



# Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, October 26, 2023

## Trunk 'N Treat to be staged on Halloween at school lot

By Lori Sorenson

Trunk 'N Treat returns to Luverne for Halloween on Tuesday, Oct. 31, when businesses, families and organizations set up displays and greet local trick-or-treaters.

The event will be from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the elementary school bus lot.

This is the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Trunk 'N Treat and the second year it's been at the school after nine years on Main Street, according to Luverne Area Chamber Director Jane Lanphere.

She said the venue changed for a few reasons.

"I think it was in 2021 that we had a couple of ag producers contact us about the challenges of moving grain to the elevator during harvest when we have Main Street closed," Lanphere said.

"For producers coming across the river, it was challenging to make it to the elevator. It wasn't exactly complaints, but they asked to know about it in advance so that they could arrange their hauling schedule."

She said that prompted organizers to think of alternatives for the following year.

"The school was receptive," Lanphere said. "They have ample parking for families, and we don't make it difficult for producers."

In 2020 during the pandemic, the Chamber handed out bags at the school to families driving through in their cars, and it worked smoothly.

"Probably another reason we thought we could make the move is that there are a lot of retailers on Main Street with limited days and hours of opening," Lanphere said.

"Having all the people on Main

Trunk 'N Treat/see page 5



Lori Sorenson photos/1026 facilities tours

Wastewater treatment employee DJ Rock (center) leads a tour Oct. 17 with councilman Dan Nath (left) and wastewater supervisor Darrel Ykema.

## City hosts tours at wastewater, power plant, public works

By Lori Sorenson

City of Luverne leaders and department heads hosted tours of public facilities Tuesday, Oct. 17.

Staff members were stationed at the power plant, public works building and wastewater treatment plant to lead tours and answer questions.

The city of Luverne recently invested in improvements and upgrades at each of the locations, and the tours were designed to show taxpayers the end result of those investments.

Members of the public were invited behind the scenes to see the buildings, equipment and tools used to maintain Luverne's infrastructure.

At the power plant, Mike Gangestad said he gave repeated tours of the facility and talked about the generators and other equipment.

"I basically answered questions," he said. "They pay for it. If they want to know, I'm happy to tell them."

Refreshments were offered at each



LHS grad Braydon Ripka (center) has been working with Missouri River Energy Services since May and assisted with city of Luverne facilities tours Tuesday evening. He's pictured at the power plant with Melody Remund (from left), Justyce Gartner and Destiny Ripka.

of the facility locations, and golf rides were available, courtesy of the Luverne Area Chamber and volunteers.

E-bikes were also available for free at the Luverne Loop Trailhead.



Mike Gangestad (center) has worked with the city and Missouri River Energy Services since April of 1997. He's pictured leading a tour on Oct. 17 at the Luverne power plant with Larry Green (left) and councilwoman Caroline Thorson.

## H-BC to build new bus garage at Hugo Goehle instead of remodel

By Mavis Fodness

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board moved forward with the district's facility improvement projects Monday night by approving plans to build a new bus garage in Hills instead of remodeling the existing vehicle facilities.

The board also approved in-

vestigating the sale of the existing 31,500-square-foot bus garage.

"We did our due diligence to see what would be the best use of taxpayer dollars," said board member Ethan Rozeboom. "In the end of it, we thought it would be better to use the taxpayers' dollars to build a new bus garage rather

than renovate the old one."

Rozeboom is also a member of the district's community advisory committee.

Earlier this year, district voters approved a \$29.975 million bond referendum that included a new elementary school in Beaver Creek.

Also included in the voter-approved bond is \$3.475 million to make improvements at the Hugo Goehle gymnasium site in Hills.

Plans are to demolish the old high school that is attached to the Hugo Goehle gym (possibly occurring in the summer of 2024), improve the Goehle locker rooms,

expand parking space at both the Goehle gym and the secondary school, reroof and improve the Goehle facility, and renovate the current vehicle and bus garages in Hills.

The budget to construct a new

H-BC bus garage/see page 5

## LHS to perform 'Wild Pink' Oct. 27-29

By Mavis Fodness

When the Luverne High School drama department takes to the stage Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 27-29, audiences should be prepared for laughter and pranks in the production of the comedy "Wild Pink" by Margaret Witt.

The curtain rises at 7 p.m. all three nights in the school's performing arts center.

The play centers around a hog farmer Jebediah (portrayed by sophomore Elijah Henrichs) and his three smart sons (juniors Xavier McKenzie, Chase Matthiesen and Chris Bonilla).

At first, play adviser Shawn Kinsinger almost chose a different play over "Wild Pink," whose name describes a color of nail polish.



Mavis Fodness photo/1026 LHS Fall Play 2023

Great-aunt Millie (portrayed by senior Alex Perkins) gives a hysterical laugh at the reaction of her "nieces" to having their bodies waxed (which doesn't include their heads).

'Wild Pink'/continued on page 3

## County Land Records Office digitizing files for better access

By Mavis Fodness

Searching for documents in Rock County Land Records will be easier once a digitizing project is completed in 2024.

At their Oct. 17 meeting, Rock County commissioners approved \$128,501 for Fidlar Technologies of Davenport, Iowa, to scan, digitize and index the 320 record books dating from 1874 to 1980.

"We have every document ever recorded and they are in the vault right now," said Land Records Director Rachel Jacobs.

Each of 320 books, roughly 13-by-18-inch in size, contains 450 to 600 pages.

To prepare for the scanning

project (estimated to take Fidler eight days to complete), Land Records Office personnel are making sure each book and document is numbered and properly indexed before the digitizing project begins.

The local preparation allows for a more successful merger of information into the existing database.

Digitizing not only improves the search and reading of land records, it will also better preserve the historic information.

"The books themselves are not deteriorating," Jacobs said. "But

Land Records/see page 2





## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Free Community Meal Oct. 25

The United Methodist Church will host its Wednesday night free community meal at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25. A pick-up option is available by calling 507-283-4529.

### Training for suicide prevention

A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota is offering a one-hour suicide prevention training from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Monday, Oct. 30, at the Generations Event Center. Guest speaker will be Arianna Santos, suicide prevention regional coordinator with Canvas Health. She will present information on warning signs in older adults, identifying myths and facts surrounding suicide and offer hope through positive action.

### Donate blood in Lismore

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Lismore from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31, in the American Legion on Main Street.

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

### Prescriptions collection Oct. 28

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, Oct. 28, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you have unused or expired medication, bring to the Rock County Sheriff's Office for safe disposal. The drop box is available 24/7 in the lobby. Helping to promote this event is the Substance Free Coalition of Rock County, an issue team of #Luv1LuvAll.

### Community Ed

Call 507-283-4724 to register.

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

**Defensive Driving** schedule for Luverne classes follows: Refresher 4-Hour Classes -Nov. 13 or Dec. 11; Beginner 8-Hour Class Feb. 5 and 12 (4 hours each evening).

**Amazing Raku** on Nov. 4 is open to all ages—but those in grade 3 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Fee is \$5, plus you will pick out and pay for a pottery bisque piece at the studio for \$10-\$30 cost. You will be impressed at the beautiful piece you take home after you apply glaze and watch it change in the fire!

Individuals 13 years old through adult can come learn how to play **Magic the Gathering** beginning on Nov. 4. Participants will learn skills in strategy, basic math, and critical thinking. Fee is \$40.

**Grades K-2 Basketball** (for boys and girls) will meet twice each month November through February on Saturday mornings beginning Nov. 4 to learn basic skills. Fee is \$25.

Students (grades K - 3) can learn **Beaver Basics** from a Blue Mound State Park Naturalist on Nov. 7. Fee is \$5.

Learn how to create an effective estate plan at **Top Ten Estate Planning Mistakes to Avoid** on Nov. 9. Fee is \$5.

Register by Nov. 10: Students (grades K-6) can learn to decorate **Fall themed cookies** like a professional at B's Bakehouse on Nov. 18. Fee is \$35.

### NAP distribution is Nov. 2

Nutrition Assistance Program for seniors 60 and older, sponsored by A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota, will be from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2. The drive-thru distribution will be in the parking lot off Maple Street at the A.C.E. office location on the east side of the Generations Event Center. Preregistration required if not already registered. Contact A.C.E. program manager Linda Wenzel, 507-283-5064.

### TGIF will meet Nov. 3

TGIF (Teens Gather in Faith) will have their first meeting Friday, Nov. 3 at 7 a.m. for 9th-12th grade students in Mrs. Thone's classroom at Luverne High School. This student led Rock the Edge event includes a Bible study and breakfast.

### Community Ed brochure submissions due Nov. 6

If you have a new class idea to offer or a request for a particular class, please email li.nath@isd2184.net or call 283-4724.

If you have details for a class you would like to teach or are updating information for a class you will be teaching, please submit your information by email to da.hoogendoorn@isd2184.net.

You may access most recent copy of the brochure (and past brochures) at the school website at www.isd2184.net and then to Community Education.

# Community invests in three live cams

By Lori Sorenson

Three live cameras in Luverne will provide 24-hour online video feeds for viewers to follow events, activities, weather and other livestreams.

"It's an exciting day in Luverne if you like to see what's happening in town," Luverne Chamber Director Jane Lanphere said when the cameras went live last week.

She said three cameras were purchased through a partnership between the City of Luverne, Luverne Initiatives for Tomorrow, Luverne Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Luverne Area Chamber.

"Hats off to all of those involved in making this happen," Lanphere said. "It's always great to promote our great city where we 'Love the Life.'"

The upfront cost was roughly \$11,000 and there is a \$150 per month (\$1,800 per year) warranty fee for maintenance and replacement going forward.

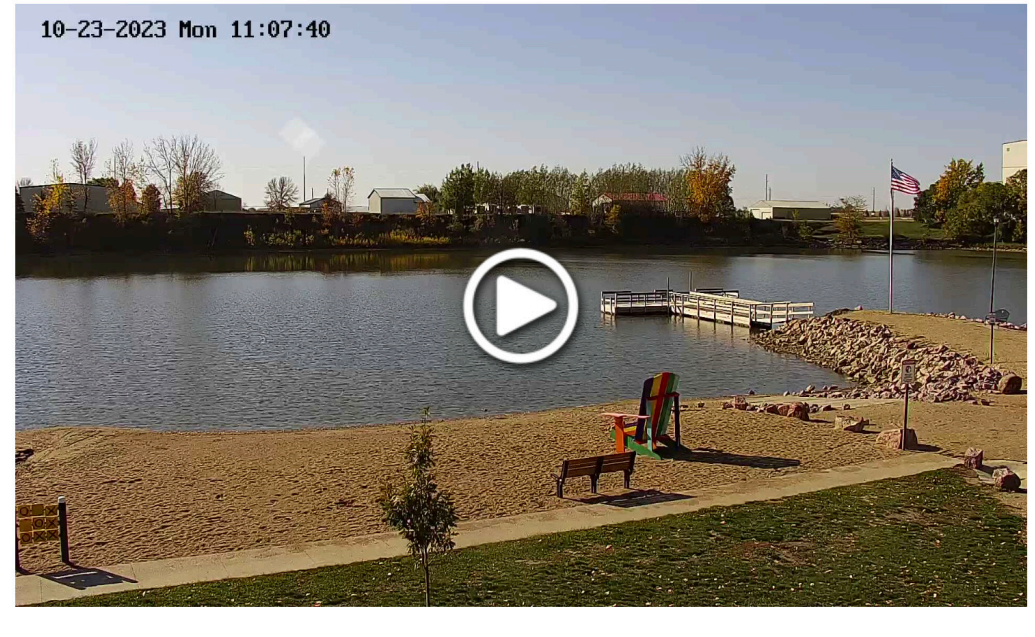
According to Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian, the costs exceeded earlier estimates, but city leadership agreed it was worth it for visibility to outside communities and to help connect locals who aren't able to participate in local events and activities.

