL OIL CHANGE
- \$29.99*** PRE-ALIGNMENT CHECKS

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ROCK the EDGE 8th ANNUAL CITY-WIDE FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, October 8th

On Sunday, October 8th, Rock the Edge youth will be canvassing the City of Luverne and collecting food beginning at 3 pm.

If you would like to contribute to the **Rock County Food Shelf**, please place non-perishable food items in a bag and place on your porch or outside your front door (please, no out-of-date items).

HELP US HELP OTHERS!

If we happen to miss your house, please call 507-920-5278

Inspiration Hills
Camp and Retreat Center

FALL FUNDRAISER EVENT
Featuring a Musical Performance

PARABLES & PROVERBS
by Lights Up Productions

7 PM | OCTOBER 21st
AT THE CANTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

800 North Main Street Canton, SD 57013
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE
inspirationhills.org/fundraiser
\$15 Balcony | \$18 Main Level

CELEBRATIONS

Card shower

Arden Sorenson will celebrate his 90th birthday on Monday, Oct. 2. Greetings may be sent to him at 164 201st Street, Jasper, MN 56144.

MENU AT GENERATIONS

Monday, Oct. 2:
Liver or pepper steak, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, bread, fresh fruit.

Tuesday, Oct. 3:
Biscuit with sausage gravy, roasted potatoes, cinnamon apple slices.

Wednesday, Oct. 4:
Barbecue chicken, au gratin potatoes, peas, bread, dessert.

Thursday, Oct. 5:
Roasted turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll,

dessert.

Friday, Oct. 6:
Goulash, corn, spiced pears, bread.

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

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

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

1944: A.E. Brown was 'a farmer at heart'

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 January 20, 1944.

(Editor's Note—Because its content is much the same as "Diamond Club" biographies, the Star Herald this week is devoting the "Diamond Club" column to an article on E. A. Brown which appeared in this newspaper on January 2, 1941. It is also being printed in response to numerous requests from residents throughout the county who have been acquainted with Mr. Brown both personally, and in a business way, for many years. It is our belief that the many friends and associates of Mr. Brown, not only in Luverne and Rock county, but throughout the entire middle west, wherever he was known, will be interested in reading it again.)

"Although I never did do a great deal of actual farming myself, I'm still a farmer at heart," said E. A. Brown, veteran Rock county grain buyer, as he walked about the farm yard of the farm his father homesteaded in 1872. The farm is a well-known Rock county landmark, located a short distance north of the village of Ashcreek, and is now owned by Mr. Brown and his son, E. W. Brown.

Mr. Brown, who says he now farms by "proxy" because a man is employed to operate the enterprise, obtained his first job as a grain buyer while raking cornstalks and burning them on that same farm, more than a half century ago. The completion of the Queen Bee mill in Sioux Falls resulted in a demand for wheat in that city, greater than it had ever before experienced, and buyers for the mill were obliged to go to other localities to obtain enough grain to fill their requirements.

Discuss Wheat Problem

Dan Smith, a repre-



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

sentative of the firm, happened to be driving past the Brown farm, and being without matches, stopped to light his cigar from one of the burning cornstalks. He introduced himself to the young man on the rake, and the two began discussing the new mill and the wheat problem.

At that time, according to Mr. Brown, there was a flat warehouse at Ashcreek, owned by a firm at Eau Claire, Wis. As it was not being used, the traveler suggested that Mr. Brown find out from the owners if it could be rented as a storehouse for grain. If it could be obtained, he suggested that Mr. Brown buy wheat from farmers in the locality and in turn sell it to the Queen Bee firm. The young farmer consented, obtained permission to use the building, and thus was founded the E. A. Brown Elevator company, which now has some 15 or 20 branch elevators both to the north and south of Luverne, as well as in Luverne itself.

Came Here in 1872

The Luverne man was a lad of 16 when he came here from Wisconsin with his parents in 1872. His brother, William, had come to the county a year or two previous, and had homesteaded in Clinton township on the quarter section, adjacent to the present Brown farm. It was he who induced his father to come to Minnesota to settle.

Upon their arrival, they planned to build a house, but building in those days entailed a great deal more work than it does today, according to Mr. Brown. All the lumber had to be hauled here from Worthington by team and wagon, and the

Bits, go to page 7



Submitted photo

Twelve Luverne High School students are this year's candidates for homecoming king and queen. Coronation will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, in the school's performing arts center. Candidates include (front, from left) Jenna DeBates, Kira John, Elle Halverson, Belle Smidt, Sarah Stegenga, Anika Boll, (back) Conner Connell, Patrick Kroski, Kai Buss, Tyler Arends, Henry Hartquist and Zach Terrio.

Luverne High School Homecoming Week is Oct. 2-6

Coronation set for Tuesday, Oct. 3, in performing arts center

By Mavis Fodness

"Luverne's Got Game" is this year's LHS homecoming theme with activities centered around popular board games.

The games from Monday, Oct. 2, through Friday, Oct. 6, include Candyland, The Game of Life, Memory, Scrabble and Battleship.

LHS cheerleaders organized the theme week of activities.

Senior students voted on the six king and six queen candidates for the royal court. A vote by students in grades 9 through 12 will determine the homecoming queen and king.

Queen candidates include Jenna DeBates, Kira John, Elle Halverson, Belle Smidt, Sarah Stegenga and Anika Boll.

King candidates include Conner Connell, Patrick Kroski, Kai Buss, Tyler Arends, Henry Hartquist and Zach Terrio.

Coronation will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, in the school's performing arts center.

Other public events during Homecoming Week include:

- Volleyball game against Edgerton Public. The varsity game begins at 7:15 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, in the

elementary gym.

- Tennis section quarterfinals, 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, tennis courts.

- Cross country meet, 4:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, school grounds.

- Luverne Alumni Hall of Fame induction ceremony, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, in the new Alumni Garden.

- Community tailgate, 5 to 6:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, at Cardinal Field.

- Homecoming and Battle Axe football game against Pipestone, 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6., at Cardinal Field.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2013)

•It was nearly 100 years ago when Dallas Bowron, now age 99, first trotted down the streets of Magnolia on his way to his grandmother's dry goods store.

She was an adventurer who had homesteaded in Wyoming, run a boarding house in Minneapolis, and worked land in North Dakota. Her adventures concluded when she married, settled in western Nobles County and opened the dry goods store.

At the time, the town included three grocery stores, two garages, a Ford agency, a newspaper called The Magnolia Advance, the dry goods store, a pool hall and a bank, two cream-buoying stations, a hotel, a livery stable, a lumber yard, two elevators — The Farmers Elevator and The Hubbard & Palmar Elevator — a blacksmith shop and eventually a power plant. ...

Bowron's dad was a livestock trader who bought cows, horses, sheep and pigs from local farmers and sold them to buyers who loaded the animals from the Magnolia stockyards onto the trains and off to Chicago or Sioux City.

25 years ago (1998)

•After 130 years of doing business in Luverne, Smith Furniture is going out of business. According to Mike Hesch, who has owned the business for 15 years, the decision was driven by the poor Main Street economy.

"Business in Luverne has been a challenge these past couple of years," he said. "That's pretty obvious with what's going on downtown. There are so many empty stores. You hate to see that happen. You hate to see that gap downtown."

Hesch said his plans are unsure, but he said he's exploring an opportunity to open a Slumberland Furniture franchise in Worthington.

50 years ago (1973)

•More than 2,000 high school band musicians, plus 100 or more baton twirlers, flag swingers and majorettes will be taking part in the 23rd annual Tri-State Band Festival Saturday.

According to an actual count provided by the directors of the 29 bands that will be in Luverne for the event, the 2,385 band members are believed to be an all-time record. There'll be at least 104 twirlers, flag swingers, pom-pom girls and drill team members, perhaps more.

75 years ago (1948)

•A record enrollment of 82 pupils in the first grade in the Luverne school resulted in a decision by the school board to hire an additional first grade teacher. At the present time, two first grade teachers are employed.

Supt. M.C. Munson said that Luverne seems to be following the trend of many other schools in the state which also report record-breaking first grade classes. The Luverne kindergarten class, like many other kindergarten classes in the state, he said, is smaller than last year.

