



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, October 24, 2019

The heat is on

New boilers online for Luverne school construction project

By Mavis Fodness

Students and staff at Luverne Middle-High School are enjoying better learning conditions after new boilers came online Monday.

They haven't had air conditioning or heat since classes started Sept. 16 because of the school construction project that included updating the 1960s boiler system.

"The staff and students have been patient and resilient to any distractions from construction," said Superintendent Craig Oftedahl.

District text messages reminded staff and students to dress appropri-

"I just wore my winter coat all day. A lot of kids complained it was cold — they weren't dressing the way you should."

— Gabbie Miller, LHS senior

ately for the potential temperature fluctuations in the building.

The west side of the building remains open to the elements after demolition made way for a new commons and performing arts center between the middle-high school and the elementary school.

Temperatures in September averaged 66 degrees, but they fluctuated widely between 80-degree warm spells and 40-degree cold stretches.

Humidity condensed on desks and chairs, which needed to be wiped

Heat on at school/see page 2



Mavis Fodness photo/1024 School Build Lobby

Workers pour footings Monday for the new lobby and commons, which are being constructed between the elementary and high school buildings.

Hills nonprofit Rock Ranch unveils expansion

Couple launches pledge campaign to build arena for equine therapy programs

By Mavis Fodness

The pairing of horses and humans at Rock Ranch is leading the nonprofit program on a path to expansion.

Dan and Marie LaRock started Rock Ranch in 2016 at their acreage near Hills as a place for children to learn about horses and how to ride them.

Today Rock Ranch has a senior saddles program for ages 55 and older and it recently piloted a counseling program for victims of human trafficking and others who have experienced trauma.

With new programs and public interest, the LaRocks are expanding their operation with an indoor arena south of their farm.

Now is the time

They recently launched a pledge campaign to raise \$680,000 for an 80-by-200-foot heated building to include an 80-by-120-foot riding arena, five horse stalls, a conference room, offices, restrooms and a handicap-accessible viewing platform.

A 60-by-100-foot riding arena will be constructed outdoors.

"Two years ago we began dreaming of an indoor arena," Dan said. "Now is the time to explore moving indoors."

Marie, who works full time with the ranch, said this year's wet and cold weather prompted many extra hours rescheduling sessions for the three programs.

The ranch currently owns eight horses in the therapeutic riding program ranging from a small pony to a tall Thoroughbred.

The move indoors would eliminate weather factors and allow participation in each of the three programs to grow.



Mavis Fodness photo/1024 Rock Ranch Arena

Dan and Marie LaRock hold the plans for an indoor arena to expand the therapeutic riding program through their Rock Ranch program. A pledge campaign is currently underway to raise \$680,000 for the project.

Ranch programs grow 144 percent since opening

So far, Rock Ranch has experienced a growth of 144 percent since opening in 2016.

This year 122 sessions were completed with 278 visitors, and there are 17 families on a waiting list for the children's riding program. The ranch has 15 active volunteers.

This fall, Marie helped pilot a mental health therapy program

called Eagala through the Sioux Falls-based Call to Freedom, which helps victims of human trafficking navigate healthier life paths.

The 25-session counseling program helped eight victims of trauma last fall.

Dedicated to equine therapy

"People who have experienced trauma often have difficulty talking about what they have gone through,"

said Marie, who worked in the mental health field before opening the ranch.

"Traditional talk therapy isn't always the most effective method to treat victims. This kind of therapy allows clients to see things from a different perspective."

The indoor arena would allow more groups to partner with the

Rock Ranch expands/see page 8

Ringneck Reunion set for this weekend

By Lori Sorenson

Plans are in place for this weekend's Rock County Ringneck Reunion, which builds on the 2018 Minnesota Governor's Pheasant Hunting Opener in Luverne.

The two-day celebration Oct. 25 and 26 features pheasant hunting, a Rock County Pheasants Forever Banquet, live music at Take 16 and a first-ever poker run with side-by-side all-terrain vehicles.

"It's a carry-over from last year's Governor's Opener that we're returning into a pheasant hunting celebration to draw people back to Luverne and Rock County," said Rick Peterson, one of the organizers.

"I want people to think about pheasant hunting and think, 'Let's go back to Luverne.'"

Peterson's column on the Opinion Page offers more details, but a recent update to plans is that the Veterans Hunt Saturday has now been opened to first responders, firefighters and law enforcement personnel.

"All they need is a small game license and pheasant stamp and they're good to go," Peterson said.

The weekend kicks off with the annual Rock County Pheasants Forever Banquet at Take 16. Social hour and silent auction bidding starts at 5:30 and dinner is at 7 with live auction, raffles and games to follow.

The banquet wraps up at 9 p.m. with live "electric country" music, "The Fattenin' Frogs," under the tent

Ringneck Reunion/see page 2



Trains on the move back up cars at intersections in Luverne

More train traffic than usual will move on the Buffalo Ridge Railroad through Luverne and, as a result, Ellis & Eastern Railroad officials have been notifying the Rock County Sheriff's Office about potential road blockages as railcars are moved on the line. Motorists can subscribe to the Nixle message system through the Rock County Sheriff's Office website for upcoming road blockages, especially to Highway 75 (pictured above Monday). "It's an inconvenience," Sheriff Evan Verbrugge said. "But it will be for short periods of time." Verbrugge urged rail officials to allow a 30-minute notice before moving railcars.

Mavis Fodness photo/1024 Train Traffic



Ellsworth district asks voters for operating cash

By Lori Sorenson

Ellsworth School District residents are again being asked for money to keep the doors of their school open.

At an Oct. 15 public meeting, they learned about a proposed 10-year \$1,779.50 per pupil operating levy.

"We're out of gas," Superintendent John Willey said about the reason for the referendum. "The state of Minnesota hasn't kept up with funding to schools at the level that is needed to cover expenses."

If voters approve the referendum, the district would garner an additional \$97,000 per year, which is the maximum amount the state will allow Ellsworth to ask for.

But it's not enough to satisfy a hole in the budget.

Ellsworth's 2018 revenues were \$1,906,775 and expenditures

"It will help us for a couple years, and then we'll probably have to come back and do this again."

Supt. John Willey

were \$2,096,375, resulting in a shortfall of \$189,600. The simple math wasn't lost on residents at the meeting.

Even with the additional \$97,000 in new referendum funds, expenses would still exceed revenue by \$92,600, which means Ellsworth's dwindling reserves would need to cover the gap.

"It will help us for a couple

Ellsworth referendum/see page 5



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Sanford Luverne Pink Ladies will meet at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 4, in the Blue Mound Room. Program will be making rice socks. Call 283-2297 with questions.

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Mondays in the United Methodist Church.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays in the United Methodist Church, Luverne. Call 605-321-4324.

Alanon meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays in Sanford Luverne Blue Mound Room. 507-449-1246.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 8 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday in Runals Memorial Hall, Edgerton. Call Naomi, 507-215-2956.

One Warm Coat accepts donations through Oct. 31

The Rock County One Warm Coat project is collecting clean, reusable coats of all shapes and sizes (especially children's sizes) from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday through Oct. 31 at the ATLAS for Life office 201 Main Street, Luverne. Coats may also be dropped off at the Luverne Elementary School. Coat drive dates are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, and from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7. Call Destiny at 507-220-0030, the ATLAS office at 507-449-5777 or Lisa Dinger at school, 507-283-4497.

