Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, October 19, 2023

VanDerBrink businesses and family to develop lots in Hardwick

Auction service, Johnny V.'s Motor Sports and truck repair, plus housing coming to new addition

By Mavis Fodness

Hardwick City Council members agreed to sell property in the city's new Scott Addition to Steve and Yvette VanDerBrink, according to action during the council's regular monthly meeting Oct. 10.

They approved the VanDer-Brinks' offer of \$124,100 for 4.26 acres, which is more than half of the seven acres the city purchased from Bullerman/Scott family earlier this year for \$88,000.

The Scott Addition, located on the southwest side of Hardwick, consists of three tracts.

The VanDerBrinks bought Tract 2, a commercial lot, and Tract 3, a residential lot.

The city still owns just over 2.5 acres to build a new fire hall, which is a stipulation of the original land sale.

Currently, the city is working with Denver Township supervisors, who are interested in building an office area to adjoin the fire hall along with a laydown yard for township materials and equipment.

A purchase agreement for Tract 1 between the city of Hardwick and the township is pending.

The city also approved additional property sales to provide street access from County Road 7 (First Street) into the new addi-

Hardwick lots/see page 5A



Mavis Fodness photo/1012 Harvest 2023 Corn

Harvest resumes after much-needed moisture

John Hemme (in combine) and Jarnet Johansen return to the 2023 corn harvest Monday afternoon west of Hardwick after scattered rain showers dampened the area over a four-day period. The majority of area farmers finished the soybean harvest last week prior to the much-needed moisture, which started Oct. 12 and accumulated roughly an inch of rain over the four days. Statewide, according to the weekly crop progress and condition report released Monday, soybean harvest is 76 percent complete, with corn harvested for grain at 45 percent complete.

MDH updates Beaver Creek wellhead protection plan

By Lori Sorenson

Beaver Creek City Council members learned Wednesday night that the community's drinking water is clean and relatively well protected against contaminants.

That's according to Amanda Strommer with the Minnesota Department of Health.

She updated council members at their Oct. 11 meeting on Beaver Creek's wellhead protection plan, something the MDH updates every 10 years.

She said the town's aquifer

"It's a little less likely for contaminants to get down into the aquifer because of the depth of your well, and the natural geology."

- Amanda Strommer, Departent of Health

and 200-foot-deep well (constructed in 1974) has a low vulnerability to contamination.

"It's a little less likely for contaminants to get down into the aquifer because of the depth of your well, and the natural geology," Strommer said, referring to

glacial till and clay-rich sediments that protect the aquifer.

"Some systems in other communities in Rock County that have really shallow wells are very susceptible to spills and chemicals and other things at the surface."

She said the assessment also

considers water quality testing for nitrates, chloride-bromide ratios and tritium, which is used to agedate water.

"We know you have old, deep, protected water, so that's really good," Strommer said.

The summary report stated that there are few to no water quality concerns based on the tests.

"At present, none of the contaminants for which the Safe Drinking Water Act has estab-

Beaver Creek water/see 2A

Twisted Farmers Fab, LLC

Hartz Welding and Repair finds creative outlet after investing in CNC

By Lori Sorenson

Last summer a tornado sent a silo through the back wall of Jacob and Amanda Hartz's shop north of Beaver Creek.

"Things were just a mess," said Amanda. "It was all twisted."

She's a nurse at Sanford Luverne Clinic, and Jacob operates Hartz Welding and Repair in addition to feeding swine for Lynch Livestock.

Together they have three children, ages 12, 9 and 7, who help on the acreage that also has guineas, chickens and cats.

In April the couple added a CNC machine to the welding business to manufacture custom parts for repair work - and to add a creative outlet to the business.

One of the first things Jacob programmed the machine to produce was a cutout of a cow's head that, when attached to a wall, appears to peek around the corner.

"It's the peek-a-boo cow," he said, demonstrating how it



Lori Sorenson photos/1019 twisted farmers fab In April Jacob and Amanda Hartz invested in a CNC machine for Jacob's welding business to manufacture custom parts for repair work — and to add a creative outlet to their Beaver Creek business.

looks when attached perpendicularly to a wall.

He made a metal cutout sign for "Hartz Welding and Repair" and soon started making business signs for others. Some were simple, others intricate and ornate.

Word traveled about the talent and craftsmanship coming out of the Hartz shop, and the couple found themselves in need of a business name for their new line of work.

Twisted Farmers Fab/see 3A

City orders owner to raze ruined house in Hardwick

Second property also in violation

By Mavis Fodness

The Hardwick City Council further enforced its nuisance ordinance Oct. 10 with one of two property owners who failed to comply with administrative cita-

Nicole Halverson's home at 207 1st St. West was damaged Sept. 17, 2021, when a tree fell on the roof during a storm that produced 70 mph winds.

Halverson, who was home at the time of the winds, was uninjured, but the home is now uninhabitable.

In the two years since the storm, neither Halverson nor James Holloway, whose name is also listed on property tax statements, has repaired the collapsed roof or replaced the broken and/ or missing windows.

The home's interior has been exposed to weather elements and open to possible mold, rodents and other pests, and city officials fear the structure is a potential haven for criminal activity.

The Halverson home, as is, fails to meet city building stan-



Mavis Fodness photo/1019 Hardwick A tree fell on the roof at 207 First St. West in 2021 and repairs were never made, leaving the home exposed to the weather and pests.

dards for a shed or a dwelling.

A resolution drafted by the city's attorney David Owen reads, "The building is a general safety hazard in its current state."

The administrative order to make repairs was issued Aug. 22 to Halverson's current address in Kenneth.

Hardwick housing/see 3A



Opinion

Obituaries

Page Page

4A

Sports 7A Public notices 4B

1B

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How to reach us

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mobile dental clinic Oct. 19

The mobile dental clinic will be in Luverne on Thurs., Oct. 19, at the Health and Human Services Community Room, 2 Roundwind Road (note the clinics are now resuming at SWHHS location). This clinic provides dental care for ADULTS and children ages 0-100+. Call 612-746-1530 to schedule an appointment. All forms of insurance accepted. Organized by #Luv1LuvAll's Rock County Oral Health Task Force.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox collection week is Nov. 13-20. Preprinted boxes and brochures may be picked up beginning Thursday, Oct. 19, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the American Reformed Church in Luverne (south entrance). Call Edna Buys at 507-227-7169 or Charla Sandbulte at 507-227-1722, or go online to samaritanpurse.org for more information.

Blood donation opportunities

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in the area in the following locations to accept donations: •Luverne from noon to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 24,

at Living Rock Church on East Main Street. •Adrian from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25, in the Adrian High School, 415 Kentucky Ave.

•Lismore from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31, in the American Legion on Main Street.

To make an appointment, use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors will receive \$10 gift cards to merchants of their choice and will be entered in a drawing for \$5,000.

LHS presents 'Wild Pink'

The Luverne High School drama department will present "Wild Pink" Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 26-28, in the performing arts center. The play begins at 7 p.m.

Collection for medication Oct. 28

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, Oct. 28. If you have unused or expired medication, bring to the Rock County Sheriff's Office for safe disposal. The drop box is available 24/7 in the lobby. Helping to promote this event is the Substance Free Coalition of Rock County, a team of #Luv1LuvAll.

Community Ed

Call 507-283-4724 to register for the following: Students (grades K-6) can learn to decorate Hal**loween-themed cookies** like a pro at B's Bakehouse on Oct. 28. Fee is \$35. Register by Oct. 18.

Looking for something beyond Monopoly or Clue to entertain family and guests? Individuals 13 years old through adult can join Board Game Boot Camp starting on Oct. 21 to learn the many different kinds of games available at your local game store. Fee is \$65 and includes a snack and drink at each session.

Students (grades 1-5) will follow along with the instructor step by step to create a painting at Paint & Snack class on Oct. 23. Fee is \$35.

Babysitting Basics for students grades 5-8 will be held on Oct. 23 and 26. Fee is \$20.

Library Happenings

Call the Rock County Library at 507-449-5040 or email rockcountystaff@gmail.com for the following: Story Time with Bronwyn is 10:30 a.m. Fri-

days through Nov. 17.

Author visit: Minnesotan Allen Eskens will be 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13. Eskens wrote "The Life We Bury," "The Guise of Another," "The Heavens May Fall," among other books.

Scandinavian Songs with Ross Sutter is 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26. The show will feature a wide variety of musical selections and a bit of history of Scandinavin music halls.



(Submitted photo)

Culligan celebrates new location

Culligan Water of Luverne celebrated the opening of its new location at 321 East Main Street with a ribbon-cutting Tuesday morning. Pictured are, from left, Becky Walgrave, Holly Sammons, Jenny Jorgenson, Annie Opitz, Kathy Heeren, Jeremy Hough (Culligan Sales & Service Tech), Amber Lais, Rich Johnson (Culligan owner/dealer), Bob Junak, Angie Dietz (Culligan general manager/controller), Wendel Buys, Susy Dahlke (Culligan experience manager/part owner), Cris Oeltjenbruns, Dave Cone (Culligan Owner/Dealer), Amanda McDonald, Gina Graff (Culligan Luverne customer service representative), Stacey Smidt and Adam Geraets.

Culligan is now located in the former Stroeh's Auto building at 321 East Main Street. In addition to Luverne, Culligan of Southern Minnesota has locations in Mankato, Madelia, Sleepy Eye, New Ulm, Redwood Falls, Marshall, Slayton, Tracy and Pipestone.

Beaver Creek water plan/continued from page 1A

lished health-based standards has been found above the maximum allowable levels in the city's water supply, nor are any present at one-half those levels," the report states.

It did, however, find low levels of arsenic and manganese.

Unused, unsealed wells are potential sources of contamination

The next phase of the wellhead protection plan will look at potential sources of contamination

"One of the things we look for in a low-vulnerability aquifer like yours is we look for any unused, unsealed wells," Strommer said.

"Because if those are drilled down 170 to 200 feet deep, they're connected to the same aquifer you're pumping from and they're open conduits for spills or chemicals at the surface that could get down into the aquifer."

Also, she said old wells often have cracks in the shaft that can allow subsoil

"From the county's side, the environmental office has helped with these types of plans before and we'll help do whatever we can. Whether it's providing information or help with finding wells ... or whatever we can do."

- Arlyn Gehrke, Rock County Land Management Office

contamination, so she said that will become a priority to locate and seal unused

Council member Alan Harnack noted that at one time there were four farms in every section. "I'm sure there are wells there," he

Strommer said the assessment will consider historical information and records, in addition to public education – letting people know they should seal their wells – to address those potential sources of contamination.

"Mostly, people need to know if there are wells in this area, not to be afraid to

tell us about them, because there is grant funding available." Strommer said.

Grant funding

"The grants are a really great tool, because any unused well or issue that we identify can be eligible for grant funding," Strommer said.

Once the Beaver Creek's wellhead protection plan is written, the city can access state funding to address issues outlined in the plan.

"You can get up to \$10,000 in grants per project per item with no cost share or match required.

"If it's something in your plan that will protect the source of the water, you can get that grant funding as many times as you need."

In addition, she said

the community can apply for competitive grants that could supplement the nonmatch grants.

Funding is commonly available for well sealing, generators, security equipment and future water supply planning.

"We can write those types of things in the plan," Strommer said.

She said she and her staff and city staff are about halfway through the

"We'll work with city staff to write the next part of the plan and we'll come back to the council," Strommer said. "After the local government reviews it, there's a public hearing before it's finalized."

She said that would happen before the end of the year.

Arlyn Gehrke with the Rock County Land Management attended the Oct. 11 meeting in Beaver Creek to offer support.

"From the county's side, the environmental office has helped with these types of plans before and we'll help do whatever we can," Gehrke said. "Whether it's providing information or help with finding wells ... or whatever we can do."

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Chiropractic

Twisted Farmers Fab is creative outlet of Hartz Welding and Repair/continued from page 1A

"Twisted Farmers Fab," harkens to the storm that wreaked havoc on their shop last year. Their business, logo, a yellow metal cutout chicken, is a playful nod to their roaming farmyard chickens and guineas.

"I'm just glad this thing wasn't sitting here when the storm came through," Jacob said, pointing to the large plasma CNC machine he purchased in April.

"It smashed my toolboxes and the bathroom. ... The lathe was sitting there. Luckily that didn't get smushed."

Computer numerical control (CNC) automates the control, movement and precision of machine tools through the preprogrammed computer software.

'I was bored, and now I'm not bored'

While it has practical applications for Hartz Welding and Repair, the couple are clearly enjoying the machine's creative possibilities.

"This was something else to do," said Jacob, who has been welding for ag repair for eight years.

"I was bored, and now I'm not bored."

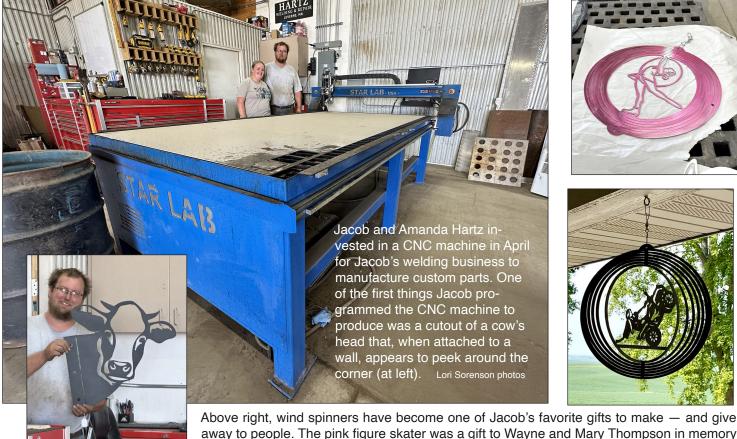
He points to a life-size metal cutout "Sasquatch" that he made. Why would he want a Sasquatch?

"Why not?" he shrugs. "I'm going to build a stand for him and put him out in the middle of the yard and put a Santa hat on him."

Amanda said they saw one online and decided they had to have one of their

"I'm going to get a little Red Rider [wagon] for him to pull behind him," Jacob said.