100 years ago (1923)

•Publication of the "Echo," the official paper of Luverne high school, was resumed this week, work on the paper having been suspended during the summer vacation. The Echo enters this fall upon its fifth year of existence, and will again be published biweekly as in previous years. Linus Maloney is editor-in-chief; Helen Stager, associate editor; Horton Jacobsen, business manager; Norma Berg, assistant business manager; Gladys Colby and Lucille Preston, exchange editors; Harriet Noltierieke and Esther Mitchell, general reporters; Signa Omodt, public speaking and debate; Lyle Maloney, features; Donald Solberg, jokes.

MnDOT using Wireless Emergency Alerts for traveler safety

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has entered into an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to begin using Wireless Emergency Alerts that shares local emergency information to the public.

WEAs provide the ability to send alerts directly to mobile devices without the user needing to download an app or

subscribe to a service.

Alerts from MnDOT will typically include a link to 511mn.org (the state's online road information system).

MnDOT's operating procedures include sending emergency alerts only when highway closures of more than four hours are expected due to weather or major crashes or incidents.

MnDOT alerts will be sent only for

closures on state highways and interstates under the agency's jurisdiction and will be sent to all mobile phones within a one-mile band around the highway, beginning 10 miles ahead of any closure location.

The nature of an emergency could require a larger area for notifications and specifics will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

OBITUARY

Johannes Nath

Johannes Rudolph Nath, age 84, of Magnolia, Minnesota, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family on Friday, Sept. 22, 2023, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



A visitation was Monday, Sept. 25, from 4-7 p.m. at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne, Minnesota.

A funeral service was Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 10:30 a.m. at the church followed by a burial at St. Catherine Catholic Cemetery.

To view Johannes' life history or sign an online registry, please visit www.hartquistfuneral.com.

Johannes Rudolph Nath was born on July 28, 1939, to Julius and Gertrude (Lohman) Nath in Ellsworth, Minnesota. He lived on the family farm and attended country school through the eighth grade. He then helped his father on their farm, and later other farmers, before moving to Chicago to work with his

uncle cleaning apartments.

He soon returned to Minnesota and lived in Worthington where he held construction and manufacturing jobs until he began working as a laborer at a Worthington meat packing plant.

During that time, and with the help of Mary's brothers, he met and fell in love with their sister, Mary Reese. The couple were united in marriage on Aug. 27, 1966, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. The couple initially made their home in Worthington, but then purchased an acreage just outside of Kanaranzi, Minnesota. There they raised their family and started a farrow to feeder pig operation. Even with the move, Johannes continued to work at the packing plant, and after 37 years he retired.

After retiring, Johannes and Mary spent their time camping, attending their grandchildren's activities, and traveling. They were able

to travel to Germany where they visited family and later made several trips with a group from St. Catherine. Johannes was active and healthy until a diagnosis of cancer in December of 2021. After a courageous and hard-fought battle, Johannes went to be with his Lord and Savior at the age of 84 years, 1 month, and 26 days.

Johannes was an active member of the St. Catherine Church, served as a member of the Knights of Columbus, was an usher for church and funeral services, performed church maintenance as a volunteer and even assisted the church quilting club that met on a weekly basis. He even, on occasion, would help Mary with some of the quilt sewing projects. He enjoyed volunteering at the senior meal site. He helped with meal prep, serving meals and many complemented him on his skills in the "dish pit." Johannes was gifted with the ability to make beautiful metal yard decorations. He enjoyed watching old westerns on TV, but his favorite

television show was "Let's Make A Deal," which was generally followed by another favorite activity, napping.

The most important thing to Johannes was his family. He loved spending time with his kids and grandchildren. He worked hard to make it to all of their sporting events, music concerts and high school graduations. He was a very hard-working man and he taught his kids and grandchildren that "you don't quit just because you don't like it."

Johannes is survived by his wife, Mary Nath, of Magnolia; children Julie (Roger) Wynia and their children Leah and Piper of Luverne, Todd (Colette) Nath and their children Zackery and Tenley Nath of Rock Rapids, Iowa, Kristi (Larry) McClure and their children Kodiak and McKenzie of Volga, South Dakota, and Dean Nath of Luverne; siblings Karl Nath, Norman (Lois) Nath, and Willy (Margarita) Nath.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Julius and Gertrude Nath, and brothers Ervin and Paul Nath.

Apply by Oct. 1 to become U of M Extension Master Gardener volunteer

Extension Master Gardeners bring science-based horticulture knowledge and practices to Minnesota, promoting healthy landscapes and building communities through volunteer efforts.

"Our understanding of the benefits of gardening is expanding to include personal and community wellbeing, pollinator health, the importance of climate resilient landscapes and more," said Tim Kenny, director of the volunteer program.

"Becoming a Master Gardener volunteer is a great way to invest time and energy in local activities and efforts that support healthy people and a healthy planet."

Master Gardeners are respected as reliable sources of gardening information for Minnesotans.

What many don't know is that becoming a Master Gardener gives volunteers a chance to expand their interests in areas including sustainability, local foods, pollinators and

climate change.

Master Gardeners also put their skills to work conserving green spaces, native plants and clean water.

The University of Minnesota has trained thousands of Master Gardeners; each year, they contribute more than 140,000 hours of service in Minnesota communities.

This year the training will be all online and spread out over 14 weeks, making the program more student-friendly than ever.

To become a Master Gardener, individuals commit to complete online training and 50 hours of volunteering in the first year. After the first year, they commit 25 hours to annual volunteer work; many choose to devote more time to the program.

Master Gardeners come from all ages and backgrounds. To learn more and apply, visit z.umn.edu/MGinfo or call 612-625-9864.

For more info, visit www.extension.umn.edu/news

Bits by Betty/continued from page 6

going was not easy, as there were no bridges, and wet sloughs made heavy pulling.

An early winter and the blizzard of '73 prevented their completing their structure the year of their arrival, and they were obliged to live in the dugout home of Mr. Brown's brother. The local man described it as an excavation into a small side hill. It was 16 feet in length, and 14 feet wide, with a roof of sod. It had one door and one window on the front side. Adjoining the dugout was a root cellar, which was also used as living quarters that winter. On many occasions, nearby settlers sought refuge there during winter storms.

First House Still Stands

The following spring, however, they completed the new dwelling and later moved it to the homestead where it still stands and is still used as a home. Since then, however, additions have been built on both sides of the original structure.

When the Browns arrived in Rock county, settling had just begun in earnest. The first arrivals settled as close to the Rock River as they possibly could, because there they could cut trees to make log houses. There was no such thing as the city of Luverne at that time, Mr. Brown recalls. What is now the main business section was then a wheat field.

There were two homes here, one occupied by Philo Hawes, which incidentally, was located where the Brown elevators now stand, and the other, owned by P. J. Kniss, located where Kniss

avenue and Warren street now meet.

A Pioneering Era

That Mr. Brown lived in an era of pioneering that will never exist again is evidenced by the number of business ventures he was able to enter as a young man. He first confined himself to buying grain. When other grain buyers failed to make money for the firms for which they worked, he was usually called to take over and "straighten out" the business. In one instance, he was asked to buy for a Chicago firm, and not once during the past 57 years, has his account with them been closed (Editor's note—This has now been extended to a period of 60 years).

Before doing any grain buying, Mr. Brown worked at railroad construction. He graded about a mile of the old Doon line, near Ashcreek, and also did some construction work in South Dakota.

During the depression of 1894, he went into the banking business at Ellsworth. The bank there at that time had failed, and with \$2,000 in promissory notes as his capital, and a like amount of cash furnished by his business partner, the two purchased the business which consisted of a safe and a counter. Better conditions the following year resulted in establishing a successful bank for the Ellsworth community.

Although associated with other forms of business, the grain business continued to be Mr. Brown's chief interest. By 1902, however, insurance rates on elevators in this section of the coun-

try reached such heights that the grain dealers could hardly afford to carry protection against fire and windstorm on their buildings. Mr. Brown and several others dealers in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota then took the matter in their own hands and formed an organization for their mutual protection. That organization was the Tri-State Mutual Grain Dealers' Insurance company, with its home office in Luverne. At one time the business was handled by one man, but it began growing, and continued to grow until now it employs 17 persons.

Mr. Brown is one of the few remaining pioneers who can remember when Luverne did not exist. Coming here from Ashcreek in the early days, he has watched it grow from a vast expanse of prairie to a thriving county seat town. Luverne was first organized as a village and Mr. Brown served on the village council. When it was organized as a city, he was made the first mayor, serving two terms.

