



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, October 20, 2022

City hires Wolf as new administrator

By Lori Sorenson

Jill Wolf of rural Adrian will be Luverne's next city administrator, according to action at a special council meeting Tuesday night.



Wolf, who was director of Luverne's economic development authority from 2004 to 2009, was one of four finalists considered for the job held by John Call who retires in December.

In her application letter to Luverne city officials, she spoke fondly of her time in Luverne working with Call and more recently having him as mentor for her role as Adrian city administrator since 2019.

"The city of Luverne is an exceptional community with superior infrastructure, excellent education opportunities, superior health care and amazing amenities," Wolf said.

"I would love the opportunity to continue to enhance the opportunities in the community, allowing future generations to continue to 'love the life.'"

Call formally announced his retirement at the May 24 city council meeting.

"The last 17 years in Luverne have been the highlight of my 35-

Jill Wolf/continued on page 14



Road Closed signs block off the north end of the Highway 75 construction zone Monday morning at the Dodge Street intersection near school.

Construction affects Halloween; Trunk 'N Treat moves to school

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne's Main Street has resembled a freeway of heavy truck traffic and numerous other vehicles this week as motorists are detoured away from Highway 75 construction.

Among other things affected by the

detour is the Luverne Chamber's annual Trunk 'n Treat Halloween event that typically packs the downtown blocks of Main Street with hundreds of costumed trick-or-treaters stopping at decorated vehicles on each side of the street.

This year, the event will move to the Luverne Public Schools parking lot. School staff are still determining which parking lot it will be in. The Trunk 'n Treat event will be from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 31. No registration is required.

Rock County land sale at \$19,700/acre highest in state

By Mavis Fodness

The highest valued farmland sale in Minnesota took place this year in Rock County.

The sale, \$19,700 per acre for the unimproved parcel, topped the previous highest sale in Rock County when a similar unimproved Clinton Township parcel sold for \$19,000 in 2017.

Auctioneer Randy Buntjer of Ellsworth organized the sale of the 149-acre parcel in Clinton

Township for the Esterly Revocable Trust. Total price for the parcel was \$2.9 million.

A series of fortunate events coincided for the Aug. 19 sale that set the state record, he said, one being that the parcel is unique to the area.

"You don't see much farmland come up on the (public auction) market," Buntjer said.

He said continued high commodity prices, low interest rates

and the parcel's rich soils also combined to increase bids to the final sale price.

The sale for the property three miles east of Hills on Hwy. 270 drew the interest of 80 people who attended the August sale, which is more than the average number at a land sale. Three bidders vied for the property in the 20-minute auction.

Rock County Assessor Rachel Jacobs is anticipating the final

recording of the Clinton Township sale coming into her office by the end of the year. The sale may be a factor in determining local farmland market values in 2024.

Jacobs, whose job is to value and assess real estate and personal property sold within the county, tracks real estate and market sales that occur each year from Oct. 1 through Sept. 30. The market val-

Land sale/continued on page 14

Moving experience for students

House moved to neighborhood lot for high school trades class project

By Mavis Fodness

The "classroom" for nine students in Darrel Van Aartsen's vocational education class arrived on East Dodge Street in Luverne last week.

The house, formerly the Real Estate Retrievers building, was moved from South Highway 75 to the residential neighborhood on Thursday, Oct. 12, where the high school students will remodel the structure back to a family dwelling.

Seniors Trenton Carson and Josh Evans are two of VanAartsen's students.

Both said they are interested in a vocational career, not in pursuing four-year degrees, after they graduate from high school this spring.

"I wanted some construction experience because I like working with people," Carson said.

Since early September, the students have met a lot of people and learned about the different trades involved in moving a house to a new location.

The students worked with city of Luverne officials on the design of the four-bedroom home. They used a computer-aided design program and each designed a floor plan for the basement, main floor and upstairs.

They've met the workers who dug the new basement and the concrete workers who set up the forms for the concrete foundation.

The day after the house move, the students were calculating the yardage of fill material needed to level the yard before building the new oversized



Berghorst & Sons of Hull, Iowa, moves the former Real Estate Retrievers office from South Highway 75 across town to a vacant lot on East Dodge Street Wednesday morning, Oct. 12.

Livestreamed candidate forum Oct. 20 for state rep, city council

By Lori Sorenson

The Rock County Star Herald will host a candidate forum at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, in council chambers of Luverne City Hall.

At 2 p.m. candidates for Ward 2 Luverne City Council will answer questions pertaining to duties of that position. Incumbent Kevin Aaker and challenger Mert Kracht are seeking election to that seat.

At 2:45 p.m. candidates for Minnesota House of Representatives will answer questions. Incumbent Joe Schomacker, R-Luverne, is facing challenger Pat Baustian who running on the DFL ticket for that seat in the House.

Prior to each forum, a coin flip will determine who answers the first question first, and after that they'll alternate who goes first. Responses will be limited to two minutes with one-minute rebuttals if requested.

The forum will be livestreamed through the city of Luverne's LuvTV where it will be archived on the city's website for future viewing.

A link to the city's LuvTV site will be available through the Star Herald's home page, www.star-herald.com where election coverage is compiled in a single location with links to previous information about local races so far in the 2022 election.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Atlas sets dates for distribution

Atlas Ministries accepts donations for Rock County One Warm Coat from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10 to 7 Thursdays, and from 10 to 4 Saturdays at Redeemed Remnants.

Donations can also be left in the Luverne Elementary School commons during normal school hours.

Distributions dates are from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. Nov. 10, and from 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 12.

Accepted are new or gently used, clean winter wear, including coats, hats, gloves, boots, scarves and snowpants. Call Destiny Ripka at 507-220-0030.

'Rock the Aqua' event Oct. 21

"Rock The Aqua" free area-wide youth event is from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, at the Luverne Aquatics and Fitness Center for grades 9-12. The event, which includes swimming, door prizes and pizza, is sponsored by Rock the Edge and the Substance Free Coalition of Rock, Nobles, and Pipestone Counties. Call 507-227-1978 with questions.

Food distribution is Oct. 20

New Life Celebration Church's third Thursday monthly food giveaway is at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at the Atlas building at 101 W. Maple St. in Luverne.

Enter from Maple Street and stay along the west side of the building. Parking lot opens at 3 p.m. Do not block the Redeemed Remnants parking lot, intersection or alley entrance. Food will be loaded into vehicles, which exit via the alley going west. Call 507-283-8963 or 507-283-4366 with questions.

Rock County Library hosts 'Zombie Appreciation Day'

The Rock County Library will host Zombie Appreciation Day Friday, Oct. 21, with a zombie scavenger hunt and zombie costume contest.

The event starts at 10 a.m. with a zombie story time, followed by come-and-go zombie activities from 2 to 4 p.m. These include spooky cookie decorating, Frankentoy crafts and zombie trivia.

Call 507-449-5040 with questions, or email rock-countystaff@gmail.com.

Shoebbox collection begins Oct. 20

Operation Christmas Child Shoebbox collection week is Nov. 14-21. Boxes can be ordered online at samaritanpurse.org. Boxes may also be picked up at the American Reformed Church in Luverne (south door) beginning Thursday, Oct. 20, and dropped back to the church during collection week.

Call Edna Buys, 507-227-7169 or Charla Sandbulte, 507-227-1722, for more information.

Food Shelf evening hours

The Rock County Food Shelf is now open for an additional evening shift from 5 to 6 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of the month. Call Mary at 507-227-5548 or Katie at 507-227-3531.

UMC community meal is Oct. 26

The United Methodist Church will host its Wednesday night free community meal at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26. A pick-up option is available by calling 507-283-4529.

Fall servant event Oct. 23

St. John's and Zion Lutheran church women in Rock County will participate in the Oct. 29 LWML Fall Servant event, "Sharing Your Food with the Hungry," at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Marshall. Attendees will support the Marshall Food for Kids program and Birth Right, with donated diapers (size newborn, 1 and 2) and wipes and new or gently used, blankets, onesies, swaddlers and sleepers. To carpool, contact Linda Wenzel, 507-220-8194.

Four candidates seek election for two open seats on Beaver Creek City Council

By Lori Sorenson

Four people are seeking election to two open seats on the Beaver Creek City Council.

Council members Jeff Dysthe and Pat Bender did not file for

re-election, and Heidi Freese, Joe Conger, Jacob Conger and Madison Conger filed for their open seats.

Mayor Josh Teune is running unopposed for re-election. The Star Herald reached out to

the candidates for information about themselves, why they're seeking election to the council, and what they see as important for Beaver Creek.

Following are their responses, edited slightly for grammar and spelling.



Jacob Conger

How long have you lived in the community, what do you do for a living, and who are your family?

I grew up in Beaver Creek and have lived here my whole life other than while I was gone serving in the military.

I run my own mobile mechanic business based out of Beaver Creek. My wife, Madison Conger, and I are expecting our first child around the beginning of the year.

Why are you seeking election to the Beaver Creek City Council?

I grew up in this community and it is my home. When I started my business, the people of this community played a big role in supporting me.

When I was homesick on my first deployment, the people of this community sent care packages and letters and even went as far as driving around and taking pictures of the town to make me feel closer to home.

The people of Beaver Creek have given me so much over the years, and I want to give back.

What would be your strengths as a city leader?

My strength as a city leader would be helping make responsible decisions for the city. And by helping make decisions to maintain and make the most out of the city's equipment.

What do you see as the primary challenges facing the community?

I believe Beaver Creek could grow by population and by helping each other in times of need.



Madison Conger

How long have you lived in the community, what do you do for a living and who are your family?

I moved to Beaver Creek in 2018 from California with my now husband Jacob Conger. I run customer experience for a company in Sioux Falls that builds and maintains water towers.

My husband and I are expecting our first baby in January 2023 and we couldn't be more excited.

Why are you seeking election to the Beaver Creek City Council?

Since moving here I have always wanted to be a part of the community. I know it's a little unconventional to run with your significant other, but with a little one on the way, we want to provide the best community for him and the children of Beaver Creek's future.

What would be your strengths as a city leader?

In my current job, I am known as the voice of the customer.

I play the middle man between my company and city officials all over the United States. I believe I could apply that to my position on the council and be a voice for the community.

What do you see as the primary challenges facing the community?

I would love to see more opportunities for Beaver Creek to grow, whether it be by population or town events. I love our small town and I want what's best for it.