Hospice 'Tables and Tastings' and 'Tour of Tables' Oct. 25/26

Sanford Luverne Hospice will host its Annual "Tour of Tables Brunch" from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 26, at Grand Prairie Events. Advance tickets are available by calling 507-283-1805. A "Tables & Tastings" evening event will be from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, at Grand Prairie Events to preview the decorated tables and enjoy complimentary tastings from Round Lake Winery and Take 16 Brewing. Cost is \$10 at the door. Proceeds from the two events will benefit the Hospice Cottage.

Gospel Jubilee at ARC Sunday, Oct. 27

The American Reformed Church in Luverne will sponsor the ninth annual Gospel Jubilee at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27. Featured groups will be the Benson Family and Brad Boice. Refreshments will be served following the concert, and a freewill offering will be collected.

High School choirs perform Oct. 28

The Luverne High School girls' choir and concert choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28, in the high school gym. The public is invited to this free concert.

'Operation Christmas Child' shoeboxes

"Operation Christmas Child" shoeboxes are available at the American Reformed Church in Luverne. Fill with gifts to share with a child at Christmas. Collection week is Nov. 18-25. Call Karen Bosch at 605-413-9676 or Charla Sandbule at 507-227-1722 with questions. Shoeboxes may also be ordered online at samaritanspurse.org.

Bible Talks dates

Non-denominational Christian Bible Talks will be from 4 to 5 p.m. Sundays, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3 and 10, in Grand Prairie Events, Luverne. All are welcome. Call 605-988-4446.

Brain Health series continues Nov. 4

The next class in the #LuvLUvAll series of monthly Brain Health classes is Monday, Nov. 4, from 7 to 8 p.m. The classes continue the first Monday of the month through May (no December class) at Luverne Community Education. The goal is to end stigma and encourage conversations about mental health — like physical health — toward improved quality of life. Certificates of Attendance will be available. Sessions are free but registration is appreciated to plan for accommodations. Call 507-283-4724.

Community Ed

Register by e-mailing C.Arends@isd2184.net or calling 507-283-4724.

Maximize Memory on Oct. 30 at noon teaches techniques to help you remember names, lists, birthdays, etc. Bring your own sack lunch. Fee is \$5.

Wigformation on Nov. 4 will give participants insight into wigs and toppers. Fee is \$5.

Babysitting Basics, taught by Sanford Luverne staff, is for students in grades 5-8 on Nov. 4 and 7. Fee is \$15.

School construction project/continued from page 1

off with towels before use.

"It made you a little uncomfortable but that was better than being cold," said senior Gabbie Miller.

October high temperatures were in the 40s.

"I just wore my winter coat all day," she said. "A lot of kids complained it was cold — they weren't dressing the way you should."

The renovated areas are keeping the spirits up for staff and students.

"The new choir room is nice," Miller said. "It (the completed hallway) looks nice going to the art room."

Eight renovated classrooms, including the chemistry lab, are expected to be in use by the end of the month.

Originally the classrooms were expected to be finished before school started.

"This should really help with some space issues and give us some flexibility with other transitions in the building," Oftedahl said.

Renovations are 25 to 30 percent finished since work began March 5, with \$8 mil-



Mavis Fodness photo/1024 School Build West Wing End

The west wing of Luverne Middle-High School (where it meets the elementary building) remains open to the elements Monday as workers pour the footings for the commons and performing arts center that will join the two schools together.

lion of the \$30 million project spent so far.

"We have knocked out some big items with heating systems

and lots of not seen infrastructure such as pipes, sprinkling systems and data," Oftedahl said. "This should

help speed up the next few phases of work."

Construction at the school will continue into 2021.



One of the newly renovated high school classrooms waits for ceiling tile. At right, four new energy-efficient boilers are working Monday at Luverne Middle-High School. The boilers replace those original to the 1960s building.



Ringneck Reunion/continued from page 1

at Take 16.

Contact Darin Kindt at 507-920-7544 for banquet tickets and membership information, or they can be purchased at the door at Take 16.

Ringneck Team Hunt

Saturday begins with pheasant hunting at 9 a.m., DNR regulation start time.

The Ringneck Team Hunt involves teams of up to four hunters per team who hunt their own preferred ground (not arranged through a local committee).

Registered teams (\$100 per team) are eligible for cash prizes awarded for total weight, length of tail feather and length of right foot spur. They can turn in four birds. Team signup is Friday from 1 to 7 p.m. at Take 16 or by calling the Chamber, 283-4061.

Birds must be turned in at Take 16 no later than 5 p.m. Saturday. Prizes will be awarded at the After Crow Party that night, which fea-

tures food at 5:30 p.m. and live music, "Too Drunk to Fish," from 6 to 9 p.m.

Ringneck Rally Side-by-Side Poker Run

Saturday evening will also feature an announcement of the Pork Challenge winner and poker winners from Ringneck Rally Side-by-Side Poker Run.

Rally stops are at the Kenneth Bar in Kenneth, Green Lantern Bar in Hardwick, Up the Dam Creek (or the golf course) in Beaver Creek, Hidden Hills Café or Willy's Bar in Hills, Eagles Club, Howling Dog (or Sterling's or Bluestem.)

Side-by-sides (no four-wheelers allowed) must be street legal, and they must be registered with the DNR.

Sign-up for Saturday's Ringneck Team Hunt and Side-by-Side Rally is from 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25.

Riders can travel the course at their own leisure in whichever order they

prefer, but all cards must be turned in to Take 16 by 6 p.m. Saturday.

Veterans hunt expanded

A special hunt for veterans has been expanded to include law enforcement, first responders and firefighters.

The hunt is planned in western Rock County, similar to the one at last year's Governor's Opener.

Stan and Karen Williamson and Wayne and Jo Williamson will again host the group, providing land that's rich with roosters.

Transportation and dogs will be supplied for veterans, who can sign up at the Chamber, 507-283-4061.

More information about the Ringneck Reunion weekend can be found on the Chamber's website, www.luverne-chamber.com.

Or call the Chamber office (see above) or Peterson at 507-283-2333.

Rock County

Library activities

Contact the library at rocklibrarystaff@gmail.com or call 507-449-5040 to register for events.

Mah Jongg is from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursdays.

Fall Story Hour for preschoolers ages 4-5, is from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursdays through Nov. 21.

Fall Lap Time is 10:30 to 11 a.m. Fridays through Nov. 22.

Evening Story Time is from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Nov. 26.

DIY Book Spine Centerpieces is at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24.

Vampire Murder Mystery is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Halloween Scary Stories, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, at Verhey Pumpkin Patch.

Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, Take 16.

Tibetan Singing Bowls, 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9.

E-book classes, 2 and 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 19. Register with Luverne Community Education.

DIY Vinyl Painting is at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21.



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Landlord pleads case for unpaid utilities bill at city public hearing

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne landlord Darwin Vandenberg was the only property owner to attend the Oct. 8 public hearing on proposed assessments for unpaid city bills.

His rental tenant on Estey Street owes \$332.78 for utilities, and since the city hasn't received payment after several notices, the property will be assessed that amount through taxes.

"I don't see how I can be assessed this, and I'm not really happy with the way you're doing it," Vandenberg said, speaking as personal representative of the Lylamae Vandenberg estate.

"It's not my bill. ... You're kinda putting me in a requirement to pay it. It's like I don't have any choice in the matter."

At the hearing he acknowledged that city staff had explained the process to him more than once, but he said he didn't agree with it.

"I have four houses in Worthington and they don't do this over there," said Vandenberg who has five rental properties in Luverne.

City finance director Barb Berghorst explained that Luverne's ordinance stems from a 1906 Minnesota Supreme Court ruling that determined city ordinances can require owners of properties to be responsible for utility charges.