Although he has led a busy life, Mr. Brown seemingly has no thoughts of retirement. A visit to his office at the elevator will usually find him seated at his desk, looking over some books, or a reviewing market and crop conditions.

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 mannmade@iw.net.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Members of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation who traveled to Washington, D.C., include (front, from left) Minnesota Farm Bureau Vice President Carolyn Olson, Katie Drewitz, Cindy Durheim, Katie Wiese, (back) James Dodds, Corey Ramsden Scott, Nathan Drewitz, Peter Bakken, David Durheim, Dustin Wiese and Kaytlin Bemis.

Bakken travels with Farm Bureau Federation to Washington, D.C.

Rock County farmer Peter Bakken was among a delegation of members and leadership from the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation who traveled to Washington, D.C., Sept. 11-13.

Bakken is the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation District 3 director and former Rock County Farm Bureau president. He joined the group to share agriculture's story with legislators and to meet with other agriculture leaders.

He and the delegation shared their farming and ranching experiences and provided personal examples of the impact of current and proposed legislation on agriculture in the state.

Primary focuses included programming in the 2023 farm bill, Prop 12, drought conditions in the state and coo824 MnDOT wireless emergency alerts

MnDOT to begin using Wireless Emergency Alerts for traveler safety

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has entered into an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to begin using Wireless Emergency Alerts that shares local emergency information to the public.

The alerts are delivered through the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System, FEMA's national system for alerting the public.

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Cardinal volleyball team bends Arrows on home court

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Cardinals volleyball team lost to Redwood Valley 3-0 Tuesday, Sept. 19, at home and took down Pipestone 3-1 Thursday, Sept. 21, in Luverne.

The Cardinals are now 7-10 for the season.

Luverne was scheduled to take on Worthington at home Tuesday, Sept. 26.

The Cardinals travel to St. James Thursday, Sept. 28, to play the Saints and will host Edgerton Public Monday, Oct. 2.

Redwood 3, Luverne 0

The Luverne volleyball team fell to the rival Redwood Valley Cardinals Tuesday, Sept. 19, at a home match, 3-0.

Redwood was able to outscore Luverne 25-21 in the first game.

In the second game Luverne wasn't able to keep up with Redwood and lost 25-12.

The third game was not much better and LHS fell in a 25-11 game.

"Redwood is a good team. We came out strong in Game 1, but just couldn't put things together to give them a better fight in the last two



Senior Kiesli Smith spikes the ball over the net, watched by her teammates, against Pipestone Thursday, Sept. 21, at home. The Cardinals beat the Arrows three games to one for a match win.

games," head coach Sarah DeBeer said

Junior Ella Reisdorfer had nine kills, and senior Tori Serie had six kills in the contest.

Senior Morgan Ahrendt was 9 of 9 from the service line with one ace, and she registered eight digs.

Senior Elle Halverson went 10 of 11 serv-

ing with one ace.

Halverson also had eight set assists, and junior Hannah Sneller had seven assists.

Senior Kira John had two block assists, and senior Kiesli Smith had three block assists and two solo blocks.

Junior Kylie VanderLugt had seven digs.

Luverne 3, Pipestone 1

The Luverne volleyball team hosted rival Pipestone Area Thursday, Sept. 21.

Luverne came out swinging in the first game, beating Pipestone 25-18.

In Game 2, the Cardinals held the Arrows off and won 25-19.

Game 3 went to Pipestone 26-24 as Luverne fell behind and couldn't make up the difference throughout the match.

The Cardinals did redeem themselves in Game 4 and won a 25-18 contest to claim the victory.

"We needed this win," DeBeer

LHS volleyball/see page 10



Cardinal senior Kira John (left) and junior Ella Reisdorfer jump to block a Pipestone spike Thursday, Sept. 21, at home. The Cardinals beat their Arrow rivals 3-1.

H-BC volleyball team drops 'Queen of the Court' game to Edgerton Public 3-1

By Greg Hoogeveen

The H-BC girls' volleyball team lost to Red Rock Central 4-1 in Lambertson Tuesday, Sept. 19, and dropped a heartbreaker "Queens of the Court" match 4-1 to Edgerton Public Friday, Sept. 22, in Edgerton.

The Patriots were scheduled to host Murray County Central Tuesday, Sept. 26, and will travel to Russell-Tyler-Ruthton Thursday, Sept. 28.

Red Rock Central 4, Hills-Beaver Creek 1

The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team fell to Red Rock Central 4-1 Tuesday, Sept. 19, at RRC.

H-BC opened the contest, taking the first game 25-23.

"After the first set we stopped working together and couldn't get a rhythm going again," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

H-BC let the next three games slip past them and ended up losing the match.

In Game 2 the Patriots fell 25-15, and the tide changed to the Falcons favor.

Red Rock Central won games 3 and 4 by scores of 25-22 and 25-16, respectively.

"We absolutely couldn't win, but now we've learned what happens when we don't work together consistently," Zylstra said.

Freshman Olivia Deelstra was 6-7 serving with one ace, had five kills and one block.

Senior Lanae Elbers was 14-16 at the service line with three aces. She led the team with 11 kills and had two blocks.

Sophomore Ella Sammons posted four kills and two blocks for the Patriots. Freshman Brynn Bakken went 9-10 serving with two aces, four kills, four blocks and four digs.

Senior Brynn Rauk was 16-18 at the line with four aces, 10 team leading



Freshman Brynn Bakken rises above the net to spike the ball against two Edgerton defenders. The Patriots lost the "Queens of the Court" three sets to one on Friday, Sept. 22, on the road.

set assists and three digs.

Sophomore Abbie Harris was 7-8 serving with one ace, eight set assists, and had two digs.

Senior Grace Anderson was 11-14 serving with five aces and had 12 digs.

Sophomore Claire Knobloch added five digs for the Patriots in the games.

Edgerton Public 3, Hills-Beaver Creek 1

The Lady Pates traveled to Edgerton Friday, Sept. 22, to take on the Flying Dutchmen in the Second Annual "Queens of the Court" volleyball game.

Last year Edgerton won the first-ever rivalry "Queens" match in Hills, and the Patriots were looking to return the favor this year on the Flying Dutchmen court.

Edgerton took the first two sets 25-16 and 25-13.

"Our first two sets we didn't play that great," Zylstra said.

"Finally in the third set things started to click."



Senior Grace Anderson stretches to save the ball from going out of play against Edgerton Public Friday, Sept. 22. H-BC lost to the Flying Dutchmen three games to one on the road.

The Patriots rallied and were able to win the third set 25-21.

"We had a rhythm going in Set 4," Zylstra said.

"What got us at the end was when our two freshmen rotated up to the front and Lanae rotated to the

back row just when we needed three points to win Set 4."

The Patriots ended up losing Set 4 by three points, 25-22, and Edgerton won the match 3-1.

Elbers went 11-14 serving. H-BC volleyball/see page 10

Luverne tennis drops two matches to strong St. James and Redwood teams

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne girls' tennis team faced two tough opponents on the road this past week.

The Cardinal girls fell to St. James 7-1 Tuesday, Sept. 19, and to Redwood 6-1 on Thursday, Sept. 21.

"It was a very long week for the girls," head coach Jon Beers said.

"St. James and Redwood are both very strong teams."

The Luverne girls' tennis team is now 9-5 for the season after the loss to Redwood.

Luverne will not play in the Big South Championship on Tuesday, Sept. 26, because only the top team in each division is invited to play.

The Cardinals' next match will be at the Section team tournament on Thursday, Oct. 5, in Sioux Falls.

If Luverne wins, the Cardinals will play in the semifinals and finals Monday, Oct. 9, in Sioux Falls.

Individual sections play starts Thursday, Oct. 12, in Sioux Falls with the finals on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

The Cardinals will take two singles players and two doubles teams to the individual tournament.

St. James 7, Luverne 1

The Luverne girls' tennis team traveled to St. James Tuesday, Sept. 19, losing to the Saints 7-0.

Luverne came into the match 9-3 and faced a strong St. James team with a record of 9-1.

Beers said Luverne was missing two seniors, Roz Hartshorn and Cassi Chesley, for the St. James match.

"Sophomores Hannah Kempema and Lizzy

Mulder filled in for them and both played well," Beers said.

"It's just very hard to replace two of the top three singles players and win the match."

Luverne lost all four singles matches against St. James.

In singles No. 1 senior Sarah Stegenga fell to the Saints in two sets 6-2, 6-2.