Joe Conger

How long have you lived in the community, what do you do for a living and who are your family members?

I have lived in Beaver Creek all of my life. I own and operate a small trucking company based in Beaver Creek. Mandy is my wife, and we have three kids, Austin Cameron and Kaitlin.

Why are you seeking election to the Beaver Creek City Council?

To serve and help improve our community.

What would be your strengths as a city leader? The experience I have along with the ability to lead.

What do you see as the primary challenges facing the community?

Beaver Creek is a great town. There is a lot potential for growth. We need to help the town grow.



Heidi Freese

How long have you lived in the community, what do you do for a living and who are your family members?

I have lived in Beaver Creek for two years. Our children are grown and my family now consists of me, my husband and my mother-in-law. I teach eighth-grade language arts at George McGovern Middle School in Sioux Falls.

Why are you seeking election to the Beaver Creek City Council?

I absolutely love Beaver Creek. Moving here was the best decision we've made. Because of this, I want to do whatever I can to help the community. I want to make sure that Beaver Creek continues to be the safest, best environment for everyone to live in.

What would be your strengths as a city leader?

I have been in the education field for 29 years. I make decisions

constantly at my job that affect many people. Those decisions are made for the well-being of others. I also have to deal with difficult situations regularly. I

believe this is a strength. I think another strength is my age. I'm at a point in my life where I can devote time to the community. Our children are grown, so this gives me more time to give back to my town.

What do you see as the primary challenges facing the community?

As our town grows, I feel like it's important to manage that growth. As an educator, I see how important it is to have the facilities needed to educate our students.

Anytime growth happens, there are challenges that go along with it. What I have experienced in Beaver Creek is that the community works hard to make it a great place to live and thrive. I hope to be part of that continued practice.



#TellUsTuesday Results

Scan Here to Vote for this Week's Survey!



School Board Interviews Are Now Online-Have You Watched Them?

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Yes, I have watched all of them | 31% |
| Yes, I have watched some of them | 25% |
| Not yet, but I plan to | 28% |
| No, not interested | 16% |

Highest land sale price in Minnesota/continued from page 1

ues are used to determine the county's tax capacity used by local government entities to determine levy allocations. Increasing market values are tied to property tax increases.

However, not all sales are used to determine taxability within the county.

Sales need to be 'arm's length'

During her Oct. 4 report to county commis-

sioners Jacobs explained the process she's implemented.

She or one of three appraisers in her office verify each land and personal property sale.

Only those sales considered "arm's length" are used in the state's market assessment process.

"They are a good depiction of the market and that is what an 'arm's length' sale is — none of the par-

ties are related to each other," she said. "There's all sorts of rejection reasons."

Topping the state's list of 31 possible rejections is the "relative sale," in which family members purchase-land or personal property from each other.

Often these sales are private and prices are under current market values.

Jacobs said even in "relative sales" where the

current market price is paid and/or purchased at public auction, the sale is still not considered arm's length.

The second most common assessment rejection in Rock County is "partial interest" sales, in which one business partner sells his or her interest in a jointly owned parcel.

To be included as a farmland sale, the parcel must be for ag use and be larger than 34.5 acres.

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Five candidates seek election for two open seats on Hills City Council

By Mavis Fodness

Two seats are up for election Nov. 8 on the Hills City Council.

Incumbents Alan Leenderts and Vickie Buschwitz filed for re-election to the four-year seats. They are

challenged by Brian Kraayenhof, Cory Metzger and Dusty Seachris.

The Star Herald recently sent questionnaires to the candidates asking two questions:

1.) Why did you run

for or seek re-election to a position on the Hills City Council?

2.) List experiences that will be helpful in fulfilling the position's duties.

3.) What do you think are the primary challenges

facing your community and how will you lead your city through these challenges?

Following are their responses, which have been edited for spelling and grammar:

Vickie Buschwitz

Buschwitz is seeking re-election to the Hills City Council. She and her husband,

Cory, have lived in Hills for 17 years. The couple has two sons who attend Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary School.

1. I am seeking re-election on the city council because I am passionate about keeping our small-town values, along with utilizing Hills' other assets of our high quality school system, Hills Rez Park, city park and ball fields, and a sense of pride in our town.

2. I am the current president of the Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary PTO and previous secretary. I am also a member of the Luverne Area Community Foundation — Hills Grant Fund and have been on the city council since 2018.

3. I feel our current challenges are child care and housing. We need additional child care to keep young families staying in our community as well as bringing new families into Hills. There is work happening, but more will need to be done at all younger age levels. Limited housing opportunities cause us to be overlooked. Homeownership has shown to strengthen communities, foster civic pride and help to enable a stable living environment. To enhance growth here in town, we need to invest public and private funds into existing homes and land to provide quality homes for all generations.

Alan Leenderts

Leenderts is seeking re-election to the Hills City Council, a position he's held for 16 years. Leenderts has lived in Hills for 45 years. He and his wife, Bonnie, have three grown children and six grandchildren.

1. I am seeking re-election to the Hills City Council to maintain our low tax base and still maintain the service the city of Hills needs to provide. I would also like to follow through with several projects the city is currently involved in: The day care facility in which we are giving three individuals the opportunity to start their own business — day care has become a

need in town — and be involved in the process of maintaining our aging infrastructure.

2. I have been a small business owner for 30 years and involved in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church as trustee, vice president and soon to start my second term as president of our congregation.

3. Challenges include keeping taxes affordable with the rising cost of services — every year the cost of police protection was a big increase we are dealing with. We need to find a way to recruit business to Main Street — bring a convenience store to town.

All of these challenges are going to be made easier if we can increase our tax base, which is done by adding business and housing. It is always an ongoing discussion on how to do this. We started this year by providing an opportunity on Main Street with the day care facility.

Infrastructure is budgeted every year and will continue if I am re-elected. Hills is basically landlocked for huge expansion projects, but we will continue to investigate opportunities that come our way. If I am re-elected, I will continue to serve the city to the best of my abilities.

Brian Kraayenhof

Kraayenhof is challenging for one of two seats up for election on the Hills City Council. He has lived in Hills for 20-plus years. He is married to Darla (Haak), who was born and raised in Hills.

1. The reasons why

I am running for city council is because there is a need to let the residents know what the city council discusses at their meetings. Since the loss of the Hills Crescent, public knowledge of what is discussed is not easily accessible. I would like to get the information out to the public as it should be.

I would also like to see if there is a way to improve not only the first impression of Hills but to clean up some of the run-down properties, look at options to improve the Rez and the city park so people will use it and enjoy them more. I would also like to attract a store to carry convenience items because during the day, after school, and after events there is no place in town for the public to go. I would listen to the public

and welcome their input on matters that Hills faces.

2. I am a retired member of the Hills Fire Department, worked as a new construction plumber and is currently the maintenance supervisor at the Tuff Memorial Home for the past six years. I have also served on his church's consistory for nine years.

3. The toughest challenges will be to improve and keep Hills a good community that people will be proud to live in.

Dusty Seachris

Seachris is challenging for one of two seats available on the Hills City Council. He and his wife, Missy, have an 8-year-old son, Remington, and a 4-year-old daughter, Talia. Both Chris and Missy are graduates of Hills-Beaver Creek High School. Chris grew up in Beaver Creek and has lived in Hills since 2003, with a few years in Luverne in between.

1. I have decided to run for city council because

I believe the people of the community are in need of more outdoor recreation opportunities for the youth and adults as well.

2. Being an avid outdoorsman, I have vast knowledge of the outdoor activities in our area and many ideas to make them more accessible and enjoyable for our community. I have a lot of support from members of the community to make plans to improve both the city park and the Rez park to allow both young kids and adults more opportunities to utilize the resources we already have.

3. Hills has many assets that attract people from around the area to come and visit. I believe we can use that and build on it as well to make it even better. Many of the families in Hills have great ideas for what can be done by our city officials, and I would be honored to be able to talk to everyone, get their ideas, and be part of making good things happen!

Cory Metzger

Metzger is running for one of two seats up for election on the Hills City Council. Metzger grew up on the farm three miles southwest of Hills and have lived in town for three years. He and his wife, Ashley, have a

7-year-old daughter, Chloe.

1. I am running for council because my wife and I see ourselves growing old in Hills, and I am a prideful person and take pride in our town and want to be a part of taking care of it and helping it grow.

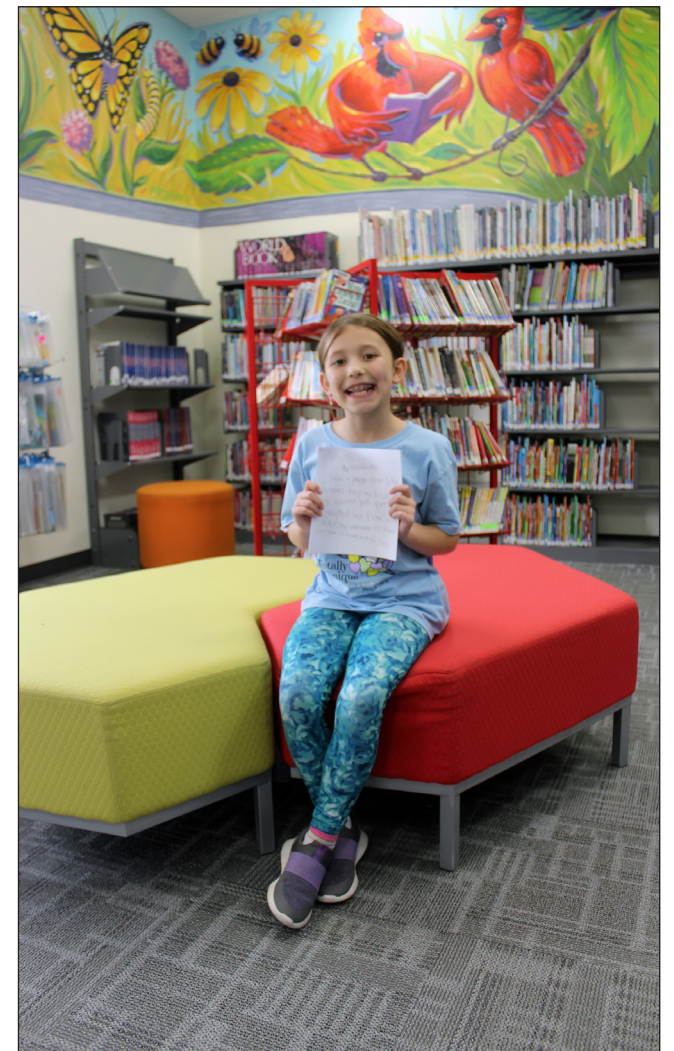
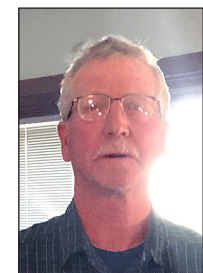
The more I observe Hills, the more I notice it is far from the town I remember as a kid, fewer businesses, houses and yards not being taken care of very well. That inspired me to try and help make some changes.