"... for the art of conversation."







of their daughter, Brooke. The ATV wheeler was a gift in memory of Carson Ehde. Trucking business signs (left), collapsible fire pits (below) and saw-blade art are among dozens of products available for sale and available for





Meanwhile the creativity is beginning to pay off. One of his recent projects is a 10-foot long and 3-foot

tion home in the Black Hills. There have been many others like that one. A large metal sign for Leuthold trucking features a detailed cutout of the Leu-

Other custom signs are

thold truck, and it will hang

on the trucking business

tall custom sign for a vaca-

framed and put on posts for display in front of busi-

A popular custom gift is a collapsible four-sided fire pit that can be customized and personalized with art cutouts on all four sides.

A recent Luverne Cardinals-themed metal pit was donated for the Luverne Blaze raffle this summer. They donated two similar items to other charities.

Gifts from the heart

As it turns out, the Hartz couple donates a good share of their talent to charity and people they want to help.

For example, personalized wind spinners have become thoughtful gifts for people mourning the loss of loved ones. They're made of 16-gauge powder-coated steel that are durable enough to stand up to Rock County's gusty winds.

The Hartzes presented Wayne and Mary Thompson with a wind spinner that features a cutout silhouette of their late daughter, Brooke, in a figure-skating pose.

"I like these the most," Jacob said about the Thompson wind spinner.

"Some things come from the heart. She figure-skated. Now Thompsons are going to be able to see her twirling.'

Earlier this summer, they used a photograph of the late Carson Ehde riding a wheelie on his four-wheeler and created a personalized wind spinner of that image for Carson's parents.

In both instances, the families weren't expecting the gifts; the Hartzes simply presented them.

"With the wind spinners, there's just something about them," Jacob said. "Hopefully they help someone."

The Children's Remembrance Garden in Luverne features three donated Hartz wind spinners.

One of them features a silhouette of parents holding the hands of a young child.

Meanwhile, the couple has filled more than 100 orders for personalized work and have sold dozens of pre-made products online and at vendor fairs.

But with harvest in full swing, they've put artwork on hold for ag work, but they're scheduled for a vendor fair in Larchwood, Iowa, on Oct. 28, and they're gearing up for Christmas gift orders.

"It's all custom; we can personalize anything, depending on size," Jacob said about the possibilities of their work.

"People may not realize what they're able to do. ... For most of these, there will never be another one. It's cool. It's custom. It's theirs."

Twisted Farmers Fab, LLC, has a Facebook page featuring the many personalized products they've done for customers.

The couple can take orders through via email, amanda.hartz2012@gmail. com. Order can also be arranged by phone, 507-220-2719.

Hardwick housing; city issues orders to raze condemned properties/continued from page 1A

Halverson had 10 days to comply with the first order or face fines of no less than \$100 per day and may be subject to a misdemeanor conviction.

The August order was never appealed, and Halvorson did not contact city officials to negotiate a repair timeline prior to the issuance of the Oct. 10 raze order.

"Since nothing has been done, and since these hazards seem rather extreme, the council opted to proceed with the process to have the property razed instead of proceeding forward with enforcement of an administrative citation," Owens said after the meeting.

Halverson has 20 days to challenge the raze order.

"If no challenge is made, I am authorized to make a summary motion asking the court to enforce the order as written," Owens said.

Once the deadlines pass, the city will have the house razed, the foundation filled and debris removed with all costs assessed against the property.

According to the county assessor's office, the house was purchased by Halverson and Holloway in 2013 for \$56,000.

In 2021, prior to the home's damage, market





The home at 207 First St. West in Hardwick (above) is owned by Nicole Halverson of Kenneth and James Holloway. Hardwick City Council ordered that it be razed in 45 days. After 45 days, the city will raze the storm-damaged structure, fill the foundation and clean the lot of debris, assessing the costs to the property owners. The home at 106 First St. East in Hardwick (at right) remains under an administrative order for violating the city's nuisance ordinance. The owner, Sam Vasques of Magnolia, stayed further action by the council by cleaning up debris in the last 60 days. Mavis Fodness photos/1019 hardwick home citations

value was at \$68,800. In 2022, the market value was reduced to \$7,700.

No property tax payments have been made on the property since 2021.

Second property still in possible violation

The second uninhabited house at 106 1st Ave. West was issued a citation to clear nuisance materials on Aug. 16.

The property is owned by Sam Vasquez, Magnolia, who purchased the house in 2021.

The citation to clear the property of nuisance materials was issued on Aug. 16, and since then, Vasquez told the council he intended to clean the property.

The council noted at their Oct. 10 meeting, Vasquez has cleared the property of nuisance items, but no additional repairs have been made to the home's interior.

The council noted that the house's doors and windows are now securely closed, and the structure interior is not open to the elements.

However, the interior remains hazardous, with areas of the home falling into the basement.

Council members indicated they would not move forward with a raze order for the Vasquez property for now.



(ONE ROUND PER WEEK)

- Rake leaves to the gutter by 7 a.m. Monday.
- Avoid areas close to parked cars and street grates.
- One round through the city each week.
- Branches, yard clippings, or bagged leaves will not be picked up.

*More dates may be added, weather permitting.

2ND PICK-UP 1ST PICK-UP OCT. 16-20

-DUE TO WEATHER SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE





O Star Herald PINION

Want to earn money for improving your health? Read below

Members of the S7 Well-ness Group (which includes me) have been challenged this



month to get more individuals signed up for our virtual health group.

For each new member we attract, we'll receive \$100 — that we can split with the new member.

I thought I would give the challenge a try and completed the required Facebook posts about my own wellness journey that began a year ago.

At that time, I challenged myself to try to win another ribbon at the WSCA Champ Show. The large rosettes are given to the Top 10 horseback riders in each performance class.

My third annual trip occurred last month, and I went into the competition a different person, as pictures showed.

My first two years showed me as overweight, slumpshouldered and very stiff in the saddle. This year's pictures show a welcomed opposite.

"A completely different human" is how my daughter and S7 Wellness coach described me last week. And I agree, thanks to her and the wellness program.

The difference is not just in weight.

I've kept the weight off while still shopping at the local grocery store, mindful of the items I'm choosing to put in my mouth.

Not only do I look better

RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

in the saddle, I ditched the saddle entirely for the champ show's bareback riding class. I was by far the oldest competitor in the class full of 20-somethings.

I came to be in that class due to a challenge earlier this year where I double-dog-dared readers of my columns to stop sitting on the sidelines. Because I didn't sit on the sidelines when asked to ride bareback, I had the best experience.

No ribbons resulted from my trip to the Twin Cities show, but I received a prize outside the ribbon I sought.

The improved posture and a more positive mental attitude are by far the best prizes and come as a result my focus on wellness.

What are your health goals?

Lose weight?
Be stronger?

Rely on fewer prescrip-

Run a 5K? (my next challenge)

Consider being coached by people who have your interests at heart. No matter what the challenge (donkey races, anyone?), S7 Wellness can help you meet goals and earn \$50 as a result.

For taking the initiative into wellness last year, I've already earned a first-place ribbon and plan on earning many more.

Support the folks who support our families affected by dementia

Last week families and volunteers "Painted the Prairie Purple" for Dementia Awareness Week, which culminated with a Dementia Walk Saturday.

The efforts are dedicated to increasing understanding and awareness of dementia, a condition affecting millions worldwide. Dementia is not a single disease, but a collection of symptoms that result from disorders affecting the brain.

These symptoms can impact memory, thinking, behavior, and the ability to perform everyday tasks. While Alzheimer's Disease is the most well-known, there are many other forms of dementia, each with unique necessities.

Amid a growing number of older adults with dementia, Luverne and Rock County are developing support resources for both the patients and their families. In particular, A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota in Rock County promotes education through a number of opportunities.

For example, the organization

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

offers aging and dementia training, "Dementia Friends" sessions, caregiver retreats and future dementia education events.

It's a good thing A.C.E and other organizations are supporting local families on their dementia journeys, because odds are pretty good we or a family member will struggle at some point in our lives.

According to the American Alzheimer's Association, 10 percent of adults will have dementia after age 70, and those odds jump to 20 percent over age 80, and over 30 percent after 90. Meanwhile, younger people are not immune.

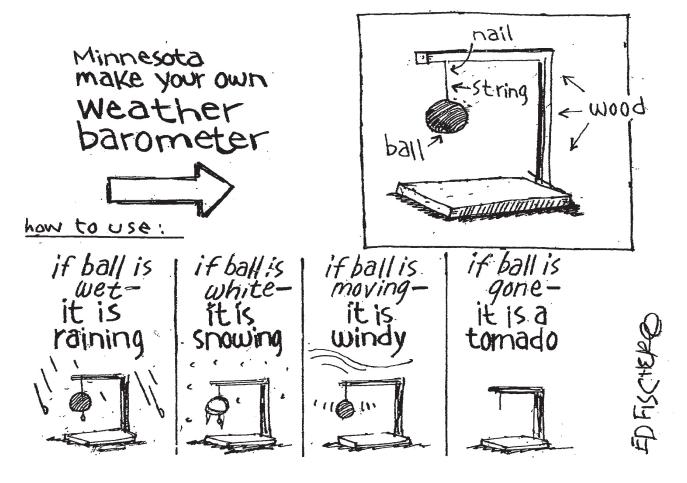
What we're learning is that dementia and other brain health conditions can be isolating and alienating for individuals who have the condition, and it can be utterly exhausting for their loved ones trying to care for them.

Fortunately, in Rock County, no one needs to travel that path alone.

Saturday's Dementia Awareness Walk was a fundraiser for the Southwest Minnesota Dementia Awareness Network, and all of the money raised stays to help local dementia support programs.

We're grateful for these volunteers and services, and encourage our readers to support this important work.

Checks can be written to "SW MN Dementia Awareness Network" and sent to A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota — Rock County, 105 S. Estey Street, Suite 2, Luverne, MN 56156.



Thone: 'Paper rules have no relevance...'

Letter to the Editor:

The paper rules have no relevance for the innocent. The rules of God define the innocent. The rules of man punish the criminals. God's Rule: Do no harm or damage to person, place, or thing, will-fully or with extreme negligence.

This government excels at forced choices, forced permissions, financially raping and jailing the innocent, and ruining the innocent peasant.

To truly know God is to do and be responsible. Drive and copulate responsibly and do no harm or damage. No group of men can give mothers permission to take the life of their offspring. Every human being has a God given right to be and do, including being born.

Licenses, permissions, certificates, forced payments, forced choices, are the tools of the slave Master. We render unto Caesar

what is Caesar's. If we choose to use Caesar's garbage service, we pay.

You cannot regulate the guilty by punishing the innocent. If you willfully choose to be shackled and punished by our corrupt public servants, please do not demand that I must do the same.

The evil extort the innocent with forced choices, forced permissions, and forced payments. They declare themselves the master of God and the peasants with their paper rules.

You write words on paper giving mothers permission to take the life of their offspring. In the eyes of God, you are murdering the most innocent and defenseless.

You write words on paper to financially rape us for moving in public. In the eyes of God, you are exploiting and extorting the innocent who move.

You write words on paper to

financially rape us for living in our homes. In the eyes of God, you are exploiting and extorting the innocent for living.

You write rules that only royalty can protect themselves with guns. In the eyes of God everyone has that right, which shall not be removed, to protect themselves.

The only right you haven't extorted and exploited yet is breathing.

Our servants are exploiting and extorting the living out of us peasants.

18 U.S. Code § 872.Extortion by officers or employees of the United States

(2) The term "extortion" means the obtaining of property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful use of actual or threatened force, violence, or fear, or under color of official right.

Terry Thone, Luverne

Everything's not the same when it comes to pumpkins

It's funny how everything haschanged. Some thingsyouthought would never change – yet they did.

Case in point, the pumpkin. Used

to be one color choice – orange. Then the white pumpkin crept into the fold, and now you have a regular buffet of pumpkin colors to choose from.

While I am not an expert of pumpkins, I am not sure if all the pumpkins on our front porch ARE pumpkins or if they're gourds or even squash. Most likely some of all three.

We have small ones, medium, and larger ones, and very large ones ... orange, white, and, new this year, a couple of yellow ones. Some are a mixture of green, orange and white.

My favorite pumpkins are the



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

bumpy ones. They have so much character, yet they are kind of the Charlie Brown Christmas tree of the pumpkin family.

At last count we had 29 different pumpkins on our front porch. ... That was until I spotted a really cool-looking, bumpy one at the pumpkin truck stand in the Dollar General parking lot. That puts us at 30, and as any pumpkin display artist will tell you, never have an even number of pumpkins on display. Always an odd number.

Guess I keep my eye open for one more.

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Rock County's newspaper since 1873

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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 Oct. 6

•Complainant on W. Main Street reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant on 41st Street, Hills, reported property damage.

 Complainant reported lost property.

•Complainant on 111th Street and Rock River Drive reported a miscellaneous public assist.

 Complainant reported a civil issue.

•Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported a runaway.

•Complainant on W. Main Street and Warren Street requested assistance from another department.

Oct. 7

•Complainant on W. Main Street, Hardwick, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•Complainant on 81st Street and 100th Avenue requested roadside assistance.

•Complainant on N. Cedar Street and E. Luverne Street reported an accident to property damage.

•Complainant on W. Interstate drive reported

 Complainant eastbound on the ramp of Interstate 90, Luverne, reported a transient.

•Complainant on E. Crawford Street reported a civil issue.

•Complainant on 91st Street reported a fire.

 Complainant in Hills reported suspicious activity.

Oct. 8

•Complainant on E. Dodge Street reported disturbing the peace. •Complainant on N.

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

Crawford Street reported a civil issue.

 Complainant reported lost property.

Complainant on

Interstate 90, mile marker 18, Magnolia, reported a transient.

•Complainant on Main Street and Walnut Avenue reported road and drive

•A warrant was issued on W. Virginia Street.

Oct. 9

•Complainant on 90th Avenue reported vandalism.

•Complainant on 81st Street, Valley Springs, reported theft.

•Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne, reported debris.

•Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported truancy.

•Complainant in the 24hour parking lot reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported an issue with road and drive laws.

Oct. 10

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported a fire call.

•Complainant on N. Elmhurst Avenue reported disturbing the peace.

•Complainant on Hatting and Freeman reported an issue with road and drive laws.

Oct. 11

•Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported a transient.

•Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported a

•Complainant on 100th Avenue reported fraud.

In addition, officers responded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 2 deer accidents, 3 escorts, 7 ambulance runs, 3 paper services, 6 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 2 burn permits, 1 drug court test, 1 purchase and carry permit, 1 stalled vehicle, 18 traffic stops, 5 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, and 1 welfare check.

Hardwick land development/continued from page 1A

tion.

The council bought .27 acres from John Javner for \$2,500 and .083 acres from Charlie and Katie Dilly for

The city will take care of clearing trees on those properties for the access road.

VanDerBrinks plan to honor city's intent

When the seven acres were originally purchased, the Hardwick City Council intended to offer lots for business expansions and new housing units in the Scott Addition.

However, cost of development and management of the sales involved expenses and expertise outside the realm of the elected and appointed officials.

"There is a cost to develop undeveloped land," said city clerk Tammy Johnson.

"After a lot of discussion, the council felt it made financial sense to sell to a motivated developer who has a similar vision as we do."

The VanDerBrinks intend to focus on Tract 2 and move the family's businesses to Hardwick.

For more than two decades, Yvette operated her auction and real estate business, VanDerBrink Auctions, from her living room. Now she plans to construct an office and large events space for indoor auctions.

She has indicated she would also like the events space to be rentable by the public.

Her husband, Steve, and son, Johnathon, would also move their businesses off the farm and build new in Hardwick.

They closed on the purchase agreement Friday, giving the family businesses in-town store fronts, something they've been discussing for a year.

"The idea is brand new to us," Yvette said. "I am really excited about having an



The Scott Addition, located on the southwest side of Hardwick, consists of seven acres. The VanDerBrink family bought Tract 2, a commercial lot, and Tract 3, a residential lot.

office. It will give me more opportunities to do more things."

Steve sold his truck repair business in Lismore and started his own shop on the farm in 2021. Johnathon started Johnny V.'s MotorSports earlier

this year. He repairs small engines on lawn and recreational vehicles.

On Parcel 3, Yvette said a residential housing development is still planned.

The parcel could be divided into four or five lots for single family or even twin homes.

However, construction will first take place for the VanDerBrink businesses on Parcel 2.

"We feel down the road something will happen (on Tract 3)," she said.

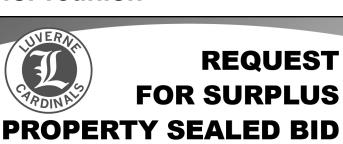




Luverne Class of 1958 gathers for reunion

The LHS Class of 1958 gathered for a 65th reunion Sept. 30. Pictured are (front, from left) Dennis Jorgensen, Lavonne (Padilla) Reiner, Marlys (Top) Baxter, Mary (Smit) Donth, Ardyth (Hansen) Bowen, Lora Lee (Schmidt) Ruthenbeck, Orrin Anderson, Wes Pierson, (back) Merlyn Groth, Judy (Schmuck) Hagen, Wanda (LaFrenz) Kafka, Donna (Kallsen) Connell, Rosalind (Beelmann) Kerns, Pat (DeBates) Ahrendt, Delores (Madison) Walters, Judy (Goembel) Larson and Roy Moeller. (This is reprinted to correct an error last week in which the Star Herald referred to the class as being from Hardwick)





INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2184 LUVERNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Independent School District No. 2184 is requesting bids for the following surplus property:

1 - 2011 Chevrolet Suburban LS

Vehicle specifications: 5.3L, V8, Automatic, 6 speed HD with Overdrive, 4-wheel drive with 150,900 miles.

Questions may be directed to Brad Goembel, Transportation Supervisor, and the vehicle may be seen at the Bus Garage by appointment. Call 283-8088 and ask for extension 2180.

Bids will be received by Independent School District No. 2184 until 5:00 p.m. October 25, 2023, at the office of the Superintendent of Schools, 709 North Kniss Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota. Minimum bid accepted will be \$7,000.

Each bid must be in a sealed envelope marked "Surplus Property Bid" with the bidders name, address, and phone number included. Property sold "as is". Bids may not be withdrawn within thirty days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids. The Independent School District No. 2184, Luverne, Minnesota, reserves the right to reject any or all bids and

to waive any irregularities in bids.

David Wrigg Clerk



October 28

7:30 pm Tickets on sale now! Tickets: \$20 for Students \$25 for Adults

Green Earth Players Presents: Knickers November 10 - 12

November 16 - 19



Mason Dixon Line Presents: A Kickin' Country Christmas

Saturday, December 9

Tickets on sale now!

104 E. Main St. • Luverne, MN 56156 • 507.283.4339 W W W . PALACETHEATRE. U S

Star Herald COMMUNITY

MENU AT GENERATIONS

Monday, Oct. 23: Parmesan chicken, spaghetti noodles, green beans, warm apple slices.

Tuesday, Oct. 24: Tater tot casserole, mixed vegetables, warm peaches, dinner roll.

Wednesday, Oct. 25: Baked ham, boiled diced potatoes, baked cabbage, bread, dessert.

Thursday, Oct. 26: Turkey and gravy over mashed potatoes, corn, dinner roll, warm fruit crisp.

Friday, Oct. 27: Sloppy Joe, bun, cheesy hashbrowns, baked beans, cookie.

LSS Dining offers wellbalanced 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 atwww.lssmn.org/nutrition.

1943: Chores kept Meyer out of school and at home

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 Feb. 17.

"No, I didn't go to school a great deal," said Ernest A. Meyer, Luverne, when he was asked if he had had an opportunity to get an education when he was young.

"You see," he explained, "father always kept a lot of livestock, and there were enough chores to keep all of us at home busy all the time. I remember I started plowing with a walking plow drawn by three horses when I was nine years old. I had to reach up with my hands when I took hold of the plow handles. Man, were my legs ever tired when I quit at night! Someone had to do the work, and it happened to be the hired man and me that fall, for father and my brother were out threshing.

"Iwent to 'summer school' for a few years, and to 'winter school' until I was 12. The winter I was 13, I didn't go because I was needed at home. We had at that time about 1,000 head of sheep, 200 head of cattle, 350 head of hogs and 50 or 60 horses, and I had to help with the work. After that, I never did go back to school."

Born in Iowa

Mr. Meyer was born in Benton county, Iowa, September 9, 1871. He was the fourth child of Ernest and Elizabeth Meyer who had come to Iowa from Germany when they were 9 and 11 years, respectively. They had lived first in Clayton county, until they bought an 80-acre farm in Benton county, which was later enlarged by the elder Mr. Meyer, as his farming operations prospered.



BITS BY **B**ETTY

By Betty Mann, **Rock County Historian**

The more modern types of machinery were just coming into use as Mr. Meyer was growing up. His father, being one of the better-known farmers in the community, always seemed to be the first to get a new piece of farm machinery when it came out. "A dealer would generally come to father first," Mr. Meyer said, "and by offering him a pretty good deal, he was generally sure of a sale. When the other people living around us were told that 'Mr. Meyer has one', the dealer usually had no trouble in making more sales in the territory.'

Mr. Meyer recalls that he was about 12 years old when they had their first plow with a seat on it—a small sulky. He also recalls that he drove one of the old harvesters, while two men stood on it and bound the grain as it was being cut. Not long after, his father bought one of the cumbersome binders which used wire to tie the bundles. "That was about the clumsiest piece of machinery I've ever seen or used," declared Mr. Meyer. "It would take three good horses to pull it empty. When we used it in the field, it made plenty of work for six horses. The machine was generally considered unsuccessful. Often the wire would

Bits, continued on 6A

ENGAGEMENT

Tony and Wendy Gacke of Luverne and Brian and Sue Buettner of Clear Lake, Minnesota, announce the upcoming wedding of their children, Jonathan Gacke and Kendra Buettner.

Kendra graduated from Becker High School, and from UMD and the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in cell and molecular biology and doctorate of pharmacy. She currently works as an MTM clinical pharmacist at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center.

Jonathan is a graduate of Luverne High School. He currently works as a property adjuster at Midwest Claims

Services in Duluth. Jonathan and Kendra will unite in marriage Sat-



Kendra Buettner and Jonathan Gacke

urday, Oct. 21, 2023, at Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosarv in Duluth.



Sawyer Bosch (left) and Logan Susie are two cadets on the Hills Area Volunteer Fire Department. The two H-BC Secondary School students respond to emergencies and attend trainings with the other full-time volunteers, but their duties at a scene are limited. The cadet program allows anyone not yet 18 years old to experience the emergency response duties.

Cadet program exposes secondary students to volunteer fire fighting

Program allows under 18 to experience emergency response duties

By Mavis Fodness

A cadet program with the Hills Area Volunteer Fire Departments is exposing high school students to fire fighting in their community.

The latest cadets are H-BC senior Logan Susie and junior Sawyer

At age 17, they can't apply to be full-fledged volunteers until they reach age 18. Until then, they are gaining valuable experience.

As cadets, they respond to 911 calls like the full-fledged volunteers. but their duties are limited.

"They can't drive a truck or wear air packs, but they can set the trucks up, pull hoses, drop the tank, fetch tools and fill air tanks," said fire chief Jared Rozeboom. "Their help frees someone else up to help somewhere else."

Each cadet follows the same guidelines as the full-time volunteers. They live within a seven- to eight-minute response time from the fire station in Hills and attend the regular monthly meetings and trainings.

As a high school senior, Susie said his daytime schedule allows

him to respond to calls in the afternoon and fulfill a desire for community service.

"Ever since I was a little kid, I wanted to be some type of first responder," he said.

Susie recently responded to a car accident on the outskirts of Hills.

Within minutes, he and the other fire department volunteers

were at the scene.

"It felt good to respond," Susie said. "If we didn't have volunteers in Hills, I don't know how long it would be before someone could get here and help."

Bosch's class schedule doesn't allow him to respond to calls during the school day.

His experience comes outside of school hours.

He recently watched the fulltime members assist with a medical emergency, where he carried in the medical equipment.

"I felt I helped some," Bosch said. "That's the main reason I joined."

After emergency calls, Susie and Bosch restock and organize the trucks used during the call.

"One of our jobs is to know

where everything is and what everything is so it can be placed back in the correct spot," Bosch

The two have plans to join the volunteer department once they turn age 18 in May 2024.

Brock Harnack was a cadet in May 2022 and is currently completing the 145-160 hours of training to become a full-time volunteer firefighter.

He said the cadet experience

"My advice is to try not to miss anything (of what was happening at a fire or an accident scene). Pay attention and don't be surprised about what can happen," he said.

Harnack joins 19 others on the Hills Fire Department, who earn a pension for the years of service on the department.

Chief Rozeboom said he hopes the cadet experience has lasting effects on the department and volunteers.

"Whether they stay here or go elsewhere, I hope they join a local fire department," he said.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2013)

•Beginning Oct. 28, the former I-90 Gas Stop station in Luverne will become a Holiday gas station and store.

Holiday Stationstores reached an agreement with I-90 Fuel Services Inc. to convert 16 of the Gas Stop convenience stores to Holiday Stationstores.

This expands the Holiday brand in South Dakota and southwestern Minnesota.

The Gas Stop stores converting to Holiday are located in Sioux Falls, Aberdeen, Brandon, Mitchell, Mobridge, Pierre and Volga in South Dakota and Luverne and Worthington in Minnesota.

25 years ago (1998)

•The Battle Ax trophy returned to Luverne for the first time since 1995 after the Cardinal football team dominated Pipestone-Jasper 37-6 in Pipestone Wednesday, Oct. 14.

Luverne senior tailback Billy Schneider ran for 188 yards and three touchdowns to help the Cardinals score 37 unanswered points in the final three quarters during the annual clash with their Southwest Conference rivals.

The win brings the Battle Ax hardware back to Luverne after a two-year absence.

50 years ago (1973)

•Beaver Creek's "Do Your Thing" talent show held Oct. 11 was applauded by a full house estimated at more than 300 persons. The evening proceeds were \$184.05.

The program was held to raise funds for the new Beaver Creek recreation facility. The program included acts ranging from "12 o'clock Rock"

by the first graders to "Three Blind Mice" performed by five

days, from square dancing to music today by the Hills-Beaver Creek stage band. **75 years ago (1948)**

•Two completely new lines of 1949 Nash cars will go on display here tomorrow at Luverne Nash Co.

high school girls, from a Sunday school group singing a med-

ley of songs to a Pa and Ma Kettle skit by a 4-H group, from

ear catching piano solos to guitar playing of the Elvis Presley

The new Nash 'Ambassador' and '600' models are so drastically changed in design that all body design and major assembly line equipment used on 1948 models had to be scrapped in order to produce them, according to Lloyd Rapp, local Nash dealer.

The '49 Nash cars are the first of the industry's postwar models with front wheels totally enclosed. This styling advance, permitting full wheel swing on curves, was made possible because the new gender line is well outside the wheels. Tire removal is accomplished without difficulty.

100 years ago (1923)

•Three young ladies are winners of Kiwanian prizes and guests of honor at club luncheon.

Miss Gladys McDowell is winner of the first prize, and the Misses Helen and Evelyn Stager winners of the second and third prizes, respectively, offered by the Luverne Kiwanis club in an essay contest on "The Constitution of the United States,"

recently conducted among students of the Luverne high school. The prizes were offered by the Kiwanis club as a feature of 'Constitution Week," and all members of the English classes of the Junior and Senior classes of the high school were invited to participate.

OBITUARIES

Carol Braa

Carol (Rohlck) Braa, 82, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, passed away on Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, at Ava's House in Sioux Falls, South

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 16, at Peace Lutheran

Dakota.

Church, 5509 W. 41st Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota Interment will be at a later date at Maplewood Cemetery, Luverne, Minnesota.