Morgan Hadler, a Cardinal senior, lost the singles No. 2 match 6-0, 6-0.

Sophomore Hannah Kempema played against the Saints in third singles, losing her match 6-2, 6-2.

In fourth singles sophomore Elizabeth Mulder fell to the Saints 6-2, 6-0.

The Cardinals lost three doubles matches against the Saints.

Juniors Augusta Papik and Caitlin Kindt fell 6-3, 6-1 in No. 1 doubles.

In No. 2 doubles, juniors Emma Nath and Corynn Oye lost to St. James in two sets, 6-0, 6-1.

Senior Rayann Remme and junior Katia Jarchow fell in No. 3 doubles 6-0, 6-2.

Redwood 6, Luverne 1

Luverne played Redwood on the road Thursday, Sept. 21, and fell six matches to one.

In No. 1 singles, Stegenga lost 6-0, 6-0.

Senior Roselynn Hartshorn got the only Cardinal win in the No. 2 singles match, defeating her opponent 6-3, 6-0.

In the No. 3 singles match, senior Cassi Chesley fell in two sets 6-3, 6-2.

Hadler lost the singles No. 4 match in two sets, 6-1 and 6-3.

LHS tennis/see page 10

Patriots football team tames Wolverines 26-21 on the road

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Patriots football team edged out Mountain Lake 26-21 on the road Friday, Sept. 22, for their fourth win.

Metzger said his guys never quit, and that says a lot about the Patriots, who found themselves down 13-0 in the first half of the game.

Mountain Lake was able to score 13 points in the second quarter.

First, on a two-yard touchdown rush and field-goal and then a 20-yard TD pass and missed extra point.

H-BC struggled, coughing up a fumble in the first quarter and throwing two interceptions in the second quarter.

"We dug ourselves a hole in the first half," head coach Rex Metzger said. "Give them credit, they are a very good team and they were able to force us into three turnovers in the first half."

In the third quarter, junior Cameron Allen sparked the Patriots by picking off the Wolverines to help set up a short field drive.

On the first play, sophomore quarterback Jamin Metzger completed a 14-yard pass to sophomore Micah Bush that set up an 11-yard run by sophomore Beau Bakken for a touchdown.

The Patriots missed converting the extra point but were on the board 13-6.

H-BC held Mountain Lake to a three-and-out drive on the next possession.

The Patriots were able to score again on a nine-yard run by senior Justin Roelf for six, and a two-point conversion run by junior Sawyer Bosch was successful.



Samantha McGaffee photo/0928 hbc fb 3

Junior Sawyer Bosch breaks a tackle along the sideline against Mountain Lake Friday, Sept. 22, in the Patriots' 26-21 win over the Wolverines. H-BC now stands at 4-0 on the season.



Samantha McGaffee photo/0928 hbc fb 4

Junior Beau Bakken blocks a Wolverine rusher from reaching the H-BC quarterback. The Patriots won the game 25-12 Friday, Sept. 22, in Mountain Lake.

H-BC led 14-13 at the end of the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter Bakken broke a 46-yard run against the Wolverines for a touchdown and

gave the Patriots a 20-13 lead in the game.

Mountain Lake came back, scoring on a 21-yard pass and two-point conversion to take the lead

back at 21-20.

On the following kick-off, Bosch was able to return the ball 20 yards, and the Wolverines were penalized 15 yards for a block in the back.

The Patriots gobbled up 43 more yards on a long pass from Metzger to senior Riley Tatge.

A few plays later H-BC was awarded 15 yards for targeting on the Wolverines.

Bakken ran 11 yards to set up another first down and then busted a four-yard run for the winning touchdown.

H-BC missed the conversion but won the contest 26-21 over the Wolverines to bring the Patriots' season record to 4-0.

Hills-Beaver Creek will

H-BC football/see page 10

LHS football team beats Minnesota Valley Lutheran 36-0 on the road

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne football team traveled to New Ulm to take on Minnesota Valley Lutheran Friday, Sept. 22, and the Cardinals beat the Chargers 36-0.

"Going into the game, we knew MVL had won their first three games with an impressive offense and passing game," head coach Todd Oye said.

The Cardinals had a total of 364 yards in the game, 360 rushing and only four yards passing.

Senior Gavin DeBeer led Luverne with 16 rushes for 121 total yards and one touchdown.

Senior Sam Rock added 120 yards in 21 attempts and one touchdown.

Junior Carter Sehr had nine rushes for 84 yards and two touchdowns.

"We felt that running the ball would control the tempo of the game and keep the ball out of MVL's offensive hands," Oye said.

"We were able to run the ball with four backs, and we controlled the time of possession. We were very happy with how we executed on offense."

The Cardinals did complete one four-yard pass from Sehr to senior Conner Connell in the first quarter for a touchdown.

Senior Patrick Kroski was 3 of 3 kicking extra points in the game.

"Defensively we stopped their run and only gave up a few big pass plays," Oye said.

Luverne held the Chargers to 217 total yards, 183 passing and 34 rushing.

Junior Caden Kruger, sophomore Jaxon Lais and one other team member not identified were able to pick off three Charger passes to stop drives.

The LHS defense held Minnesota Valley to converting only two of eight third downs and zero of two fourth down conversion attempts.

The Cardinals are now 3-1 for the season and will travel to Blue Earth Friday, Sept. 29, to take on the Buccaneers.

Box Scores	1	2	3	4
Quarters				
Final				
Luverne	8	14	14	0
MVL	0	0	0	0

Team Totals	LHS	JHS
Total yards	59	45
Total plays	364	217
Passing yards	4	183
Rushing yards	360	34
First downs	22	9
Turnovers	1	0
Interceptions	0	3

Luverne Individual Stats	Passing	Cp/Att	Yds	TD
Sehr	1/1		4	1

Rushing	Yds	TD
DeBeer	121	1
Rock	120	1
Sehr	84	2
Domagala	13	0
Sauer	11	0
Kracht	3	0

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	TD
Connell	1	4	1

Tackles	Asst.
Sacks	
Rock	2 0 1
Connell	2 0 1
Kruger	2 1 0
Woodley	2 0 0
Domagala	1 1 0
Kracht	1 0 0
Kroski	1 1 0
Remme	1 0 0
Stroh	1 0 0
Sasker	1 0 0
Lais	0 1 0

Luverne Cardinal cross-country varsity girls' team places first, boys' team second

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne Cardinals boys' and girls' cross-country teams traveled to Jackson Thursday, Sept. 21.

The LHS girls' team won the varsity 5,000-meter competition followed by Martin County West, Jackson County Central and Worthington.

Luverne had three girls finish in the Top 5 places in the varsity 5,000-meter competition.

Senior Jenna DeBates was first with a time of 19:22.09, marking her fifth win in a row this season.

Seventh-grader Summer Mollberg placed third with a 22:20.31 and freshman Khloe Visker was fifth with a time of 22:49.72.

The Cardinal boys' team placed second behind Windom in the varsity 5,000-meter event.

Placing behind Luverne were Worthington, Madelia, Jackson County Central and Blue Earth Area.

The Cardinals had two boys finish in the Top 10 of the varsity

5,000-meter event.

Junior Owen Janiszkeski finished in third place with a time of 17:09.76 and junior Dylan Ommen placed 10th with a time of 18:36.14.

Other individual results are as follows:

In the **Girls' Varsity 5,000 Meter** event, seventh-grader Sophia Nolz placed ninth with a time of 24:21.00, eighth-grader Grace Kempema placed 12th in 24:35.75, freshman Reinha John placed 16th in 25:42.79, freshman Olivia Lund placed 17th in 25:49.98, seventh-grader Ahna Toftefeld placed 19th in 25:57.64, freshman Mariah Knorr placed 20th in 25:58.69, senior Kayla Bloemendaal placed 25th in 27:04.37, seventh-grader Harper DeWispelaere placed 28th in 28:24.54, senior Brynn Boyenga placed 29th in 28:34.71, junior Jaelyn Arp placed 34th in 29:45.88 and junior Andrea Luitjens placed 38th in a time of 31:53.14.

In the **Boys' Varsity 5,000 Meter** event, freshman Marcus Papik placed 12th in a time of 18:41.54, junior Leif Ingebretsen placed 15th in 18:51.21, junior Sage Viessman placed 17th in 18:59.31, senior Zach Terrio placed 21st in 19:58.10, Kaleb Hemme placed 22nd in 19:58.80 and junior Eli McLendon placed 37th in a time of 20:03.55

In the **Girls' Junior Varsity 2,000 Meter** event, seventh-grader Bridget Sandager placed seventh in a time of 9:42.27, eighth-grader Emma Wieneke placed 13th in 11:34.87, eighth-grader Natalie Berning placed 15th in 12:10.17 and seventh-grader Mallory Berning placed 16th in a time of 12:28.06.