2. My former military experience and my current career have made me an open-minded person who loves hearing ideas and taking suggestions. I feel I am a people's person who is very approachable. I also like to do my research when it comes to anything. I feel not being too proud to ask for help or even reach out to other towns for advice or suggestions is a key for any council member.

3. Some of the larger challenges facing our city I feel are how and where do we grow? How do we attract businesses and good, blue-collar families to move to Hills? How do we inspire the citizens of Hills to take more pride in their houses, yards and in the town? I have no answers on how I would go about addressing these challenges at this very moment as I would need to be on the council, get the lay of the land, see if these issues are already something they are looking into or not, and what I need to do to get the ball rolling. However, these are the things on the top of my personal list and would be my top priorities.

Hills is a great place to live. We have a great community of caring people for the most part that come together when needed. We need to keep that going and even take it further. We need people to buy into our community and to be on the fire department, other committees and groups that are for Hills not because they have to but because they want to, because they care. Like the old saying goes, "It takes a village."

I want the best for this town and its people and would do everything I can to help. Serving on the city council just might be the best place to start.



Mavis Fodness photo/1020 Authors Wanted

Noel Henrichs, 9, holds her book, "Yoko, the Sweet Puppy Dog," which she wrote and assembled into a three-page book. Henrichs' book is the inspiration behind a local youth authors collection that Rock County Librarian Calla Jarvie wants to assemble and lend out to patrons. Submissions from youth ages 18 and younger can be dropped off at the library.

Library seeks young authors; submitted original works will be placed on loan

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County librarian Calla Jarvie is looking for local youth authors.

She is collecting original writings from youth ages 18 and younger. The collection will be available for checkout by library patrons.

"If my library put my book in the library, I would have died of happiness," Jarvie said.

Pages of the submissions will be laminated and placed in a three-ring binder.

"Hopefully we fill many binders," she said.

The inspiration for collecting young authors' works comes from 9-year-old Noel Henrichs of Luverne.

Henrichs returned a library book recently. Tucked inside was a story she wrote, "Yoko, The Family Dog," stapled together in a three-page book.

"She likes to be crazy," Henrichs said of the main character, who is based off the family's adopted dog. "She's black and white with an ear that stands straight up."

Jarvie found Henrichs' book, and the idea for sharing local youth authors' works was developed.

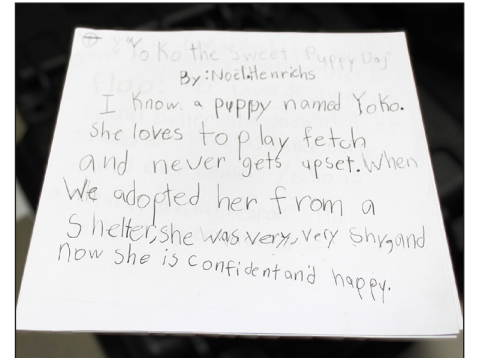
Henrichs already has an original book available at her school, Luverne Elementary School.

"I wrote a book in second grade and gave it to Mrs. (Tina) Petronek, and she put it in the library," Henrichs said.

For the local library, youth authors can make multiple submissions. Henrichs is working on a second story involving Max, a dog the family took care of for another family.

Henrichs is the daughter of Cody and Nicole Henrichs, Luverne.

Submissions can be dropped off to the Rock County Library or emailed to Jarvie at calla.jarvie@co.rock.mn.us



The First Presbyterian Church, Luverne

Supporting Ukrainian people in a mission worship service
at 10:15 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 23.

Yakov Daniko, a Ukrainian pastor, Sioux Falls, SD
Speaking on people's needs & local opportunities to help.

Special music by Ukrainian Youth Choir

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Contact information: Rev. Dr. Val Putnam 507-283-4787
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Volunteering at thrift store provides education ... and surprises

I volunteer at Redeemed Remnants and you should, too.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

Half the fun of unpacking donations is playing the game I call 'What do you think this might be?'

Redeemed Remnants is a thrift store ministry of ATLAS of Rock County. It's located a block south of Main Street in the former Luverne Kawasaki building.

I think volunteering to work the store's back door is the most fun because opening each donation box is like opening a Christmas surprise. "What's in this box?"

Cars, vans, pickups – even trailers pull up to the drop-off door bringing everything from lamps, to shoes, to boxes of ornaments, to used undies, to plates, to dog dishes, to tablecloths and everything else.

One twenty-something young man observed, "I've never met people so happy to take all of your crap." The same young man entered the front door and said, "Wow, nice store!"

That's what the volunteers and staff at Redeemed Remnants do – they turn "your crap" (which it is not, by the way) into the stuff for sale in "a nice store."

Half the fun of unpacking donations is playing the game I call "What do you think this might be?"

Last week I learned that what I thought was the world's largest garlic press was actually a potato ricer used to make lefse. (Who knew?)

Sometimes staff and volunteers try to guess the exact number of cut glass pickle dishes that still remain to be donated in Rock County. (Current guess: thousands.)

We laugh ourselves to

tears collecting white elephant gifts for the upcoming staff Christmas party.

"Perhaps the scarecrow made from a mop head would suit her? No? Then how about the green Santa bear? The Lawrence Welk album set? The deer-drinking-from-a-stream tapestry?"

Of course the list of "really good" things for sale at Redeemed Remnants is too long to cover. We (sometimes) have new Vans shoes, lovely home decor, Luverne Cardinal clothing, winter hats and coats and boots, jewelry, crafts, linens, books ... it's endless.

But the "stuff" at Redeemed Remnants is actually not that important compared to the camaraderie shared by staff and volunteers.

If you're looking for a fun way to get out of the house a few hours a week, and you like coffee and homemade bars, try out volunteering at Redeemed Remnants.

You might be surprised by what's in the next box.

Have voting questions? We have answers (to questions we posed to candidates)

Find them on our printed pages and on our home page at www.star-herald.com

We at the Star Herald take seriously our role in educating voters as they navigate their options for the Nov. 8 General Election.

In the Luverne School District, voters will choose school board members from a crowded ballot of 18 candidates, and residents in Ward 2 of the City of Luverne will choose one of two candidates seeking to represent them on the Luverne City Council.

Voters in the cities of Hills and Beaver Creek will also decide contested races on their respective city councils, and all Rock County voters will have choices for state and federal elected officials.

The Star Herald has been following these races, questioning the candidates on pertinent matters, and recording their answers in print and in videos.

All but one of the 18 school board candidates were video re-

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

corded in late September and shared on our website.

This week we feature candidates for the Hills and Beaver Creek city races in the paper.

Last week we featured candidates in Luverne's Ward 2 race and in our district of Minnesota's House of Representatives in the paper, and the four of them will also participate in Thursday afternoon's candidate forum in Luverne City Hall, livestreamed on the city's Luverne TV at www.cityofluverne.org/luvtv.

It takes effort for our little news team to chase down candidates in contested races and get their information to readers, but it's

important work.

And we hope our readers are paying attention, because voting is important work.

To review what you may have missed so far, click on the elections link on the Star Herald's home page, www.star-herald.com for additional links to candidate questionnaire responses and to school board candidate video interviews.

The Minnesota Secretary of State website, sos.state.mn.us, has helpful voting information, and local elections authorities in the Rock County Auditor Treasurer's Office can be reached at 507-283-5060 or ashley.kurtz@co.rock.mn.us.



So, can an Apple Watch actually show you what time it is?

The topic of a recent office conversation was the new Apple iPhone 14 pro Max and the new Apple Watch.

Personally, I am not a fan of the Apple Watch and all its bells and whistles.

Have you seen the latest Apple Watch commercial on television? You know someone is wearing an Apple Watch because they more than likely told you how many steps they have taken on any given day.

I don't need a watch to tell me if I have taken a lot of steps in a day. My feet generally let me know that.

If counting one's steps wasn't enough, now the newest Apple Watch can tell you the



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

length of your stride. Really? Why?

The commercial also tells you when you're doing your daily laps in the swimming pool and whether you're doing the front stroke or the back stroke. If you don't know if you are swimming on the stomach or your back without a watch telling you, should you really be in the pool?

Finally, the new Apple Watch can track your temperature while you're sleeping so it can estimate when you will be ovulating.

The one thing the commercial never mentioned that the watch can do is to do what a watch does ... and that is, tell you the time.

The new Apple iPhone Pro

Max goes for about \$1,400. However, depending on which streaming channels or cable stations or social media outlet you follow, I have heard and seen offers for \$800 all the way down to free. Keep in mind, free doesn't always mean free.

Much like the Apple Watch commercials, they are designed to promote all the features it has like really fancy camera, streaming and texting feature, and the fact that you can watch your favorite sporting event or movie, or catch up on the TV show "Yellowstone."

It may come as a surprise to some of you, but you can actually make a phone call on your cell phone.

Niessink: Psalm 139 is still relevant for today's world

To the Editor:

God inspired David to write these words in Psalm 139:13-16:

"You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

"My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place.

"When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body.

"All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

Even though David wrote Psalm 139 many years ago, the entire Psalm is still relevant for today's world.