"This is something that has been a common practice since 1906, that — with adequate notice, landlords are responsible for payment," said Berghorst, who said most cities she's aware of have similar ordinances.

"I understand how people feel about it, but our code requires it."

"It's not my bill. ... You're kinda putting me in a requirement to pay it. It's like I don't have any choice in the matter."

— Darwin Vandenberg

She said the city collects a one-month deposit from new utility users, but by the time the unpaid bill gets assessed to owners, additional months of unpaid utilities accrue and surpass the deposit amount.

Berghorst said she discovered that it pays to use a collections agency, which charges a fee.

"They take 30-40 percent of anything they collect, and we only get the rest back," she said. "We go the extra mile to do that."

She pointed out that billing tenants directly, and paying for the collections agency, is a service for landlords.

Mayor Pat Baustian said new collection methods have reduced annual unpaid utilities from an average of \$8,000 to roughly \$2,000, which means fewer costs are being assessed to landlords.

"... We've enacted different procedures here at City Hall where the owner gets notified when a renter is behind on utilities," he said.

"That's to help property owners carry on their business and not get gamed for these types of assessments."

Councilwoman Caroline Thorson asked Vandenberg if

Unpaid utilities/see page 14

Magnolia applies for state housing program

By Mavis Fodness

Selected residences in Magnolia could be improved if the city is selected for a state housing improvement program grant.

The Magnolia City Council recently approved \$3,500 toward the grant project, including \$2,000 to Development Services Inc. of Ivanhoe, which is completing the application.

Teresa Schreurs with DSI told council members in August that 18 Magnolia homeowners were interested in participating in the revolving home loan program.

The loan, through the Small Cities Development Program, helps low- to moderate-income homeowners improve their homes with new siding, windows, roofing or other qualifying repairs.

"We are trying to help invest money in smaller communities so these are good houses for our kids to move back into," Schreurs said.

Magnolia City Council members recently implemented a policy against blight in the community of 214 people, and the loan program will encourage improvements.

"It looked like a good program," said Mayor Dennis Madison.

The city pledged \$1,500 toward administration of the loan program where repayments could be loaned back out for other residents' use.

To increase the possibility of receiving the state grant, Schreurs is pairing Magnolia's application with the city of Jasper, a community of 600 residents on the Rock-Pipestone county line.

She said each application

is scored based on need, demographics, cost effectiveness and impact time eliminated blight could have in a community.

In Jasper, 50 residents indicated interest in the loan program. As a result, the city pledged \$20,000 for administration.

Leveraged resources make loan applications more competitive, according to the website of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, which administers the Small Cities Development Program.

Magnolia and Jasper face several deadlines for consideration into the loan program including the preliminary application due next month.

Once applications are received, officials rank communities from strongest (competitive) to weakest (not competitive) based on the submitted information.

Community rankings are released in December with formal applications due in February 2020.

If approved, Magnolia and Jasper residents could submit individual applications in the summer of 2020.



Mavis Fodness photo/HBC Millworks Cement

Buffalo Ridge Concrete drops cement into the staked-out area for a new concrete slab at Hills-Beaver Creek High School.

H-BC tech students get concrete training

By Mavis Fodness

Patriot Millworks students at Hills-Beaver Creek High School recently poured cement during their construction curriculum that typically involves wood projects.

The project took place over a two-day period last week.

"This is the first time I have had this class pour concrete," said industrial technology instructor Chris Louwagie. "Turned out to be a great learning experience."

Students helped with the various steps of concrete pouring on Oct. 14 and 15. They measured and staked out the area on the school's lawn, set the wooden forms, tied the reinforced metal rods together, then poured and leveled the cement.

The 30-by-31-foot slab in the northwest corner of the school provides a level work area for the students to construct wooden storage sheds, work that normally would place in the uneven parking lot.

Junior Tory Knobloch, helped the Millworks students and workers from Dysthe Construction and Buffalo Ridge Concrete level the cement with a power



Mavis Fodness photo/HBC Millworks Cement

Tory Knobloch pulls cement screening over the newly poured concrete Tuesday morning, Oct. 15, at Hills-Beaver Creek High School in Hills with the help of students from the Patriot Millworks class and Jamie Dysthe with Dysthe Construction

screen.

Knobloch, who is not in the Millworks program, said he has plenty of experience pouring cement for the family farm's feedlot.

Seventeen students, both boys and

girls, are in Louwagie's fall Millworks class.

Louwagie anticipates the students will come away from the cement project with practical construction knowledge.

"This gives them an idea of the work necessary to pour a concrete slab," he said. "I hope students taking this class see different job opportunities available to them."

Costs for the project, including 6 yards of concrete, were paid for through the Patriot Millworks budget.



Submitted photo

Hills-Beaver Creek High School students in the Patriot Millworks class rake and pack gravel for a new concrete slab on the northwest side of the high school in Hills.



Mavis Fodness photo

Sophomore Carter Hartz trowels the freshly poured cement smooth.

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In the wake of the flood, we're living with roommates on cloud's silver lining

My husband's parents lost their home in the Sept. 11 flood that sent Split Rock Creek outside its banks,



ON SECOND THOUGHT

By Lori Sorenson, editor

If it's true what they say about storm clouds, it seems we've been living squarely in a silver lining since Sept. 11.

over roads and bridges and straight through their farmyard in northwestern Rock County.

My Sept. 19 column spoke of a DNR water rescue and told the story of generosity and gratitude in the face of tragedy.

Today there's an update to the saga of the flood-displaced couple whose 65-year marriage is weathering yet another adventure.

Chapter 2 shares the not-surprising story that life goes on, home or no home, stuff or no stuff.

We're in Week 6 with our temporary roommates who will move to an apartment at the end of the month, and it has produced plenty of column fodder, if nothing else.

But not in a way outside observers might think. (Many have asked in hushed tones, "How is it going with the in-laws?" as if it's a punishment of sorts.)

Au contraire. In fact, I'll miss them when they go. For a number of reasons.

Chief among them are the advantages of having roommates who love us and want to "earn their keep" while they stay.

This has meant home-cooked meals bubbling in the crockpot or oven when we come home from work.

The root cellar jars we salvaged from the flooded farmhouse ended up at our place ... which means I've eaten pickled beets to my heart's content, along with bread-and-butter pickles, jelly preserves and more.

Similarly, we've enjoyed regular installments of freshly baked apple desserts (made mostly from our backyard tree), bran muffins, bread pudding and assorted cookies.

The high school senior has been treated to daily hard-boiled eggs and morning visits with the roommates. (Breakfast conversation is otherwise rare in the house of not-morning people.)

If homemade food weren't enough to "earn their keep," there's also clean windows (I nearly walked through the patio glass), regularly vacuumed floors and line-dried laundry folded neatly in piles. (I'm pretty sure my sports bras have never before been folded.)

It's fair to say we have gained more from the rooming arrangement than they have, but I hope they've benefited in more ways than simply having a roof over their heads.

If nothing else, there was exposure to new technology.

Wireless headphones, for example, enhance Saturday night polka TV and the evening news when background noise interferes.

And, ready access to online research comes in handy for leg cramp relief and recipe substitutions.

If it's true what they say about storm clouds, it seems we've been living squarely in a silver lining since Sept. 11.

Under which other circumstances would we have had this much opportunity for face time with people so important in our lives?

Good luck with your new living arrangement, roomies, and thanks for more than "earning your keep."