In the **Boys' Junior Varsity 2,000 Meter** event, seventh-grader William Gehrke place 13th in a time of 9:19.80.

The Cardinals will travel to St. James Area Tuesday, Sept. 26, for their next event.

Part 4 of public land acquisition: closing the deal and completing restorations on the land

This is the final installment of a public land acquisition process. We have covered a lot in the last three columns, and this will get us to the end zone.

Last week we left off at the appraisal review process. I have never had an appraisal review that ended up changing the value of a parcel, although the purchase agreement signed earlier does openly state that the PA is subject to an appraisal review and that the amount could change.

It never has changed in over 50 projects I have completed.

The buyer's attorney will generate the closing



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

documents and send them to the seller for his/her review. They normally get about 10 days to complete this review, and it's normally done by the seller's attorney.

Property closings are normally done through the mail so no party has to drive to the other.

When everyone has

approved the closing documents and the date of closing arrives, the funds are sent to the seller by electronic funds transfer directly into the seller's designated checking account - no checks to get lost in the mail or delayed for whatever reason.

As part of the closing, the seller will sign a deed

that transfers the property to the buyer, and this document is recorded at the courthouse in the county in which the parcel is located.

Any person at any time can go to the recorder's office and request a copy. Most copies are about \$1 to \$2 per page.

If Pheasants Forever is involved and was the buyer, they will hold the title to the property for only as long as it takes to transfer it to either the MN DNR or the USWFS. This process can a little while but normally takes 12-16 months.

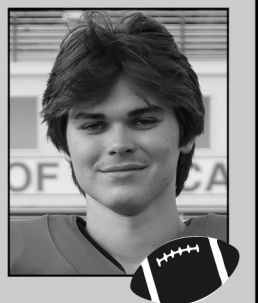
The reason for this

Land acquisition/see page 10

SENIOR ATHLETES of the Week

Jacob Stroh

Sport: Football
Parents: Mike and Tanya Stroh
What I like most about Football: Team suppers.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Baseball and Student Council.
Favorite Class: History



Ava Loosbrock

Sport: Volleyball
Parents: Lisa and Scott Loosbrock
What I like most about Volleyball: I really enjoy the team chemistry we have. We're always having fun together.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Gymnastics
Favorite Class: Geography

Rayann Remme

Sport: Tennis
Parents: Brian and Debra Remme
What I like most about Tennis: Being with friends.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Colorguard, band and choir.
Favorite Class: Band or college psychology.



Zach Terrio

Sport: Cross Country
Parents: Kirk and Tena Terrio
What I like most about Cross Country: The bond I've built with my teammates over the sport has led to most of them being some of my closest friends.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Track and field and choir.
Favorite Class: Any math classes.

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Greg Hoogeveen photo/0928 hbc vb 1

H-BC volleyball players stand for their introductions before the Patriots' game against Edgerton Public Friday, Sept. 22. Pictured are Grace Anderson (left), Olivia Deelstra, Lanae Elbers, Larissa Steinhoff, Abbie Harris, Brynn Bakken and Brynn Rauk. Edgerton won the match 3-1 over the Patriots.

H-BC volleyball/from page 9

ing with three aces, produced 18 kills and had four blocks.

Deelstra added three kills and one block in the contest.

Bakken served a perfect 13-13 with three aces. She also contributed seven kills, four

blocks and four digs.

Sammons posted 10-12 serving at the line with one ace and four kills.

Rauk went 12-14 serving with four aces, 12 set assists, one kill and three digs.

Harris was 4-6 serving and added nine set assists, one kill and four digs.

Anderson went 4-4 serving and had 12 digs.

Knobloch had seven digs in the contest.



Samantha McGaffee photo/0928 hbc fb 1

Sophomore Micah Bush rushes to the edge to avoid a Wolverine opponent Friday, Sept. 22, in Mountain Lake.

H-BC football/from page 8

host Renville County West Friday, Sept. 29.

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Mountain Lake	0	13	0	8	21
H-BC	0	0	14	12	26

Team Totals	HBC	ML
First downs	21	18
Penalties/yards	6-66	7-50
Rushing Yards	203	111
Reception yards	143	210
Time of Possession	24:10	20:24

H-BC Individual Stats				Tackles	Sacks	Int.
Passing	Cp/Att	Yds	TD			
Metzger	11/16	143	0	Allen 5	0	1
				Gacke 2	0	0
				Gehrke 1	0	0
				Wegener 6	0	0
				Roelfs 1	0	0
				Tatge 6	0	0
				Leenderts 1	0	0
				Bush 6	0	0
				Kruger 1	0	0
				Moser 4	0	0
				Bakken 4	0	0
				Bosch 5	0	0
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	TD			
Bosch	5	58	0			
Tatge	1	43	0			
Bush	4	42	0			

Sandbulte sinks his first hole-in-one at LCC

By Greg Hoogeveen

On Saturday, Sept. 23, Eric Sandbulte got his first hole-in-one at the Luverne Country Club on hole No. 3.

Sandbulte drained the shot during the 3rd Annual Weez & Franky Scrambler, played in memory of Andy Wessels and Matt Franken.

To top off the hole-in-one, hole No. 3 was sponsored by Buffalo Ridge Insurance with a hole-in-one prize of \$5,000.

"We (Buffalo Ridge) sponsor about seven or eight tournament holes a year, so it was very fun to finally see someone win one," Cory Bloemendaal said.

"We are very happy for Eric, well deserved."



Eric Sandbulte got his first-ever hole-in-one on hole No. 3 at the Luverne Country Club Saturday, Sept. 23.

Statewide youth deer season returns Oct. 19-22

Minnesota's youth deer season will take place statewide Thursday, Oct. 19, through Sunday, Oct. 22. The season coincides with statewide teacher workshops, so many Minnesota students don't have school during the youth season.

To participate, youth must be 10-17 years old and have a deer license. Participant numbers are not limited, and there is no special permit, so parents should purchase or obtain a regular deer hunting license for each youth who will be hunting.

Youth may not tag antlerless deer or legal bucks taken by another individual. Crossbows are allowed for licensed youth hunters. An adult parent, guardian, or mentor must accompany youth ages 10-13.

All hunters and mentors, regard-

less of whether they are participating in youth deer season, must follow blaze orange/pink clothing requirements. Fabric or synthetic ground blinds on public land must have a blaze orange safety covering on top of the blind that is visible from all directions, or a patch made of blaze orange that is at least 144 square inches (12x12 inches) on each side of the blind.

Adults may not hunt, unless they are in an area open during the early antlerless season and have the corresponding license. Complete youth season details are available on the Minnesota DNR youth deer season webpage (mndnr.gov/hunting/deer/youth.html).

Contact Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader, 651-259-5198, with questions.

Early antlerless-only deer season is Oct. 19-22

Hunters can participate in an early antlerless-only deer season from Thursday, Oct. 19, through Sunday, Oct. 22. The season increases opportunities for hunters in deer permit areas where deer populations are above population goals or where there is an increased risk of chronic wasting disease. Permit areas open during the hunt are 214, 215, 218, 219, 221, 222, 223, 225, 227, 229, 236, 277, 341, 342, 605, 643, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 661 and 701.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources offers this opportunity to hunters to manage local deer herds. The bag limit is three antlerless deer, and deer taken during the early antlerless-only season

do not count against the statewide bag limit. Youth may not tag antlerless deer or legal bucks taken by another individual.

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

Before participating, hunters should review the specific license and permit requirements available on page 88 of the Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations (mndnr.gov/regulations/hunting).

Contact Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader, 651-259-5198, with questions.

LHS volleyball/from page 8

said.

"I was very proud of the fight the girls had and the consistency from our service line. Hopefully this is motivation for the rest of our conference matches coming up."

Serie had 12 kills and Reisdorfer, Smith and Ahrendt all had four kills each.

John had three block assists.

Ahrendt had 10 digs and Reisdorfer eight.

Halverson registered 12 set assists, and Sneller had eight.

Sneller was also 18 of 20 at the service line with three ace serves. Serie went 17 of 18 serving with two ace serves.