Corinne Niessink, Luverne

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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. Any letters containing offensive language, libelous or slanderous material, or misleading or false information will be rewritten before being published. 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. 7
 •Assistance from another department was provided westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 18, Luverne.
Oct. 8
 •A fire call was received at 70th Avenue, Hills.
 •Public urination was reported on E. Brown Street.
Oct. 9
 •Complainant on County Road 4, Luverne, reported an abandoned vehicle.
 •Complainant on N. Walnut Street, Ellsworth, reported a weapons issue.
 •Complainant reported a parking issue on Highway 75, Luverne.
 •Complainant at the State Park reported smoke.
 •Assistance from another department was provided on N. Walnut Street, Ellsworth.
Oct. 10
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a possible break in to storage unit.
 •Complainant on County Road 4 and 20th Avenue, Manley, reported road closure.
 •Complainant southbound on Highway 75,

Luverne, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on 31st Street, Hills, reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on 487th Avenue and 243rd Street, Dell Rapids, South Dakota, reported a transient.
 •Complainant westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 12, Luverne, reported debris.
Oct. 11
 •Complainant on Warren Street and Oakley Street reported a parking issue.
 •Complainant on E. Brown Street reported a scam.
 •Extra patrol was requested on S. Second Street, Beaver Creek.
Oct. 12
 •An outage was reported.
 •Complainant on S. Ross Street, Hardwick, reported a scam.
 •Complainant on N. Summit Avenue, Hills, reported an assault.
 •Complainant on E. Bark Avenue reported lost property.
Oct. 13
 •Complainant southbound on Highway 75 from Lincoln Street reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant reported

a civil issue.
 •Complainant on Highway 23, Garretson, reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant reported identity theft.
 •Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 15-16, Luverne, reported debris.
Oct. 14
 •Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 9, Luverne, reported a driving complaint.
 •Complainant on 121st Street and 30th Avenue, Luverne, reported a road closure.
 •Complainant on 181st Street, Kenneth, reported a civil issue.

In addition, officers responded to 5 motor vehicle accidents, 3 deer accidents, 1 vehicle in ditch, 1 transport, 4 funeral escorts, 15 ambulance runs, 2 paper services, 3 animal complaints, 4 fingerprint requests, 3 burn permits, 3 gas drive-offs, 1 alarm, 7 drug court tests, 10 purchase and carry permits, 23 traffic stops, 10 abandoned 911 calls, 5 welfare checks, 3 reports of cattle out, 1 OFP and 1 follow-up.

'History Kits' help library patrons record personal histories

By Mavis Fodness

Do-it-yourself video and audio recording kits are available at the Rock County Library.

The free use of the equipment is for anyone who wants to capture family stories in video and/or audio formats. A library card is necessary for the two-week checkout period.

Called "history kits," each contains the necessary equipment to produce a superior quality recording. Each kit contains easy-to-follow instructions.

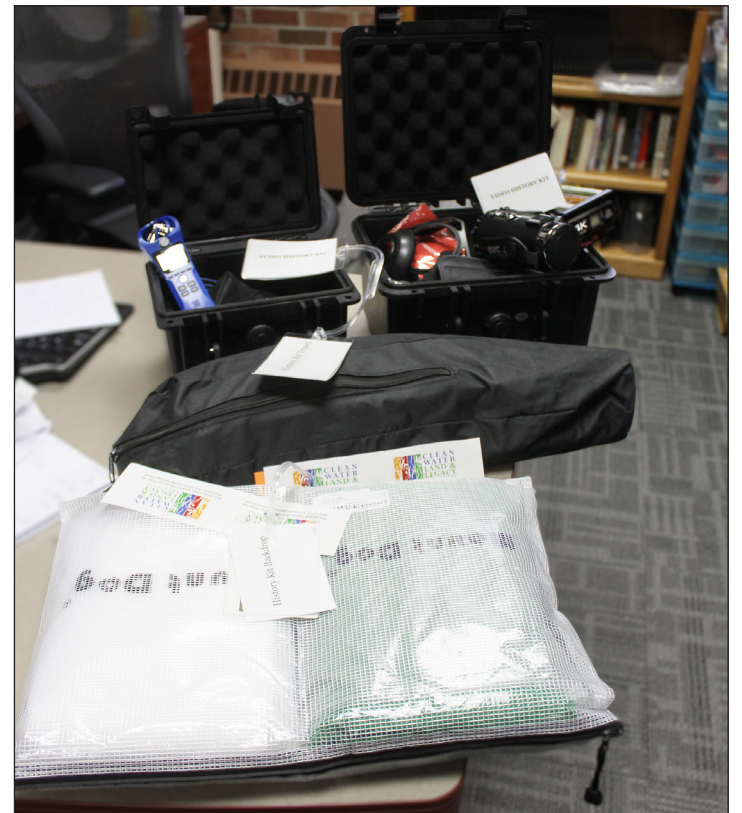
The video kit includes a camera, tripod, white and green backdrops, microphones and lighting accessories.

The audio kit has a digital stereo recorder, noise reduction accessories and an external microphone.

The completed personal recordings are downloaded to the patron's personal computer. The video and audio equipment is re-formatted/erased for the use by the next patron.

The equipment was purchased through a Minnesota Arts and Heritage Fund grant.

A set of the history kits is available at each of the 26 libraries located in the nine-county Plum Creek



Mavis Fodness photo/1020 History Kits

Audio and video "history kits" are available at the Rock County Library for patrons to borrow and record family stories. The kits were made available through the Minnesota Arts and Heritage Fund, and sets are available at each of the Plum Creek Library System locations.

Library System.

"In addition to the kits being used for recording family histories, our libraries are encouraged to partner with their local historical societies, schools and other organizations to preserve pieces of their local culture and history," said

Rebecca Hudson, PCLS arts and heritage fund program coordinator.

"Local history and family stories are an important part of the cultural heritage of southwest Minnesota, and libraries want to help preserve that cultural heritage before it disappears."

Oct. 23 event raises funds for stoves in Ukraine

By Lori Sorenson

A Luverne congregation is helping Ukrainians prepare for winter in their war-torn country where energy infrastructure was destroyed by Russian forces.

The First Presbyterian Church in Luverne will host a mission service at 10:15 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, to raise money for simple stoves in Ukraine.

The stoves, which will use wooden rubble of war as fuel, will be distributed in homes, churches, government offices and businesses to take the edge off winter weather.

During the Oct. 23 church service in Luverne, Yakov Daniko, a Ukrainian pastor from Sioux Falls, will talk about the needs of the Ukrainians and about local opportunities to help.

Pastor Valerie Putnam, interim pastor at First Presbyterian Church, is facilitating the event between the



The stoves, which will use wooden rubble of war as fuel, will be distributed in homes, churches, government offices and businesses to take the edge off winter weather.

Sioux Falls and Luverne churches.

"Winter is approaching and the destruction of infrastructure in Ukraine has taken away their ability to provide heat for their homes and businesses and churches," Putnam said.

"This is a humanitarian crisis where we can make a difference. Ukraine is relying on the compassion and generosity of the world to survive the harshness of winter."

Putnam is pastor emerita at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sioux Falls, where the Ukrainian congregation meets.

Those members have personal contacts in Ukraine and can direct support where it's needed most.

Specifically, donated funds will support a Ukrainian small business that's building the efficient wood burning furnaces at a cost of less than \$100 each.

"These furnaces will be quickly dispersed to families without cost to them," Putnam said. "Wood is readily available due to the shelling of buildings by Russia."

Putnam refers to the Romans 12 scripture, "Weep with those who weep," and said her congregation feels called to help the Ukrainian people.

"Let us show solidarity with those who are weeping this day by providing for their basic needs," she said.

A youth choir from the Sioux Falls Ukrainian congregation will provide special music for the Oct. 23 fundraiser, which will send 100 percent of proceeds to build furnaces.

Western Union has waived transfer fees for funds going to Ukraine.

For more information about Sunday's event or about how to support the effort, contact Putnam at the Presbyterian Church in Luverne by phone at 507-283-4787 or email at vputnam@sio.midco.net.

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1ST PICK-UP | 2ND PICK-UP
 OCT. 17-21 | OCT. 24 - 28

DUE TO WEATHER SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE

- Debris such as branches, shrub prunings, rocks, metal, lawn clippings, or bagged leaves will not be picked up.
- Do not place leaf piles close to parked cars or street grates.
- Keep the street grates free of leaves.
- Pile leaves so they do not block bike or traffic lanes.

• Leaves should be raked to the gutter by 7 a.m. Monday.
 • Do not put leaves in plastic bags.

LISTEN TO K101, CHECK THE CITY'S FACEBOOK & WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL PICKUPS

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Questions equal learning during Fire Prevention Week

Luverne Elementary fifth-graders ask local volunteer firefighters James Rahm (left) and Joe Juhl questions as part of their National Fire Prevention Week visit to the school. The duo spent an hour with the students, explaining the gear they wear, with a half hour spent on answering questions.

Firemen complete annual visit with Luverne's fifth-graders

Story and photos by Mavis Fodness

Each of Luverne Elementary's fifth-graders questioned local volunteer firefighters James Rahm and Joe Juhl Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 12.

Rahm and Juhl visited the students as part of National Fire Prevention Week. They also revealed which fifth-grader's poster would be forwarded to the state competition.

Each year volunteers with the fire department make a connection with each grade level during the second week in October. The connection could be through class visits to the local fire station, the department's evening open house, or classroom presentations like the one Rahm and Juhl completed.

Rahm reminded the students they've learned numerous fire prevention tips over the five years of department visits.

"There are things you can do as you get older, and, as a result, take on new roles," said Rahm, who's been a local fire department

volunteer for 15 years.

Many of the 10- and 11-year-olds are now babysitters, and Rahm encouraged them to know the addresses in which they are watching younger kids. He also told them to be the ones who put the unattended matches or lighters out of reach, and to leave the house if the smoke alarm indicates a hazard and smoke is present.

Getting everyone out of the house is the firefighters' job, not theirs, Rahm stressed.

A half hour spent answering the fifth-graders' questions revealed a lot about firefighting including:

- How many firefighters are on the Luverne Fire Department? Minimally 31 and maximum is 27.
- How long is the department's longest ladder? 103 feet.
- How heavy is the equipment? 50 pounds; with air tank it's 75 pounds.
- How many people does it take to hold a fire-hose? A hose at 1 3/4-inch diameter takes one to two



Each year Luverne Elementary fifth-graders submit fire prevention posters to the Luverne Volunteer Fire Department. Harper Renken (far left) drew the first-place poster, Harper Phelps placed second, and Isley Smith third. Renken's poster will now be forwarded to the state poster contest as the entry from the Luverne department.

people. A hose at a 2 1/2-inch diameter takes two to three people due to the pressure the water is under.

•How long does training take? Initial training is 160 hours.

•Do you have a dog at the fire station? No. Dalmatians were commonly used before trucks to protect the horses

as firefighters fought fires.

Three fifth-graders were recognized in the annual poster contest. First place and \$50 went to Harper Renken, second place (\$40) to Harper Phelps and third place (\$30) to Isley Smith. The monetary rewards were provided by the department's relief association members.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2012)

•The Rev. Andrew Palmquist and his wife, Christine, have moved their family to Luverne from Lakeland, Fla., to begin serving the Bethany Lutheran Church congregation.