"It is a way to ex-



Take a live view all around KELOLAND with over 30 live cameras set up in communities of South Dakota and even spreading into Iowa.

### Luverne, MN at The Lake



Live cameras are situated at The Lake, on Main Street facing east and at the power plant facing west on Main Street. The power plant camera is not yet live, but the other two are up.

pand what's happening in Luverne to be people elsewhere and for people to be able to be part of what's happening in Luverne," Baustian said.

The cameras are located on Main Street facing east, at the power plant on Main Street facing west, and at

The Lake.

The live feeds are viewable 24 hours a day through KELO TV's website, keloland.com/weather/live-cameras. Luverne city staff are able to steer the cameras to see different angles.

"Imagine being able to

watch the Tri-State Band Festival, Buffalo Days Cruise-In, the activities on Hot Dog Night, the Fourth of July at The Lake, the Get Hooked Fishing Derby and many more things that happen locally from the comfort of your home or office," Lanphere said.

## Land Records Office to digitize files/continued from page 1

some of the pages are just coming out."

Using a third party to digitize the books will save local staff time and be completed more efficiently.

Currently, 42 years of land records are already in the county's digitized database.

Several years ago, one summer was spent digitizing microfiche records from 1981 through 1991, and documents since then have been immediately scanned and indexed.

Rock County is the last county in the area to have all of its land records digitized.

Costs for digitizing will be covered by the county's general reserves and fees generated by requests for legal documents.

"This money has built up over time," said County Administrator Kyle Oldre.

"This is where the money should be spent."

### Digitizing first step in potential remodel

All county land records must be accessible to the public.

A long-range goal for the historic courthouse is to remodel the auditor-treasurer and Land Records offices to be more secure for county workers and the public.

All 320 books documenting local land transactions are kept in the second-floor Land Records office.

The room, located in the middle of the work space, is called the vault.

"What makes it look like a vault is that they



Mavis Fodness photos/1026 Land Records Digitized

Rock County has entered into an agreement with Fildar Technologies of Davenport, Iowa, to digitize the 320 record books stored in the vault in the Land Records office for the public to access. The books, dating from 1874 to 1980, are stored in the Land Records vault room on the second floor of the courthouse. Records from 1981 to the present are already digitized and easily searchable from a computer terminal located in the same room.

While the pages in the bound books stored in the Land Records office are in good condition, many of the spines are showing wear, like the book pictured at right.



An approved digitizing project will enter all the information from the 320 bound books into searchable database.

kept the old doors on," Oldre said.

Running through the vault's ceiling are multiple air handlers and piping, and the handlers sometimes leak.

While none of the handlers have leaked in the Land Records' vault, the historical record books are

subject to damage or possibly fire.

Digitizing will preserve the records, while the books could be stored in a more secure location.

The current digitized records (from 1981 to the present) are available from public terminals in the vault.

The public must walk through the Land Records office to gain entrance to the vault.

The remodel would reconfigure the vault room, allowing the public to access the vault from the main hallway.

No cost estimates or timelines were discussed.

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# Walk in the tall grass

Back in 2021 the local chapter of Pheasants Forever in Nobles County adopted all of the Wildlife Management areas in their county.

It was during the Governor's Pheasant Hunting Opener that a parcel of land was dedicated to acknowledge these acres were now open to all compatible uses.

It was part of the Ranson Ridge WMA. At that time the chapter partnered with the local Future Farmers of America chapter to co-adopt this one particular WMA.

The FFA members came out and hand-seeded a special part of this unit to a healthy mix of forbs and wild flowers.

It does not look like much after one year, but by Year 3 this spot will be one of the most beautiful public lands in all of southwest Minnesota.

As part of that co-adoption, I volunteered to host this group and others taking a wildlife class in school to a wildlife walk on this property and another one I own that lies right across the road. I took the opportunity to engage about 15 youth for about two hours a few weeks back. They had studied the American bison and its history dating back to pre-European settlement.

As we walked, I had them imagine what 50-60 million buffalo might have looked like roaming the plains considering there are only about 7 million whitetail deer in all of North America.

The property we traversed looks much like the Great Plains would have looked like over 200 years ago. We discussed just how hard surviving might have been when prairie wild fires raced across the 9-foot-tall native grasses that would have covered the landscape in those days.

How Native Americans were the first to utilize prescribed fire, and how the fresh green sprouts of grass would have attracted the buffalo to graze there.

We stuck our heads into a wood duck nesting structure and explained why a hen duck lays one egg per day but does not return to incubate until the egg-laying was complete. This is done to ensure that all of the eggs hatch at the same time in a short 24-hour window. If she stayed on the nest, then the first egg laid would hatch up to two weeks earlier than the last egg laid.

They also cover the eggs with down pulled from their breast in order to keep the eggs from freezing at night. Waterfowl nest much earlier in the spring than pheasants. We did all sorts of plant identification and took a few minutes to talk about an endangered fish called the Topeka shiner. It lives in the Missouri River Watershed.



## THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall  
Outdoors columnist

We discussed about how half of the water that lands in the city of Worthington runs to the Mississippi River and the other half runs into the Missouri River.

The Little Rock creek that runs through my property in is the Missouri River watershed.

The group came to understand what a watershed is. We talked about what an extinction was and how the efforts on behalf of the Topeka shiner were an effort to keep them from becoming extinct as well.

A little side note ... of all the species that have ever inhabited the earth, how many of them as a percentage are now extinct?

They had all sorts of guesses but the answer is that 99 percent of all the species that have ever inhabited the earth are now extinct.

What an unfathomable statistic considering the millions of species that are alive today.

Each young person was supposed to bring a question along to try to stump me. I am pretty well versed in the plants and animals of North America, but I did very poorly when questioned.

For example, they asked how long can a snail sleep? Up to 4 years, I was told. What mammal in North America has the thickest coat? I guessed the beaver, but the answer was the sea otter. Another stumper question was what sound an opossum makes in order to attract a mate.

A clicking sound was the correct answer. I will have to try to narrow the field if I am ever to take on a wildlife class again.

Young kids for whatever reason are a pretty quiet bunch with not many questions as we walked along.

I hoped that I had at least informed and entertained them a little.

Rall column/see page 5



Mavis Fodness photos/1026 LHS Fall Play 2023

"Wild Pink" will be performed at the Luverne High School drama department. Cast includes (front, from left) Elizabeth Mulder, Elaine Nath, Paige Kubesh, Katherine Pizel, Makayla Oechsle, Kaitlin Conger, (second) Alexis Berg, Charlotte Happeny, Xavier McKenzie, Alex Perkins, Chris Bonilla, Chase Matthiesen, (back) Brooklyn Wicks, Ayah Alinizi, Elijah Henrichs, Zander Carbonneau, Steven Woods, Rebecca Hoogland, Brianna Kinsinger and Leigha Ehlers

## LHS to perform fall play, 'Wild Pink'/continued from page 1

"Wild Pink" didn't stand out because of the writing or the plot or any themes," he said. "I chose this show because I knew I had a trio of guys who could make it hilarious.

"I knew that once I put the script into the hands of the students, they'd run with it and make it their own. I've given them more room to be creative with this show than others we've done in the past."

The play opens with hog farmer Jebediah explaining he has no money to send his three sons to college. As a result, he proposes to turn to rich, snooty maiden Great-Aunt Millie (portrayed by senior Alex Perkins), who has millions.

Unfortunately, for years Great-Aunt Millie been led to believe she has three nieces and not three

nephews.

To convince Millie to leave her money to her "nephews," they don dresses, wigs and wild pink nail polish. As "nieces" they try to convince Millie that her beautiful family members deserve her fortune.

In a twist, the nephews discover someone is embezzling from their great aunt.

They set a trap for the embezzler, never realizing they have been set up as well.

Additional cast members (and the character(s) they portray) include seniors Hallie Bork (Jilly/Dennis), Abby Boltjes (Katrina), Brooklyn Wicks (Sasha Wesley), Steven Woods (Dr. Smith), Alexis Berg (Lidia/Ms. Gaines), juniors Bri Kinsinger (Olivia), Hallie Pergande (Lacey/Darth), sophomores Zander



Hog farmer and father of three boys Jebediah (right, portrayed by LHS sophomore Elijah Henrichs) cringes as youngest son Patrick (junior Chris Bonilla) questions why his great-aunt Mildred thinks he and his two brothers are nieces, not nephews.

Carbonneau (Tony Wesley), Leigha Ehlers (Jenny/Denise Sims), Rebecca Hoogland (Scarlett), Ayah

Alinizi (Terry), freshmen Charlotte Happeny (Sam/Lesley), Paige Kubesh (Delaney) and Elaine Nath (Jo).

Crew members include senior Zoey Berghorst, juniors Kaitlin Conger, Andrew Kinsinger, Katherine Pizel, sophomores Elizabeth Mulder, Makayla Oechsle, Isabella Benson and Fox Forrest.

"The students have worked hard on this show and it's been a blast," adviser Kinsinger said.

"We start right away when the school year begins and we have seven to eight weeks to put it all together. In contrast, we usually have a few months to put together the spring musical.

"The fall play is a much different experience. It comes together fast, and with all the other activities these particular students have going on, it can feel like it's over before it even starts."



Great-aunt Mildred (far right, portrayed by LHS senior Alex Perkins) examines the wild pink-colored nail polish worn by Robert/Roberta (LHS junior Chase Matthiesen), as Mildred's assistant Olivia (junior Bri Kinsinger) also takes a look. On the couch with Robert/Roberta are his brothers, Victor/Victoria (far left, LHS junior Xavier McKenzie) and Patrick/Patricia (center, LHS student Chris Bonilla), who are also dressed as women.

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for **TARA SUDENGA**  
bride-to-be of **Mike Eckardt**  
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Ribbon Falls was truly a magical place in the canyon and so worth the 3-mile detour off our 25-mile rim-to-rim trek.

## What goes down must come up ... and other lessons from the canyon

By **Lori Sorenson, editor**

After months of training and nervous anticipation, our Carson's Cause team on Oct. 20 completed (survived) the Grand Canyon Rim2Rim4aCause.

We traveled from the North Rim of the Grand Canyon down to the canyon floor, across the river, then up to the South Rim in a day, with Luverne's Dave Duffy as our trusty guide.

It's over 25 miles and more than 10,000 feet of elevation change, and park rangers discourage the trek unless you are well prepared.

### What goes down ...

Signs along the trailheads warn, "Down is optional, up is mandatory." Those who need rescuing must pay for it - to the tune of \$5,000 to \$10,000.

It's also true that hiking a distance downhill is harder on your legs than climbing up, as counterintuitive as it sounds. While uphill requires more exertion, the downhill rocky paths took a toll on our quads, and it felt good to climb after the grade leveled off.