Visitation with the family present to greet friends will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15, at Miller Funeral Home Westside Chapel, 6200 W. 41st Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Carol Ann Rohlck, daughter of Orland and Irene (Mann) Rohlck, was born Dec. 6, 1940, in Luverne, Minnesota. She was raised on the family farm north of Hardwick, Minnesota. She was educated in Hardwick until high school where she graduated from Luverne High School in 1958.

Carol was united in marriage with her high school sweetheart, William "Bill" Braa on Sept. 20, 1959 in Hardwick, Minnesota.

She began working in the office at an agriculture manufacturing company. They moved to Sioux Falls for a couple of years andwere blessed with two children, Debra and Jeffrey.

The family moved to Lennox in 1963, where Carol began working at the old elementary building in the Lennox School District as a teacher's aide, lunch lady and librarian for many years. In 1990 they moved to Sioux Falls where they built the home they have lived in since. She semi-retired, though she sold Tupperware for several years and had continued to work elections which she has done for 40 years. She enjoyed the people and attention to detail.

Carol was an excellent cook and baker. She had a bit of a sweet tooth. She enjoyed going out to the store and would always enjoy visiting with people. They loved to travel and in their earlier years they camped in the Black Hills with their family. Later years they enjoyed

their timeshare in the Black Hills, California, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota and several cruises, most recently their weekend road trips to Ameristar Casino in Omaha, Nebraska.

Carol adored her family. She loved watching her children grow up and the special love of having grandchildren.

Grateful for having shared her life are her husband of 64 years, Bill; a daughter, Deb Carter, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and a son, Jeff (Rhonda) Braa, Champlin, Minnesota; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, Ashley (Cory) Metzger and their daughter, Chloe, Hills, Minnesota; Jerick Braa, Ramsey, Minnesota; Robert (Carolyn) Braa and their children, Daniel and Kendrick, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota; and a few nieces and nephews; and their grand dogs, Leo, Chico, Watson, Luna and Boomer.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Roger Rohlck; and a sister, Ruth Nielsen.

For online obituary and guest register please go to the Miller Funeral Home website at www.millerfh.com.

Pauline Ailts

Pauline Alice Ailts, 84, of Luverne, died Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

She was born Nov. 15, 1938, in Midland Township, near Little Rock, Iowa, to John and Aafka (Martens) Ohling. Pauline was baptized on Jan. 1,

1939, at the Bethel Reformed Church in rural Ellsworth. She attended country school in Midland Township and graduated from Little Rock High School in 1956.

After graduation, Pauline moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where she worked at the Sioux Valley Hospital as a nurse's aide. She then went to work at the Sioux Falls Stockyards as a secretary. She later worked as a bank teller at a bank in Sioux Falls.

Pauline married Harley Ailts on Nov. 28, 1958, at the Bethel Reformed Church in rural Ellsworth. The first year of their marriage, the couple lived at Anamosa, Iowa. In 1959 they moved to Ellsworth. The family moved to Luverne in the summer of 1962.

Pauline's life was a beautiful story of love and adventure. For 45 years she took the wheel as a school bus driver, bringing joy to count-

less kids in Luverne Public Schools until her well-deserved retirement in 2018. Her grandkids were the stars in her sky, and she, along with her husband, Harley, was their number one fan, rarely missing

a game and even giving her granddaughters the treat of bus rides to and from their games. With 17 grandkids in her later years, she kept up with their lives through snapchat. But her interests span far and wide, from shopping trips to card games, from helping Harley with his woodworking to attending numerous craft shows, and from tending to her garden to cooking in her kitchen. Camping, square dancing, snowmobiling, researching her family heritage, listening to politics, and wintering in Arizona filled her days with excitement and jov.

She was also a beloved member of the American Reformed Church, Luverne, for 65 years. Pauline's legacy encourages us to embrace life with the same enthusiasm and grit as she did. Though she may be physically gone, we are confident her eternity

in heaven has just begun.

Pauline is survived by her son, Kevin (Crystal) Ailts, Luverne; two daughters, Kandace (Mike) Rust, Magnolia, and Karla (Tom) Owen. Winnebago; seven grandchildren, Sarah (Christopher) Nuffer, Katie (Matthew) Van Grootheest, Lindsay (Ryan) Lonneman, Erika (Jesse) Brake, Lexi (Tony) Lynn, Kathie (RJ) Linder and Bob (Karrie) Owen; 17 great-grandkids, Afton, Aubrey, Kallista, Huntley, Axel, Gracelyn, Kaleb, Eastyn, McKinley, Korbin, Hudsyn, Koyer, Gavin, Olivia, Preslie, Haddie and Cormac; two brothers, Egbert Ohling, Rock Rapids, Iowa, and Paul (Eleanor) Ohling, George, Iowa: and a sister. Gerda DeBoer-Jannsen, Luverne.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Harley, on April 29, 2010; and a sister, Hilke Garrels.

Visitation was 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne and one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday, Oct. 13. Funeral was at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the American Reformed Church in Luverne, officiated by Pastor Mike Altena. Burial was in the Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Dean Schnaible

Dean Melvin Schnaible, age 88, of Adrian, died Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023, at the Parkview Manor Nursing Home in Ellsworth, Minnesota.

Hewas born May 21, 1935, in Java, South Dakota, to Otto and Alice (Overseth) Schnaible.

After high school graduation, he married Maralyn A. Merkel on Sept. 21, 1957. After achieving his degree in elementary education at Northern State in Aberdeen, South Dakota, Dean began his teaching career at Irving Country School, 11 miles from Java, South Dakota. He then taught and coached in Hills-Beaver Creek, Minnesota, from 1963 to 1972. After leaving Hills, he traveled to Hartington, Nebraska, where he started his career as a head basketball coach. Dean taught and coached in Nebraska for one year, before

moving to Adrian, Minnesota, where he spent

the remainder of his coaching and teaching career. He taught for a total of 41 years with 24 years teaching fifth grade in Adrian, before retiring in 1998.

In addition

to teaching, Dean spent over 54 years coaching sports, including boys' basketball, girls' basketball, baseball, softball and football. In 2014 he was inducted into the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association Hall of

In addition to coaching sports, Dean enjoyed fishing, yardwork, friends, children, grandchildren and a good highball and stogie.

Surviving family includes three children, Kim Schnaible of Littleton, Colorado, Tammy (friend, Rick) Schnaible of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Blaine (Deb) Schnaible of Marshall, Minnesota; grandchildren Aaron Torrez, Littleton, Colorado, Jada (Aaron Swartz) Wolf of Maple Grove, Minnesota, Shanna (Jeff) Davis of Lucas, Texas, Bryanna (Ben) Geary of Marshall, Minnesota, Mason Schnaible and Mia Schnaible of Marshall, Minnesota; great-grandchildren Brek, Cade and Collins Davis; siblings Bev (Gary) Buck of Bismarck, North Dakota, Peggy (Doug) Erhart of Mandan, North Dakota, Barb (Tom) Goehring of Lake Mina, South Dakota, and Ruthanne Schnaible of Las

Vegas, Nevada.

He was preceded in death
by his wife, Maralyn; father, parents Otto and Alice
Schnaible; and his stepmother, Elizabeth Schnaible.

A time of fellowship will be from 4-7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Adrian. A private family committal service will take place at a later date.

William Elias

William "Bill" Eugene Elias, age 83, of Adrian, died Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

He was born on Oct. 31, 1939, in Adrian to William and Lena (Thompson) Elias. He at-

tended Adrian High School and graduated in 1957.

Bill married the love of his life, Carolyn Heitkamp, on Nov. 3,1962, at St. Adrian Catholic Church where they have been members since. They were blessed with four children and celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last November.

Bill started farming in 1957, shortly after graduation, where he was a grain farmer and raised hogs and cattle. In 1994 they moved to town and Bill continued to farm with his sons, Steven and Dean, up until his death. Bill was very proud that the Elias Farm has remained in the family for 143 years.

Bill enjoyed many years of traveling with Carolyn to Texas and Arizona during the winter months. His love for golf started when he became a member of the Luverne
Country Club in

the '70s, and later joined the Worthington Country Club in the early '80s. The Adrian Country Club became his home course in 1994 when it was built. Bill loved playing in all different types of

tournaments, 2-3-4 man's with friends and family, the Adrian Club Tournament, and the Interlaken Invitational in Fairmont. His favorite tournament was the Labor Day Classic in Worthington, where he competed for 47 years in a row. He won multiple times throughout the years but the best win was his 45th Labor Day Classic at the age of 78.

His love for golf has filtered into his entire family. The most important treasure in his life was spending time with his family and friends. Bill was a special man who was loved by many. He will always be remembered for his quick wit, fun personality, generous heart and Hershey's candy bars.

Bill is survived by his wife, Carolyn Elias, Adrian; four children, Sandy Klein,

Luverne, Steve (Terri) Elias, Adrian, David (Patty) Elias, Lakeville, and Dean (Stacie) Elias, Adrian; 12 grandchildren, Jessica (Dallas) Hamm, Alyssa (Mike) Amborn, Brandon Klein, Alex (Mackenzie) Elias, Justin (fiancée Alissa Schilling) Elias, Ryan Elias, Erica (fiancé Villi Paraskov) Elias, Lucas (Edda Perry) Elias, Jada (Dylan) Gyberg, Annika (Ben Rogers) Elias, Gracia Elias and Taya Elias; nine great-grandchildren, Samuel, Caroline, Evelyn and Bennett Amborn; Carter, Collin and Chandler Hamm: and Levi and Kolton Schilling; and a sister, Carolyn Lewis, Edina.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sonin-law Tom Klein; a sister, Wilma Leipold; and a brother, Leroi Elias.

Visitation was from 5-8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15, at St. Adrian Catholic Church in Adrian. Visitation was from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Monday, Oct. 16, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Adrian. Funeral Mass was at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Adrian Catholic Church in Adrian, officiated by Monsignor Richard Colletti. Burial was in the St. Adrian Cemetery.

Harvey Crable -

Harvey Roy Crable III, age 74, entered the peace and glory of heaven on Tuesday,

Oct. 11, 2023, at his cherished lake home near Park Rapids, Minnesota. Harvey was a

loving husband, a

knew him.

devoted father, and a beloved grandfather who left an indelible mark on the hearts of all who

Harvey was born on March 16, 1949, in Topeka, Kansas, to proud parents Harvey Jr. and IvaGean Crable. At a young age, his family embarked on a journey that led them to Duluth, Minnesota, where he attended Duluth Middle School. Shortly thereafter, they settled in Bloomington, where Harvey graduated from Bloomington-Kennedy High School in 1968. It was during his high school years that he met the love of his life,

On Aug. 21, 1971, Harvey and Cynthia exchanged vows and began a beautiful journey together. Harvey was a dedicated family man, taking immense pride in his three sons: Harvey Roy IV, Casey Ryan, and Kyle William. He pursued a career in education, teaching social studies and coaching football and

Cynthia L. Block.

basketball at Sumner High

School in Kansas City, Kansas. He continued his passion for teaching and coaching in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, and later in Wells where he not only coached high school football but also served as the athletic director.

After several years at Wells, Harvey continued his passion for sports and became the Luverne High School athletic director.

Toward the twilight of his career, Harvey and Cynthia longed for the tranquility of northern Minnesota, eventually settling in Bemidji, Minnesota, where Harvey continued his role as athletic director at Bemidji High School. He retired from Bemidji High School in 2010, and together with Cynthia they found their dream home in Park Rapids, Minnesota, a place they intended to spend the rest of their lives together.

Harvey was a man of diverse passions. He reveled in watching his children and grand-children play sports, cherishing every moment on the sidelines. The great outdoors held a special place in his heart, and he found solace in activities such as fishing, hunting, camping,

and golfing. He was most

content when he was on the lake or in the woods, feeling the embrace of nature.

Harvey will be deeply

missed and lovingly remembered by his wife of 52 years, Cynthia; his three devoted sons: Harvey Roy IV (Tausha) Crable, Casey Ryan (Cherene) Crable, and Kyle William (Tara) Crable; and his seven adored grandchildren: Kylee (Jacob) Stinson, Madysen Crable, Kloey Crable, Harvey Rov Crable V, Klaire Crable, Kenadee Crable, and Crosby Crable. He is also survived by his siblings, Trudy Crable and Greg Crable, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and countless friends. Harvey was preceded in death by his loving parents, Harvey Rov Crable Jr. and IvaGean Crable.

Funeral services to celebrate the life of Harvey Roy Crable III will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, at the Jones-Pearson Funeral Home in Park Rapids. Visitation will take place on Friday, Oct. 20, from 6-7 p.m. and again on Saturday from 1-3 p.m.

In the tender embrace of loving memories, Harvey Roy Crable III will forever hold a cherished place in our hearts. May he rest in eternal peace, surrounded by the love that he gave so freely throughout his life.

DEATH NOTICE

Robert Shimmin

Robert Jon Shimmin, age 79, of Kenneth, Minnesota, passed away peacefully in his home on Oct. 10, 2023.

A visitation will be on Thursday, Oct. 26, from 1-2 p.m. at the Hartquist Funeral

Home in Luverne, Minnesota, with a memorial service to begin at 2 p.m. Private family burial will occur at a later time.

 $To sign \, an \, on line \, registry, please \, visit \, www. \, hartquist funeral. com. \,$

Bits/continued from page 7A _____

get into the straw at threshing time, and the cattle would eat it in the winter. We lost lots of cattle because they had eaten bits of wire.

"All the wire bands were supposed to have been cut before the bundles went into the threshing machine. You'd certainly know if they weren't because the separator would roar, and then you'd have to stop to put a few new teeth in the cylinder."

Horse Trading as Side Line

Trading horses proved to be a fascinating and profit-

able sideline for Mr. Meyer's father. He generally bought unbroken horses, then after training them to drive, would sell them again at a profit.