Palmquist explained that in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod pastors are "called" by congregations.

"We weren't looking for a call. We were actually comfortable where we were, but sometimes it's good to have a new challenge and we did eventually want to get back to the Midwest," he said.

After prayerfully deliberating between the call to Luverne and staying where they were, the Palmquists felt led to Luverne.

25 years ago (1997)

•After years of mulling over how to solve the problem, Luverne School Board members have decided it's time to repair the ailing Cardinal Football Field.

For the past several years, the center of the field has been "sinking" and not draining properly. Superintendent George Maurer asked for approval at the Sept. 25 School Board meeting to go ahead with plans to repair the field, pending their approval on the costs.

He returned to the board Oct. 9 with estimates. It will cost \$6,660 to move the dirt and protect the track. The board approved that expenditure so work can begin immediately after the last home football game of the season.

To install an automatic sprinkler system could cost up to \$13,000, and grass seed could cost roughly \$2,000, bringing costs for the entire project up to \$15,000 to \$19,000. ...

According to discussion at the last two School Board meetings, the problem with the football field dates back to 1987.

50 years ago (1972)

•As an introduction to National Business Women's Week, Oct. 15-22, the BPW of Luverne held a breakfast at Lambertson's Café on Saturday morning with members and guests attending.

A skit was presented and original poetry was read. Gladys Eitrem was installed as a new member.

The highlight of the morning was naming the WOMAN OF THE YEAR chosen by the club.

Woman of the year is charter member of the Luverne BPW Club Margaret Vegge. She has been a very faithful member, serving on many committees and always a great booster for the club, members say. She has served her church as a Sunday School teacher for many years and is active in choir and in a church circle. She taught school many years before changing her occupation and she is a highly respected member of the Luverne business community. She started working as a part-time employee and over the years has become active in the business and became manager of Renfro Variety.

Much of her success is due to her interest in other people, she says. Many of her early customers now have children that are customers.

75 years ago (1947)

•Fourteen head of registered ewes owned by Dallas Bowron, Magnolia, found a hole in the fence and wandered out and down the railroad track. As a result Bowron has only two head left after the ewes refused to yield the right of way to an approaching Omaha railroad train.

100 years ago (1922)

•One of the most important motion picture contracts ever closed by a theatre manager in this section was executed the first of the week by Manager Herman Jochims, of the Palace and Cort theatres, with the Paramount company.

This contract calls for sixty-six big special features, including twenty three of the 1922 productions, and forty-one of the extra special features, which represent all of this company's biggest attractions for 1923.

The first one of the big features secured under the new contract to be presented, will be Cecil DeMille's production, "Manslaughter," with Thomas Meighan and Leatrice Joy in the stellar roles. Next will come "The Old Homestead," with Theodore Roberts in the role of "Uncle Josh."

1943: Merkel remembers Elk Slough near Magnolia

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 May 20, 1943.



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, Rock County Historian

Remember Elk Slough

Mr. Merkel remembers crossing Elk Slough, between Luverne and Magnolia. In pioneer days, the slough was virtually a mud wallow, and to get through it required considerable engineering on the part of the traveler. There being no bridges, and only a rough wagon path leading up to it, the Merkel family did not attempt crossing it with the oxen hitched to the wagon. The best plan, Mr. Merkel states, was to unhitch the oxen, take off the yoke,

Bits, continued on page 7

OBITUARY

Richard Buss

Richard Lee Buss, 77, transferred to Sanford USD Luverne, died Friday, Oct. 14, 2022, at Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



Richard loved to fish. Being out on water brought him a deep sense of joy and peace. He also served as a volunteer firefighter in Hardwick for a number of years.

One of his favorite things to do was watch his daughter's sporting events, especially softball. In addition, he and his wife, Pat, could often be seen driving around the countryside trying to determine who had the "cleanest" field. When his grandchildren came along, he enjoyed traveling to Shakopee for all their important events and milestones. They were his pride and joy. Rick also cherished his dog, Alex.

Rick is survived by his daughter, Tricia (Jason Sudenga) Aiken of Shakopee; grandchildren Lily Ahnna and Sullivan Aiken; and a brother, Jerry (Liz) Buss of Luverne.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Pat, and his parents.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquistfuneral.com.

(1020 F)



Mavis Fodness photos/1020 Fire Prevention 2022 Open House

Children (and adults) at the Luverne Volunteer Fire Department open house during National Fire Prevention Week were able to climb onto the large red trucks and use a fire hose to knock rubber ducks off pylons. The Thursday night, Oct. 13, event included hotdogs, chips and cookies for those at the annual event. **Above:** Benson LeBrun uses a "fire hose" to knock rubber ducks off pylons, simulating the aim needed to extinguish a fire. **Below, left:** Elliot Walters, 4, sits in the driver's seat of the Luverne Fire Department rescue truck. **Below, right:** Helping his sister, Millie, with the fire hose is Benson LeBrun.



DEATH NOTICES

Barbara Loosbrock

Barbara Jean Loosbrock, 77, Luverne, died Friday, Oct. 14, 2022, at the Sanford Hospice Cottage in Luverne.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne. Visitation will also be from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne with a funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in the Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (1020 DN)

Ann Leskinen

Ann L. Leskinen, 67, Ellsworth, died on Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Visitation was Tuesday, Oct. 18, at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. Burial of cremains was at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, at St. Mary Catholic Cemetery in Ellsworth.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquistfuneral.com. (1020 DN)

Bits/continued from page 6

drive them through the mud to the other side. Then all the oxen would be hitched together, a chain run across the slough and hooked into the wagon tongue, and the pull would begin. Unless there was plenty of power on the pulling end, the wagon would be stuck right. In that case, it would be necessary to take the wagon apart and carry it out piece by piece. "There was always some fellow stuck at that point," he recalls.

Stop at Sheldon Farm
After getting through Elk Slough, the Merckels stopped at the E. T. Sheldon home. "Mr. Sheldon was very kind to my people and helped them in many ways,"

Mr. Merkel states. Mr. Merkel's father filed a claim on the northeast quarter of section 21 in Beaver Creek township. With the help of neighbors, they built their home, a sod house, about 20 by 24 feet. First, a cellar, about 2 1/2 feet deep was dug. Then sod was broken, and cut in 18-inch lengths, and laid in layers like brick. Posts to support the roof were cut from trees on the Rock river. Each post had a fork at the top, and these forks supported the ridge pole. Rafters were also reaching from the ridge pole to the sod wall. On top the rafters was laid a layer of small willow branches. This was covered with a layer

of long slough grass, then overlaid with sod and dirt. The floor was of dirt, usually "cared" with a layer of slough hay. **Decorated with Newspapers**
Even the pioneer housewife liked to decorate. Mr. Merkel states that newspapers were hung on the side walls by the aid of wooden pins stuck into the sod. The home was lighted by a saucer filled with tallow into which were dipped plain cotton rags. "We had plenty of rags," Mr. Merkel states, "and plenty of light too, if you could locate it."
Bed ticks were filled with corn husks. Rope running crosswise of the bed

served as springs. As far as comfort is concerned," Mr. Merkel says, "sleeping on those beds would compare favorably with taking a nap on top of Bunker Hill."
A common secondhand stove was used to heat the home, and twisted hay was used as fuel. One fine feature of the sod house, he states, was that it was warm to live in and easy to heat.
Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156.
Mann welcomes correspondence sent to manmade@iw.net.

Don't wait for strike three; hydrate shrubs, evergreens, perennials before winter

It is Monday and the wind has been and is making short work of our beautiful fall color. That is not unusual for this part of the plains. That is why I encourage those of us who live here to take a picture or two of how amazing the fall color can be on a sunny day before it is demolished by the weather!
And speaking of the weather, a couple of weeks ago I mentioned the importance of your landscape plants being hydrated going into winter. I was hoping we would have appreciable rainfall, but that has not happened and likely will not, according to the long-range forecast.



KNOW IT AND GROW IT

By George Bonnema, Luverne Horticulturalist

The shrubs, evergreens, and perennials have been stressed through the growing season this year as well as last, so that's strike number one. Not having adequate moisture going into winter is strike two. A cold winter with not much snow cover could be the final strike for plants already compromised. Nothing you can do to correct strike number one,

and we don't know about strike number three. That means that strike number two is the only one you can remedy.
Evergreens in particular have a very shallow root

system. They need to be hydrated going into winter because once the ground freezes, they have no way to replace moisture that is lost through the needles (foliage) by transpiration, and the result will be winter burn, which will not show up until it is too late to do anything to prevent it.
Young trees, perennials, and deciduous shrubs all depend on moist soil to survive the harsh Midwest winter. Other than ever-

greens, these plants are not using moisture to sustain their growth because they are going dormant. However, their roots need moisture if you want to see them back next year.
We had pretty much the same scenario a year ago, and this spring, I heard countless complaints from people about all types of plants that did not survive the winter. Likely, inadequate hydration was the basis for this preventable plant loss.

Also, earlier in September, I mentioned the bud initiation period for poinsettias was Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 and the importance of no supplemental light during that crucial month.
Well, my poinsettias have suddenly begun to develop their red leaf color. I never fail to appreciate how exact this process goes! The color and flowers will be perfect the day after Thanksgiving to begin the next holiday season!

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Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots blank Red Rock Central Falcons 22-0

Patriots take on Edgerton Dutchmen Wednesday for first 'Battle of the Red Rock' trophy

**By Dan Ellingson
For the Star Herald**

The 4-2 Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots won their biggest football game so far this season Friday, Oct. 14, in Lambertton when they took down the 4-2 Red Rock Central Falcons in a convincing 22-0 victory.

The win put the Patriots in a good position for the Section 3 nine-man playoffs and proved they can start a game fast and finish strong.

The visiting Patriots started the game with an impressive 10-play, 63-yard drive that culminated with a one-yard blast by Sawyer Bosch to put the Patriots up 6-0 with 6:56 left in the first quarter.

During the drive, Patriot wide receiver Brock Harnack averted a near disaster on the fourth play of the drive when he pounced on a Patriot fumble that kept possession and led to the game's

first score.

Looking back on that first scoring drive, head coach Rex Metzger said, "I thought our first drive set the tone for the game."