### Treasures on detours

A stop at Ribbon Falls adds a 3-mile round trip detour through a rushing stream and difficult footing.

But the towering waterfall and surrounding vegetation was truly an oasis in the rocky wilderness. We soaked our tired, dusty feet and ventured behind the waterfall on top to discover sunbeams filtering through a million falling water prisms.

It was a magical place accessible only on foot, and we were grateful to have experienced it.

### Starry skies, silver linings

A few on our team experienced minor setbacks - injuries, a lost hiking pole, blisters, etc., that slowed us down, but the

new pace allowed us to take in the mesmerizing scenery of the canyon - 2 billion years of earth's history and eleven layers of ancient rocks.

Dave and I hung back with my badly limping sister who didn't finish until the wee hours of the morning. I was tired, cold and impatient ... until I looked up at the night sky - bedazzled with an array of stars and constellations brighter than any I'd ever seen.

### Journey with a purpose

Traveling in my backpack were 25 snapshots of local loved ones lost to suicide, and as promised, we dedicated a canyon mile to each one, carefully photographing them against the canyon walls, waterfalls and colorful skies.

The task became a poignant distraction from tired feet and reminded us of our purpose: to remember, to fight for better brain health, and to raise money for the cause.

### Better together

As with most challenges in life, teamwork and moral support make a big difference in reaching the finish line.

Thank you so much to Dave and our fellow hikers and to all who supported us and donated to Carson's Cause.

We'll close out our Rim2Rim fundraiser at the end of the month, so there's still time to help us reach our \$10,000 goal.

Tax-deductible donations can be accepted online through [luvacf.org](http://luvacf.org) or by mail at Carson's Cause, c/o Luverne Area Community Foundation, 102 E. Main St., Luverne, MN 56156.

We'll soon share our video tribute of the 25 canyon snapshots on Carson's Cause Facebook page, and we'll have a little story in next week's paper about the hike.

## Monday's event empowers women to eliminate barriers for local women, children

A unique community consortium is debuting Monday, Oct. 30, at Take 16 in Luverne, and all women in Rock County are invited.

The Women's Giving Circle is a long-desired idea that's coming to life from Luverne Area Community Foundation executive director Emily Crabtree.

She wants to bring focus to the barriers faced by the women and children of Rock County by empowering local women to lead the charge.

We at the Star Herald couldn't agree more with the idea of breaking barriers.

Giving circles are not a new idea. Broadly defined, circles work to pool resources from a large group of people to more effectively impact a targeted community.

LACF's first giving circle will focus on local women and children.

To lay the groundwork on whether or not a giving circle would be supported locally,

### STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Crabtree invited random Rock County women together.

They immediately embraced starting the Women's Giving Circle in Rock County.

Their mission is to support, educate, empower and celebrate the women and children in Rock County.

The 12-member committee is organizing Monday's initial gathering for the Women's Giving Circle to educate the public on the consortium's purpose. Monday's event is already poised to make an immediate community impact.

Titled "Products for a Purpose," Monday's information meeting asks attendees to bring menstrual products, diapers (newborn through toddler) or adult disposable diapers.

The organizational com-

mittee asked various agencies, "What do you see as barriers for women and children?" The immediate answer was the availability of feminine hygiene products and diapers for children and adults, which are not often among the donated items in food and/or product drives.

The Rock County Food Shelf will distribute the items from Monday's event.

We think this is a great first impact for the new group.

The presentation to introduce the Women's Giving Circle begins at 6 p.m. Monday.

Social hour, complete with appetizers, takes place before and after the presentation from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Women are asked to bring a requested product and a friend.



## What are the rules about right turns on red?

**Question:** I have had a few conversations with others about turning right on red. Can you tell me what the rules are in Minnesota? It's frightening to see the chances some drivers are taking.

**Answer:** A steady red light means stop and wait for the light to change.

Come to a complete stop at the stop line before the crosswalk or entering the intersection. After stopping, you may make a right turn when the intersection is clear, if traffic is permitted to travel in that direction.

If a "No Turn on Red" sign is posted at an intersection, you must wait for the light to turn green.

If certain conditions are met, you may make a left turn from a one-way road onto a one-way cross street while the traffic light is red. Before



### ASK A TROOPER

By **Sgt. Troy Christianson**  
Minnesota State Patrol

turning, you must first come to a complete stop, make sure the intersection is clear, and yield to any pedestrians or other vehicles. Traffic must be permitted to travel only in the direction in which you are turning.

A red arrow means stop. You must come to a complete stop at the stop line before the crosswalk or entering the intersection. When the arrow turns green, you may proceed in the direction it indicates.

Treat a flashing red light as you would a stop sign. Come to a complete stop, yield to vehicles and pedestrians who reach

the intersection before you and proceed when the intersection is clear.

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

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

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



## Trunk 'N Treat/ continued from page 1

Street really doesn't affect business. Some might say that with all the people and vehicles on Main Street, it makes doing business more difficult."

She said the biggest reason for moving Trunk 'N Treat to the school parking lot is safety.

"It's a safe location for the kids that they are familiar with," Lanphere said. "Everyone knows where the school is, and getting there is efficient."

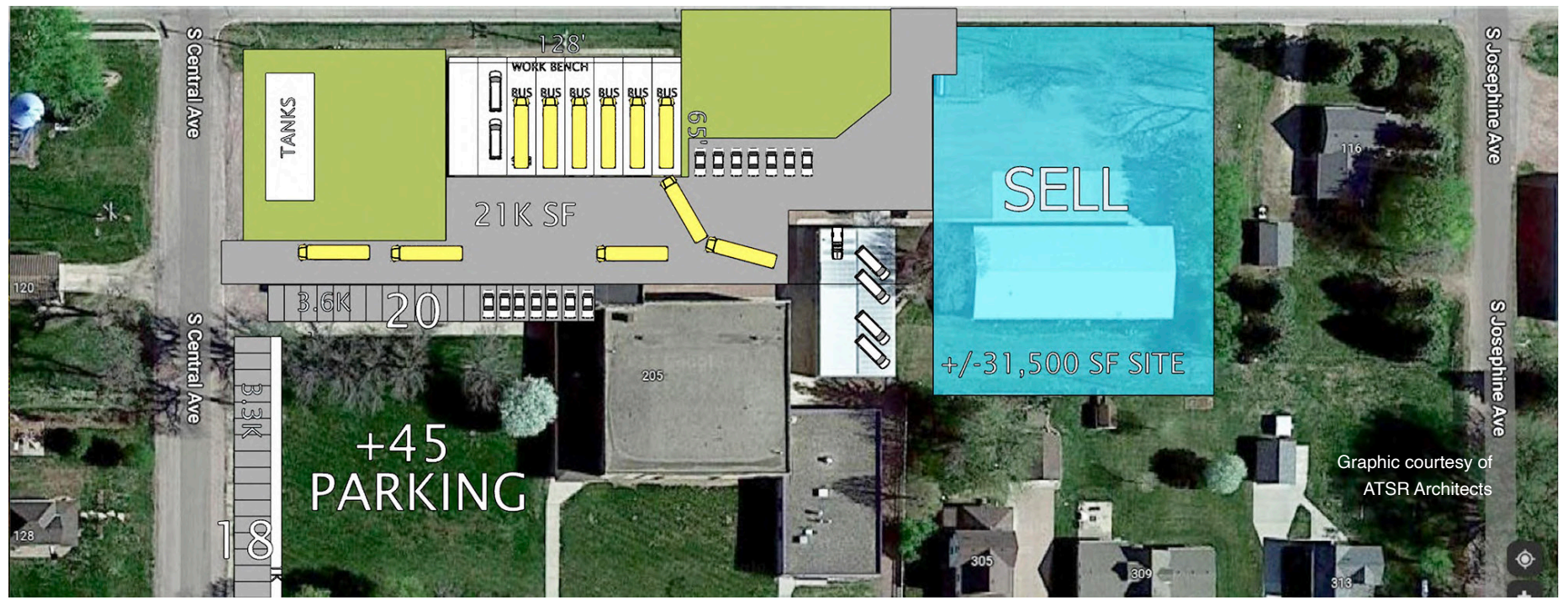
Meanwhile, she said participation has remained strong.

"From the Chamber's perspective, we are so pleased to see that so many businesses and organizations in the community embrace giving back to children," Lanphere said.

"It is always amazing when we get all the registrations to see the interest and commitment to giving back."

If the weather is inclement, the event will be moved inside the school hallways.

"That's another positive; we don't have to worry about moving it and can call it pretty late if we need too," Lanphere said.



At their Monday night meeting, the Hills-Beaver Creek School Board decided to build a new bus and vehicle garage at the H-BC High School facility (where the Hugo Goehle Gym is located) and to designate the existing garage and surrounding acreage as excess property to be offered for sale.

## H-BC bus garage to be built new rather than remodeled/continued from page 1

eight-stall combined bus/vehicle garage is estimated at \$2.2 million, already included the gym site budget.

Architects with AST&R of Sioux Falls brought five options for the bus/vehicle garage to the advisory committee to consider.

The five options include the original plan to expand the bus garage and renovate the vehicle garage.

Other plans include a new single garage bringing all district vehicles under one roof, and various options as to where to locate the new facility on the Hugo Goehle property.

Option 4 was recom-

*"We did our due diligence to see what would be the best use of taxpayer dollars. In the end of it, we thought it would be better to use the taxpayers' dollars to build a new bus garage rather than renovate the old one."*

— *Ethan Rozeboom, Hills-Beaver Creek School Board member*

mended to the committee.

"It was decided to build a new bus garage versus renovating the old one," said Superintendent Todd Holthaus.

"For further clarification and looking at the numbers, it was decided and talked

about where to put it."

Option 4 keeps the bus garage at the Hugo Goehle property versus moving the facility to the secondary school. Access at the Goehle property will be from Hwy. 270 and South Central Avenue.

The garage will be located on the north side of the property and will be a stand-alone building. It would consist of six bus stalls and two vehicle stalls.

The size of the garage could change when bids for the Summer 2025 project

are accepted.

Also at Monday's meeting, board members approved listing the current bus garage and surrounding acreage as excess property.

An investigation will take place whether or not to offer the garage at public sale will come from the advisory committee.

"We will know the value as part of the investigation," said board member Tim Bosch, who is a member of the advisory committee.

The proceeds from the sale of the excess property are included in the cost estimates to build the new garage.

## ON THE RECORD

### Dispatch report

Oct. 13

•Complainant south-bound on 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Edgerton, reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant in Steen reported an outage.

•Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported a runaway.

•Complainant on 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jasper, requested assistance from another department.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

Oct. 14

•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 16, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•Complainant on N. Spring Street and E. Crawford Street reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 6, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

Oct. 15

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported accident to property damage.

•Complainant on County Road 53 and County Road 15, Beaver Creek, reported road repairs.

•A warrant was issued in O'Brien County.

•Complainant north-bound on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Hills, reported an issue with road and drive laws.

•A warrant was issued in Hennepin County, Minneapolis.

•Complainant on N. River Road reported a missing person.

Oct. 16

•Complainant on S. Water Avenue reported a fire.

•Complainant on N. Spring Street reported vandalism.

•Complainant on Sunshine Avenue reported suspicious activity.