LHS tennis/from page 8

In No. 1 doubles Papik and Kindt had to forfeit their match after Kindt injured her knee at the beginning of the first set.

Kindt said she felt something pop and went down in pain.

Her dad, Darin Kindt, said Caitlin did get good new that nothing was torn.

She hopes to be available for the Section tournament match on Thursday, Oct. 5.

In the No. 2 doubles match, Nath and Oye fell in three sets 6-3, 6-2 and 1-0.

In No. 3 doubles Remme and Jarchow fell in three sets 6-3, 7-5 and 1-0.

Both the Luverne No. 2 and No. 3 doubles teams were beaten in a third set tie-breaker.

"It would have been nice to win those two matches to make the team score closer," said Beers.

The Outdoors/from page 9

is that the grant recipient, in this case Pheasants Forever, was also awarded funds to do any necessary restorations to the property.

One example might be some tillable land that needed to be seeded to native grasses.

Another could be if there were some wetland restorations to be done, those would be completed, grasses planted afterward and then the property is transferred.

If the property had any active CRP acres located on it, then while Pheasants

Forever owns the parcel, any mid-contract management requirements would be completed. All CRP contracts continue to stay in place after the sale.

It is kind of interesting, but for all practical purposes Pheasants Forever cannot receive the federal CRP payments.

Across the nation there is a limit of how much any party can receive in CRP payments. That limit is \$50,000, and with 750 chapters of Pheasants Forever nationwide all doing great conservation work,

all the payments about that limit are forfeited.

Grassland restorations are almost always done in the fall after the crops are removed. Cornfield residue is not great for planting grass, so if the last crop was corn, it is usually farmed one more year into a bean rotation with a limit on which chemicals can be used that year.

Bean stubble is a great seed bed for native grasses and with no chemicals applied that have a residual, it won't kill the flowers and forbs that get planted.

When you think of chemical residual, here is an interesting factoid.

If you sprayed your pasture for broadleaf weeds with one of any number of broadleaf herbicides, then grazed cows on that grass, then used the manure that came from those cows to fertilize your land, then planted native flowers on that same ground, the chemical residual of the herbicide even after it has passed through a cow can and does kill broadleaves like flowers and forbs the following year.

Once the restoration has been

completed, the land transfers to a long-term land manager and becomes open to all compatible public land uses.

Even with the current availability of grant funds these days, it would take all the natural resources entities combined between 50-100 years to impact just 1 additional percent of the land base in most counties.

For the vast majority of us, public lands offer the only opportunity to recreate in wild places.

If not for citizen-owned lands, only those lucky enough or wealthy enough to own their own private property would be able to shoot a rooster or harvest a deer.

Public lands are critical to the rank-and-file outdoors person. Without public lands the vast majority of hunters would be shut out, and what a shame that would be.

Support citizen-owned lands and support the organizations that do this most important work. Joining Pheasants Forever would be a great start!

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

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

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Friday at the nursing homes – check the bulletin. All Sunday masses will be live streamed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stscluverne/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 Steenholt, Pastor

Sunday Worship services: 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday School follows the morning service (Sept.-April). Livestream and past services can be found on our YouTube channel. Our services are also on local cable TV at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @luverneccr. 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. 28: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reading Buddies. Sunday, Oct. 1: 9 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion and Blessing of the Quilts. 10 a.m. Sunday school and 10th grade Confirmation class. 1 p.m. Family Nature Scavenger Hunt at City park. Monday, Oct. 2: 7 p.m. Grace Circle at Nicole's. Tuesday, Oct. 3: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. 1 p.m. GreifShare session. 3:30 p.m. Reading Buddies. Wednesday, Oct. 4: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Priscilla/Elizabeth Circle meeting. 3:30-5 p.m. Faithweavers. 7 p.m. 8th and 9th Grade Confirmation class. 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

Thursday, Sept. 28: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew. Friday, Sept. 29: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. Sunday, Oct. 1: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 10:50 a.m. Sunday school. 2 p.m. Middle school gathering. 3-4 p.m. Senior High youth group RTE food drive. 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. 26: 9:45 a.m. Bible study fellowship. 12 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Sept. 27: 5:30 p.m. Midweek meal. 6:15 p.m. Senior High youth group. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs. 6:30 p.m. Jr. High youth groups.

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

Come as you are—Sundays @ 10 a.m.: Main Service. Kids church age 3-6th grade—Nursery. Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service—Kids age 3-6th grade.

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

Wednesday, Sept. 27: See you at the Pole. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. 5:30 p.m. Community Meal. 6:15 p.m. FUEL. 6:30 p.m. Organized Prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Sept. 28: 8 p.m. NA meeting. Saturday, Sept. 30: Band Festival. Free coffee and donuts at parade. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, Oct. 1: 9:30 a.m. FUEL/Adult Sunday School. 9:45 a.m. Coffee. 10:30 a.m. Worship service. Live streamed on Facebook and radio. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible study. Monday, Oct. 2: 6:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible study. Tuesday, Oct. 3: 1:30 p.m. God's Circle. Wednesday, Oct. 4: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. 6:15 p.m. FUEL and Confirmation. 6:30 p.m. Organized Prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Oct. 5: 8 p.m. NA meeting.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: fpcemilie@gmail.com

Wednesday, Sept. 27: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals; No Bell Choir;

6:15 p.m. Chancel choir. Thursday, Sept. 28: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. Friday, Sept. 29: 10:50 a.m. Home delivered meals. Sunday, Oct. 1: 9-10 a.m. Adult Sunday School, 10:15 a.m. In-person Worship service with Holy Communion and Youth Sunday School (View on Facebook under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne, City of Luverne's LUV TV or on the local Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays), 11:15 a.m. Fellowship coffee hour. Monday, Oct. 2: 12:30 p.m. Caring Friends, 5:00 p.m. Women's Bible study. Wednesday, Oct. 4: 5:30 p.m. Bell choir, 6:15 p.m. Chancel choir, 7:15 p.m. Committee meetings.

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

Saturdays: 5:30 p.m. Worship Service. Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 10 a.m. Fellowship Time. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study. Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Bible Study. 6:30 p.m. Catechesis Class. 6:30 p.m. Kids for Christ. 7:30 p.m. Youth Group. Services will be available on the Vast Channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website, cityofluverne.org. Holy Communion is offered on 2nd and 4th weekends and Liturgical Feasts.

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: newlifecelbration@gmail.com

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

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

Ben Clare United Methodist Church
26762 Ben Clare Ave., Valley Springs, S.D.
igtwlb@WOW.net
Bill Bates, 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, Oct. 1: 9 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion at First Lutheran Church. 10 a.m. Sunday school. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @FirstLutheranValley Springs; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

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

Sunday, Oct. 1: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion at Palisade Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @PalisadeLC; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

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

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

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

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship Service in-person with livestream available on the church's Facebook site.

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

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

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

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 9 a.m. Sunday school. 10 a.m. Worship Service. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org.

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

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

One set of right answers

Back when I was a student in grade school, there were some kids who truly disliked our math teacher. Why? There was only one answer he would accept for our papers and tests. It had to be "the right one." It didn't matter who you were. It didn't matter how hard you worked, or how much time you spent. It didn't matter how close you got. Anything but the right answer was just wrong.

Talk about "intolerance." Talk about "closed-mindedness." Talk about unfair! How unfair was it that he didn't take it into account at all how much effort you put in? How unfair was it that the people with the "right answers" got the "A's," even if they were the same people who got "A's" last time?

How unfair was it that on a paper with twenty questions, each question had only one right answer? No matter if you tried hard, meant well and were sincere? No matter how discouraged you were getting?

But if we hated the math teacher, we were wrong. Math is the search for right answers. And if you couldn't find them, you had tutors, parents, and teachers to help.

The study of God's Word is like that. The Holy Scriptures teach one truth: One set of right answers. Our gracious God is concerned about bringing them home to your heart. It doesn't matter who you are, how hard you've worked, or how sincere you are. The right answer that comes from the Lord is what matters. And He wants you to have it!

So, He gave us the Bible. It says the truth: "All have sinned and fall

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Andrew Palmquist, Bethany Lutheran Church, Luverne

short of the glory of God, and are justified [declared righteous] freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:23, 24)

God gave the Ministry of His Word, the preaching of the Law and Gospel, to lead you to the right answers for your peace and salvation. For we are saved by God's grace through faith alone in Jesus our Savior from sin. What a tremendous gift!