The Red Rock Central Falcons were kept out of sorts by the stellar Patriot defense for the entire game, while H-BC's offense scored more than enough points to secure the victory in the first half.

During the Falcons' first offensive drive, Pa-

triot defensive end Beau Bakken made the first two tackles, forcing the Falcons into their first three and out. RRC punted four times during the Patriot defensive shutout.

The Patriots did not score on their next possession and were forced to punt. However, they returned the favor and secured possession of the ball with a Falcon punt on their next possession.

The Patriots took over

after they pressured the Falcon punter and caused a 15-yard punt to the 21-yard line.

It took only five plays for the Patriots to score their second touchdown of the game on another Sawyer Bosch scamper from five yards out. Bosch then took the ball over the goal line on the two-point conversion and the Pates widened their lead to 14-0.

The Falcons went for a fourth and four yards to go

from their own 41-yard line on their next possession.

Senior Brock Harnack broke up the Falcon pass, and the Patriots took over on downs with 7:34 remaining in the half.

With the Patriots on offense, because of the running of Beau Bakken, the passing of Jamin Metzger, and the receiving of Riley Tatge, the

H-BC football, go to 10



Images by CD photo/1020 LHS Volleyball

Tori Serie sets the ball for her Luverne Cardinal teammates Thursday night, Oct. 13, in a home match against Adrian-Ellsworth. Luverne took the match 3-1 against the Dragons. The Cardinals' last regular season match is Oct. 18.

Luverne volleyball takes win over Adrian-Ellsworth Dragons

Beyer, Olson perfect from the serving line, combine for three aces

**By Stacy Olson
For the Star Herald**

Luverne hosted Adrian on Thursday, Oct. 13, for Parents Night. Luverne beat Adrian in four games with scores of 25-15, 22-25, 25-23 and 25-17.

Emma Beyer completed 27 of 27 serves and recorded two aces as well as 26 set assists.

Carly Olson completed 16 of 16 serves and recorded one ace. Olson led the back row with 16 digs.

Anja Jarchow led from the front with 10 kills.

Elizabeth Wagner had a solid game at the net with nine kills, three solo blocks and two block assists.

Christina Wagner added three solo blocks to help secure the win against the Dragons. Kamryn Van Batavia charted 13 digs in the four games and Averill Sehr added 19 set assists on the night.

Luverne improved their record to 14-7 for the season.

The Cardinals were scheduled to play their last regular season home game on Tuesday, Oct. 18, when they host cross-county rivals Hills-Beaver Creek.

The Cardinals will be honoring their senior players as well that night.

Tennis season moves to individual tournament

**By Susan Beers
For the Star Herald**

The LHS girls' tennis team competed in the first two rounds of the Section 3A individual tournament in Sioux Falls Thursday, Oct. 13.

Luverne had two individuals playing singles and two doubles teams competing for the right to move on to semifinals and finals that were scheduled to be played Tuesday, Oct. 18, in Sioux Falls.

In singles competition Thursday, Cassi Chesley, the No. 9 section seed, was defeated by the No. 8 seed Tayte Nokleby from MAC-CRAY Coop 6-0, 6-0.

Luverne's second singles player and No. 11 seed, Morgan Hadler, lost to No. 7 seed Brielle Kuhl of Pipestone 6-2, 6-4, also in the first round.

"Both Cassi and Morgan faced girls that were playing very good tennis," said LHS coach Jon Beers.

"I wish that they would have been able to play more than one match each."

In doubles play, Sarah Stegenga and Katharine Kelm won both matches and will now play Oct. 18 for a chance to compete in the individual state tournament.

They defeated Brianna Nelson and Sarana West from Yellow Medicine East 6-1, 6-3 in the first round,

'Sarah and Katharine are now two wins away from state, and I feel they have a great shot at making it.'

—Coach
Jon Beers

and they beat Hanna Oie and Kalista Borman from Lac Qui Parle in the second round.

Caitlin Kindt and Augusta Papik also competed in doubles for LHS and were defeated by Claire Lowry and Kayla Jahn of Lac Qui Parle 7-5, 6-2.

"Sarah and Katharine are now two wins away from state, and I feel they have a great shot at making it," Beers said.

"I was really pleased with the way they played in their second match."

Stegenga and Kelm were scheduled to continue their season Tuesday in Sioux Falls with a chance to represent LHS in the State Individual Tournament in Minneapolis.

Rall reflects on opening of pheasant hunting season, shares tips for finding those elusive birds

Opening day of 2022 pheasant hunting season was Oct. 15.

I hosted Minnesota Governor Tim Walz in Worthington that weekend. It was quite an event.

There were media outlets of all kinds in town for the event. Many of those hunted on the public lands of southwest Minnesota.

Finding a good hunting spot on opening weekend is not possible. The weather is usually pretty good, and this weekend probably brings the most hunters to the field of any day of the regular season.

Getting to a spot at 6 a.m. does not eliminate the risk that some other less respectful hunter won't show up 10 minutes before legal shooting time and walk all over your plans.

After the opening week-



THE OUTDOORS

**By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist**

end circus, this gets a little better, and I do have a few pointers as to how to pick a top spot when things are still pretty competitive.

The first one is to completely forget the Minnesota DNR's pheasant density map.

This is compiled from roadside counts done in the first two weeks of August and is a relatively good indicator of where pheasant populations would be the highest.

The problem with this

is that every other hunter in the state will be using that same map.

I would have no hesitation to hunt in areas of the state that show lower pheasant populations. Few pheasants might also mean far fewer hunters to compete with.

I would rather hunt a spot with five birds on it and be the only one than to hunt on a spot that might have 20 birds on it and have four other guns chasing them as you would be

doing.

I did the routes in Nobles County and they showed very poor populations, but my personal investigation and scouting indicate a very different picture. Consider areas less populated and enjoy your hunt with less interruption from other hunters.

My second recommendation is to hunt areas that are called Waterfowl Production areas managed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

instead of Wildlife Management areas managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Federal properties require non-toxic shot and there will always be that section of hunters who think non-toxic shot does not kill birds as well.

This was certainly the case 20 years ago, but modern-day non-toxic shot alternatives are deadly pheasant killers these days.

These areas just plainly and simply don't get as much hunting pressure as the areas that allow lead shot. Depending on where you are located in the state matters, but these areas are available pretty much in every county.

Hunt as far from a hard-surfaced road as you possibly can. I have people

call me all the time when they are in my area asking me where they should go.

Many of them won't drive their wife's SUV on a gravel road. Sounds silly but it is so true and happens far more often than you might think. Add in a little rain and the thought of two hours in the car wash when they get home is a thought provoker for many.

Hunt smaller spots. Other hunters want to go where they can park the car or truck and not have to move it for the rest of the day.

They pick out the largest hunting areas and concentrate on those. Hunting smaller spots will very likely lead you to birds that have not yet seen a hunter

Rall, continued on 10

H-BC falls in three to HLOF and Adrian/Ellsworth

By Joni Deelstra
For the Star Herald

The H-BC volleyball team traveled to Fulda Tuesday night, Oct. 11, to play Heron Lake Okabena Fulda and hosted Adrian/Ellsworth Monday night for a Seniors Night game.

The Patriots lost both games 3-0, bringing their record to 0-8. They were scheduled to meet the Cardinals in Luverne Tuesday, Oct. 18, to wrap up their regular season play.

HLOF 3, H-BC 0

HLOF took an early lead in the first set and maintained that lead to win 25-9.

Layla Deelstra had the first point of the night with a tip over the net to an open spot in the front. Bailey Spykerboer had a good night serving and tallied several points with three aces.

She started the second set with an ace serve and Lanae Elbers had a couple of passes to Spykerboer, who set Deelstra and Larissa Steinhoff for kills to stay close 6-5.

Brynn Rauk, who is back from an injury, set Elbers up for a tip over the net to an open spot in the front row. Grace Anderson added an ace serve to narrow the point spread to 12-9.

HLOF had several hits out-of-bounds but extended their lead 21-15. Taylor Huisman added a kill before the set ended 25-16.

HLOF started the third set strong with a 7-0 lead before Anderson passed to Spykerboer to set Steinhoff up for a kill. Spykerboer added two ace

serves for a score of 7-3.

H-BC fought back with the help of a block by Elbers to move the score to 10-8. Steinhoff and Deelstra both added kills, but HLOF would go on to win 25-17.

Anderson was 5 of 6 serving with two aces and had eight digs. Deelstra delivered four kills and one block and went 7 of 7 at the service line. Elbers had four kills, two blocks and three digs and was 3 of 4 serving.

Elly Klosterboer was 5 of 5 serving and had three digs, Larissa Steinhoff had five kills and one block, and Spykerboer was 8 of 9 serving with three aces and contributed eight set assists and one dig.

A/E 3, H-BC 0

The H-BC volleyball team recognized their six seniors on Senior Night and were hoping to come out with a victory, but they fell short to Adrian/Ellsworth Monday night.

The game scores were 15-25, 15-25, 17-25. The game started out hopeful for the Patriots with Layla Deelstra registering the first kill and Bailey Spykerboer serving two aces to put the score at 4-1.

A pass from Grace Anderson to Spykerboer to set up Larissa Steinhoff for a kill kept the lead at 8-3.

Lanae Elbers tallied a kill to make it 11-7 before A/E started to close the gap.

Patriot girls, go to 10



Sara Schmuck photo/1020 LHS CC

Luverne sophomore Owen Janiszkeski finishes first in the boys' varsity race Tuesday, Oct. 11, in Adrian. The Luverne boys' team claimed a second-place finish along with the girls' team. Jenna DeBates placed third in the girls' 5K results.

LHS cross country battles at Adrian, ready for conference meet

By Sara Schmuck
For the Star Herald

Luverne girls' and boys' varsity cross country teams placed second at the Adrian Ellsworth Dragons Invitational Tuesday, Oct. 11.

Coach Pete Janiszkeski said, "I think we competed hard as usual on a tough day to run. The warmth and wind made it challenging to hit great times, but times aren't always everything."

Sophomore Owen Janiszkeski finished first in varsity boys' with a time of 17:04.20. Worthington boys won the meet.

For girls, junior Jenna DeBates placed highest for Luverne with a third-place finish in 20:04.34. Murray County Central won girls' varsity.

Janiszkeski said he hopes to have a full team ready to compete at the conference meet Tuesday (Oct. 18) with no injuries or sicknesses keeping out runners.