Oct. 17

•Complainant on Sioux Valley Drive reported

threats.

•Complainant on W. Harrison Street reported theft.

•Complainant on U.S. Highway 75 between 151<sup>st</sup> and 161<sup>st</sup> streets, requested motorist assistance.

•Complainant on N. McKenzie Street reported a fire.

•Complainant on State Highway 23, Jasper, requested assistance from another department.

•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek, requested assistance from another department.

Oct. 18

•Complainant on W. Main Street reported a runaway.

•Complainant on W. Luverne Street reported fraud.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a disorderly.

•Complainant on Highway 23 and 241<sup>st</sup> Street, Jasper, reported theft.

•Complainant on Highway 270 and 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hills, reported an abandoned vehicle.

•Complainant on 181<sup>st</sup> Street, Kenneth, reported disturbing the peace.

Oct. 19

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a disorderly.

•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 6, Beaver Creek, reported debris.

•Complainant on E. Fletcher Street reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant on Abbott Avenue, Magnolia, reported suspicious activity.

In addition, officers responded to 1 motor vehicle accident, 2 transports, 2 escorts, 23 ambulance runs, 4 paper services, 4 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 1 burn permit, 2 drug court tests, 6 purchase and carry permits, 34 traffic stops, 8 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 1 welfare check and 1 follow-up.

## Deputies apprehend suspect exhibiting high, violent behavior at ACE

By Lori Sorenson

Local law enforcement on Oct. 22 arrested a violent and apparently high suspect at ACE Hardware in Luverne.

According to the Rock County Sheriff's Office, a 911 call came in around 12:40 p.m. Sunday with reports that a man was trying to break into the cage of a foster cat in the store.

Employees believed that he was high and reported that he was trying to break the locks on the cage.

Law enforcement discovered the man, Thomas Porter, 28 from Luverne, had a warrant out of South Dakota and decided to arrest him on

that warrant.

When deputies were speaking with Porter at the ACE Hardware lot, he resisted arrest and fled on foot. The deputies were able to apprehend him at Main and Oakley. Porter's new charges include fleeing a peace officer, disorderly conduct, assault on a peace officer and obstruction of legal process.

The Rock County Sheriff's Office was assisted by off-duty state troopers, Nobles County Sheriff's Office, Minnesota State Patrol, Luverne Fire Department and Rock County Ambulance.

Deputies were treated and released for minor injuries.

## SEPTEMBER MARKET TRENDS FOR ROCK COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Single Family + Condo/Townhouse/Apt.			
Market Type	Seller's Market	Balanced Market	Buyer's Market
<b>Key Details</b>			
Months of Inventory	List to Sold Price %	Median Days in RPR	Median Sold Price
<b>3.16</b>	<b>100.5%</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>\$229,000</b>
↓ 20.2% *	↑ 0.29% *	↑ 31.1% *	↑ 34.71% *
* Month Over Month			

Hi Rock County! Jen & Deb here from Real Estate Retrievers. Let's dive into the latest market trends for September 2023.

Did you know that we currently have a 3.16 Months Supply of Inventory? That means there's a good balance between buyers and sellers in our area.

Over the last 12 months, the monthly supply of Inventory has increased by 46.98%. This indicates a growing demand for housing in Rock County.

When it comes to pricing, our List to Sold Price percentage is at a solid 100.5%. This shows that sellers are getting at or above their asking price, making it a great time to sell your property.

On average, homes are spending around 59 days on the market before being sold. This indicates a healthy level of activity in our local real estate market.

Looking at the numbers, the median sold price in Rock County is currently \$229,000. It's essential to keep in mind that this is the median, so there are properties available at various price points.

If you're thinking about buying or selling, now is the time to take advantage of these market trends. We're here to guide you through every step of the process and help you make informed decisions.

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or if you'd like to discuss your real estate goals. Let's make your dreams a reality!

Brought to you by:

Jen Roloff Associate Broker, Owner  
Deb Anerson Broker, Owner



Allstate Realty Team - Rewarding you with Results

SOURCE: Realtors Property Resource® analysis based on Listings

## Rall column/continued from p. 3

Yesterday in the mail I received a large envelope full of thank you notes from the students. I was so surprised by what each of them remembered or found the most interesting.

These notes made it perfectly clear that they listened quite intently and that each had learned something they found interesting. Some indicated they might even take up wildlife biology in college as a result of a two-hour walk in the tall grass. Nothing could have made me feel better.

Every human has an in-born love of nature. Unfortunately, many of them never get the chance to grow this

basic human desire as a result of too much electronics or no one to help them explore it.

If you ever get a chance to go on a wildlife walk, regardless of your age, you should take that opportunity. If you have any knowledge on the subject, take a kid on that walk with you. Only people who understand nature will care enough about it to try to protect and conserve it in some way.

I might have lit a small fire in a small number of this group, and if I was successful in doing so, then my time was very well spent. I cannot wait to do it again

PALACE

# PALACE THEATRE

## UPCOMING EVENTS

---

**Afternoon Escape: My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3**

Thursday, October 26 2:00 pm

\$5 Admission

---

**My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3** PG-13

Friday, October 27 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 29 2:00 pm

Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, \$7 for adults

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**Mason Dixon Line Presents: Born on the Bayou**

The Music of John Fogerty and Creedence Clearwater Revival

**Saturday October 28**

**7:30 pm**

**Tickets on sale now!**

Tickets: \$20 for Students  
\$25 for Adults

---

**Green Earth Players Presents: Knickers**

A BRIEF COMEDY

NOVEMBER 10-12 & 16-19, 2023

THE HISTORIC PALACE THEATRE LUVERNE, MINNESOTA

**November 10 - 12**

**November 16 - 19**

**Tickets on sale now!**

---

**Mason Dixon Line Presents: A Kickin' Country Christmas**

A KICKIN' COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

**Saturday, December 9**

**Tickets on sale now!**

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Mavis Fodness photos/1026 Prairie Paper Crafts  
Connie Kafka of Luverne holds a scrapbook album that she is creating from scratch for a friend. She shares her "Prairie Paper Crafts" designs on Facebook, but she doesn't sell them, preferring to give them away. Kafka also films how she creates her pieced-paper designs on YouTube, only filming her hands assembling the scrapbook page or pieced-paper craft.

## Anonymity brings out Kafka's creative side

By Mavis Fodness

Hands are all you see in Connie Kafka's "how-to" YouTube videos.

With more than 1,700 followers, the Luverne native, who also enjoys sharing her eye-catching paper-pieced crafts on her social media page titled "Prairie Paper Crafts," is not one to take money for her talent.

Thus her social media is not a business site but a place where Kafka displays her one-of-a-kind creations and, at times, gives away a free completed craft to one lucky viewer.

"I'm like my father was," she said. "He could give stuff away, and if he didn't get credit for it, that's all the better. I'm just kind of crazy that way."

Kafka doesn't consider herself an artist.

"I just about failed art in high school," she said. "Art is not my thing — I can't even draw a stick person."

Sewing, learned from her mother, Wanda, is where Kafka developed her eye for piecing items together to form artwork.

"Picking out fabrics fascinated me, especially selecting the right prints on the fabric," she said.

The ability to see the final product comes naturally to Kafka.

"It's just a gift from God — I can look at something online and I can't do it exactly, but it gives me something to create."

Because she could no longer physically sew, Kafka turned to stamping cards about three decades ago as a creative pastime.

At one point she considered becoming a demonstrator for the Stampin' Up company.

"I quit right away," she said, thinking of her late father, LaVern, again.

"I guess, just like him, you don't think your stuff is good enough to sell. For me, having to

**Kafka, go to page 7**



Gift bags, like the one pictured at left, are made by Connie Kafka out of pieced paper. At right is a gift tag.



## REMEMBER WHEN

### 10 years ago (2013)

The new digital projector arrived at the Historic Palace Theater on Monday and will be installed in time to show "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2" this Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. Volunteers from the Blue Mound Area Theater Board assisted Mel Hopland from Bright Star Systems of Minneapolis to install the new digital projection system. Board members thank Rock County, the city of Luverne and the many supporters of the Historic Palace Theatre that generously donated to the "Go Digital or Go Dark" fundraising campaign.

### 25 years ago (1998)

The Luverne Chamber of Commerce plans to open a gallery in the Creeger building on Main Street, Luverne, to display the photography work of Luverne native Jim Brandenburg.

Mike Cox, chairman of the board of the Luverne Chamber of Commerce, said Monday, "The Luverne Chamber of Commerce Executive Board and the Chamber Board have agreed in principle to be the managers of a Brandenburg Gallery in the west half of the Creeger building."

Although the financial details have not been ironed out, Cox said the plan is to open a gallery that will exclusively focus on Brandenburg's photographs, prints and books. Cox said a non-profit board will manage the gallery and hire a director. They will work as an arm of the Luverne Chamber of Commerce.

The gallery, similar to one operating in Ely, will provide an exclusive retail outlet for Brandenburg's work. Cox said the non-profit group will purchase Brandenburg materials, prints, books, and artifacts for the gallery from Brandenburg.

### 50 years ago (1973)

Only the surface has been skimmed in an investigation into the sale and use of marijuana by a group of Luverne high school students, Police Chief Chester Bendt said this week.

"We've talked to a number of boys and their parents and we'll be talking to others," he added.

"We're getting excellent cooperation from those we've talked to."

A Luverne high school instructor was in the boys' washroom last Wednesday when two boys came in, one attempting

to make a sale to the other one, and not being aware of the teacher's presence.

The teacher, suspicious of what was transpiring, walked up to the boys and found that one of them had a small plastic bag, sticking out of his rear trouser pocket that contained what was later found to be crumpled leaves of marijuana plant.

The teacher took the boys to the principal's office, and the police were then called," Chief Bendt said.

### 75 years ago (1948)

Mr. and Mrs. Don Renfro announced this week that they would re-open Renfro's Variety in the former Council Oak store location tomorrow.

In commemoration of the grand opening, they are offering special values Friday and Saturday, and gifts to all who visit their store on Saturday.

The new store will provide Luverne shoppers with something new in variety store merchandising, Mr. Renfro said. The "self-service" system, which has become popular in food markets, will be used in the variety store, and the fixtures have been so installed as to provide customers with plenty of aisle shopping space. This is particularly true of the kitchen supply and other departments, all of which have been made larger than they were in the other store.

New fixtures of light wood have been installed, and also new fluorescent light fixtures, giving the store a light and bright appearance within.

### 100 years ago (1923)

Drs. C. L. Sherman and C. O. Wright, who last July bought the Luverne hospital of the Dr. A. E. Spalding estate following three years' operation under a lease, have just finished having this important institution placed in as inviting condition as is possible in a concern of this character. Since buying the hospital they have had the building thoroughly repaired, the interior completely refinished and a number of conveniences installed. The floors and walls of the halls and every room in the building have been substantially refinished, and the walls decorated in a pleasing manner and battleship linoleum placed in the main hall. The improvements represent an expenditure of about \$2,000 and place the hospital in first-class condition in every way.

## 1943: Meyer finishes life story as a farmer

The following article is part of the Diamond Club Member group that began in the January 7, 1943, issue of the Rock County Star Herald. Members of this group consist of persons of age 75 and older.