And if the "Good News" is hidden, then it's hidden in plain sight, as the Apostle Paul reminds us: "...if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. ...The unbelievers [do not] clearly see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God's image. Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake." (2 Cor. 4:3-5)

By God's amazing grace and the Holy Spirit-given faith, you and I are Christians committed to our loving Savior's right answers – however strange that seems to the world. God's answers are there in the Bible – for us to have them, believe them, find peace in them, and share them with others. Come to God's House and learn more about Jesus' great love for you!

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Rock County Commissioners meet Aug. 8

Herreid Board Room
Rock County Courthouse

9:00 A.M.
Aug. 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Thompson with all Commissioners Burger, Overgaard and Williamson present; Commissioner Reisch was absent. Also in attendance were County Administrator Kyle Oldre, Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum, and Star-Herald Reporter Mavis Fodness.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.
Motion by Williamson, seconded by Burger, to approve the August 08, 2023, County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.
Motion by Burger, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the July 25, 2023, County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the consent agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.
1. Out of State Travel request for LMO staff (Doug Bos and Lee Tapper) to attend Soil Health Practices in Bismarck, ND; transportation and training costs covered by Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area. County's costs are meals and lodging.
Rachel Jacobs, Land Records Office Director presented assessment contract renewals for (7) townships; current terms reflect \$12 per parcel and new terms will reflect a 3-year contract with a 3% increase per year. Motion by Thompson, seconded by Burger, to approve the 2024-2026 assessment contracts reflecting a 3% increase per year, declared carried on a voice vote.

Jacobs reported that (5) townships have been notified that the Assessor will not be renewing their contract; motion by Overgaard, seconded by Burger to offer the same price of their current contract of \$14 per parcel for a period of 3-years, declared carried on a voice vote.

Jacobs requested to add the following fees schedule for Laredo subscribers:

County Charge to End-User	Overage Charge*	Plus Per Print	Additional Option • • • Unlimited Print Results	Total Monthly Charge
Level 1A: 0-250 minutes	\$60/mo	.25/minute	0.35	\$60.00
Level 1B: 0-250 minutes	\$60/mo	.25/minute	\$25/mo	\$85.00
Level 2A: 251-1000 minutes	\$110/mo	.25/minute	0.35	\$110.00
Level 2B: 251-1000 minutes	\$110/mo	.25/minute	\$25/mo	\$135.00
Level 3A: 1001-3000 minutes	\$220/mo	.25/minute	0.35	\$220.00
Level 3B: 1001-3000 minutes	\$220/mo	.25/minute	\$25/mo	\$245.00
Level 4A: 3001-6000 minutes	\$330/mo	.25/minute	0.35	\$330.00
Level 4B: 3001-6000 minutes	\$330/mo	.25/minute	\$25/mo	\$355.00
Level 5A: Unlimited	\$550/mo	N/A	0.35	\$550.00
Level 5B: Unlimited	\$550/mo	N/A	\$25/mo	\$575.00

Laredo is an online search engine to look up recorded documents; currently Rock County has (10) subscribers. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Thompson, to approve the fees schedule for Laredo subscribers, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Overgaard, to add Ordination Filing of \$20.00 to the Rock County Fees schedule, declared carried on a voice vote.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims and per diems of \$600.00; motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

AUGUST 8, 2023 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000

A & B BUSINESS INC	2,996.41
ALADTEC INC	3,195.00
BECK & HOFFER CONSTRUCTION	2,961.26
BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING	4,713.16
BREMIK MATERIALS, INC	21,980.80
BUFFALO RIDGE CONCRETE	8,795.65
CHS INC	9,971.43
CONVERGINT TECHNOLOGIES LLC	8,322.51
EMERGENCY AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY	18,139.32

FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-ADMIN FMR	6,639.36
LEADSONLINE	2,819.00
LYON COUNTY LANDFILL	16,854.19
NOBLES COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	9,168.00
QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC	4,000.00
RDO EQUIPMENT	14,745.00
ROCK COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	2,240.86
STAPLES ENTERPRISES INC	4,700.35
TRUENORTH STEEL	2,394.24
WALKER CONSULTANTS	2,450.00
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING & ASSOC, INC	2,352.00
ZIEGLER INC	12,039.43
61 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	27,984.67
TOTAL	189,462.64

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report; motion by Burger, seconded by Overgaard, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

Emily Crabtree, Luverne Area Community Foundation Director (LACF), presented an update regarding the impact of local dollars donated and the distribution of grants over the past 3-years. LACF's current focus is to increase the participation of the Max Your Community Fund Drive with a goal of receiving donations from 400 individual donors and is looking for opportunities to help the initiative for the next fund drive in November. It was the consensus of the County Board to assist by posting the fund drive information on the employee intranet site.

The Administrator presented a follow up of the Senator Klobuchar visit to Rock County; site location was the Buffalo Ridge Railroad Depot and members updated the Senator of activities referencing the \$4.7 million Federal CRISIS grant to rehab the line.

The Administrator informed the County Board that he had completed an Annual Emergency Operations Plan Review and the Rock County is compliant.

The County Board discussed a funding request from the Rock County Historical Society for an expansion project on the Museum building; Commissioner Burger requested to consider a \$10,000 donation. After brief discussion, it was determined to refer the request to the Budget Committee.

The Administrator presented an update regarding the meeting with cities regarding Marijuana. Municipalities were encouraged to provide input on zoning for the use and licensure to sell and it was also the consensus of those attending to pursue a county moratorium for licensure until 01/01/2025 to allow time to investigate zoning issues.

The Administrator informed the County Board that Rock County received notice from US Small Business Administration announcing Rock County's eligibility for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans due to drought conditions in Iowa and South Dakota; no action was taken.

The Administrator presented a price quote from Bisbee Plumbing & Heating, sub-contractor for Johnson Controls for plumbing repairs at the Rock County Library total repair is \$12,785.00. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Thompson, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Williamson, to approve Resolution No. 14-23, appointing Mitch Kling and Bill Ufkin to the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator stated that he had a pre-construction meeting with McGill Restoration for repairs on the Kahler Terrace and Tunnel; construction will begin December 1st with an anticipated completion of April of 2024. The KAHR Foundation has agreed to an additional donation to cover the construction costs.

MnDOT District 7 Representatives Greg Ous, District 7 Engineer, Sam Parker and Angie Piltaver, District 7 Planning Staff presented a review of MnDOT's 10-year plan, which is updated every five years. The 10-year plan included re-surfacing of Highway 75 from Main Street to Veterans Drive in 2025 and reconstruction of Highway 75 from Veterans Drive to the Pipestone County line in 2027, reconstruction of Highway 75 from Main Street to the Iowa State line in 2030 along with I-90 east bound lane construction in 2030 and reconstruction of MN270 in 2031. Concerns were stated regarding the current state of Highway 75 and while sympathetic, Ost stated he strives to make sure project engineering work is ready in advance and strives to find funding that may become available from other projects that could potentially expedite the scheduled project.

The Administrator informed the County Board that Rock County Rural Water's federal grant application for \$4.1 million water tower project has made the first round for consideration; more information forthcoming.

No Commissioner reports were given.

With no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting was declared adjourn by order of the Chair, declared carried on a voice vote.

(09-28)

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

CARDS OF THANKS

We would like to express our sincere thanks to those who expressed their sympathy in so many ways to our family in Will Pap's passing. Thank you for the cards and visits during his illness and death. Thank you to the Hospice Team, Marcia and Chardel for your wonderful care the last few months. We sincerely appreciate Dr. Marlin Van Schepen for his time and comforting words he gave to our family in the last few weeks prior to his passing; also, for taking care of the service in the absence of Pastor Joe. Thank you to those who sent cards, memorials, gifts, and food; to our neighbors for your extra help and support; to Pastor Joe, Greg & Marg Kuiper, & Wrede and Barb Vogel for your visits during his cancer journey, to those who attended the funeral, to Hartquist Funeral Home for their caring services, to our church and community for their support. Your kind messages of condolence were greatly appreciated.