We know you'll forever miss your little house on the farm, but we're grateful for the unintended blessings that resulted from your loss.

Good shepherds reflect God's will by transforming society

GUEST OPINION

By Tom Getman

As I suggested last week, there is a bright side dawning in this dehumanizing time. There is increasing sense in our land, spurred by the political crisis, about what defines and characterizes honorable public service, a free compassionate society and faithful witness to the Good Shepherd.

Shepherds, in the spirit of Jesus, take risks for the lost, lonely, endangered lambs ... even those who may not want to be corralled when ill or wounded and are tempted to run away or turn up the volume of derision.

Rock County sheep farmer Sue Stueven says her lambs seek to escape when she has medicine for them that stings or bandages that hobble. Some of us might have the same reaction when shepherds come for us.

But an inspiring, more true and helpful aspirational definition of "politics" is emerging in the original Greek sense politikos. The real dictionary understanding means "action consistent with good policy proceeding from prudent motives." Sounds like "God's Politics" in my view.

That is a moral government revealed by faithful people by caring need meeting choices. This is the way to counter the excesses of authoritarian action from bad shepherds or Pharisees. (Again as in the Luke 15 parable.)

It also means communal civil transformation at our hands. "Loving each other as I have loved you" ... as we care for the widow and orphan, search out the lost, heal the physically and politically blind and particularly attend to the special-needs children, to clothe the naked and feed the hungry, and organize communities for good.

Social justice is love in the streets and fields. Transformative action-politics is passion at the crunch points. A just civil policy comes from

prudent citizen engagement and trusting in God's politics.

We are accountable to a higher authority. We are not to be deceived by those who lure with power, wealth, access and platform.

The shepherd call is for us to be agents for justice for the oppressed. We are being directed by last week's "Godfrey" story, to trust our ethics, morality and sacrificial caring for the endangered lambs all around us. Good shepherds are indeed the family of the third kind.

By engaging with empathy and simple kindness practiced by our forebears and doing it without suspicion, anger, arrogance, or pride during this era, the impact of the Good Shepherd is pivotal ... especially when lost sheep are being demonized rather than loved.

Senator John McCain's widow, Cindy, maybe said it best: "I am asking all Americans to take a pledge of unity by committing to causes larger than ourselves and joining together across the aisle, or whatever divides, to make the world a better place, to elevate this spirit of civility. No act is so small to make a difference."

I sincerely believe there is a bright dawn during this dark time with a profound historical turning point. There are faithful shepherds who are in the streets and fields, who are seeing this mobilizing as a life-defining opportunity. All across our nation people of faith are standing against the spirit of negativity and false nationalism. Biblical justice and shepherding is occurring.

How then can we each help fill

the gaps with caring, one relationship at a time, even for the purveyors of hate ... to lift them and us out of the craggy wilderness?

I suggest embracing three lessons that emerge from the Parable of the Good Shepherd:

1. Do exuberant acts of charity to those near to you, even if at some risk to yourself;

2. Engage with faithful advocacy for more just government structures and leaders from the bottom up, and;

3. Organize in the larger community for non-partisan civil society systems to meet the greater challenges that government cannot manage when what we face is structural.

Pick the shepherding project individually and in community that you can accomplish (the house you can move, the widow you can support, the refugee family you can aid, the conflict you can mediate) and join the movement to make Americans what we are called to be.

(Adapted from Getman's Sept. 15 sermon at First Presbyterian Church, Luverne. ... Continued from last week.)

Getman is a 1959 Luverne High School graduate and a Rock County Hall of Fame inductee. He is president of a consulting group that specializes in international non-governmental affairs. His work centers on United Nations and humanitarian interagency partnership building. He is the former World Vision director for international relations, managing liaison activities with the UN and World Council of Churches. Email tom.getman@gmail.com.

VOICE OF OUR READERS

Do #1 Thing to stop domestic violence

To the Editor:

A total of 685 people were killed by an intimate partner over the past 30 years in Minnesota. Those are only the ones we know about, and it doesn't include those physically or emotionally injured. The numbers can make domestic violence seem like an overwhelming problem.

But you can do something about it. This month is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and whether you're a survivor, a service provider or a bystander, you can do #1 Thing to address domestic violence. Believe victims. Write to your policymakers. Volunteer at a shelter. Donate to programs that provide services to

domestic violence survivors. Model respectful relationships. Share your story. You don't have to do it all, just #1 Thing.

Even if your #1 Thing seems small, it will combine with the #1 Things of your whole community to create real social change. Together we can eradicate domestic violence.

Learn more about the help available through our Office of Justice Programs at ojp.dps.mn.gov. If you need help, call 866-223-1111 or text 612-399-9995, the Minnesota Day One Crisis Line.

Commissioner John Harrington
Minnesota Department of
Public Safety, St. Paul

Veldkamp: Thank you, Star Herald

To the Editor:

The sponsors who made the "Senior Years Spotlight" page possible in the Oct. 17 "Star Herald" deserve a sincere thank you!

The review of each person's life, past and future, including their stay at Mary Jane Brown Home was honest and heartwarming!

I would appreciate this type of feature be printed again, in the future, with several more residents featured.

Thank you to all who made this uplifting special coverage possible.

Frances Veldkamp
Luverne

Luverne still sets the standard for future governor's pheasant hunting openers

I mentioned in my last column I was off to Austin for the Minnesota Governor's Pheasant Hunting Opener (MGPHO). The press is invited to this event to provide coverage and bring attention to pheasant hunting in Minnesota, and along the way the host city gets a lot of positive press coverage, much like Luverne benefited from hosting the event last year.

I attended the event as a press person, but truth be told, I was there more as a past host city committee member to see how Luverne stacked up to this year's host city.



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, General Manager
Tollefson Publishing

In keeping with the Minnesota nice tradition, Austin, Explore Minnesota and the DNR put on another

great show. Unfortunately for Austin, the weather didn't really cooperate and many of their events had to be

canceled or moved inside. To Austin's credit they rolled with the bad weather punches and pulled off the event with what I am sure had a lot of behind-the-scenes shuffling and juggling of events.

I must say, and in the spirit of full disclosure here I may be a bit biased, but Luverne is still the standard that all future host cities will be compared to. That said, Austin did top us on one front. They actually had the governor at their event.

One of the things we wanted to accomplish as a host city of the

MGPHO was to somehow carry the momentum from last year's opener to an annual pheasant-hunting get-together. Well, our first try at such an event is going by the name RINGNECK REUNION.

The first annual Ringneck Reunion gets underway Friday night with the Rock County Pheasants Forever Banquet kicking off the two-day event at Take 16. There are only a few tickets left, so if you want one, stop down at the Star Herald.