The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on Feb. 17. Ernest A. Meyer, Luverne, continues his life's story.



## BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

horse, and he'd never move.

"One day, father had the chance to sell him for \$25 to a farmer living a short ways from us. The only mistake he made was that he didn't get the money when he sold the horse. The man came and got him on a Friday, and he must have given up trying to do something with him the first day. Anyway, when we went out into the yard on the following Sunday morning, there stood the horse with his head in the back end of a wagon box. As far as we know, the fellow who bought him just turned him loose, and he wandered home. I guess it was soon after that that father had him killed for hog feed."

**Bits, continued on page 7**

### Drove Mules

Mr. Meyer helped with the breaking of the horses, and whenever his father traded for mules, it was always his job to drive them. "But when he came home with four different spans in one week," he said, "then I told him he could quit any time."

Although he helped to break many horses, he found only one that he was unable to train. It was a colt that his father had raised, and which was seemingly a bright horse before they put a harness on him. They tried all the tricks of the trade to break him, Mr. Meyer recalls, but they had no luck. "I guess he just didn't have any brains," he said. "As a general rule when a balky horse lies down and won't get up, you can get him on his feet in a hurry if you pour water in his ear. Well, you could have drowned this



## OBITUARY

### Charlotte De Groot

Charlotte "Char" De Groot, age 72, of Luverne, died Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023, at the Good Samaritan Society Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.



She was born June 23, 1951, in Slayton, to John and Nelvina (Lolkus) Vis.

Char grew up on a farm northwest of Chandler where she attended school and church. She graduated from Southwest Christian High School and later attended Worthington Community College for accounting.

Char married Larry De Groot on June 1, 1991, in Luverne. The couple lived in Luverne. Char worked various jobs in accounting and customer service including IBP in Luverne for over 24 years.

She enjoyed baking, canning, gardening, flowers, reading, music crocheting and traveling. She especially enjoyed attending her grandchildren's activities.

Char is survived by her three children, Mike (Krist-

ee) Hart, Luverne; Scott Hart, Adrian; and Andrea (Justin Volden) Hart, Beaver Creek; nine grandchildren, Katelyn Hart, Brennan Hart, Brogan Hart, Jocelyn (friend, Ross Bergman) Hart, Jady Hart, Quintyn Volden, Brianna Hart and Alexis Hart; two great-granddaughters, Lylah and Olivia Hart; and a sister, Marilyn (Lloyd) DeBoer, Beaver Creek.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Larry, on Feb. 17, 2008; an infant sister, Darlene Vis; and a sister, Carolyn DeBoer.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne, and also one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday. Funeral will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, at the American Reformed Church, in Luverne, officiated by Pastor Mike Altena. Burial will be in the Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

### Kafka creates one-of-a-kind paper pieces/from page 6

create on a deadline takes the creativity away."

Her fears were realized again later when she turned to scrapbooking and considered selling items to scrapbookers.

The pressure to meet deadlines brought Kafka to a halt.

"I again just lost my creativity when I did that," she said.

Without pressures of sale deadlines, Kafka began experimenting, finding she didn't like stamping cards.

"There is really no creativity," she said. "You use someone else's images. You were limited on color. With paper piecing, you can make your own."

She cuts the paper pieces from a Cricut machine she bought on a dare almost a decade ago.

A visiting pre-teen neighbor watched an infomercial about the new Cricut machine that cuts paper into various shapes. The



Connie Kafka shares images of her Prairie Paper Crafts on her Facebook page as well as explains and shows her paper-piece technique on YouTube for free.

pieces were then used to make the final paper craft. The pre-teen didn't think the cutting machine would work as well as it was shown on TV.

Kafka proved her wrong, and she still uses a Cricut to create all her paper piecing.

The majority of her paper pieces are assembled as scrapbook pages. She also creates paper treat containers, gift packages, tags and other special projects for friends and family mem-

bers.

To initially learn and to stay updated on her craft, Kafka became a frequent YouTube watcher.

"I think I should have a YouTube University degree," she said.

Kafka stills fills plenty of trash cans that result from Kafka's desire to create the right expressions and/or colors for her paper creations.

Her perfected pieces are then featured on her Prairie Paper Crafts Face-

book site, as a sharing outlet she started several years ago.

Weeks after she began sharing her paper crafts online, she began making the how-to YouTube videos.

"When you share things on Facebook (she has 1,500 followers), people start wondering how you do things. That's when I met a fellow creator and he helped me get started with YouTube and it took off from there."

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Uithoven, Ahrens achieve wastewater certifications

Aric Uithoven, senior water/wastewater operator and Joe Ahrens, a water/wastewater operator, both for the city of Luverne, recently achieved wastewater certifications through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Uithoven, employed by the city since 2012 and an operator since 2019, achieved Class B Wastewater Certification.

Ahrens, employed by the city since May, achieved Class C wastewater certification.

In Minnesota, wastewater treatment operators must be certified to operate wastewater facilities and collection systems.

The certification class must be equal to or higher than the class of the facility.

### Hartman receives outstanding planning, zoning award

Eric Hartman, the county's Land Management Office director, received the Tina Rosenstein Outstanding Service Award from the Minnesota Association of County Planning

and Zoning Administrators.

The award recognized Hartman (pictured at right holding the award) for his outstanding dedication and service to further the goals and the betterment of the association.

MACPZA was formed in 1973 to provide a platform for county planning and zoning administrators to share ideas and promote land use planning.

Hartman also serves as treasurer for the organization.

### Schomacker elected vice chairman

State Rep. Joe Schomacker (R-Luverne) was elected by unanimous, bipartisan board vote as vice chairman of the state's Legislative Budget Office (LBO) Oversight Committee.

Schomacker was a supporter of the initial legislation establishing the LBO.

The committee is charged with objectively evaluating proposed legislation to assess the potential impact on the state budget.

"The legislative process and the public's information should not be veiled through the lens of any governor's office, Republican or Democratic," Schomacker said.

## CELEBRATIONS

### Bridal shower

A come-and-go bridal shower for **Tara Sudenga**, bride-to-be of **Mike Eck-**

**ardt**, will be from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5, at The Bull Pen, 1202 S. Kniss Avenue, Luverne.

## MENU AT GENERATIONS

**Monday, Oct. 30:** Chef's Choice Entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert.

**Tuesday, Oct. 31:** Pasta with meat sauce, romaine salad with dressing, warm spiced pears, breadstick, cookie.

**Wednesday, Nov. 1:** Orange chicken, rice, carrots, pineapple.

**Thursday, Nov. 2:** Pork loin, yams, broccoli, bread, dessert.

**Friday, Nov. 3:** Sloppy Joe on a bun, cheesy hash-browns, baked beans, cookie.

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

### Bits by Betty tells Ernest Meyer's story as a farmer in Rock County/continued from page 6

Mr. Meyer stayed at home until he was in his early 20's. When the farm work at home would be done, he and his brother usually went out to work. Salaries were relatively small, and if one earned \$1.00 a day picking corn, he was making good wages.

It was in 1896 that he came to Rock county, and he has lived here ever since. The first fall, he worked by the day with a threshing crew at a salary of \$2.00 per day. They were out 72 days, and they still didn't finish their run, Mr. Meyer said.

#### Slept in Open

"Some nights we'd have no roof over our heads, and some nights we'd sleep in a strawpile," he declared. "One night in the late fall, we slept

in a barn, and when we woke up, our blankets were all white with snow. We didn't seem to mind it, though."

The next year, he hired out to his brother-in-law, Henry Hemme, for nine months at a salary of \$165.00 for the season. On December 15, 1897, he married Anna Mary Piegras, at Luverne, and they moved to a farm on the northeast quarter of section 31, Denver township, which was their home for four years. From there they went to Mr. Meyer's father's farm, the west half of section 3 in Mound township, and lived there until moving to their new home, which they built on the southwest quarter of section 30 in Denver township in 1911.

"We built right out in a

stubble field," said Mr. Meyer, "and I don't believe I ever put in any longer days than I did then. I'd drive up there every morning and come back every night. For two solid weeks, I never saw our home place by daylight. Mrs. Meyer, too, had a good workout. In addition to making meals and serving them to those who were at home, she'd hitch up a horse and drive up there every noon with a hot meal for us."

This was their home until 1924 when they bought a home on West Main street in Luverne, and moved to town, Mr. Meyer was dissatisfied

with his life of leisure, so he traded the home for an 80-acre tract on the northwest edge of Luverne, and built up a modern farm place there, the year following. They farmed the land for 10 years, then rented the land and continued to live there until 1940, when they again moved back to Luverne, and where they have since lived in their home on North Freeman avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have four children, Mrs. Charles (Elizabeth) Kemerling, Hardwick; Mrs. Arno (Hilda) Mueller, Luverne; Peter

Meyer, Luverne, and Lloyd Meyer, Luverne. They also have three grandchildren.

One of a family of 14 children, Mr. Meyer has 10 brothers and sisters living at the present time. They include: Henry Meyer, Bellingham, Minn.; Mrs. Anna Hemme, Hardwick; Mrs. Ida Backhaus, Garneville, Iowa; Will and Herman Meyer and Mrs. Bertha Kurtman, all of Von Horn, Iowa; Mrs. Clara Warkentin, Bancroft, S.D.; Mrs. Emma Andrew and Mrs. Elizabeth Wickham, Newhall, Iowa, and John Meyer, who lives

in California.

While living on the farm, Mr. Meyer served as road overseer in Denver township for a number of years, as clerk of the town board for two years, and as a member of the school board.

He is a member of the First Presbyterian church of Luverne.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iw.net.

## NEW FOR SPRING 2024

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## Luverne beats Redwood 33-21, ends regular season 5-3

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne football team hosted Redwood Valley Wednesday, Oct. 18, beating the rival Cardinals 33-21 in the final game of the regular season.

"It was a big win for us to get a home field playoff game," head coach Todd Oye said.

"Our offense played their best game of the year."

Against Redwood Valley, Luverne scored first on a 4-yard keeper by quarterback senior Conner Connell.

Senior Patrick Kroski kicked the extra point through the posts, giving LHS a 7-0 lead in the first quarter.

In the second quarter, senior Gavin DeBeer bulldozed a 10-yard run into the end zone and Kroski converted on the field goal to take a 14-0 lead.

Redwood was able to put together a scoring drive on a 20-yard pass and score the extra point to cut the lead to 14-7.

Senior Elliot Domagala scored next for Luverne on a 16-yard scamper for a touchdown, and Kroski made his third field goal to take a 21-7 Luverne lead.

Redwood Valley came back and burned Luverne's defense on a 59-yard pass



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1026 lhs fb1  
Senior Gavin DeBeer braces for impact running the ball against Redwood Valley Wednesday, Oct. 18, in Luverne. The Cardinals won the final regular season game 33-21.

for a touchdown.

After the extra point, Redwood cut the lead to a one score game, trailing 21-14.

LHS was able to mount one more drive in the third quarter to score on a 1-yard

quarterback sneak up the middle to the end zone.

Kroski missed the extra point, and Luverne finished the third quarter with a 27-14 lead.

In the fourth quarter, Luverne scored on a 5-yard

touchdown run by senior Sam Rock.

LHS failed on the two-point conversion play and led 33-14.