Marge Pap
Jared & Tara Pap & family
Nicole & Stacy Dilly & family
Jonathan & Darci Pap & family
Jamie & Brigitte Pap & family
(9.23-9.28)

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EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is seeking to hire bus and van drivers. Bus drivers receive \$50/route, field trips are \$25/hour. Van drivers receive \$26.50/hr. To apply, please fill out and return the district application. The application can be found on the school website: ellsworthschoolsminn.org Click on Staff-->Employment Opportunities or use the Link to application. (9.14-9.30)

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801 S. Kniss Ave., Luverne, MN 56156 | 507-283-7189

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED • HELP WANTED • HELP WANTED

Luverne
Blue Mound Liquor

The City of Luverne is seeking applicants for the position of a **part-time Liquor Clerk** for nights, weekends and some days at Blue Mound Liquor. Desirable qualifications: experience in retail sales and Microsoft Excel. Must be 18 years of age. Salary will be based on experience and qualifications. Position is open until filled. First review date is **October 31, 2023**. Application packets are available online at www.cityofluverne.org or from City Clerk Jessica Mead at City Offices, 305 E. Luverne Street, PO Box 659, Luverne, MN 56156 (507) 449-9898. EOE

HELP WANTED • HELP WANTED • HELP WANTED

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Call Rick or Wyatt 283-2333

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION NOW HIRING

The University of Minnesota Extension is hiring **Extension Educators, 4-H Youth Development**. The positions are professional and academic appointments.

Openings in each of the following Minnesota counties: Chippewa (Montevideo), Chisago (North Branch), Grant (Elbow Lake), Itasca (Grand Rapids), Rock (Luverne) and West Otter Tail (Fergus Falls). All positions are full-time.

Local 4-H Extension educators work primarily with adults and in partnership with communities to build engaged youth who are able to learn and lead in a global society. Primary responsibilities are program development and delivery; volunteer systems support and management; program operations; and communications & reporting.

To access complete job descriptions and apply online, go to the Department of Youth Development: <https://z.umn.edu/EE4HYDPositions>

Application deadline is **October 4, 2023**. Projected start date: November 2023-January 2024

The U of M is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

<p>WANTED TO BUY</p> <p>WANTED: ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES Running or not. Titled or not. Will pick up. Cash in exchange. Sell now before prices fall. Call Dan at 612/720-2142</p>	<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p>FREE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs include Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal, 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 866/433-5324</p>	<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p>DONATING YOUR VEHICLE? Get more! Free towing. Tax deductible. Plus, a \$200 restaurant voucher and a 2-night/3-day hotel stay at one of 50 locations. Call Heritage for the Blind to donate your vehicle today 844/220-9501</p>
<p>HEALTH</p> <p>HERNIA REPAIR? Did you receive the Mesh Patch Between 2018 and the present? Was the patch removed due to complications, you may be entitled to compensation. Attorney Charles Johnson 800/535-5727</p>	<p>SAFE STEP North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 OPI for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 833/966-3882</p>	<p>SWITCH TO DISH and get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 855/562-4309</p>
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Homecoming/ from page 1

Seniors Tahliya Kruger and Alex Dysthe were mistress and master of ceremonies.

Class attendants included juniors Bailey Spkerboer and Lukas Hubbard, sophomores Mya Erickson and Jamin Metzger, and freshmen Hailey Moser and Riggins Rheault.

Last year's homecoming queen and king Taylor Huisman and Cody Moser bestowed crowns on this year's reigning couple.

The evening event recognized members of the football and volleyball teams, student council members and highlights from each program.

The homecoming parade is 2:45 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, in Hills. The Patriots' homecoming football game against Renville County West is at 7 p.m. Friday.



Mavis Fodness photo/0928 H-BC Coronation 2023

The 2023 Hills-Beaver Creek High School homecoming royal court includes (from left) Hailey Moser, Mya Erickson, Bailey Spkyerboer, Tahliya Kruger, Sylvia Fick, Avril Susie, Taylor Gehrke, queen Grace Anderson, king Riley Tatge, Logan Susie, Cooper Gehrke, Lukas Hubbard, Jamin Metzger, Riggan Rheault, Justin Roelfs and Alex Dysthe.

Share the road/ from page 5

through debris than to veer into oncoming traffic or off the road.

- Be patient and wait for a safe place to pass.

Farm equipment operators should:

- Use lights and flashers to make equipment more visible.

- Use lead and follow vehicles when moving equipment, especially at night.

- Use slow-moving vehicle emblems on equipment traveling less than 30 mph.

- Don't encourage motorists to pass. Instead, pull over when safe and let traffic pass.

- Properly secure loads and remove any debris that may have been left on the road by equipment.

City of Luverne Public Facilities Open House

Tuesday, October 17
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Join us for a Behind-the-Scenes look at the buildings, equipment, and tools used to maintain Luverne's infrastructure.



LUverne
Electric Utilities

Power Plant
609 E Main St



LUverne
Public Works

Public Works
202 N Blue Mound Ave



LUverne
Water & Wastewater

Wastewater Treatment Facility
400 Redbird Rd

Golf cart rides will be available courtesy of the Luverne Area Chamber, or try an E-bike for free at the Luverne Loop Trailhead, 601 E Main St.

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Advertising?

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283-2333

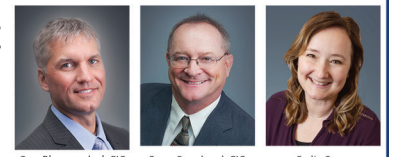
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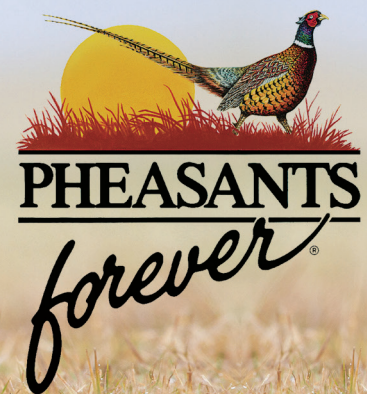
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ROCK COUNTY



39th Annual Banquet
Thursday, October 5

at Big Top Tents & Events
321 W. Hatting St., Luverne, MN 56156

Crowing Time 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | Meal 7:00 p.m.

Drawings • Raffles • Live Auction • Silent Auction

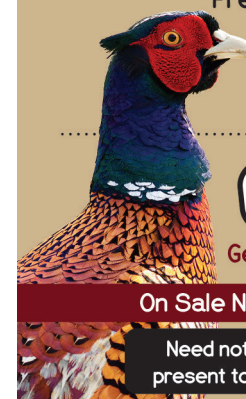
OVER 20 Guns to be given away!

- Pheasants Forever Membership/Dinner \$60
- Spouse Dinner \$25
- Youth Membership \$25
- Sponsor Member \$250

**BANQUET
TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW**

Call Darin Kindt 507-920-7544 or
Rick Peterson at 507-283-2333

Tickets also available at the Rock County Star Herald office.
Limited tickets will be available at the door.
Pre-paid tickets will be completed and ready at the door.



**BUY YOUR TICKETS BEFORE OCTOBER 2
TO BE ENTERED IN THE EARLY BIRD DRAWING**

\$20 ROOSTER RAFFLE

Get your tickets from HB-C or Luverne Trap Team Members (or Darin or Rick).

On Sale Now!

Need not be
present to win.

Starting October 5, 2023, Ending December 28, 2023
12 Weekly \$200 Winners, Final Week one \$500 Winner
Sponsored by Rock County Pheasants Forever • Permit #X-67001-23-017
Winners listed on Star-Herald.com • Updated every Monday

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mn.gov/careers

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Questions about employment opportunities?
Contact Human Resources at:
mdva.luverne@state.mn.us or 507-920-0000

MDVA is a Veteran-friendly, equal opportunity and affirmative action employer and service provider. This document can be made available in alternate formats. Contact MDVAs Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Line at 612-548-5961 or your preferred telecommunications relay service.

Hidden in the Herald

We are hiding our NEWS BOY on the **NEW Star Herald WEBSITE!** *online*

There are **FOUR** news boys hidden throughout the site. Find the pages where he is hiding! All correct guesses will be entered in a drawing to win a **FREE** online subscription for one year!

There are **FOUR** of these news boys hidden throughout our website.

He's hiding on different pages than last week!

HIDDEN IN THE HERALD *online* WEEK #3

NOTICE: These are NOT hidden in the print edition OR the online PDF editions, ONLY ON THE WEBSITE PAGES.

This is our news boy.

Rock County STAR HERALD star-herald.com

Submit your guess online at tinyurl.com/hiddenintheherald or scan the QR code to visit the page. Guesses must be submitted by 10 am on Monday, October 2.

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWERS HERE