Peterson column/page 5

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Unsigned letters will not be considered. The *Star Herald* will edit for grammar, spelling and clarity. Any letters containing offensive language, libelous or slanderous material, or misleading or false information will be rewritten before being published. The *Star Herald* will not publish letters written with the sole intent to advertise or serve as a thank-you. Letters with more than 300 words may be edited. The deadline for letters is Monday 10 a.m. They may be delivered or mailed to the editor, *Rock County Star Herald*, P.O. Box 837, 117 W. Main St., Luverne, Minn. 56156.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

- Oct. 11**
- Complainant on W. Warren Street reported identity theft.
 - Complainant on W. Warren Street reported an outage.
 - Complainant on E. Main Street reported a burglary alarm.
 - Complainant on Mag Road reported property found.
 - Complainant on N. Cedar Street reported a vehicle broken into.
 - Complainant reported identity theft.
 - Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue requested standby at football game.
 - Hills fire department on standby at H-BC football game.
- Oct. 12**
- Complainant on W. Warren Street reported someone tried to order a phone on his account.
 - Complainant on E. Warren Street reported reckless driving.
- Oct. 13**
- Deputy talked to driver at fairgrounds in Luverne.
 - Complainant on N. Blue Mound Avenue reported suspicious activity.
 - Complainant on N. East Park Street requested deputy for property exchange.
 - Complainant on W. 1st Street, Hills, reported a hit and run accident.
 - Complainant on 161st Street reported a smashed mailbox.
- Oct. 14**
- Complainant on Pine Drive reported a vehicle with no license plate parked at location.
 - Complainant on S. Broadway Street, Magnolia, reported information on property exchange.
 - Suspicious activity was reported at location on S. Kniss Avenue.
- Oct. 15**
- Public assistance was requested.
 - Complainant reported identity theft.
 - Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported suspicious activity.
 - Complainant on 241st Street, Jasper, reported railroad blocking.
 - Report of an erratic driver at location westbound on Interstate 90 near Magnolia.
 - Suspicious activity was reported at location on W. Koehn Avenue.
- Assistance from another department was needed westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 16.
- Oct. 16**
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported she hit debris in the roadway.
 - Complainant on 241st Street reported train blocking roadway.
 - Complainant on Highway 75 reported train will be blocking tracks that day.
 - Complainant at location on E. Crawford Street reported theft.
 - Complainant on State Highway 23, mile marker 8 near Jasper, reported a stolen vehicle.
 - Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a suspicious vehicle at location.
 - Burglary was reported at location on E. 2nd Avenue, Beaver Creek.
 - Assistance from another department was requested on N. Kniss Avenue.
- Oct. 17**
- Complainant requested background check for solicitor's license.
 - Complainant on E. Crawford Street reported possible burglary.
 - Complainant on 91st Street reported property damage.
 - Complainant on Carver Road, Mankato, reported subject with Rock County warrant.
 - Complainant on W. Luverne Street reported possible abandoned vehicle.
 - Complainant on 150th Avenue, Hardwick, reported residential burglary alarm.
 - Complainant on S. Oakley Street reported five kids riding bikes all over her yard.
- Oct. 18**
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue gave deputy a driver's license left at location.

In addition, officers responded to 5 complaints of cattle out, 5 deer accidents, 1 transport, 1 welfare check, 7 escorts, 14 ambulance runs, 5 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 4 burn permits, 2 paper services, 1 vehicle impound, 6 purchase and carry permits, 17 traffic stops, 2 stalled vehicles, 7 abandoned 911 calls, and 1 OFP.

Ellsworth School District referendum/continued from page 1

years, and then we'll probably have to come back and do this again," Willey said.

Over the past 10 years, reserves have shrunk in half, from \$974,679 in 2008 to \$456,057 in 2018.

Fewer students, fewer dollars and other small district woes

In that same time period, Ellsworth's K-12 enrollment shrunk from 191 students in 2008 to 145 in 2018, with leaner years in between.

"That's the real story, because that's where the real money comes from," Willey said, referring to state per pupil funding.

Willey said school districts have only three ways to bring in money — state aid, student enrollment and taxes — none of which have been lucrative for Ellsworth in recent years.

He points to a graph that compares Ellsworth's tax data to neighboring school districts. Its attendance area covers only 81 square miles, compared with 117 for Hills-Beaver Creek, 176 for Adrian, 263 for Worthington and 264 for Luverne.

The same graph compared average home values for property tax purposes.

The average home in the Ellsworth district is valued at \$46,230. Adrian's average home is valued at \$88,286, in H-BC's district it's \$88,952, Luverne's is \$94,562 and Worthington's average home value is \$115,000.

Average household income in the Ellsworth district (\$47,431) compares similarly using 2017 figures. Worthington district's average household income is \$52,367, Luverne's is \$54,918, Adrian's is \$58,929 and H-BC's is \$60,573.

'Either way my taxes go up'

It's not an option for the near the future, but the reality of Ellsworth's diminishing bottom line may be to one day join a neighboring district.

However, some residents at the Oct. 15 meeting said they'd pay higher taxes in a nearby district than they pay now.

"I would challenge anyone here to look at what your taxes are on your land and what they'd be in a neighboring district," said Clayton Schilling.

It seemed for many in attendance that the question wasn't whether or not they'd support it; the question was how much it would cost them and how long it would be until the next request came for more money.

If the proposed referen-



Lori Sorenson photo/1024 ellsworth referendum

Ellsworth Superintendent John Willey uses the district's online tax calculator to show Cliff Schilling how the referendum would specifically affect his taxes if it's approved by voters.

dum passes this fall, taxes on an average \$100,000 home in the district will increase roughly \$255.

Willey encouraged residents to use the tax calculator on the district's website to estimate tax impact on each resident's property, based on 2020 values.

"The tax impact is based on your referendum market value, not assessed value, and there's a big difference between the two," he said.

"That's why we use this calculator so people can use their own data."

Chad Dressen said he'd rather have his taxes go up to support Ellsworth's referendum than to pay higher taxes toward a different school.

"Our taxes are going to go up no matter what," he said. "Vote no, and pay higher taxes in another district, or vote yes and pay higher taxes in Ellsworth."

Running a tight ship

Greg Baufield of Northland Public Finance, Minneapolis, assisted with the Oct. 15 public meeting and pointed out that overspending isn't Ellsworth's problem.

"Your board is doing a great job," Baufield said. "You're

running a tight ship. There's just not a lot you can do."

Willey said trimming the budget any further would mean combining grades, cutting programs, reducing the superintendent to half-time employment.

After the current fall sports season, Ellsworth will pair with neighboring districts in all its sports programs, starting Nov. 1, and it has already cut many of its fine arts programs.

Difference between operating referendum and capital referendum

Willey explained that the new operating referendum dollars would support daily operations of the school and paying staff. It raises revenue through taxes on all property owners, including the house, garage and one acre.

It's different from a capital referendum, which funds building projects, repairs and equipment purchases. Capital referendums raise revenue through taxing all property — homes and land — using bonds.

The Ellsworth district is one of the few in the state that hasn't requested a capital referendum since the early

1970s, and its residents are proud of that.

"We shouldn't underestimate ourselves. Take a look around this gym," said Clayton Schilling. "Everything was donated, the new floor, the mats ... It's like a church; when we need something we take an offering and it's paid for."

Willey said it's clear the Ellsworth district residents love their school and are willing to support it, but he said there are some looming expenses, such as a 50-year-old boiler and an aging roof that may soon need attention.

Pattern of referendums

The Oct. 15 discussion wasn't new to most of the 60-some people gathered on the gym bleachers.

This is the third time in 10 years they've been asked to help cover an ever-widening shortfall in the district's operating budget.

The proposed referendum (effective in 2020 if it passes) would replace a 10-year \$1,121 per pupil referendum passed in 2013. The 2013 referendum replaced the one passed in 2010.

Wally Schultz, 82, said the tax impact of the new referendum will cost him more than \$100. He will continue to support operating referendums, even though his children graduated long ago.

"I think it's important to keep the school open," he said. "I think it's important to keep Main Street open."

And even though the new referendum isn't a long-term fix, Baufield said the Ellsworth School Board didn't have many options but to put it on the ballot.

"You do have some facilities challenges," he said. "But right now we need to pass this operating referendum, and then we'll go on to Plan B, C or D."

The measure needs only a simple majority — 50 percent plus 1 — to pass. Ellsworth residents supported the 2013 referendum 70-30.