"He usually kept pretty close check on horses, and I only know of one time when he was fooled," Mr. Meyer recalls. "That was when he bought a 'cribber' at a sale some ways from home. The funny part of it was that the horse was at one time owned by a close neighbor of ours. Father knew the horse, and did not bid at the neighbor's sale, and someone else bought him. It so happened

someone who had a sale later on, and as the horse looked good, father bid on him and got him at some low figure. When he came home with the animal and told me and my brother about the bargain, we, of course, had to go out and see him. The minute we looked at him, my brother looked at me and I looked at him. We recognized the horse right away. When we told father, he too, looked him over, and he turned to us and said, 'Boys, I believe I've been soaked'."

that the man who got him was

Continues next week.



1 IN 8 WOMEN IN THE U.S. WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER IN THEIR LIFETIME.



ABOUT EVERY TWO MINUTES, ONE CASE OF BREAST CANCER IS DIAGNOSED IN THE U. S.

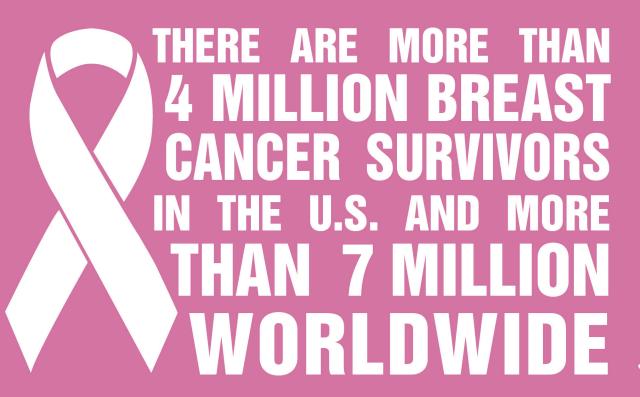
IMPROVEMENTS IN EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT CONTRIBUTED TO A 43-PERCENT DECLINE IN THE BREAST CANCER DEATH RATE IN THE U.S. BETWEEN 1989-2020

43%

5 STEPS TO DETECTING BREAST CANCER EARLY

PRACTICE ROUTINE SELF-EXAMS

KNOW YOUR RISKS AND FAMILY HISTORY



VISIT YOUR DOCTOR REGULARLY

KNOW WHEN TO GET A MAMMOGRAM

FOLLOW UP AFTER A SCREENING OR TEST

Statistics from Susan G. Komen, komen.org.

THANKS TO THESE BUSINESSES FOR TAKING PRIDE IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND SPONSORING THIS PROMOTIONAL PAGE!

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The LHS girls' 5,000-meter runners take off in Adrian Tuesday, Oct. 10. The Cardinals took the top three finishes in the race. Senior Jenna DeBates was first, seventh-grader Summer Mollberg finished second, and sophomore Ella Schmuck took third place.

Luverne cross country runs away with team victories in Adrian

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne Cardinals varsity cross-country team ran away with the boys' and girls' 5,000-meter events at the Adrian Invitational Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Junior Owen Janiszeski and senior Jenna DeBates both took first place in their event at the Adrian Country Club.

"We were very happy with the performances on Tuesday," head coach Pete Janiszeski said.

"The kids competed hard and we had great performances across the board, which was a great boost in confidence heading into conference and sections."

The Luverne girls' varsity 5,000-meter team placed first with a combined time (Top 5 finishers on a team) of 1:47:15.28.

Murray County Central took second in a combined time of 1:50:10.22, Jackson County Central was third at 1:53:35.63, Pipestone was fourth at 1:54:30.59 and Adrian-Ellsworth was fifth at 2:01:05.89.

The Luverne girls' individual finishes are as follows:

DeBates finished first with a time of 18:42.42.

Seventh-grader Summer Mollberg finished second at 21:10.64. Sophomore Ella Schmuck fin-

ished fourth at 21:23.72. Freshman Khloe Visker finished 16th at 22:37.15.

Freshman Reinha John finished 23rd at 23:21.34 with seventhgrader Sophia Nolz right behind her finishing 24th at 23:22.01.

Eighth-grader Grace Kempema finished 32nd at 23:57.54.

Freshman Olivia Lund finished 37th at 24:28.22.

Seventh-grader Harper DeWispelaere finished 45th at 25:00.08, and senior Kayla Bloemendaal followed in 46th place at 25:08.84.

Seventh-grader Ahna Tofteland finished 50th at 25:22.70.

Senior Brynn Boyenga finished 60th at 26:59.77.

Junior Jaelyn Arp finished 64th at 28:26.05.

Junior Andrea Luitjens finished 74th at 30:30.87, and freshman Anna Reisdorfer rounded out the Cardinal girls in 78th with a time of 34:35.70.

LHS cross country/see page 2B

Cardinals football falls to Huskies in rainy conditions

By Greg Hoogeveen

Luverne fell 34-0 to **Jackson County Central** Thursday, Oct. 12, on the road.

In a rainy and windy game, Luverne lost three fumbles and had a total of -12 yards offense to a strong Huskies team.

"JCC is a very good team and we played on a very wet and muddy field," head coach Todd Oye said.

"We did not play very well and struggled with some basic things we have done well during the season."

Oye and his coaching staff will address some issues from the JCC game and quickly turn around to host Redwood Valley Wednesday, Oct. 18.

Coach Oye said if Luverne wins Wednesday, the Cardinals could secure a home playoff game on Tuesday, Oct. 24.

Some highpoints in the game against the Huskies were the two fumble recoveries from Cardinals players.

Senior Patrick Kroski covered one JCC fumble and junior Layne Sasker secured the second JCC fumble.

Sophomore Landyn Lais was able to return a kickoff 40 yards in the wet and windy game.

Jackson County Central scored eight points in the first quarter on a 55-yard run and two-point conver-

In the second quarter the Huskies added another

six points on a nine-yard run and failed conversion.

In the third quarter JCC returned a punt 51 yards and missed on the conversion, extending their lead to 20-0.

The Huskies added another six points with a 15yard run to the endzone and a failed conversion attempt to take a 26-0 lead.

In the fourth quarter JCC scored one more time on a 20-yard run and converted on the extra point run winning the game 34-0.

Box Scores					
Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
LHS	0	0	0	0	0
JCC	8	6	12	8	34

Team Totals JHS LHS Total plays 40 Total yards -12 Passing yards Rushing yards 232 -21

Penalty yards Luverne Individual Stats Passing Cp/Att Yds TD Rushing Yds TD Rock 15 Domagala 2

Fumbles

Interceptions

Receiving

Diaz

Hansen

	- 9		
DeBeer		1	9 0
	Tackles	Assists	Sacks
Kracht	3	0	0
Connell	2	3	0
Kruger	2	1	0
Hood	2	0	0
Ahrendt	1	4	0
Kroski	1	4	0
DeBeer	1	2	0
L.Lais	1	2	0
Gonnern	nan 1	1	0
Domaga	la 1	Ω	Ω

Rec. Yds. TD

Freshman Olivia Deelstra lifts the ball over two Adrian blockers Tuesday, Oct. 10. Deelstra had six kills against the Dragons. The Patriots fell three sets to one on the road.

Lady Pates stumble against Adrian and Southwest Christian

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team fell 3-1 to Adrian Oct. 10 and 3-1 to Southwest Minnesota Christian Oct. 16.

H-BC was scheduled to host Luverne Tuesday, Oct. 17, for both teams' last regular season match.

Adrian 3, H-BC 1

The Patriots volleyball team traveled to Adrian to take on the Dragons Tuesday, Oct. 10.

H-BC lost the first two sets 25-17 and 25-22.

The Patriots rallied and took the third set 27-25.

In the fourth set Adrian was able to win 25-19 to win the match 3-1 against the Patriots.

"We played very well against Adrian," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

"Our blocking was on, and we were making smart choices on where we placed the ball."

In the last set Zylstra said the Patriots let up on their aggressive play.

"I think we definitely could've beaten them if we had stayed aggressive, but there were some shifts in momentum at inopportune times."

Senior Lanae Elbers went 11 of 12 serving with one ace, adding 10 kills and two blocks for the Patriots.

Freshman Brynn Bakken was 13-14 serving at the line. Bakken also provided six kills, three blocks and seven digs.

Freshman Olivia Deelstra was seven of 10 serving with one ace and had six kills and one block against Adrian.

Sophomore Ella Sammons provided five kills for H-BC in the match. Junior Bailey Spyker-

H-BC volleyball/see page 2B

LHS tennis team participates in Section 3A Individual Tournament

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne girls' tennis team sent two singles players and two doubles teams to the Section 3A Individual Tournament Thursday, Oct. 12.

Games were played at **Huether Family Match Pointe** in Sioux Falls.

In singles play, Luverne senior Sarah Stegenga was the fifth seed out of 16 play-

In Round 1 action, Stegenga took on 12th seed Abigail Jimenez from Yellow Medicine East, beating her in two sets 6-0, 6-0.

In Round 2, Stegenga faced fourth seed Greta Meyer from MCCRAY.

Stegenga lost in two sets 6-3, 7-5 to end her run in the tournament.

"Sarah did a great job in her opening match," Beers said. "She had just played the MCCRAY girl in the section tournament and lost 6-2, 6-3, so it was really nice to see her play a closer match in the individual tournament."

Junior Emma Nath was the 14th seed in the individual tournament.

Nath faced third seed Tayte Nokleby from MCCRAY in Round 1, falling 6-2, 6-0.

"Emma's score did not reflect how she played," Beers said. "She had many sets that were very close, and she was just not able to win them."

In doubles action, the Cardinals third-seeded team, seniors Cassi Chesley and Roselynn Hartshorn, won their Round 1 match. Chesley and Hartshorn

beat 14th seed Avery Albrecht and Hailey Helgeson in three

They won the first set 6-1,



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1019 lhs tennis1 Senior Sarah Stegenga charges for the tennis ball in the Section 3A Tournament in Sioux Falls Thursday, Oct. 12. Stegenga won her Round 1 match 6-0,6-0 but fell 6-3, 7-5 in Round 2.

lost the second 2-6 but won the third set 6-4 to win the match.

In Round 2, Chesley and Hartshorn lost to the sixth seed Lac Qui Parle team of K. Jahn and H. Oie in two sets 6-2, 6-1.

"Roz and Cassi have had a great year and I would have loved to see them make it to the second day of sections, but the Lac Qui Parle team was very tough and just played a great match to beat them," Beers said.

Senior Morgan Hadler and junior Augusta Papik were seeded No. 16 and faced the No. 1-seeded team of Ashley Koehl and Nora Meek from Morris.

Hadler and Papik fell 7-6 in the first set. They won the second set 6-2,

falling again in the third set

"Augusta and Morgan did not get the best seed with them having to play the first seed," Beers said.

"It would have been really easy for them to just go and not give it much of an effort, but they were able to take the match to three sets and just came up a little short in the end."

Although the Cardinals' individual singles and doubles tournament competition has ended, the LHS tennis team has qualified to play in the 2023 Girls State Tennis Team Tournament Tuesday, Oct. 24, through Thursday, Oct. 27.

The Cardinals will play their quarter-final matches at the Reed-Sweatt Tennis Center in Minneapolis on Oct. 24.

LHS volleyball team falls to Windom Eagles 3-0

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne volleyball team fell to Windom in three sets Tuesday, Oct. 10, on the road.

The Eagles took the Cardinals 25-17, 25-23 and 25-14.

Head coach Sarah DeBeer said, "We had great moments during the match, but we just couldn't take control."

Setting leaders were senior Elle Halverson with 10 set assists and junior Amira Cowell with 12 set assists in the game.

Junior Ella Reisdorfer had 12 digs for Luverne, and senior Belle Smidt had nine digs against Windom.

Top Cardinal servers were senior Tori Serie at 10 of 19 with one ace and Cowell serving 9 of 9 at the service line.

Reisdorfer registered nine kills in the game, and senior Morgan Ahrendt added five kills.

Luverne is now 9-13 in regular season play and is scheduled to take on the Patriots Tuesday, Oct. 17, in Hills.

Cross country/from page 1B

The Luverne boys' varsity 5,000-meter team placed first with a combined time (Top 5 finishers on a team) of 1:27:13.50.

Murray County took second in a combined time of 1:29:19.00, Windom was third at 1:32:04.30 and Jackson County Central was fourth at 1:39:32.00.

The Luverne boys' individual finishes are as

Janiszeski finished first with a time of 16:28.00.

Senior Ryan Fick finished third at 16:56.40. Junior Dylan Ommen

finished eighth at 17:35.80. Freshman Marcus Papik finished 10th at

17:55.40. Junior Leif Ingebretsen finished 18th at

18:17.90.

Senior Zach Terrio finished 22nd at 18:37.50. Junior Kaleb Hemme

finished 23rd at 18:41.60. Junior Eli McLendon finished 45th at 20:36.90, and sophomore Zander Fountain finished 83rd at a

time of 28:00.50. In the **Luverne** boys' junior varsity 1,600-meter event seventh-grader William Gehrke placed 29th with a time of 6:44.06.

The Luverne girls' iunior varsity 1,600-meter event seventh-grader Bridget Sandager finished 13th with a time of 7:17.48.

Eighth-grader Emma Wieneke finished 25th at 7:54.40.

Eighth-grader Natalie Berning finished 36th at 8:57.15 and seventhgrader Mallory Berning finished 38th with a time of 9:06.26.

Luverne's next event will be the Big South Conference Championship Tuesday, Oct. 17, in

Last year Luverne won both the boys' and girls' team titles in the varsity 5,000-meter in Fairmont, and the teams look to defend their titles this year in Marshall.

The Cardinals will travel to Madison Thursday, Oct. 26, for the Section 3A Tournament.

This year's cross country state tournament competition will be Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Les Bolsted Golf Course on the University of Minnesota campus.

Patriots football team prepares for New Ulm

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots are gearing up for a close home contest with New Ulm Cathedral on Wednesday, Oct. 18.

"Having the week off was helpful because Wednesday night games are always a quick turnaround in regard to preparation," head coach Rex Metzger said.

He was referring to the canceled WestbrookWalnut Grove game that was supposed to have been played Friday, Oct. 13.