Redwood once again beat Luverne on a catch-and-run 62-yard touch-

down play late in the fourth quarter and made the extra point, but the game ended with Luverne defeating Redwood Valley 33-21.

Luverne sophomore Jaydon Johnson had two kickoff returns in the game. One of them was a 26-yard return to give Luverne good field position.

The Cardinals closed out the regular season with a record of 5-3.

Luverne, seeded No. 4, was scheduled to play Tri-City United, seeded No. 5, at home Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 6 p.m. in section quarter-final action.

TCU has accepted an invitation to join the Big South Conference starting in the fall of 2024.

Tri City United High School is located in Montgomery and serves the communities of Montgomery, Lonsdale and Le Center.

"TCU is a new opponent for us, which is a fun challenge. They play a schedule with more AAA schools so they should be battle-tested," Oye said.

"It is nice being at home, playing on a Tuesday night, and with the distance between the schools, it is great to be playing at home."

Coach Oye said junior Carter Sehr is still day-to-day on concussion protocol after a hit last week against Jackson. "Carter is excited to play, but we will make sure he is 100-percent healthy before he plays."

Box Scores	1	2	3	4	Final
Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
LHS	7	20	0	6	33
Redwood	0	14	0	7	21

Team Totals	LHS	RVH
Total plays	71	35
Total yards	406	215
Passing yards	131	208
Rushing yards	275	7
Fumbles	0	0
Interceptions	1	0
Penalty yards	40	26

Luverne Individual Stats	Passing	Cp/Att	Yds	TD
Connell	12/20	131	0	0

Rushing	Yds	TD
Connell	137	2
Rock	63	1
Domagala	37	1
DeBeer	33	1

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	TD
Domagala	3	56	0
DeBeer	6	40	0
Kroski	2	21	0
J. Lais	1	14	0

Tackles	Assists	Sacks
Connell	2	2
DeBeer	2	0
Kracht	2	1
Gonnerman	2	0
J. Lais	1	0
Ahrendt	1	3
Johnson	1	1
Sauer	1	0
Kroski	0	1
Diaz	0	1
Kruger	0	1
Sasker	0	1



Submitted photo/1026 duffdog1

Runners at the start of the Duff Dog Backyard Ultra Saturday morning in the Blue Mounds State Park included (front, left) Andy Hayner, Stacy Fleace, Eva Gut, Tim Fry, Adam Berens, Nate Kruse, (back) Andrey Turner, Brian Faulkner, Brendan Todt, Sheldon Crooks, Parker Crooks and Bo Cowell.

## Duff Dog Ultra challenges runners at Blue Mounds

By Greg Hoogeveen

Luverne's David Duffy hosted an "ultra" trail running event Saturday, Oct. 14, that challenged athletes to complete 100 miles in one day.

The event, Duff Dog Backyard Ultra in the Blue Mounds State Park, attracted 12 hardy competitors.

This was Duffy's third year hosting the event in which competitors consecutively run the distance of 6,706 meters (4.167 miles) in less than one hour.

"This race is for all runners with all abilities," Duffy said. "The format allows everyone a chance to find greatness in themselves."

Participants average 12- to 13-minute miles for the duration and get about 7 to 10 minutes of rest before the start of each hour.

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

"There is only one win-

ner. However, runners can challenge themselves to go farther than they ever had before in a race." Duffy said.

"The key to success in any Backyard Race, is not how fast you can go, instead how long you can last."

He said runners, from the start, walk most uphill and technical parts of the course and run or trot the flats and downhill.

The winner of this year's event was Tim Fryer, age 44, from Hendricks. He finished 21 loops, 87.5 miles.

The Assist, the person who assists the winner, went to Adam Berens, 41, from Harrisburg, finishing 20 loops, 83.33 miles.

Andrew Turner, 36, from Lino Lakes, finished 17 loops, 70.83 miles.

Parker Crooks, 19, from Astoria, South Dakota, and Nate Kruse, 45, from Sioux Falls finished 16 loops, 66.67 miles.

Eva Gut, 40, from Sioux Falls, finished 15 loops, 62.5 miles.

Duff dog ultra/see page 9

## Patriots football team beats New Ulm 40-18, posts perfect regular season

By Greg Hoogeveen

The H-BC football team hosted New Ulm Cathedral for the Patriots' final regular season game Wednesday, Oct. 18.

The Patriots beat the Greyhounds 40-18 to cap off a perfect 8-0 regular season record.

"It was a great way to end our regular season with a sub-district championship," head coach Rex Metzger said.

"We knew coming in that it was going to be a battle with them dropping from 11-man to 9-man this year and the large number of juniors and seniors on their roster."

New Ulm Cathedral shocked the Patriots early in the game, breaking a 61-yard run to the endzone on the third play from scrimmage.

NUC failed on the conversion and took a 6-0 lead in the first quarter.

Fazed but not deterred, H-BC opened the second quarter marching down the field, converting four first downs and capping off the drive on a 2-yard touchdown run by junior Beau Bakken.

Bakken then ran in a 3-yard conversion play to take the lead 8-6.

On the Patriots' next drive, junior James VandenBosch went 21 yards, catching the ball from sophomore quarterback Jamin Metzger, breaking a tackle, and reaching the endzone with a defender on his back.

The Patriots failed on the conversion and took a 14-6 lead.

The Greyhounds faltered on their next drive and had to punt.

The Patriots once again drove down the field and scored on a 1-yard run from Bakken.

The Patriots extended their lead to 20-6 after failing on the conversion.

Late in the second half NUC was putting together a



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1026 hbc fb1  
Junior James VandenBosch reaches for a touchdown against New Ulm Cathedral Wednesday, Oct. 18. The Patriots won the final regular season game 40-18 at home.

nice drive that was interrupted by a Bakken interception that he ran back 44 yards for a touchdown.

With the two-point conversion H-BC closed the first half with a 28-6 lead.

The Patriots received the second half kickoff and quickly moved down field on a Bakken 19-yard scamper and a 30-yard Metzger to Bush toss.

Bakken finished the drive on a 14-yard touchdown run against the Greyhounds.

A missed conversion gave H-BC a 34-6 lead.

The Greyhounds were unable to get their offense going on their next possession and turned the ball over on downs.

The Patriots seized the opportunity and added one last score on a Metzger 1-yard keeper for a touchdown.

H-BC's extra-point field goal try was blocked, making the score 40-6 late in the third quarter. NUC was able to get

two scores in the fourth quarter to end the game H-BC 40, NUC 18.

"They had good size across the board but we were able to use our team speed to disrupt some of the things they do well," Metzger said.

"We made some big plays throughout the night, but Beau Bakken's pick six before half kind of took the wind out of their sails."

H-BC received a bye in the section quarterfinals and is scheduled to host a semi-final game Saturday, Oct. 28, against the winner of the Granada-Huntley-East Chain/Truman and Alden-Conger/Glenville-Emmons game played Tuesday, Oct. 24.

Box Scores	1	2	3	4
Quarters	1	2	3	4
Final	6	0	0	12
NUC	6	0	0	12
H-BC	8	20	12	0

Team Totals	HBC	EHS
First downs	25	11
Penalties/yards	3-26	3-30
Rushing Yards	220	229
Reception yards	119	42
Time of Possession	44:11	29:26

H-BC Individual Stats	Passing	Cp/Att	Yds	TD
Metzger	10/14	1719	1	1

Rushing	Yds.	TD
Bakken	99	3
Metzger	55	1
Rheault	17	0
Roelfs	12	0
Bush	12	0
Bosch	11	0
Gehrke	10	0
VandenBosch	4	0

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	TD
Bush	6	78	0
VandenBosch	2	27	1
Bosch	2	14	1

Tackles	Sacks	Int.
Bakken	1	0
Gehrke	4	1
Wegener	2	0
Roelfs	1	0
Tatge	6	0
Bosch	3	0
Wallin	1	0
Bush	1	0
Moser	4	1
Allen	4	1
Susie	1	0
Rheault	4	1
Leuthold	2	0
VandenB	2	0
Gacke	1	0
Bartels	1	0



# Luverne cross country boys' and girls' teams place second in Big South Conference meet

By Greg Hoogeveen

Luverne boys' and girls' varsity cross country teams placed second at the Big South Conference meet Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the Marshall Golf Club.

The Luverne girls' junior varsity team took third place in their event.

Four LHS athletes received all-conference honors after the meet, and two were named to the all-conference honorable mention list.

Cross country all-conference honors went to senior Jenna DeBates, seventh-grader Summer Mollberg, senior Ryan Fick and junior Dylan Ommen.

Junior Leif Ingebretsen and freshman Marcus Papik received honorable mention.

DeBates was an individual champion in the girls' 5,000-meter race with a personal best time of 18:07.25.

The Cardinals also had 10 Top 15 finishers at the event.

"We were very pleased with the kids' performances at the conference meet," said head coach Pete Janiszkeski.

"They had arguably their best performances across the board. We are extremely proud of how they competed and challenged limits. It's how you hope the meets at the end of the season go."

The **Luverne girls' varsity 5,000-meter** team placed second with a combined time of 1:46:03.15, falling just behind Redwood Valley with a combined time of 1:40:09.15.

Placing for Luverne were DeBates taking first with a PR of 18:07.25.

Mollberg placed seventh with a time of 20:38.69.

Freshman Kloe Visker placed 16th at 21:56.22.

Seventh-grader



Submitted photo/1026 big south

LHS cross country runners honored at the Big South Championship on Tuesday, Oct. 17, are (from left) junior Dylan Ommen, all-conference; freshman Marcus Papik, honorable mention; senior Ryan Fick, all-conference; junior Leif Ingebretsen, honorable mention; senior Jenna DeBates, all-conference; and seventh-grader Summer Mollberg, all-conference.

Sophia Nolz placed 19th at 22:23.79.

Freshman Reinha John placed 22nd at 22:57.20.

Freshman Olivia Lund placed 30th at 23:23.71, followed by eighth-grader Grace Kempema at 31st with a time of 23:23.84.

Freshman Mariah Knorr rounded out the varsity runners, placing 39th with a time of 24:44.35.

The **Luverne boys' varsity 5,000-meter** team placed second with a combined time of 1:27:41.16 behind Redwood Valley with a combined time of 1:24:17.93.

Fick led Luverne runners with a sixth-place finish in a time of 16:58.47.

Ommen placed seventh at 17:08.14.

Ingebretsen placed 10th at 17:32.20 followed by Papik in 11th place at 17:35.32.

Junior Kaleb Hemme placed 23rd at 18:27.03.

Senior Zach Terrio placed 26th at 18:40.40,

and junior Eli McLendon placed 34th in a time of 20:16.75.

The **Luverne girls' junior varsity 5,000-meter** team took third place with a combined time of 2:05:55.57 behind first place Redwood Valley at 2:02:42.02 and second place Pipestone at 2:04:21.56.

Senior Kayla Bloemendaal led the Luverne Cardinals team with a fourth-place finish in a time of 24:04.58.

Seventh-grader Harper DeWispelaere placed seventh at 24:24.21, followed by Ahna Tofteland placing eighth at 24:30.30.

Seventh-grader Bridget Sandager placed 13th at 25:49.95.

Senior Brynn Boyenga placed 24th at 27:06.53.

Junior Jaelyn Arp placed 29th at 27:39.25.