"You have now become informed citizens," Willey told the Oct. 15 gathering. "Now it's your job to inform your neighbors."

The special election is from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5, at precinct polling places around the district. See the school website, ellsworth.mntm.org.

Voters can cast ballots early by contacting the Nobles County Auditor, 507-295-5258 or by downloading a form at co.nobles.mn.us/departments/auditor-treasurer/elections.

Peterson column/continued from page 4

immediately following the Friday banquet under the tent at Take 16, The Fattenin' Frogs take the stage with the sounds of electric country music and that is free and open to the public.

Saturday's events included a veterans hunt, and here is a public plea. We have room for about 10 veterans for a guided pheasant hunt.

All you need is a Minnesota hunting license and a pheasant stamp. Give me a call or stop down at the chamber office

and talk to Jane and we'll get you signed up.

We are also having the first-ever side by side rally. The Side-by-Side rides will gather at Take 16 shortly before noon, get registered (no cost) and receive the information packet.

The ride is about 85 miles long with stops in Kenneth, Hardwick, Beaver Creek, Hills and back to Luverne. You can travel the route any way you wish.

And while all this is going on, there is a Team Pheasant

Hunt underway.

Teams comprised of up to four hunters will be hitting the fields in search of roosters. Teams can turn in up to four roosters that will be weighed, tail feathers and spurs will be measured and tallied to determine the winning team. There is a \$100 entry per team. First place pays \$500 to the winning team, \$400 for second place, \$300 for third.

The longest tail feather of the day is worth \$100. The team with the lowest total will win

some beer chips from Take 16.

A huge thank you goes out to Security Savings Bank for sponsoring the first-place prize. Loosbrock Electrical Construction is the second-place sponsor, and the Luverne Area Convention and Visitors Bureau is the third-place sponsor.

The Beaver Creek Sports-

man's Club put up the \$100 for the longest tail feather.

Around 5 o'clock at Take 16 the After Crow Party and Awards event gets underway. Barbecue pork sandwiches will be available — and of course your favorite Take 16 beverage. Live music by Too Drunk to Fish will be on hand starting at 6 p.m. Awards will

be handed out at 7 to the team hunt winners as well as the Side-by-Side Poker Rally winners. In addition to all of that, the trophy will be presented to the winner of the "We Love Pork Challenge" contest.

So this weekend is sure to be full of pheasant hunting, high school football and Side by Side fun, enjoy.



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SANFORD

Luverne



Mavis Fodness photo/1024 Atlas Five Years

The Redeemed Remnants thrift store provides funding for the various ministries within the ATLAS of Rock County organization, which opened an office in Luverne five years ago. Pictured (from left) are store manager Greg Hoogeveen, ATLAS director Lonna Heideman, and Michael Blank, ATLAS minister and male mentor. The store is located on East Main Street, Luverne.

After five years in Rock County ATLAS now open five days a week in Luverne

By Mavis Fodness

Since hiring a dedicated director for Luverne in 2014, ATLAS of Rock County has expanded office hours, opened a thrift store and added outreach services.

But those who work for the Christ-centered non-profit organization want to extend more of their services into the community.

Lonna Heideman began as director of the Rock County office in 2018. Before that, the Pipestone ATLAS served Pipestone and Rock counties.

"People have walked into the office with a heavy load on their shoulders and they leave lighter," she said.

ATLAS stands for "attain truth, love and self-control," and there are 13 ATLAS for Life organizations nationwide.

They support hurting men, women and families by offering tangible support, advocacy and mentoring.

Heideman said ATLAS employees and volunteers work alongside other local organizations such as churches, social service and mental health professionals to provide mentoring — not counseling — to people and families who are encountering any number of life

'People have walked into the office with a heavy load on their shoulders and they leave lighter.'

— Lonna Heideman, ATLAS director

challenges.

On a monthly basis, Heideman estimates ATLAS helps 25 to 35 individuals and/or families through its mentoring program.

Workplace ministry added

In September 2018, ATLAS board members suggested adding a workplace ministry, so Michael Blank stops at 13 Rock County businesses weekly, monthly or quarterly for 10-minute non-denominational visits that include prayer and reflection.

"When we started this facet of the ministry, we knew how important the time is for employees and employers," he said. "We would love to have more businesses for our workplace ministry."

Blank also assists with the male mentoring program.

"We will help anywhere we can and anyone we can," he said.

The ATLAS office is located on the second floor of the Cragoe

Realty building at 201 E. Main St., Luverne.

The confidential and free service operates on donations from businesses, churches and individuals. The annual budget of \$177,000 is also supported by the organization's thrift store, Redeemed Remnants.

Thrift store fills niche

Redeemed Remnants opened on East Main Street in Luverne in 2015. The store provides about 25 percent of ATLAS budget.

Manager Greg Hoogeveen said the daily foot traffic has increased threefold since the store opened four years ago.

"We averaged 30 customers a day in the early years," he said. "It's tripled since it has opened."

Clothes make up most of the store's merchandise followed by décor items, housewares and furniture.

Items are donated to the store,

and the ones in the best condition are resold at reasonable prices.

Nearly three dozen volunteers sort and prepare items for resale, and they help Hoogeveen, assistant manager Deb Boomgaarden and store clerk Dawn Nath with customer service.

The store is open Tuesdays through Saturdays and is closed Sundays and Mondays.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with closures Thursdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 3 p.m.

Clothes that are not suitable for resale are transported to the Justice For All facility in Rock Valley where the clothing is further recycled.

Other ministries available

Above the Main Street Luverne thrift store are two apartments called The Loft, which fill a need for crisis housing in Rock County.

Heideman said the apartments are regularly occupied.

"People don't realize we have homeless in Rock County," she said.

ATLAS also works with the Southwest Crisis Center and other

Atlas/continued on page 8

1929: State highway department will house two snow plows in Luverne

The following appeared in *The Rock County Star* on October 11, 1929.

House Snow Plows Here

Minnesota Highway Department to Erect Building in Luverne to House two Snow Plows

Plans to erect a building here, to house two of the Minnesota Highway Department's new motor truck snow plows, were made known yesterday by H. E. Chard, district engineer of the department and J. F. O'Meara, division maintenance superintendent, both of whom were here to negotiate for a site, just south of the Omaha lines, on the tile factory spur, near the Petersen sand pit. Construction of a fifty by thirty foot shed is to be started at once and made ready to accommodate the new equipment this fall, according to District Engineer Chard.

According to Mr. Chard, the department has purchased eight new motor trucks, with from eighty to one hundred fifteen horsepower motors, for use in Southwestern Minnesota, and Pipestone and Luverne are among the towns where the equipment will be stationed. The new trucks constitute dual-purpose equipment adopted by the highway department as the solution of the snow removal problem. The trucks are adequate in power and speed to keep a good area of the highways free from snow and during the other seasons of the year when they are not needed for snow removal they will be utilized for maintenance purposes, each outfit eliminating a number of the old horse patrols.

Residents of the community can expect from this additional equipment,



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president
Rock County Historical Society

located right here in the community, winter travel facilities that have never been afforded in previous winters. Not only is the new road cleaning apparatus much more powerful and efficient than that used in previous winters but heretofore all of the equipment has been located farther up toward the cities and the extreme southwestern part of the state often laid blockaded for days before the equipment could reach this section.

Following completion of their business here, Mr. Chard went to Pipestone and to Ortonville, from which points he planned to return to Saint Paul, and Superintendent O'Meara returned to Windom.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iuu.net.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2009)

Eastern Farmers Cooperative is moving dirt and pouring cement for a new 10,000-ton dry fertilizer storage facility west of Magnolia.