Varsity girls' 5k results

Ella Schmuck was seventh in 22:05.16, Khloe Visker ninth in 22:31.78, Grace Ingebretson 12th in 22:58.93, Grace Kempema 26th in 25:06.97, Makena Nelson 33rd in 25:21.69, Tiana Lais 34th in 25:26.01, Maria Rops, 37th in 25:40.17 and Reinha John 43rd in 26:00.91

Varsity boys' 5k results

Camden Janiszkeski was seventh in 18:09.11, Sage Viessman 15th in 19:05.13, Carsen Tofteland 18th in 19:13.04, Leif Ingebretson 20th

in 19:32.55, Dylan Ommen 39th in 20:46.75, Kaleb Hemme 41st in 20:51.81, Zach Terrio 49th in 21:25.69 and Camden Hoven 50th in 21:28.32.

In the Junior Varsity girls' 5k, Andrea Luitjens was 10th in 32:43.80

In the Junior Varsity boys' 5k, Eli McLendon was fifth in 22:27.47, Isaac DeBates ninth in 23:52.56 and Riley Ripka 10th in 23:54.82.

In the Junior High boys' 1,600-meter, Marcus Papik was third in 5:57.60 and Zander Fountain was 42nd in 7:56.50.

In the Junior High girls' 1,600-meter, Mariah Knorr was seventh in 7:35.24 and Jaina Fountain was 25th in 9:01.86.

Cardinal football falls to Fairmont, 28-6

Luverne finishes out season Wednesday against Waseca

By John Sichmeller
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals football team fell to the Fairmont Cardinals Thursday night in Fairmont where the hosts took a 7-6 lead into halftime and outscored Luverne 21-0 in the second half to earn a 28-6 victory.

With the loss, Luverne moves to 4-3 on the season.

The story of the game for Luverne was turnovers, as the Cardinals committed five turnovers throughout the evening.

Luverne was able to outgain Fairmont by 58 yards of total offense, but ultimately the turnovers were too hard to overcome.

"Second-half turnovers led to short fields for Fairmont and too many scoring opportunities," said Luverne football coach Todd Oye after the game.

"The first half our kids played very well. We were able to get a lead, but our late turnover gave Fairmont a touchdown to end the half."

Both defenses looked strong to start the game as neither team was able to score until late in the first half.

Luverne was able to start the scoring with a 68-yard scoring drive after receiving the ball at the 32-yard line with 3:51 left in the first half. Carter Sehr completed back-to-back passes to Conner Connell to move the ball into Fairmont territory.

The Cardinals then executed their longest

play of the night when Sehr found senior receiver Gannon Ahrendt streaking past the Fairmont defense for a 48-yard touchdown reception. Luverne missed the extra point attempt, and the score was 6-0 with 1:13 remaining in the second quarter.

The Cardinals looked to keep the momentum going when the ensuing kickoff was fumbled by Fairmont and picked up by Luverne at the Fairmont 16-yard line.

Unfortunately for Luverne, Fairmont gained all the momentum back on the very next play as the Fairmont defense was able to knock the ball away from Sehr.

The ball was recovered by Fairmont's Parker Mathiason, and he was able to run 84 yards into the Luverne end zone. Fairmont's extra point kick was good, giving Fairmont a 7-6 lead with 53 seconds left in the second quarter.

Luverne was not able to advance the ball, and Fairmont took the 7-6 lead into halftime.

Luverne kept the turnover theme going as they fumbled the first offensive play of the second half, giving the ball right back to Fairmont.

Fairmont players once again capitalized on the Luverne mistake as they put together a 49-yard scoring drive that was capped by a two-yard touchdown run from Fairmont quarterback Brendan Schmidtko. After a successful point after kick,

Fairmont had a 14-6 lead with 4:48 left in the third quarter.

The LHS offense moved the ball in its next scoring drive and was able to get inside the Fairmont red zone after a 29-yard run from senior running back Kaleb Hein.

However, the Cardinals committed yet another turnover as Sehr's pass was intercepted by a Fairmont defender who returned the ball to the Luverne 46-yard line.

Fairmont took advantage of the Luverne turn-

over and scored five plays later, this time on a 14-yard touchdown reception from wide receiver David Maakestad. Fairmont's extra point kick was good, and the host Cardinals held a 21-6 lead with just three seconds remaining in the third quarter.

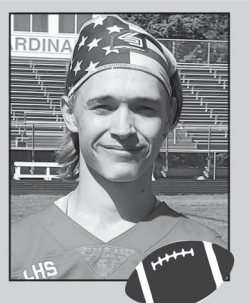
Maakestad gave Fairmont its last touchdown of the night, but this time he did it on defense, intercepting Sehr's fourth down pass on the next Luverne possession and returning it 73

Luverne football, go to 10

SENIOR ATHLETES of the Week

Gavin Baum

Sport: Football
Parents: Lori and Ben Baum
What I like most about Football: Playing as part of a team.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: None
Favorite Class: Mechanics



Carsen Tofteland

Sport: Cross Country
Parents: David and Jamie Tofteland
What I like most about Cross Country: There is nothing like it. It's you against yourself, while also having the opportunity to run and bond as a team.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Track and Field
Favorite Class: Math



Anja Jarchow

Sport: Volleyball
Parents: Mike and Wanda Jarchow
What I like most about Volleyball: Spending time with my teammates.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Student Council, Peer Helping, Math League, Youth Group and National Honor Society
Favorite Class: Math



Justis Ahrendt

Sport: Volleyball
Parents: Eric and Bobbi Ahrendt
What I like most about Volleyball: The time and laughs I get to spend with my teammates on the court or on the bus.
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Peer Helping and Peer Tutoring
Favorite Class: Health



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Submitted photo

Participants ready at the starting line Saturday, Oct. 15, for the Duff Dog Backyard Ultra at the Blue Mounds State Park.

Winners emerge in 2022 Duff Dog Backyard Ultra at Blue Mounds State Park

By Lori Sorenson

The Duff Dog Backyard Ultra attracted 17 athletes to the Blue Mounds State Park Saturday, Oct. 15.

Last year Luverne's David Duffy hosted his first "ultra" running event that challenges athletes to complete 100 miles in one day.

There were seven participants in the 2021 event, so Duffy said he was pleased with the number of registered competitors.

"The talent we have this year is incredible. First, we have Tim Fryer and Eva Gut back from last year's final two runners," Duffy said. "If you remember, Tim outlasted Eva by com-

pleting 18 loops to Eva's 17."

He said in this year's field there were several runners who had a chance to get to the 24-hour mark for 100 miles.

As it turned out, the longest holdouts in the 2022 event were Gut, 39, of Sioux Falls, and Fryer, 43, of Hendricks.

"Tim finished first, and the first thing he said to us was, 'She's gonna make it,' and sure enough, a few minutes later here comes Eva," Duffy said.

"She had a great day, with six hours more than last year and 3 yards farther than her goal this weekend. Way to go, Eva."

After 23 hours (95.8 miles) Eva called it a day, remarking that she was glad she was able to "assist her good friend, Tim, on his journey to 100 miles."

Mike Siebersma, 44, Arlington, South Dakota, ran for 20 hours and 83.3 miles, and 52-year-old Lance Smith of Sioux Falls ran 19 hours and 79.1 miles.

Complete results can be found on Duffy's Facebook page under "Duff Dog Backyard Ultra."

The backyard ultra is a form of ultramarathon race where competitors must consecutively run the distance of 6,706 meters (4.167 miles) in less than

one hour.

When each lap is completed, the remaining time within the hour is typically used to recover for the next hour's race.

The competition is for anyone to join and challenge themselves by running one hour, two hours or more.

Key milestones are Hour 6 at 25 miles, Hour 7 where runners surpass the marathon mark in mileage, Hour 12 when they hit 50 miles, Hour 18 at 75 miles and Hour 24, which is the 100-mile mark.

Duffy provided hourly updates on the runners through his Facebook page.

Patriot girls' volleyball/ continued from page 8

A nice back row set from Anderson to Deelstra for the kill made it 12-11. Both Steinhoff and Deelstra added tips to open spots in the front row before A/E went on a serving streak to end the first set 15-25.

Elbers registered a couple of kills in the second set along with an ace serve, but A/E started out with an early lead 9-20. Deelstra was able to score off a push to an open spot in the back row and Steinhoff added a block, but A/E finished the set with the same score 15-25.

A/E started the third set with a five-point lead before Spykerboer set up Deelstra for a kill to give H-BC a point.

A/E had several hits that went out of bounds and some net serves that allowed the Patriots to stay close. Elbers added a kill with a 12-16 score. Steinhoff and Taylor Huisman each tallied a kill before the set ended 17-25.

Bailey Spykerboer had 13 set assists and five digs and was 4 of 6 serving with two aces.

Olivia Bork was 5 of 5 serving with one ace and had six digs.

Lanae Elbers was 6 of 6 serving and had four kills, eight digs and two blocks.

Larissa Steinhoff added three kills and two blocks.

Layla Deelstra had four kills and was 8 of 8 serving with one ace.

Luverne football continued from page 9

yards into the Luverne end zone.

After another successful extra point, Fairmont held a 28-6 lead with 7:34 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Neither team was able to score the remainder of the game as Fairmont took the 28-6 victory over Luverne.

Luverne will now turn its attention to a 6-1 Waseca team that is undefeated in section play.

"Waseca will be the No. 1 seed in our section, so this will be a great opportunity to see where we are at headed into the playoffs," said coach Oye.

Luverne will host Waseca on Wednesday night at Cardinal field.

Game time is 7 p.m.

Team statistics:

Luverne: 94 rushing yards, 129 passing yards, 223 total yards, 13 first downs, 5 penalties for 40 yards, 5 turnovers.

Fairmont: 123 rushing yards, 42 passing yards, 165 total yards, 14 first downs, 4 penalties for 45 yards, 1 turnover.

Individual statistics:

Rushing: Kaleb Hein 6-42, DJ Rock 3-35, Tyson Cowell 6-28

Passing: Carter Sehr 6-13, 96 yards (1 TD), Conner Connell 6-11, 33 yards

Receiving: Gannon Ahrendt 2-52 (1 TD), Conner Connell 4-48, Gavin DeBeer 1-22

Defense: Anyuon Atem 8 tackles, Conner Connell 4 tackles, Tyson Cowell 4 tackles, Gavin DeBeer 3.5 tackles, Elijah Woodley 3.5 tackles, Kaleb Hein 3 tackles

H-BC football/continued from page 8

Patriots scored their third touchdown of the game with a 2-yard run by Sawyer Bosch.