Junior Andrea Luitjens placed 32nd at 29:16.06, followed by eighth-grader Emma Wieneke placing

33rd at 29:43.26.

Freshman Anna Reisdorfer placed 38th with a time of 32:15.79.

The **Luverne boys' junior varsity 5,000-meter** team had only two runners in the event.

Seventh-grader William Gehrke placed 29th in a time of 24:41.35, and sophomore Zander Fountain placed 36th in a time of 26:33.41.

"The kids are focused and motivated to see what they can do at the Section meet," Janiszkeski said.

The Cardinals will travel to the Section 3A Championships Thursday, Oct. 26, in Madison, Minnesota.

Janiszkeski said, "Everyone who steps on the starting line next Thursday will give their very best effort and do their part to help their team, and the results will take care of themselves."

# Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball falls in Section 3A Tourney

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team hosted Luverne Tuesday, Oct. 17, falling 3-0 to the Cardinals.

LHS won 25-10, 25-9 and 25-11.

"We were not ready to play mentally, and for some reason they were all in their heads about it being senior night and the last home game," said coach Meghan Zylstra. (See LHS/HBC story for details.)

The Lady Pates traveled to Tracy-Milroy-Balaton Monday, Oct. 23, for the first round of Section 3A action.

The Patriots, seeded No. 9, fell to the Panthers, seeded No. 8, in three sets, 25-18, 25-7, 25-23.

Senior Lanae Elbers had eight kills, two blocks, was 7-8 serving and had four digs.

Freshman Brynn

Bakken finished with three kills, three blocks, 5-5 serving and six digs.

Freshman Olivia Deelstra had seven kills, one block, was 9-11 serving, with five aces.

Sophomore Ella Sammons had four kills. Junior Bailey Spykerboer had two kills, four set assists and two digs.

Senior Brynn Rauk had 11 set assists, 11-12 serving with one ace, one kill and seven digs.

Sophomore Abbie Harris had eight set assists, five digs and was 5-7 serving.

Senior Grace Anderson was 7-8 serving with eight digs.

Sophomore Claire Knobloch had six digs.

With the section loss H-BC is done for the year and finished their regular season 2-15.

## Duff dog ultra/from page 8

Sheldon Crooks, 48, from Astoria, South Dakota, finished 13 loops, 54.17 miles.

Andy Hayner, 38, from Moorhead finished 12 loops, 50 miles.

Brendan Todt, 39, from Sioux City, Iowa, finished 10 loops, 41.67 miles.

Stacy Fleace, 55, from Worthington, and Brian Faulkner, 44, from Lake Benton, finished eight

loops, 33.33 miles.

Bo Cowell, 17, from Fort Dodge, Iowa, finished one loop, 4.167 miles.

Duffy said all the participants checked in Saturday with four to seven pairs of shoes, one or two watches, a couple of headlamps with extra batteries, two to three backpacks of clothes, and family-size coolers with food and beverages.

# LHS and H-BC volleyball teams dual in Hills

By Greg Hoogeveen

The Luverne volleyball team traveled to Hills Tuesday, Oct. 17, beating the Patriots 3-0.

LHS won the first set 25-10, took the second set 25-9 and the final set 25-11.

The Cardinals-Patriots matchup was the final regular season game for both teams.

"We played with determination and control," head coach Sarah DeBeer said. "It was a great display of what these girls are capable of when we take care of the little things. Every player on our roster contributed to that win, which makes it even better."

For Luverne, senior Elle Halverson had 12 set assists and junior Amira Cowell had 14 set assists.

Junior Ella Reisdorfer had 14 digs, and senior Belle Smidt had 12 digs in the match.

Junior Kylie Vander Lugt went 24 of 24 serving, and Cowell was 20 of 20 with two aces at the service line.

Senior Morgan Ahrendt had eight kills, and senior Kiesli Smith had 11.

Smith also had three block assists and two solos, and senior Kira John had three solos and three assists for the Cardinals.

For Hills-Beaver Creek, senior Lanae Elbers had five kills, went 4 of 4 serving, had one block and two digs.

Freshman Brynn Bakken had one kill, one block



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1026 lhs vb1

LHS senior Tori Serie sends the ball over the net toward H-BC blockers freshman Brynn Bakken (4) and senior Brynn Rauk Tuesday, Oct. 17, in Hills. Luverne won the match 3-0.

and four digs.

Freshman Olivia Deelstra had four kills and went 3 of 5 serving.

Sophomore Ella Sammons had two kills and one block.

Junior Bailey Spykerboer had one kill, two blocks and three digs.

Sophomore Abbie Harris went 5-5 serving, with three digs and five set assists.

Senior Brynn Rauk was 6-7 serving, had one kill, eight set assists and four digs.

Senior Grace Anderson went 6-6 serving and had

eight digs.

Sophomore Claire Knobloch had eight digs for the Patriots.

"We were not ready to play mentally, and for some reason they were all in their heads about it being senior night and the last home game," head coach Meghan Zylstra said.

"By the third set, it was one of the games where you just wanted to get it done and over with so we could move on from it and leave what happened in the past. We now know what happens when we don't show up ready and when

we let all of the little things break down."

With the win, Luverne finished the regular season 10-13. H-BC finished the regular season 2-15.

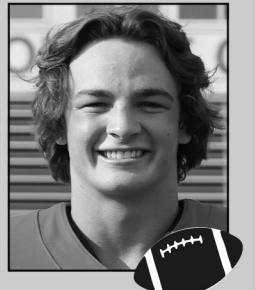
Hills-Beaver Creek, seeded No. 9, was scheduled to travel to Tracy-Milroy-Balaton, seeded No. 8, for its first post season game on Monday, Oct. 23.

The Cardinals, seeded No. 4, will take on Fairmont, seeded No. 5, at home Friday, Oct. 27, for Round 1 in post-season play.

## SENIOR ATHLETES of the Week

### Sam Rock

**Sport:** Football  
**Parents:** Davey and Shayla Rock  
**What I like most about Football:** Experiencing the team aspect and hitting people.  
**Other extracurricular activities/hobbies:** Wrestling  
**Favorite Class:** History



### Will Serie

**Sport:** Football  
**Parents:** Dan and Christal Serie  
**What I like most about Football:** My favorite thing about football is just being with the guys.  
**Other extracurricular activities/hobbies:** Baseball and Hockey  
**Favorite Class:** Sport entertainment and marketing



### Hallie Bork

**Sport:** Volleyball  
**Parents:** Annie and Nickolas Bork  
**What I like most about Volleyball:** I like being a part of team of people that supports each other and has fun.  
**Other extracurricular activities/hobbies:** FCCLA, BPA, acting and reading.  
**Favorite Class:** English/ AP Literature



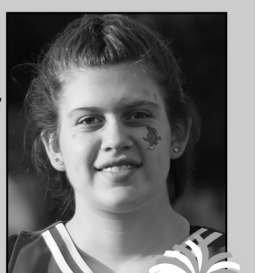
### Morgan Ahrendt

**Sport:** Volleyball  
**Parents:** Jeff and Johnna Ahrendt  
**What I like most about Volleyball:** I like volleyball because it allows me to be surrounded by a team, but I also have to pull my weight individually for my team to succeed.  
**Other extracurricular activities/hobbies:** Sanford Volleyball Academy, FFA, volunteering at Rock Ranch and peer tutoring.  
**Favorite Class:** Biology



### Bridget Thielbar

**Sport:** Cheerleading  
**Parents:** Patti DeBates and Brock Thielbar  
**What I like most about Cheerleading:** I love cheering for the Cardinals!! I also like getting the crowd hyped up!  
**Other extracurricular activities/hobbies:** FCCLA and diamond arts.  
**Favorite Class:** Child Development





## How can we know the truth?

“Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil.” (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 NIV)

I wish we all could trust everyone. When I was in second grade, I learned a really hard life lesson. I learned that not everybody in the world had my best interest at heart.

It was the first day of school and our teacher asked us what was the best part of our summer vacation.

I was excited to share with my classmates about going to Adventureland that summer with my grandparents. I shared with them about the rides and was pleased to show them my prized possession. It was a pencil case that had Bernie Bernard on it.

The boy sitting next to me seemed really interested in my pencil case. He had a lot of questions about it.

The next day I got to school, and my new pencil case was missing. Coincidentally – at least that is what Mrs. Nelson said – the boy sitting next to me had a pencil case just like the one I must have lost. I protested to Mrs. Nelson, but she was not interested in what I had to say. She simply chose to believe the boy sitting next to me, who magically had a new pencil case on day two that happened to match the one I had shown the class on day one. Mrs. Nelson chose not to test everything.

If we fail to test everything, we will find ourselves fooled, especially in this world. God encourages us in

## BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Jeremy Wiersema, The Reformed Church of Steen

Matthew 10:16 to be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

Heartbreakingly, there are people in our world that desire to get ahead by taking advantage of others' kindness and love.

Our Heavenly Father clearly wants what is best for us, so he encourages us in I John 4:1 with this guidance: “Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” (NIV)

The only way we can test everything is by knowing the truth. Otherwise we will be easily fooled by the slick-talking false prophets of the day.

So how can we know the truth? There is only one way and that is for us to read the Word of God. In the pages of the Bible, the truth is given to us. All we need to do is commit to reading it.

If we read the Word, it will be in us and when we hear the false prophets speak, we will have the tools necessary to be wise in regard to their words.

Don't take my word for it. Please read your Bible and build your life on the truth that we have been given by God in love. He is the one we can be certain has our best interests at heart because he is our Heavenly Father.

**St. Catherine Catholic Church**  
203 E. Brown St., Luverne  
St. Catherine Ph. 283-8502; [www.stscl.org](http://www.stscl.org)  
Monsignor Gerald Kosse, Pastor

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

**Luverne Christian Reformed Church**  
605 N. Estey St., Luverne  
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982  
[www.luverneccr.com](http://www.luverneccr.com) — [office@luverneccr.com](mailto:office@luverneccr.com)

Joe Steenholdt, Pastor  
Sunday Worship services: 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday School follows the morning service (Sept.-April). Livestream and past services can be found on our YouTube channel. Our services are also on local cable TV at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @luverneccr. In all circumstances, may we joyfully declare: “Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.” Psalm 124:8.

**First Baptist Church**  
103 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne  
Ph. 283-4091; email: [fbcluv@iw.net](mailto:fbcluv@iw.net) — [www.fbcluverne.org](http://www.fbcluverne.org)  
Walt Moser, Pastor

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

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne

Ph. 507-283-4431; [www.graceluverne.org](http://www.graceluverne.org) — [graceluverne@iw.net](mailto:graceluverne@iw.net)  
Thursday, Oct. 26: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reading Buddies. Saturday, Oct. 28: 10 a.m. High School Youth leaf raking and pizza. Sunday, Oct. 29: 9 a.m. Reformation Worship service with Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Sunday school. 10:15 a.m. Special congregational meeting. 4 p.m. Confirmation service with Holy Communion. Tuesday, Oct. 31: 1 p.m. GriefShare session. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reading Buddies. Wednesday, Nov. 1: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Pris/Eliz Circle meeting. 3:30 p.m. Faithweavers. 6:30 p.m. Voices of Grace rehearsal. 7 p.m. Confirmation class for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online worship: Sundays 9 a.m. at [www.graceluverne.org](http://www.graceluverne.org), click Worship tab; or Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne  
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834

Andrew Palmquist, Pastor  
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School and Bible class. 10:15 a.m. Worship service; online as well (at [els.org](http://els.org)). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

**American Reformed Church**  
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne

Ph. 507-283-8600; email: [office@arcluverne.org](mailto:office@arcluverne.org)  
Friday, Oct. 27: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Pillow cleaning. Sunday, Oct. 29: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 10:50 a.m. Sunday school. 1-5 p.m. TEC meeting. 3-4:30 p.m. Gospel Jubilee. CommServices are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne. Tuesday, Oct. 31: 9:45 a.m. Bible study fellowship. 12 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Nov. 1: 5:30 p.m. Midweek Meal. 6:15 p.m. Senior High Youth. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Club and Junior High Youth.