Eastern Farmers purchased 15 acres of land from John Bowron and his sister, Judy Bowron, for the purpose of consolidating its agronomy operations on the site.

Plans are to centralize crop nutrient, crop protection products and seed business that is currently handled at Eastern Farmers facilities in Luverne, Ellsworth and east of Magnolia.

25 years ago (1994)

While the legislature and media have focused recent attention on ethanol production, local and regional soybean producers have followed similar marketing strategies.

A group of independent farmers and landowners in southwest Minnesota, northwest Iowa and southeast South Dakota are organizing and investing in a soybean processing plant.

"The idea is to get in on processing plants, because they're trying to get in on farming," said Hills farm Eugene "Pucky" Sandager. He and several other Rock County farmers and landowners have already invested in the project. ...

So far, more than 900 investors have joined the cooperative, South Dakota Soybean Processors, and 400 members are still expected to join, according to co-op vice president Dennis Hardy, Beresford, S.D.

50 years ago (1969)

Only two children in Rock County can have a deer for a pet legally. The two children are Lynn and Denise Daleiden, both daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Daleiden.

The children, Lynn 11, and Denise, 5, do have a pet deer, for now, Mrs. Daleiden said, but only because their father is the park manager at Blue Mounds State Park.

According to Minnesota law, a tame deer can only be kept at a state park or state game refuge.

The deer, which the children named "Buck-shot," was brought to the Daleidens last Memorial Day weekend by Game Warden Richard Remme. A farmer, while working in the field, ran over the animal and reported the accident to the game warden.

Remme asked the Daleidens if they would take care of the animal, which was only a few days old at the time. The small buck deer had a broken hip, which is now completely healed after several visits to a local veterinarian.

"The deer trails the children all over the park. He'll even follow them to the school bus in the morning. I think the deer was more popular with the campers this summer than the buffalo were," Mrs. Daleiden said.

Both Daleiden girls fed the deer from a bottle all summer. "We mixed evaporated milk and water for Buckshot," Lynn said. "We still feed him pellets but he'll eat anything."

"When we want to play with him and he isn't around the house, we just ring a bell and he'll come running. When he hears the bell he thinks it's feeding time," Denise said.

75 years ago (1944)

A strange woman, who cashed a \$9.15 cream check at the Creeger and Company store Monday, was being sought by the county peace authorities this week.

A "Harry Doe" complaint has been filed by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dorn, who farm two miles east of Adrian, who allege that some unidentified woman endorsed their name to a cream check in that amount, issued to them by the Adrian Cooperative Creamery, and which check they had never received. The check was dated Sept. 26.

100 years ago (1919)

That the price of milk will be increased to 14 cents a quart or 45 cents a gallon on November 1st is the announcement made this week by Luverne's two dairymen. The price of cream will also be raised to 14 cents for one-half pint, if by any chance the dairymen should have this product for sale, but they state that the demand for milk is so great that there is little opportunity to secure cream.

CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

Rollie Miller will celebrate his 75th birthday on Sunday, Oct. 27. Greetings may be sent to him at 1156 Rowe Drive, Luverne, MN 56156.

Curt and Joyce Roos will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 27. Greetings may be sent to them at 1480 241st Street, Edgerton, MN 56128.

Cleo Kjenslee will celebrate his 100th birthday on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Greetings may be sent to him at 100 Dublin Road #2218, Mankato, MN 56001.

MENU

Monday, Oct. 28: Sloppy Joe, potato salad, mixed vegetables, bun, cookie.

Program: 8:30 a.m. Quilting, 9 a.m. Bone Builders, 1 p.m. Pinochle.

Tuesday, Oct. 29: Ham and scalloped potatoes, creamed peas, tropical fruit salad, bread, pie.

Program: Half-Price Day sponsored by Quality Printing.

Wednesday, Oct. 30: Baked chicken, baked potato with sour cream, beets, bread, Apple Brown Betty.

Program: 9 a.m. Bone Builders. Half-Price Days sponsored by Good Samaritan Home Care.

Thursday, Oct. 31: Hearty chili, broccoli florets, spiced pears, corn muffin, Halloween cookie. Program: Halloween! Wear your costume!

Friday, Nov. 1: Spaghetti with Italian meat sauce, cauliflower, garlic bread, peaches.

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

Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.

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

SCHOOL NEWS

Versteeg receives BSU scholarship

Cade Versteeg, a freshman majoring in accounting, has been awarded the Ben Miller Scholarship at Bemidji State University.

OBITUARIES

Elmer Bartels

Elmer William Bartels, in the Lutheran Laymen's League, now known as Lutheran Hour Ministries, where he held zone, district, and international positions for many years. Elmer and Eunice helped organize a couples club in 1959 and continued to gather with these same friends on a regular basis 60 years later.



Elmer enjoyed wood-working, bowling, playing cards, gardening, listening to the Twins, Vikings and Gophers, and doing and framing puzzles. Elmer and Eunice enjoyed traveling, especially to Germany in 1979 and 2007 to visit Bartels and Kuhlman relatives. Elmer enjoyed spending time with his family.

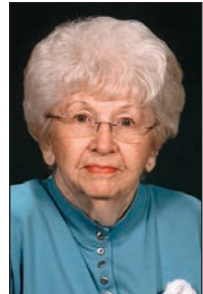
Elmer was born to Otto and Martha (Scheel) Bartels on Feb. 1, 1931, on a farm northeast of Trosky. He was baptized on March 1, 1931, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Trosky and confirmed his faith at St. John's on March 25, 1945. Elmer spent his childhood years on the farm and attended District 51 country school in Trosky. He moved with his parents to the Hardwick area in 1945.

Elmer married Eunice Kuhlman on June 10, 1951, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper. They farmed outside of Hardwick and in the Luverne area with his parents until 1954. Elmer and Eunice purchased a farm south of Jasper in February of 1955 and farmed the land until Elmer's retirement in 2003. They continued to reside on the farm until they moved to Luverne on Dec. 10, 2010.

Elmer was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper where he served as congregational president, elder, member of the stewardship committee, and sang bass in the choir. He held district and synod positions within the LCMS. He was very active

Margaret Hoh

Margaret J. Hoh, 93, years. She then took a position with the Extension Ag Communications Office of South Dakota State University until her retirement in 1989. Her husband died on Sept. 23, 2006. In September of 2007 Margaret returned to Luverne, and in June of 2014 she became a resident of Parkview Manor in Ellsworth.



Margaret was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne where she was involved in Church Circle and the quilters club. She enjoyed crafts, sewing and reading.

Margaret is survived by her sister-in-law, Margie Anderson of Luverne; nieces and nephews Tim (Barb) Anderson, Julie (Wesley) Obritsch and Nancy (Eric Koester) Anderson; and other friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her brothers Leon (Joann) Anderson and Toby Anderson; an infant sister; and two half-brothers. Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (1024 F)

Sheryl Faber

Sheryl Renae "Cookie" Antonio. She is survived by her children and their families, Anthony and Alyssa, Kimberly and Albert, and Amber; her grandchildren Amaya, Ryland, Ethan, Anthony Jr., Elliott, Royce and Mila; her mother, Eleanor Faber of Inwood, Iowa; her siblings, Terry Faber of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Bonnie (David) Blank of Lake City, Florida, Randy (Lori) Faber of Hanska, Kim Faber of Brooklyn Center, Robin (Dan) Viet of Parker, South Dakota, Troy (Jean) Faber of Rochester, Michele (Scott) Peterson of Russell and Bill Faber of San Antonio; her stepbrothers Kel, Curt, Doug and Steve Faber and their families; nieces and nephews; and other relatives and friends.