Bosch hit Riley Tatge with a strike to add a successful two-point conversion to bring the score to 22-0 with 3:13 left in the half. The Patriot defense held the Falcons to another punt, and the half ended without scoring.

During the scoreless second half, the Patriot defense forced one Falcon punt and two turnovers on downs. The defense also held Red Rock Central to a paltry one of 11 on third down conversions.

After scoring 22 points in the first half, the Patriot offense iced the game in the fourth quarter when they took over the ball with 8:50 left in the fourth quarter and controlled it for the remainder of the game.

After two kneel-downs at the Falcon five-yard line, the Patriots moved to 5-2 and the Falcons fell to 4-3 on the season.

"Our guys came out and played tough, and I thought they did a great job playing

'Our guys came out and played tough, and I thought they did a great job playing that way the whole night.'

— Coach Rex Metzger

that way the whole night," Metzger said at the end of the night.

The Patriots will play Edgerton Oct. 19, the Wednesday before MEA break, in the last regular season game.

This game will be instrumental for both teams in the Section 3 playoff seedings.

It will be the 84th meeting between Hills-Beaver Creek and Edgerton since 1965, but it will be the first "Battle of the Red Rock Trophy" to start a new traveling trophy tradition between Edgerton and Hills-Beaver Creek football teams.

Team statistics:

HBC- 164 rushing yards, 93 passing yards, 257 total yards, 18 first downs, one penalty for 10 yards, one turnover.

RRC- 63 yards rushing, 36 yards passing, 99 total yards, four first downs, six penalties for 35 yards, zero turnovers.

Individual statistics:

Rushing: Beau Bakken 22-83, Sawyer Bosch 22-71, Cooper Gehrke 2-12, Team 2-(minus 2)

Passing: Sawyer Bosch 2-3 for 49 yards, Jamin Metzger 3-5 for 44 yards.

Receiving: Luke Fuerstenberg 1-43 yards, Riley Tatge 2-31 yards, Beau Bakken 1-13 yards, Jackson Gacke 1-6 yards.

Defense: Braden Metzger 4.5 tackles & 1 TFL, Beau Bakken 4 tackles, Riley Tatge 3 tackles, Sawyer Bosch 2.5 tackles, Luke Fuerstenberg 2.5 tackles, Micah Bush 2.5 tackles.

Rall/continued from page 8

that day.

My last tip – and the one most less successful hunters have the hardest time with – is to hunt for 90 minutes at the opening bell and then rest your legs and the dogs until the last hour of the day. Hunters will take off at the 9 a.m. opening bell and by 1:30 p.m. their energy and the dogs' energies are completely spent. The roosters will have spent their day in a cornfield hiding from hunters and gathering up

their supper and will head back to cover after all of the hunters have left.

I have sat on my tailgate and watched hunters pound a spot with no luck and after they have left, I will continue to sit there until the last 45 minutes. During that time I see roosters returning, and I watch where they settle in. Many times, in about 20 minutes I can do better than the ground pounders did all day.

Save your legs and your

dog's energies and hunt after everyone else has left. You can then be the hunters with game pictures to post instead of an empty vest and 20 empty water bottles.

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 or on Twitter @habitat champion.

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House move helps Luverne's trades class learn construction from ground up/continued from p. 1

two-stall garage. They also staked out where the garage would be located.

They also watched house movers Berghorst & Sons Inc. from Hull, Iowa, lift the structure, drive the home halfway across town, and place the house on the new foundation.

Students then worked with the movers in the basement to install supports in the basement before the large metal beams used to move the house were removed.

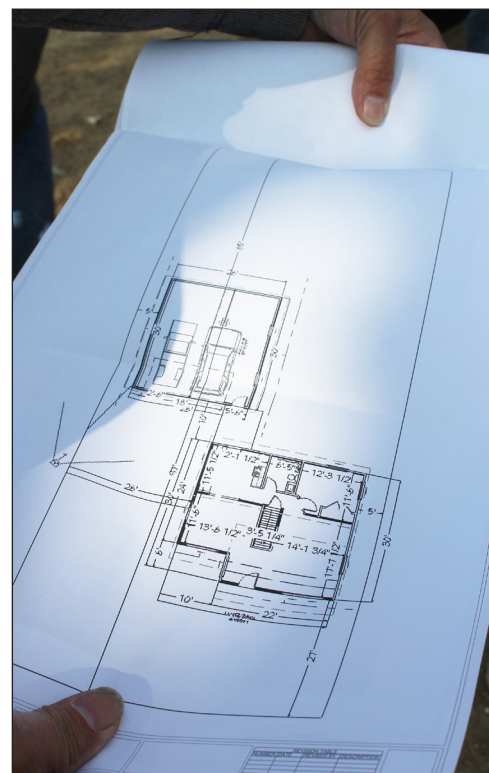
In coming months, the students will construct the new detached garage while shadowing plumbers and electricians who will work in the house.

They will also complete the demolition and rebuilding of walls for the home's new layout.

Sale of the one-and-a-half-story home next year will support another construction project for the 2023-24 school year.



Pictured above, high school students from Luverne Public Schools TnT Tradesmen class measure the building that used to be located on South Highway 75 in Luverne. On Wednesday, Oct. 12, the structure was moved to East Dodge Street where the students will remodel it into a four-bedroom home. Above right, students in Today's and Tomorrow's Tradesmen class, a vocational education class at Luverne High School, place support poles in the basement before the movers lowered the house onto the concrete foundation. Mavis Fodness photo/1020 TnT House Move



The house on East Dodge Street will include a detached two-stall garage, which the Luverne High School vocational technical class students will construct. They will also remodel the house into a single-family home. Above are computer-aided drawings.

Darrel VanAartson's construction trades class measures for a new two-stall garage and calculates the amount of fill necessary to prevent water flowing to the newly moved house on East Dodge Street.

The house, formerly the Real Estate Retrievers building, was moved from South Highway 75 to the residential neighborhood on Thursday, Oct. 12, where the high school students will remodel the structure back to a family dwelling.



Patrick Baustian

for
Minnesota House District 21A

Paid for by Baustian for MN House Tim Gust Treasurer

Proven Community Leader

- Mayor the past 11 1/2 years and City Council Member for 8 years.
- Director of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System
- I have worked with my city colleagues to provide the area over \$100 million in economic development

Veteran

- Veteran who served our nation for over 38 years in the United States Air Force/Air National Guard.
- Deployed five times in direct support of our Nation's Defense.
- Endorsed by the MN DFL Veterans Caucus.
- Retired as a Chief Master Sergeant

Family Man

- Katie and I have been married for over 31.
- Lifelong residents of Luverne.
- Our four children all graduated from the Luverne School district and all continue to serve their country in the Air National Guard.

MY PRIORITIES INCLUDE

Daycare Shortage

- As a community leader I understand the crisis that the shortage of daycare is causing. I can and will work across the aisle to get a solution that fits every community at the local and state level.

Education

- Ensuring local, high-quality public education is taken care of and funded to the fullest extent possible.
- To continue to be an advocate for the mission of the Southwest MN Council of Mayors for free technical trade school for targeted critical jobs.
- To be an advocate and get the rule of 90 re-instated for our public educators.

Economic Development

- To develop incentives for small, local businesses and farmers and to stop corporate overreach.

Healthcare and Nursing Home Care

- Making access to affordable, high quality comprehensive healthcare available to all.
- I will work to increase the Minnesota state re-imbursement rate for nursing homes as we cannot let the closing of nursing homes continue.

Veterans

- As a retired veteran of over 38 years in the United States Air Force and Air National Guard, I will be the voice of all veterans for state benefits and healthcare issues.



The partisan politics at the capital must end! Minnesotans deserve better, and I am the person to work to get things done. I would appreciate your vote during early voting or at the polls on November 8th.

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www.baustianformnhouse.com

Jill Wolf is new Luverne city administrator/continued from page 1

year career in city management," Call wrote in his resignation letter to the council.

"With a progressive mayor and council and highly competent department heads and employees, we have been able to move the city forward in many areas of economic development, housing and quality of life while at the same time delivering great city services on a daily basis."

This summer the council decided against hiring an outside agency to recruit candidates and instead formed a recruitment committee that included Craig Oftedahl, Mike Cox, Ashley Kurtz, Tim Gust, Caroline Thorson, Pat Baustian and Connie Connell.

They worked on updated job description, position profile, salary range, and geographic scope for the recruitment of a new city administrator.

They asked current department heads what traits and qualities they'd like to see in the new city administrator, and they also surveyed city leaders about knowledge, skills, abilities and minimum training and experience they wanted in a new city administrator.

City clerk Jessica Mead also worked with the League of Min-

nesota Cities and other professional development colleagues to establish a recruitment plan.

Their efforts resulted in 30 applications that were narrowed to seven first-round interviews.

The four finalists, in addition to Wolf, included Rebecca Schrupp of Canby, Erik Hansen of Tracy and Lee Mattson of Waseca.

After a community "meet and greet" earlier this month, the search committee met Thursday, Oct. 13, to make a final recommendation — that the city hire Wolf as the next administrator.

The council met in special session Tuesday night to formally accept that recommendation and extend the offer to Wolf. She will start sometime in December and her salary is yet to be determined.

Mayor Pat Baustian said the entire council was in agreement about hiring Wolf.

"We were looking for an administrator who could make a seamless transition, who understood that we have no 'issues to be fixed' and someone who will keep Luverne on the path it has been on in terms of housing, day care and economic development," Baustian said.

"Jill has worked here before and

understands our priorities."

He said the search committee also saw value in Wolf's working knowledge of Missouri River Energy Services, the electrical utility that serves both Adrian and Luverne. Wolf is also on the communication advisory board for MRES.

"It's one of our biggest enterprise utilities, and understanding that is very important," Baustian said.

Wolf graduated cum laude from St. Cloud State University in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in community development and a minor in communication studies.

She and her husband, Chris, have four children in the Adrian School District ranging in age from fifth to 12th grade. Before they were in school, she worked part time writing grants for government entities and small businesses.

In 2017 she worked as program developer for the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging before assuming the city administrator job in Adrian in 2019.

Call, 63, said he and his wife, Brenda, will continue living in Luverne, and he will work with the council to ensure a smooth transition as Wolf assumes her duties as the next city administrator.



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