**Rock River Community Church**  
1075 110<sup>th</sup> Ave., Luverne

Ph. 507-283-9070; email: [info@rockrivercommunity.church](mailto:info@rockrivercommunity.church)  
Bob Junak, Pastor  
Come as you are—Sundays @ 10 a.m.: Main Service. Kids church age 3-6<sup>th</sup> grade—Nursery. Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service—Kids age 3-6<sup>th</sup> grade.

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

Wednesday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Open Prayer chapel. NO CLASSES. 5:30 p.m. Community Meal. 6:30 p.m. Organized prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Oct. 26: 8 p.m. NA meeting. Saturday, Oct. 28: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, Oct. 29: 9:30 a.m. FUEL/Adult Sunday School. 9:45 a.m. Coffee. 10:30 a.m. Worship service. Live streamed on Facebook and radio. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible study. ALIVE – Halloween event. Monday, Oct. 30: 6:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible study. Tuesday, Oct. 31: 9:30 p.m. Folding team. Wednesday, Nov. 1: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Prayer Chapel. 6:15 p.m. FUEL/Confirmation. 6:30 p.m. Organized prayer. 8 p.m. AA meeting. 8 p.m. NA meeting.

**First Presbyterian Church**  
302 Central Lane, Luverne

Ph. 283-4787; email: [fpemillie@gmail.com](mailto:fpemillie@gmail.com)  
Wednesday, Oct. 25: 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir, 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir. Sunday, Oct. 29: 9 a.m. Adult Sunday School, 10:15 a.m. In-person Worship Service

and Youth Sunday School (View on Facebook under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne, City of Luverne's LUV TV or on the local Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays), 11:15 a.m. Family Feast and Fellowship Harvest Party. Wednesday, Nov. 1: 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir, 6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir, 7:15 p.m. Committee Meetings.

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne  
Ph. 283-2316; email: [stjohn@iw.net](mailto:stjohn@iw.net)  
[www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org](http://www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org)

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

**Living Rock Church**  
500 E. Main St., Luverne  
Ph. 449-0057; [www.livingrockswmn.org](http://www.livingrockswmn.org)  
Josh Hayden, Pastor

**New Life Celebration Church**  
101 W. Maple, Luverne  
Ph. (605) 368-1924; email: [newlifecelibration@gmail.com](mailto:newlifecelibration@gmail.com)

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
305 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick  
Ph. (507) 669-2855; [zionoffice@alliancecom.net](mailto:zionoffice@alliancecom.net)  
Jesse Baker, Pastor

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

**Ben Clare United Methodist Church**  
26762 Ben Clare Ave., Valley Springs, S.D.  
[igtwb@WOW.net](mailto:igtwb@WOW.net)  
Bill Bates, Pastor

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

Sunday, Oct. 29: 9 a.m. Worship service at First Lutheran Church. 10 a.m. Sunday school. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @FirstLutheranValleySprings; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish. Wednesday, Nov. 1: 5-7 p.m. Soup supper at First Lutheran.

**Palisade Lutheran Church**  
211 121<sup>st</sup> St., Garretson, S.D.  
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — [palisadchurch@alliancecom.net](mailto:palisadchurch@alliancecom.net)  
[www.palisadelutheran.org](http://www.palisadelutheran.org)

Sunday, Oct. 29: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship service at Palisade Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @PalisadeLC; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish. Wednesday, Oct. 11-Nov. 8: 9 a.m. Palisade quilting group will meet. All are welcome. Bring a friend. No experience necessary.

**First Presbyterian Church**  
201 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek  
Ph. 507-935-5025  
email: [lori.firstpres@gmail.com](mailto:lori.firstpres@gmail.com)

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

**Magnolia United Methodist Church**  
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia  
Ph. 605-215-3429  
email: [magnoliannumc@gmail.com](mailto:magnoliannumc@gmail.com)

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

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

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

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
112 N. Main St., Hills  
Ph. 962-3270 / [bethlehemofhills@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemofhills@gmail.com)  
Nita Parker, Pastor

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

**Hills United Reformed Church**  
410 S. Central Ave., Hills Office Ph. 962-3254  
[hillsurc@alliancecom.net](mailto:hillsurc@alliancecom.net)  
Praveen Muthasamy, Pastor

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

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

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[www.buffaloridgeins.com](http://www.buffaloridgeins.com) E-mail: [info@buffaloridgeins.com](mailto:info@buffaloridgeins.com)

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## Aukes probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ROCK

PROBATE COURT  
DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION

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

Court File No. 67-PR-23-240

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

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

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

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

Dated: October 9, 2023

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

/s/ Terry Vajrt  
District Court Judge

/s/ Natalie Reisch  
Court Administrator

(COURT SEAL)

(10-19, 10-26)

## Jansma estate notice

DISTRICT COURT  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PROBATE COURT DIVISIONS

### NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS (ANCILLARY PROCEEDING)

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ROCK  
ESTATE OF  
THELMAR F. JANSMA, DECEASED

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

Notice is given that an Application for Informal Probate of Will and Appointment of Personal Representative (Ancillary Proceeding) was filed with the Registrar on October 20, 2023, as Court File No. 67-PR-23-252. A will dated August 20, 2018, was presented for probate. The Registrar accepted the application requesting Ancillary Letters be issued to Thomas F. Jansma and Patricia Durand, whose addresses respectively are 24152 479th Avenue, Dell Rapids, SD 57022, and 1193 Prairieview Avenue, Van Meter, IA 50261, as Personal Representatives of the Decedent's estate.

Unless written objections are filed within 60 days, and unless the Court orders otherwise, the Personal Representatives intend to exercise, as to assets in this State, all powers of a local Personal Representative and to maintain actions and proceedings in this state in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 524.4-205.

Notice is also given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representatives to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: October 23, 2023

Attorney Katherine A. Morgan (MN# 393289) Bonander Law, PC  
PO Box 186  
Larchwood, IA 51241  
(712) 477-2902

(10-26, 11-02)

## City Planning Commission- public hearing set for Nov. 6

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, by the City Planning Commission that a public hearing will be held in the Council Chambers located in the City Offices Building, 305 East Luverne Street, Luverne, Minnesota, commencing at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023. The purpose of the hearing is to rule and make recommendation to the Luverne City Council on proposed amendments to City Code chapter 153, Section 153.46. Definitions, Changeable Sign and Section 153.151. Specific Identification Sign Requirements. All persons desiring to be heard on these matters should be present at the hearing or present written comments prior to the hearing to the Building Official, PO Box 659, Luverne, MN 56156. Anyone needing reasonable accommodations or an interpreter should contact the City Clerk's Office, 305 East Luverne Street, Luverne, MN. 507-449-9898.

By order of the Luverne City Planning Commission, Luverne, Minnesota, this 26th day of October, 2023.

Jessica Mead  
City Clerk

Published: October 26, 2023  
Posted: October 26, 2023

(10-26)

## NEW DEADLINES STARTING IN NOVEMBER

# Luverne ANNOUNCER

**Announcer Deadlines for  
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507-220-1994  
wyatt.bluemounddigital@gmail.com

507-283-2333 (Star Herald)



### CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Pauline Ailts would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all those who have shown their support and sympathy to our family in the passing of our dear mother and grandmother. Your thoughtful gestures, memorials, gifts, food, and kind words have provided us with comfort and peace during this time. A special thank you goes out to the dedicated Luverne Hospice Care Team, who cared for our mother over the past seven weeks with remarkable dedication and skill. Thank you to Dr. Thone for your compassion, care and devotion to her. We would also like to express our appreciation to Dingmann Funeral Home in handling the arrangements and our American Reformed Church family for their unwavering support. Your sincere kindness and support have touched our hearts deeply.

Thank you!

**Kevin & Crystal Ailts  
Mike & Kandy Rust  
Tom & Karla Owen  
& Families**

(10.26-10.28)

### EMPLOYMENT

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

### EMPLOYMENT

**Nobles County Community Services is accepting applications for an Eligibility Specialist.** Apply now for this exciting career opportunity! Starting wage: \$23.45/hour Applies program eligibility criteria to individual client requests for assistance with SNAP (food support), Cash Assistance, Healthcare, and other financial assistance programs. Must be able to independently research, comprehend and apply program policies and rules as intended for applicants. You can make a difference in our community by helping individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency! We offer flexible scheduling and telecommute options following an initial probationary period. **Qualifications:** High School diploma, minimum three years clerical, business or bookkeeping experience. Valid driver's license required. Previous experience in social services/human services agency preferred. Proficiency in a second language may be eligible for an extra \$1.00/hour. Excellent Benefit Package. **APPLY TO:** Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at [www.co.nobles.mn.us](http://www.co.nobles.mn.us) for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. Deadline: Open until filled. EEO/AA Employer (10.12-10.28)

### FOR LEASE

2,000-square foot commercial space for lease with large overhead door, 3-phase electric. Contact Brad Sieve Electric, 507-360-7844. Possession available first of year in 2024. (10.21-11.9)

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**For Sale - Snow and Yard Equipment:** Craftsman 21" snow thrower, Model 336-684361; Lawnboy 21" push mower, Model 7268; Weedeater 15" cut, Model FL20; hydrolic floor jack; table saw. Call or text 605-391-9395. (10.26-10.28)

### EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYMENT



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**¡Juntos, somos familia!**



### EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYMENT

## City of Luverne CAREER OPPORTUNITY Liquor Store Manager

*City of Luverne seeking Liquor Store Manager.*

**Min. qualifications:** Associates in business administration, business management, accounting, marketing or related field OR 4 years' experience managing a retail sales business or an equivalent of training and experience, 3 years supervisory experience, must be available to work a variety of days, evenings, weekends and holidays, and computer experience.

**Desirable:** Exp. in retail sales, inventory management and promotion, supervision of employees and considerable direct customer contact. Experience in quantity purchasing, projecting revenue and managing retail finances highly desirable. Salaried position based upon experience and qualifications, **starting annual salary range \$58,073-\$72,737.**

Visit [www.cityofluverne.org/employment](http://www.cityofluverne.org/employment) for further details and information on how to apply.

**Applications must be received  
by 4:00 p.m. on Monday,  
November 6, 2023**

**Luverne**  
Blue Mound Liquor

The City of Luverne is an Affirmative Action/  
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## CITY OF LUVERNE PUBLIC WORKS WORKER

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

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

Visit [www.cityofluverne.org/employment](http://www.cityofluverne.org/employment) for further details and information on how to apply.

**Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2023**  
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