Now Metzger and his 6-o Patriots are focusing on playing their best game against the 6-1 Greyhounds in a non-conference match.

"New Ulm Cathedral is a very good football team," Metzger said. "They are big upfront and have heavy juniors and seniors."

Both H-BC and New Ulm played the same four opponents in the regular season this year.

H-BC took on Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda Aug. 31 and beat them 51-6. New Ulm beat HLOF 42-8 on Sept. 7.

The Patriots blew away Cedar Mountain 40-6 Sept. 15, while New Ulm beat Cedar Mountain 22-19 on Sept. 22.

H-BC beat Mountain Lake 26-21 on Sept. 22, and New Ulm won their game

with Mountain Lake in overtime, 20-14.

The Patriots beat Renville County West 45-14 on Sept. 29, and New Ulm beat Renville 16-0.

The final matchup between H-BC and New Ulm Wednesday, Oct. 18, will be a tightly contested game that will depend on turnovers and team execution in the end.

Game time is 7 p.m. in

Teaming up for public service

LHS volleyball players serve with a purpose

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne volleyball team got together Tuesday, Oct. 3, for their yearly public service projects day.

"It gets the girls out of the gym and working together in a different way that helps out the community," head coach Sarah DeBeer said about the annual activity to help local organiza-

"We get the whole program together, from varsity to the Csquad, to go out and serve the community as an organization."

This year 42 students and three coaches broke up into three groups to pull weeds at the Oaks and Poplar Creek along with the Good Samaritan Society, clean at the Rock County Food Shelf, and help weed and clean at the Brandenburg Gallery.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1019 vb group4

Greta McClure (left), Ava Sieve, Emma Saarloos, Allie Kracht and Jordyn Reisch help clean the exterior and interior of the Brandenburg Gallery Tuesday, Oct. 3, as part of the volleyball team's yearly service project day.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1019 vb group6 CeCe Rock (left), Bernie Rock, Tori Serie and Ella Reisdorfer smile in the rain while picking up leaves and garbage at the Good Samaritan Society Tuesday, Oct. 3, for the volleyball team's public service day activities.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1019 vb group2 Seniors Belle Smidt (left), Morgan Ahrendt, Kira John and Ella Halverson take part in helping weed and clean up around the Oaks and Poplar Creek Tuesday, Oct. 3, as part of the volleyball team's public service day.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1019 vb group1

LHS players participating in public service day include (front, left) Lilian Palmquist, Kiesli Smith, Tori Serie, CeCe Rock, Bernie Rock, Julia Beyer, Tenley Behr, Macie Edstrom, Hadley Vanderburg, Allie Kracht, Jordyn Reisch, Ella Apel, Anna Banck, (middle) Hannah Cowell, Amira Cowell, Kaelyn Braun, Kylie Vander Lugt, Belle Smidt, Hannah Sneller, Aubrey VanBelle, Hannah Woodley, Paige Kubesh, Payton Behr, Gabbie Nath-Huls, Ella Reisdorfer, Alexis Braun, Izzy Steensma, Kassidy Saarloos, (back) Ava Loosbrock, Ella Halverson, Kira John, Morgan Ahrendt, Jocelyn Altman, Riley Kurtz, Greta McClure, Rhiannon Bartels, Emma Saarloos, Blaycie Remme, Kianna Winter, Hallie Bork, Ava Sieve, Nardy Merida and Kylie Kindt.

SENIOR ATIHLETES of the Week

Makena Nelson

Sport: Cross Country Parents: Jodi and Corey Nelson What I like most about Cross Country: I love how our team is so close and supportive.

Other extracurricular activities/ **hobbies:** I enjoy reading and going on walks with my family. Favorite Class: Psychology



Cade Kracht

Sport: Football Parents: Mert and Bobbi Kracht What I like most about Football: Hanging out with my friends every day and getting to be a part of a team. Other extracurricular activities/ hobbies: Golf Favorite Class: Lifetime fitness

Sarah Stegenga

Sport: Tennis Parents: Craig & Anne Stegenga What I like most about Tennis: Spending time and making memories

Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Basketball, track, dance, Student Council, National Honor Society, yearbook, BPA, church youth group and CEO. Favorite Class: Spanish





Tori Serie

Sport: Volleyball Parents: Christal and Dan Serie What I like most about Volleyball: I like the atmosphere and the energy the game brings while playing alongside my

teammates Other extracurricular activities/ hobbies: Basketball, softball, National Honor Society, peer tutoring and choir. **Favorite Class:** Child Development





(507) 449-0335

H-BC volleyball/from page 1B _

boer added two kills and one block. Senior Brynn Rauk was 14-14

serving with one ace. Rauk also provided one kill and 15 set assists.

Sophomore Abbie Harris was 10 of 12 serving and had 12 set assists. Senior Grace Anderson went 12

of 14 serving with 12 digs. Sophomore Claire Knobloch added nine digs for the Patriots in the match.

SWC 3, H-BC 1

H-BC fell to Southwest Minnesota Christian 3-1 at home Monday,

Oct. 16. "In the first set the girls looked amazing," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

"Everything the team was doing was connecting and they were making smart choices."

The Patriots took the first set, winning 25-23 over the Eagles.

"In the last three sets for some reason we didn't stay as aggressive and gave them too many easy balls to come back at us," Zylstra said.

In the second set, H-BC fell 25-12, third set 25-17 and in set four they fell 25-16.

"I think it all boils down to confidence with our team. They've been in a slump for quite a few years and don't have belief in themselves that

they can win," Zylstra said. "But they've come so incredibly

far and do so many good things. I'm really proud of them."

Elbers had 15 kills, two blocks, was seven of 10 serving and had two digs. Bakken had five kills, two blocks,

was 13 of 14 serving with one ace and posted four digs.

Deelstra added six kills for the Patriots, one block and was seven of eight at the serving line.

Sammons had four kills in the match for the Patriots.

Rauk posted 16 set assists, was 15 of 18 serving with two aces, one kill and four digs.

Harris had 12 set assists, was seven of seven serving with four digs.

Spykerboer had two kills, one block and four set assists.

Car Herald HURCH

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

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

> **Luverne Christian Reformed Church** 605 N. Estey St., Luverne Office Ph. 283-8482: Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982 www.luvernecrc.com - office@luvernecrc.com Joe Steenholdt, 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 @ luvernecrc. 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, Oct. 19: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reading Buddies. Sunday, Oct. 22: 9 a.m. Worship service. No Sunday school and or Confirmation class. 5 p.m. Confirmation pictures/rehearsal/dinner. Monday, Oct. 23: Grace Notes deadline. Tuesday, Oct. 24: 7 a.m. Dorcas Circle meets. 9 a.m. Staff meeting. 1 p.m. GriefShare session. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reading Buddies. Wednesday, Oct. 25: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 3 p.m. Service at Poplar Creek. 3:30 p.m. Faithweavers. 6:30 p.m. Voices of Grace rehearsal. 7 p.m. Confirmation class for 6th and 7th graders. 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. Invite a Friend Song service; worship online as well (at els.org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

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

Friday, Oct. 20: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. Sunday, Oct. 22: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.10:50 a.m. Sunday school. 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, Oct. 24: 9:45 a.m. Bible study fellowship. 12 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Oct. 25: 5:30 p.m. Midweek Meal. 6:15 p.m. Senior High Youth. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Club and Junior High Youth. Thursday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew.

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

Wednesday, Oct. 18: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. NO CLASSES -MEA. 6:30 p.m. Organized prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Oct. 19: 8 p.m. NA meeting. Saturday, Oct. 21: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, Oct. 22: 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. Monday, Oct. 23: 6:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible study. Messenger deadline. Tuesday, Oct. 24: 1:30 p.m. Sewn in Faith. 7 p.m. Scouts. Wednesday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Prayer Chapel. No classes. 6:30 p.m. Organized Prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting.

First Presbyterian Church 302 Central Lane, Luverne

Ph. 283-4787; email: fpcemilie@gmail.com

Wednesday, Oct. 18: 9 a.m. Morning circle, 1:30 p.m. Afternoon circle, NO BELL CHOIR, NO CHANCEL CHOIR, 7:15 p.m. Deacon's meeting. Friday, Oct. 20: VISITOR Deadline. Saturday, Oct. 21: Presbytery meeting in Willmar. Sunday, Oct. 22: 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday school, 10:15 a.m. In-person Worship service 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. 23: 9 a.m. -Noon, Quilting group. Wednesday, Oct. 25: 5:30 p.m. Bell choir, 6:15 p.m. Chancel choir.

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

> **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: newlifecelebration@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

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

Sunday, Oct. 22: 9 a.m. Worship service at First Lutheran Church. 10 a.m. Sunday school. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @FirstLutheranValley Springs; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish. Wednesday, Nov. 1: 5-7 p.m. Soup supper at First Lutheran.

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

Sunday, Oct. 22: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship service at Palisade Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @PalisadeLC; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish. Wednesday, Oct. 11-Nov. 8: 9 a.m. Palisade quilting group will meet. All are welcome. Bring a friend. No experience necessary.

First Presbyterian Church 201 S. 3rd St., P.O Box 73, Beaver Creek Ph. 507-935-5025

email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Second Tuesday of each month, 7

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

p.m. Session meeting.

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. a available on Facebook and YouTube. Radio worship on KQAD Sundays at

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.

Called to stand with others amid their suffering

Dear church,

As Lutherans we are accustomed to holding tension between two truths. Thus, the ELCA denounces the egregious acts of Hamas, acts that have led to unspeakable loss of life and hope. At the same time the ELCA denounces the indiscriminate retaliation of Israel against the Palestinian people, both Christian and Muslim.

For the past week we have borne witness to the horrors of the escalating crisis between Israel and Hamas. We also watch a growing humanitarian crisis in Gaza as Israel blocks food, water, fuel and medical supplies and as airstrikes continue to cause unbearable civilian casualties ahead of a just-announced ground assault.

We see Israelis and families around the world in the agonizing wait for word about the fate of loved ones killed or taken hostage by Hamas. We are in anguish, grieving and praying for all people who are living in trauma, fear and

uncertainty. Among us are **Palestinian Lutherans** who are fearful for their families, their communities and their homeland. In our communities we have Jewish and Muslim neighbors, who are also facing the horrors of this crisis and its impact on their loved ones.

It is difficult to find words that suffice in the complexity of this moment, and in the web of relationships that bind us together, as church, with the **Evangelical Lutheran**

Built on A ROCK

By Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical **Lutheran Church in** America

Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and our interreligious partners. Yet God has called us to be a people who stand with others amid suffering.

We must also call a thing a thing. The power exerted against all Palestinian people — through the occupation, the expansion of settlements and the escalating violence must be called out as a root cause of what we are witnessing. We are committed to our long-standing accompaniment of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

The God who liberates us calls us to be a liberating witness. May it be so.

This is a letter written to the churches in the ELCA bu our Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. She is writing throughout the United States to think about and talk about what is happening in our world right now. I feel it is important to hear this and for each of us to make some prayer time for listening to God. How do we help people who are so conflicted over centuries? How do we as a country deal with a world that is conflicted about everything?

Submitted by Pastor Juanita Parker, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hills.

507.449.6000

Luverne, MN

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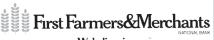












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Aukes probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF ROCK

PROBATE COURT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No. 67-PR-23-240

In Re: Estate of Wayne Arthur Aukes, a/k/a Wayne A. Aukes,

a/k/a Wayne Aukes,

Deceased

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

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of November, 2023, at 8:30 O'clock A.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named deceased, dated December 30, 2005, and for the appointment of Paul Aukes, whose address is 1635 191st Street, Luverne, Minnesota 56156, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

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

Dated: October 9, 2023

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

/s/ Terry Vajgrt District Court Judge

/s/ Natalie Reisch Court Administrator

(COURT SEAL)

(10-19, 10-26)

H-BC School Board meets Sept. 25

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671 Minutes Sept. 25, 2023

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 8:00 p.m. at the H-BC School District Board room, 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN.

Board members and Administration present were Bosch, Gehrke, Harnack, Helgeson, Rozeboom and Uittenbogaard. Superintendent Holthaus and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Rauk and Principal Kellnberger were absent.

Assigned Tim Bosch as Acting Clerk.

Motion by Bosch, second by Harnack, and carried to approve the agenda. Visitors to the meeting were Mavis Fodness (Rock County Star Herald) and Megan Klumper.

PATRIOT PRIDE:

Homecoming Week

MCA Student Success in SW MN COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:

Staff/Development-9/20/23, Personnel-9/20/23, Building/Grounds-9/21/23 Motion by Harnack, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve consent

-Minutes-09/11/2023

-Imprest Cash Report

-Treasurer Report as of 8/31/23

-Student Activity Account as of 8/31/23

Motion by Uittenbogaard, second by Bosch, and carried to approve setting 2023 pay 2024 School District Levy at the Maximum Amount allowed.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Harnack, and carried to approve setting Pay 2024 Truth in Taxation and Budget Hearing for 7 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2023.

Motion by Helgeson, second by Uittenbogaard, and carried to approve identifying Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day, October 9, 2023, as a non-school district holiday and holding a board of education regular meeting on that day.

Motion by Bosch, second by Harnack, and carried to approve entering a five year lease agreement for print/copy services and maintenance agree--

ments with Gordon Flesch Company. Motion by Rozeboom, second by Bosch, and carried to approve remove and replace fence along west side of football field property

DISTRICT NON ACTION ITEMS: -Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING:

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Regular Board meeting, Monday, October 9 Regular Board meeting, Monday, October 23

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

Time of Adjournment 8:36 p.m.

Tim Bosch, Acting Clerk

City of Luverne amends Ordinance No. 38

SUMMARY PUBLICATION ORDINANCE NO. 38, FOURTH SERIES AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF LAWFUL GAMBLING WITHIN THE CITY OF LUVERNE, MINNESOTA THE CITY OF LUVERNE DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SUMMARY. That a new Section of the City Code Chapter 117, Regulating Lawful Gambling is hereby created. The purpose of this summary is to inform the public of the intent and effect of the ordinance and to publish only a summary of the ordinance with the full ordinance being on file in the office of the City Clerk during regular office hours.

Chapter 117 of the City of Luverne Code of Ordinances as adopted shall consist of the following section titles:

117.01. ADOPTION OF STATE LAW BY REFERENCE 117.02. CITY MAY BE MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN STATE LAW 117.03. PURPOSE

States the purpose of this ordinance.

117.04. DEFINITIONS Definitions applicable to this section.

117.05. APPLICABILITY

States the forms of lawful gambling regulated.

117.06. LAWFUL GAMBLING PERMITTED States the grounds for lawful gambling.

117.07. COUNCIL APPROVAL

States lawful gambling shall not be conducted unless approved by the Council. 117.08. APPLICATION AND LOCAL APPROVAL OF PREMISES PERMITS States the grounds for approving or denying a permit under this section. 117.09. REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF LOCAL PERMIT

States the grounds for suspending or revoking of a license under this section. Also states the procedure to follow when a license has been suspended or revoked.

117.10. LICENSE AND PERMIT DISPLAY

States posting requirements. 117.11. NOTIFICATION OF MATERIAL CHANGES TO APPLICATION States the rule for notification of application changes.

117.12. DESIGNATED TRADE AREA States rules for lawful purpose expenditures.

117.13. RECORDS AND REPORTING

States the reporting requirements under this section. 117.14. HOURS OF OPERATION

States hour requirements.

117.15. PENALTY

States the penalties for violating this section. 117.16. SEVERABILITY

States the severability under this section.

117.17. EFFECTIVE DATE This ordinance becomes effective seven (7) days after its publication.

The complete text of Ordinance No. 38, Fourth Series, including the complete Code of Ordinances appended thereto, may be obtained at no charge from the City Clerk at City Hall, 305 E. Luverne St., Luverne, MN 56156, or from the City of Luverne website www.cityofluverne.org.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2023

(10-19)

Rock County regulates use of cannabis derived products Resolution No. 15-23

Title and Summary

Rock County Ordinance Regulating the Use of Cannabis and Cannabis Derived **Products in Public Places**

WHEREAS, the Rock County Commissioners are charged with protecting the public health and safety and wish to exercise such authority by regulating the use of cannabis and cannabis derived products in public places and places of public accommodation within Rock County, and

WHEREAS, by enacting 2023 Session Law, Chapter 63, H. F. No. 100 [hereinafter referred to "State Legislation"], the Minnesota Legislature enacted the adult-use cannabis law. Under that bill, the adult use, possession and personal growing of cannabis became legal August 1, 2023, and

WHEREAS, State legislation authorizes adoption of a local ordinance establishing a petty misdemeanor offense for public use of cannabis. See State Legislation Article 4, Sec. 19, Minn. Stat. 152.0263, Subd. 5, or successor statute.

WHEREAS, the County wishes to be proactive in protecting public health and safety by enacting regulations that will mitigate threats presented to the public by the public use of cannabis Rock County recognizes the risks that unintended access and use of cannabis products present to the health, welfare, and safety of youth and non-cannabis users in Rock County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THE ROCK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEREBY ORDAIN AND AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, ADDING A NEW CHAPTER AS FOLLOWS:

PUBLIC USE OF CANNABIS AND CANNIBIS DERIVED PRODUCTS IN PUBLIC **PLACES**

This Chapter shall be known and referenced as the Public Use of Cannabis and Cannabis Derived Products in Public Places Ordinance. **DEFINITIONS**

Except as may otherwise be provided or clearly implied by context, all terms shall be given their commonly accepted definitions. The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this ordinance, shall have the meanings ascribed to them except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

(A) Office. "Office" means the State of Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management created by the State Legislation.

(B) Adult-use cannabis flower. "Adult-use cannabis flower" means cannabis flower that is approved for sale by the office or is substantially similar to a product approved by the office. Adult-use cannabis flower does not include medical cannabis flower, hemp plant parts, or hemp-derived consumer products.

(C) Adult-use cannabis products. "Adult-use cannabis products" means a cannabis oduct that is approved for sale by the office or is substantially similar to a product approved by the office. Adult-use cannabis product includes edible cannabis products but does not include medical cannabinoid products or lower-potency hemp edibles. (D) Cannabis flower. "Cannabis flower" means the harvested flower, bud, leaves, and stems of a cannabis plant. Cannabis flower includes adult-use cannabis flower and medical cannabis flower. Cannabis flower does not include cannabis seed, hemp plant parts, or hemp-derived consumer products.

(E) Cannabis product. "Cannabis product" means any of the following:

(1) cannabis concentrate;

(2) a product infused with cannabinoids, including but not limited to tetrahydrocannabinol, extracted or derived from cannabis plants or cannabis flower; or (3) any other product that contains cannabis concentrate.

(F) Hemp derived consumer products.

(1) "Hemp derived consumer products" means a product intended for human or animal consumption, does not contain cannabis flower or cannabis concentrate, and: (i) contains or consists of hemp plant parts; or

(ii) contains hemp concentrate or artificially derived cannabinoids in combination with other ingredients.

(2) Hemp-derived consumer products does not include artificially derived cannabinoids, lower-potency hemp edibles, hemp-derived topical products, hemp fiber products, or hemp grain.

(G) Lower-potency hemp edible. A "lower-potency hemp edible" means any product that: (1) is intended to be eaten or consumed as a beverage by humans;

(2) contains hemp concentrate or an artificially derived cannabinoid; in combination with food ingredients;

(3) is not a drug;

(4) consists of servings that contain no more than five milligrams of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol, 25 milligrams of cannabidiol, 25 milligrams of cannabigerol, or any combination of those cannabinoids that does not exceed the identified

(5) does not contain more than a combined total of 0.5 milligrams of all other cannabinoids per serving;

(6) does not contain an artificially derived cannabinoid other than delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol;

(7) does not contain a cannabinoid derived from cannabis plants or cannabis flower;

(8) is a type of product approved for sale by the office or is substantially similar to a product approved by the office, including but not limited to products that resemble nonalcoholic beverages, candy, and baked goods.

(H) Public place. A "public place", means a public park or trail, public street or sidewalk, any enclosed, indoor area used by the general public, including, but not limited to, theaters, restaurants, bars, food establishments, places licensed to sell intoxicating liquor, wine, or malt beverages, retail businesses, gyms, common areas in buildings, public shopping areas, auditoriums, arenas, schools or other places of public accommodation. (I) Place of public accommodation. "Place of public accommodation" means a business, refreshment, entertainment, recreation, or transportation facility of any kind, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public."

(J) Exceptions to public place or place of public accommodation. "A public place" or "a place of public accommodation" does not include the following:

(1) a private residence, including the individual's curtilage or yard.

(2) a private property, not generally accessible by the public; or (3) on the premises of an establishment or event licensed to permit on-site

consumption of cannabis or cannabis derived products. (K) Smoking. "Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or

heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lighted or heated product containing cannabis flower, cannabis products, artificially derived cannabinoids, or hemp-derived consumer products. Smoking includes carrying or using an activated electronic delivery device for human consumption through inhalation of aerosol or vapor from the product.

This Ordinance shall be applicable within the legal boundaries of Rock County with the exception of those cites or townships that have adopted their own ordinance establishing standards for public use of cannabis.

PROHIBITED ACTS

(A) No person shall use cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products in a public place or a place of public accommodation unless the premises is an establishment or an event licensed to permit on-site consumption of adult-use cannabis flower and adult use cannabis products. See State Legislation Article 4, Sec. 19, Minn. Stat. 152.0263, Subd. 5, or successor statute. (B) No person shall vaporize or smoke cannabis flower, cannabis products, artificially derived cannabinoids, or hemp-derived consumer products in any location where the smoke, aerosol, or vapor could be inhaled by a minor. See State Legislation Article 1, Sec. 9 Minn. Stat. 342.09, Subd. 1(b) (9) or successor statute.

Subd. 1. Criminal Penalty. A violation of this ordinance shall be a petty misdemeanor having a fine payable up to \$300. Nothing in this ordinance prohibits the County from seeking prosecution for an alleged violation.

SEVERABILITY If any section or provision of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity will not affect other sections or provisions that can be given force and effect without the invalidated

section or provision. **EFFECTIVE DATE** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage

and publications as required by law. ADOPTED by the Rock County Board of Commissioners this 19th day of September,

/s/: Kyle Oldre

Effective:

ATTEST:

11/01/2021

County Administrator Introduced: 08/22/2023 Passed: 09/19/2023 Published: 10/19/2023

/s/: Sherri Thompson

Board Chairperson

Rock County Commissioners meet Sept. 5

Herreid Board Room Rock County Courthouse

9:00 A.M. Sept. 5, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Thompson with all Commissioners present. Also in attendance were County Administrator Kyle Oldre, Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum, County Attorney Jeff Haubrich and Star Herald Reporter Mavis Fodness

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to approve the September 05, 2023, County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Burger, to approve the August 22, 2023,

County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote. Mark Sehr, Engineer, requested approval to purchase (2) roll off containers to be utilized at the Transfer Station replacing (2) existing roll off containers. The total cost for the roll off containers is \$42,000 and the old containers will be used for dry storage if possible and/or be declared as surplus and will be sold. Motion by Reisch,

seconded by Overgaard, to approve the purchase, declared carried on a voice vote. Motion by Burger, seconded by Williamson, to authorize the Engineer to bid let SAP 067-030-016, the county wide crack saw and seal project with a bid

opening date of October 2, 2023, at 11:00 a.m., declared carried on a voice vote. The Engineer presented information regarding approval of a final contract payment to Duininck, Inc for \$138,980.48 for a number of mill/bituminous overlay projects on CSAH 5 and CSAH 6. The original contract amount was \$4,894,556.04 with the final contract at \$2,752,059.62, the project scope was changed from a stabilized full depth reclamation/bituminous project to mill/bituminous overlay project due to funding limitations. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Burger, to approve the final payment of \$138,980.48 to Duininck, Inc., declared carried on a voice

The Engineer informed the County Board that weed spraying in county road right of ways will begin as the bean harvest gets underway and that he is considering the purchase of (3) pup trailers for the department; presented as information only.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims; motion by Burger seconded by Reisch, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000

ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC \$6,131.01 FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-ADMIN FMR 6,491.45 MORRIS ELECTRONICS 25,115.17 NOBLES COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER 9,150.00 PEARSON BROTHERS INC. 50,398.36 RETROFIT COMPANIES, INC 11,535.80 ROCK COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER 3,821.26 SHORT-ELLIOTT-HENDRICKSON, INC 7,297.28 TRUENORTH STEEL 14,994.90 VIKING ELECTRIC LLC 3,718.88 57 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000 17.312.79 \$155,966.90

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report. Kurtz stated that ARPA funds have been distributed to Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water and Rock County Rural Water; Administrator Oldre added that ARPA funds given to Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water will be used for system improvements within Rock County only. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Williamson, to approve the Fund Balance report, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was in receipt of a 2024 Budget Summary which provided an estimate of funds needed to levy; no action was taken and the Preliminary Budget will need to set at the next meeting.

The County Board was in receipt of a request from the City of Luverne to participate in a Tax Abatement for the proposed Day Care facility; action was tabled until the next meeting.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson to accept a donation/gift of \$550,000 from the KAHR Foundation to repair costs to the Kahler Terrace and Tunnel annex of the Rock County Courthouse, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was informed of a resignation from Kelsey Maeschen, 4H Youth Development/Extension Educator; the University of Minnesota Extension will fill the vacant position.

The Administrator updated in the County Board on other activities:

•Bio business venture is on hold due to industry changes

 Attended a Housing Preservation seminar •Working with select Department Heads on budgets

•Working Emergency Management compliance Deputy Administrator Skattum informed that County Board of a number of resignations due to retirement and/or other reasons, job announcements and new employment orientations and the LIVE Wellness program; briefly discussed new leave policies enacted at the 2023 legislative session.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he attended the following meetings/events: City/County Liaison.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he attended the following meetings/events: Lineage Open House event, meeting with a resident regarding Cannabis licensing. Commissioner Overgaard stated that he attended the following meetings/events:

Lineage Open House event, city/county Liaison, and AMC Regional Extension. Commissioner Burger stated that he attended the following meetings/events: Southwest Health & Human Services union negotiations.

Commissioner Thompson stated that she attended the following meetings/events: no meetings to report.

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.

(10-19)

DEADLINE FOR LEGALS IS MONDAY AT 10 A.M.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Rock County Commissioners meet Sept. 19

Herreid Board Room Rock County Courthouse

Sept. 19, 2023

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Reisch, to approve the September 19, 2023 County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the September 05, 2023, County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to call a Public Hearing to order at 9:03 a.m. for the purpose of hearing comments regarding a proposed ordinance on the Public Use of Cannabis and Cannabis Derived Products in Public Places, declared carried on a voice vote. Attendance for the Public Hearing is as follows: City Luverne May Pat Baustian, City of Luverne Administrator Jill Wolf, City of Luverne Attorney Ben Vander Kooi, City of Hills Mayor Keith Elbers and Sioux Valley Electric Economic Development Director Brandon Lane.

The County Board briefly reviewed state legislation that legalized cannabis and that the new ordinance sets parameters designating where the product can be used. No comments were given or received. Motion by Williamson, seconded Reisch, to close the Public Hearing at 9:07 a.m., declared carried on a voice vote.

Evan Verbrugge, Sheriff, informed the County Board of vehicle he had found to replace his 2013 Chevy Tahoe police vehicle, however, the proposed vehicle was already sold before he could secure authorization. After discussion, motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to authorize the Sheriff up to \$75,000 to purchase a replacement vehicle with police package, declared carried on a voice vote.

Jen Theneman, Southwest Housing Partnership, present a program update; Southwest Housing Partnership covers 30 counties in southwest Minnesota. The County Board thanked Ms. Theneman for the update.

Wanda Jarchow, representing the Oral Health Taskforce presented a program update stating they have secured a mobile clinic dental truck to provide dental services to eligible clients for the past (2) years as local dentists are limited in accepting medical assistance clients. The mobile unit costs \$1,200 per trip and is in Luverne 1-day per month and 2-days per month in Worthington. The mobile unit was to be temporary while a building structure was built; as to date the structure is built but they are having trouble recruiting a dentist. Jarchow requested an additional \$10,000 from Rock County to continue the mobile clinic dental service. Motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

Mark Sehr, Engineer, requested authorization to bid let (2) box culvert projects in Mound Township with a bid letting date of October 16, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.; motion by Overgaard, seconded by Williamson, to approve, declared carried on a

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

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000

A & B BUSINESS INC	\$3,776.01
A.C.E. OF SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA	5,530.00
BREMIK MATERIALS, INC	3,060.04
CHS INC	21,193.11
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	6,925.00
ERICKSON ENGINEERING	2,501.50
JOHNSON CONTROLS	8,750.00
KETTERLING SERVICES INC	25,265.62
KRIS ENGINEERING INC	39,200.74
KUSTOM SIGNALS, INC	10,285.24
LIBERTY TIRE RECYCLING LLC	2,042.50
LUVERNE/CITY OF	8,711.16
LYON COUNTY LANDFILL	19,601.70
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	6,469.66
OPG-3 INC	2,189.00
SHREFFLER/LAWRENCE	2,200.00
STAPLES ENTERPRISES INC	4,532.19
63 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	19,754.14
TOTAL	\$191,987.61

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report; the Auditor/ Treasurer stated that she would be transferring funds that are left over bonds proceeds from completed projects to a Capitol Project fund to be utilized for existing building repairs instead of utilizing General Reserves. Motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the Fund Balance report, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Auditor/Treasurer informed the County Board that she is in receipt of a Rock Home Initiative application from Austin and Hannah Christensen for a new construction at 805 Ridgeview Road; Beaver Creek, Minnesota, parcel #13-0147-000. Motion Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to set a Public Hearing for December 12. 2023 at 5:00PM in the Herreid Board meeting room, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was in receipt of a 2024 Budget Summary indicating the amount of funds to levy. After considerable discussion, motion by Reisch, seconded by Williamson to set the levy at \$7,073,321, a 3.6% increase for 2024, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator presented a draft copy of the 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that identifies capital projects totaling 24,444,102 over the course of 5-years; presented as information only.

The County Board was in receipt of a tax abatement request from the City of Luverne for the development of a Child Care Facility: the following properties were identified for abatement: 20-2129-000, 20-1882-000, 20-0612-100, 20-1262-000. Motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to decline the abatement of taxes request, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator provided an update on the following building projects: •HVAC at Library – work began on 09/18/2023

•HVAC at Courthouse - Chiller installation scheduled to begin in October •Roof at Human Services - an evaluation was conducted and the results will be reviewed by the Building Committee

•Sofit structure at the Veterans Memorial Bldg - meeting with local contractor on 09/20/2023

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to authorize the purchase of (70) stackable chairs with a cost of \$12,679.80 to be paid from Capitol Projects, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Williamson, to approve Resolution No. 15-23, approving an Ordinance for Regulating the Use of Cannabis and Cannabis Derived Products in Public Places, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Reisch, to approve a Johnson Controls Building Maintenance contract for 1-year renewal with a zero cost increase, declared carried on a voice vote.

Deputy Administrator Skattum requested approval for the renewal of the 2024 insurance plans:

•MHC/Medica Group Health - 25.5% increase

•MN Group Life - 11% increase

•Dental Dental - 4% increase •Vision Insurance/Eye Med – 0% increase

•Long Term Disability - 0% increase Motion was declared carried on a voice vote.

Skattum also requested approval to introduce a new platform of ancillary/ voluntary benefits for Accident, Critical Illness, Hospital Insurance with Cigna and Short Term Disability Insurance with the Hartford; all plans offer competitive rates with lump sum benefits with Health Screnning/Wellness benefits as well. The new platform will streamline the benefit menu and the enrollment process; the new platform will replace future AFLAC and Colonial insurance elections ef-

fective 01/01/2024. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to authorize the

change with an effective date of 01/01/2024, declared carried on a voice vote. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Reisch, to approve the 2024 Cafeteria Contribution amount of \$878.00 for non-union employees, declared carried on a

The Administrator presented an update on the following activities: •Attended a meeting regarding Community Wellness sponsored by BCBS where they are looking to install circuit courts.

•Met with USDA Rural Development State Director Colleen Landkamer

•Coordinated a Mock OSHA inspection at the Highway Department, Transfer Station and Rural Water locations

•Notified NOAA regarding the low water aquifers in the area caused by the drought conditions; it was determined to place drought monitors in the area and monitor. With the updated monitor it adjusted the drought rating in our area from a 2 to a 3, which will be significant in applying for federal funds. Commissioner Reisch stated that he attended the following meetings/events:

AMC Fall Policy Committee Conference, Southwest Minnesota Opportunity Council. City/County Liaison.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he attended the following meetings/ events: A.C.E. Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, Rural Water and Soil & Water Conservation District.

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he attended the following meetings/ events: A.C.E. Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, Ag Society, City/County Liaison; also stated that the Elk Creek Solar project is scheduled to begin construction in 2025. Commissioner Burger stated that he attended the following meetings/events: n/a

Commissioner Thompson stated that she attended the following meetings/ events: A.C.E. Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, Southwest Regional **Development Commission.**

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.

CLASSIFIEDS Output Description: Output D

MOVING SALE

Hamann Household Moving Sale: Saturday, Oct. a.m. - 4 p.m. 601 West Warren Street, Luverne Household items: Kitchen, Canning, Depression Glass, Crystal, Dishes, Furniture, Bedframes & Dressers, , Vintage Items, Décor, Tools, Outdoor Furniture, Christmas Blowmolds, Old Toys, and a whole lot more. Please note that items will not be marked. All reasonable offers will be considered. Items are being sold as is and will be held only if paid in advance. No presale. Payment: Cash or (10.12-10.19)Venmo.

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

507-283-2333 (Star Herald)



Steve Fields

Minnesota Attorney

FIELDS

RENTALS

Mobile home for rent - Two bedroom; one bath. All appliances included; water and sewer included. Call 605-366-7695. (10.7-10.26)

MISCELLANEOUS

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EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is accepting applications for a head custodian. The head custodian must be able to obtain appropriate licensure/certification to operate a boiler/HVAC system integral to building operation and must be able to be flexible with daily schedules while providing a clean environment for learning. The formal job description can be obtained by calling the school office. The preference of the School District is the candidate is willing to obtain a bus driver license while also managing a bus garage where duties include general maintenance of district vehicles. Applications can be found on the school website at: https://www.ellsworthschoolsmn.org/staff/employment-opportunities.cfm Applications can be emailed Darcey Groen at darcey. groen@ellsworthschoolsmn.org (10.5-10.21)

EMPLOYMENT

Nobles County Community Services accepting applications **Eligibility** Specialist. Apply now for this exciting opportunity! career Starting wage: \$23.45/hour Applies program eligibility criteria to individual client requests for assistance with SNAP (food support), Cash Assistance, Healthcare, and other financial assistance programs. Must be able to independently research, comprehend and apply program policies and rules as intended for applicants. You can make a difference in our community by helping individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency! We offer flexible scheduling and telecommute options following an initial probationary period. Qualifications: High School diploma, minimum three years clerical, business or bookkeeping experience. Valid driver's license required. Previous experience in social services/human services agency preferred. Proficiency in a second language may be eligible for an extra \$1.00/hour. Excellent Benefit Package. APPLY TO: Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at www.co.nobles. mn.us for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. Deadline: Open until filled. EEO/AA

Employer

EMPLOYMENT

Nobles County Community Services is accepting applications for registered nurses. If you have a passion for public health and serving the community this could be the career for you! Join our public health service unit and you'll be part of a skilled, caring, and knowledgeable professional team whose talents and contributions promote, strengthen and protect the health of individuals, families, and communities in Nobles County. Working in programs such as: Family Home Visiting for prenatal and post-partum women and newborns, Child and Teen Check Ups, and Public Health Preparedness. You can make a difference! Registered Nurse: performs professional nursing duties to ensure administration and coordination of established public health programs based upon the needs identified when working with individuals and families in the community. Weekends and Holidays We offer flexible off! scheduling and telecommute options following initial probationary period. Proficiency in a second language may be eligible for an extra \$1.00 per hour. Excellent Benefit package. **APPLY TO:** Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at www.co.nobles. mn.us for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. Deadline: Open until filled. EEO/AA (10.12-10.28)Employer

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

CITY OF LUVERNE **PUBLIC WORKS WORKER**

The City of Luverne is accepting applications for a full-time Public Works Worker Position. Duties include routine to semi-skilled manual and maintenance work with city parks, grounds and buildings. Full-time, union position, starting salary range of \$18.25-\$22.71/hour (DOQ) and excellent benefits package.

Minimum requirements include: High School Diploma or equiv., one year of experience in equipment operation and maintenance, valid Minnesota Class B driver's license within 12 months of hire, 35-mile response area requirement must be met within 6 months of hire, satisfactory driving record, and must meet Federal DOT regulations.

Visit www.cityofluverne.org/employment for further details and information on how to apply.

Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2023 The City of Luverne is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.





City of Luverne CAREER OPPORTUNITY **Liquor Store Manager**

City of Luverne seeking Liquor Store Manager. Min. qualifications: Associates in business administration, business management, accounting, marketing or related field OR 4 years' experience managing a retail sales business or an equivalent of training and experience, 3 years supervisory experience, must be available to work a variety of days, evenings, weekends and holidays, and computer experience. **Desirable**: Exp. in retail sales, inventory management and promotion, supervision of employees and considerable direct customer contact. Experience in quantity purchasing, projecting revenue and managing retail finances highly desirable. Salaried position based upon experience and qualifications, starting annual salary range \$58,073-\$72,737.

Visit www.cityofluverne.org/employment for further details and information on how to apply. Applications must be received

by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023 The City of Luverne is an Affirmative Action/



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(10.12-10.28)







Just a thought about a new wildlife management area

By Scott Rall

As is part of my normal pheasant hunting opening weekend activities, I made the drive to the 2023 Governor's Pheasant Hunting Opener event in Owatonna.

This area is not necessarily known as the hotbed of pheasant hunting opportunities in our great state, but there were about the same number of birds harvested by attendees as any other events of its kind since 2012. So I guess you might need to think of a quick swing through Steele County next time.

There are all kinds of interesting tours, events and all-around showcasing of the area's attractions and things that make this community very special. I was very impressed by their historic downtown area. The weather was pretty bad on Friday when I arrived, and some of the events had been moved inside.

I went through the list of my options and landed on a special land dedication to be held on Friday afternoon. Steele County has a number of wildlife management areas but the Somerset Wildlife Management Area was pretty special in its own right.

So, what makes this one special? Bisected by the Straight River, Somerset WMA was an early part of Minnesota's suite of public lands, dating back to the Save the Wetlands program in the 1950s in Minnesota. It was created in 1957 and dubbed WMA #157. It was later named for a nearby township.

Just ponder that the first of multiple transactions on this wildlife habitat



THE **O**UTDOORS

By Scott Rall **Outdoors columnist**

Many different funding

sources were used over the

years, but each one took an

work" to procure the funds.

attending a special land ac-

quisition that goes beyond

all of the speakers and the

messages they share. Why

is when conservation has a

success almost nobody nor-

mally ever hears about it?

that gets done flies below

would vote to renew the

Land and Legacy amend-

ment when it comes up for

renewal if they had heard

about all the great things

plished with these special

would be just about every-

nizations work with either

and Wildlife Service or the

acquire these import acres

zens regardless if you are a

Every Minnesotan

benefits from clean wa-

ter, reduced soil erosion,

wildlife populations, and

pollinators like bees and

decreased flooding, robust

let's not forget the humble

butterflies. I would love to

have a special land dedica-

tion for each and every one

the United States Fish

Minnesota Department

of Natural Resources to

for the benefit of all citi-

hunter or not.

dedicated funds? I'm sure it

Many different orga-

that have been accom-

the radar. How many folks

Almost all of the good work

There is one aspect of

active partner to "do the

complex date all the way back to 1957. This is 66 years ago and only a few years after the Wildlife Management Area program started in the state. Piece by piece and inch by inch, this complex has grown to over 440 acres.

In the land of conservation, large parcels excel. Larger contiguous parcels have a larger wildlife carrying capacity than the same number of acres split into numerous parcels.

This has much to do with the fact that nest predators have a harder time finding the nests and depleting the hatch in large connected spots. Strip habitat like a buffer along a stream is easily traversed, and nesting success is much lower.

The fact that this tract is made up of several different purchases over 66 years is a testament to the folks doing the habitat work in Steele County. Building habitat complexes can take decades, and the Minnesota Pheasants Incorporated, not affiliated with Pheasants Forever, along with members of the Isaac Walton League, get a lot of credit for the work getting done here. I just wish there were more folks willing to give of their time and talent to protect the natural resources we all cherish in Minnesota.

Let's not forget even for one minute that citizenowned lands make up less than 2 percent of the land base in most southern counties of Minnesota. Even with conservation successes like Somerset WMA, we still have a long way to go to protest our water and the critters that live on these lands.

of these gems of natural

resources spread out all

across the state of Minne-

There is one other message I would like to share with you today, and it is an important one to me. Regardless of your political persuasion, conservation needs us all. I will give Governor Walz a tip of the hat for the conservation spending in the past legislative session. The highest on record, if my research is correct.

He made this commitment from the podium in Worthington, Minnesota, the host town for 2022. that conservation, hunting, and the great outdoors in Minnesota would see significant funding increases. This has absolutely happened.

The governor and I will never ever see eye to eye on many issues, but the pheasant hunting opener is one of those days where you can just enjoy for one day the lifestyle many of us cherish with a smile and an out-held hand.

Scott Rall, Worthington, is a habitat conservationist, avid hunting and fishing enthusiast and is president of Nobles County Pheasants Forever. He can be reached at scottarall@ gmail.com.



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