Sheryl Faber was born to Wilbert and Eleanor Faber in 1958 in Rock Rapids, Iowa. She graduated from Hills-Beaver Creek High School in Hills in 1976. She then attended community college in Worthington and graduated from Mankato State University in 1980 with a degree in communication and a concentration in journalism.

Sheryl moved to San Antonio around 1981 and started work at a Holiday Inn. She then worked for about 32 years at the Oak Hills Country Club in San Antonio as the food and beverage manager. She worked the last four years as a special education teacher for homebound children and at the state hospital in San

Timothy VerSteeg

Timothy Eldon VerSteeg, 49, Brandon, South Dakota, died Friday, Oct. 18, 2019, as the result of complications from necrotic pancreatitis at the University of Minnesota Medical Center in Minneapolis.

A funeral service was Tuesday, Oct. 22, at Celebrate Community Church in Brandon. Burial will be held at a later date at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.



Timothy VerSteeg was born on Jan. 11, 1970, to Evan and Twila (Drost) VerSteeg in Luverne. He was raised on the family farm west of town and attended the Luverne public schools, graduating in 1988. He furthered his education at the University of Minnesota in Waseca, and then South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota. Following his education, Tim farmed for a period of time. He then became a long distance truck driver, which later led to an opportunity to be a civilian truck driver for the United States Government in Iraq and later in Afghanistan.

During his time overseas, Tim attended a wedding with

a friend in Thailand where he met a girl by the name of Sun-taree "Na" Seevinai. On Oct. 5, 2011, they were married in Bangkok, Thailand. They made their home in Chonburi, Thailand, and were blessed with a son, Ty.

In July of 2013, the family moved to the United States and made their home in Brandon, South Dakota. Tim continued driving truck for local companies, most recently Mike Cotton Trucking. In September of 2019, Tim experienced stomach pains, which led to a diagnosis of necrotic pancreatitis.

Tim attended Celebrate Community Church in Brandon, South Dakota. He en-

joyed watching movies, eating food and firearms. He was a simple, hardworking man who enjoyed spending time with his wife and son.

Tim is survived by his wife, Na, of Brandon; his son, Ty, of Brandon; his mother, Twila VerSteeg of Luverne; two siblings, Tom (Alison) VerSteeg of Luverne and Tami (Brian) Bergman of Luverne; and numerous other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Evan, in 2016.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (1024 F)

Donald Letcher

Donald Dewayne Letcher, 74, died Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019, at the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

He will be cremated with no services at this time. A celebration of life will be in the summer of 2020.

Donald Letcher was born April 18, 1945, to Everett and Viola (Cummings) Letcher in Worthington. He grew up in Sioux Falls. He joined the U.S. Navy and served during the Vietnam War. He was a deckhand/signalman on the USS John R. Craig DD-885. His bravery earned him a Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and the National Defense Service Medal with two bronze stars. He was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1967. Donald served in the Naval reserve until 1969. Following his time in active service, Donald attended Southeast Vocational School in Sioux Falls and graduated as a mechanic.

Donald married Alvina (VanBeek) Tiedeman on Aug. 24, 1974. She had three daughters, Melissa, Loretta and Su-



zanna. She had one daughter, Jolynn. Together Donald and Alvina had three daughters, Tonya, Trista and Sheila.

Donald is survived by his wife, Alvina Letcher; his children Melissa (Randy) Culbertson, Berthoud, Colorado, Jolynn (Steve) Clark, Piedmont, South Dakota, Loretta (Zeke) Pacella, Windsor, Colorado, Suzanna (Scott) Sliski, Fort Collins, Colorado, Tonya (Tim) Allen, Hardwick, Trista (Brad) Lane, Meridian, Idaho, and Sheila Letcher, Loveland, Colorado; 20 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; a sister, Patricia (Don) LaFrenz, Luverne; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepmother, Vera Letcher; a great-grandson, Nick Parra; sisters Elaine (Ivan) Else, Delorus (James) Anderson and Carol (Norm) Olson; and brothers Noelan, Lester and James Letcher.

Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (1024 F)

Harold Graphenteen

Harold "Shorty" Graphenteen, 86, Luverne, died Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019, at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

A funeral service was Saturday, Oct. 19, at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne with presentation of military honors following the service. Burial was Monday, Oct. 21, at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Harold "Shorty" Graphenteen was born on Jan. 19, 1933, to George and Adella (Lorenzen) Graphenteen at the family's farm near Woodstock. Shortly after Harold's birth, the family moved to a farm near Hardwick. In 1941 the family relocated to a farm outside of Jasper, where Harold spent the rest of his childhood years. He attended country school through the eighth grade and graduated from Jasper High School in 1952.

He met Yvonne Klee-meier at a dance at the Hollywood Ballroom and the couple began their courtship, which included Yvonne's daughter, Coleen. Harold was drafted into the U.S. Army in May of 1953 and was sent to Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Washington, for basic training. He married Yvonne at the justice of the peace in Tacoma on Aug. 15, 1953.

Harold left for Tokyo, Japan, in October to serve as a teletype operator during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in April of 1955 and returned home.

The family farmed near Jasper for a number of years. They were blessed with two more children, Laura and Steve. In 1967 the family moved to a farm near Magnolia where they farmed until 1974.

Harold then purchased the Trosky bar and named it Graff's Bar. He sold the bar in



1982 and bought an off-sale liquor business in Fulda. The couple moved to Fulda and operated Graff's Liquor for the next 25 years. Harold sold the business in 2009 and the couple retired to Luverne.

Harold enjoyed spending time at Lake Shetek socializing with neighbors, tinkering in his shed and fixing things. Harold enjoyed golfing, bowling, shooting pool and playing ball. He was the pitcher/catcher for a number of years on local softball teams. Harold and Yvonne were members of the same card club for over 60 years.

Harold was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne and was a founding member of the Arthur Moeller American Legion Post 478 in Hardwick.

Harold is survived by his wife, Yvonne, of Luverne; children Coleen Cauwels of Cresco, Iowa, Laura (Steve) Van Klei of Champlin, and Steve (Mary Jo) Graphenteen of Luverne; grandchildren Teresa (Doug) Reisdorfer of Cannon Falls, Beth Cauwels (Tom Norton) of Minneapolis, Michael (Lindsay) Van Klei of Plymouth, Christopher Van Klei (Peter Wampole) of Minneapolis, Taylor (Vashti) Graphenteen of Sandpoint, Idaho; and Anthony Graphenteen (Kristel Jandl) of Luverne; four great-grandchildren; brothers Dale and David (Kim) Graphenteen, Wisconsin; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters Maxine Kruger and Marvella Wilson; and his son-in-law, Dennis Cauwels.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (1024 F)

John Allen

John Henry Allen, 83, Luverne, died Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019, at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

A memorial service was Monday, Oct. 21, at the First Baptist Church in Luverne. Burial with full military honors followed at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

John Allen was born June 28, 1936, to Edwin and Dorothy (Morgan) Allen in Houston, Texas, where he was raised and attended school. He enlisted into the Navy in 1954. He served as a boiler tender on the USS Hamner based out of San Diego, California. He was honorably discharged in 1958 and returned to La Port, Texas. In 1959 he moved to Houma, Louisiana, where he worked on oil rigs as a "roughneck". In 1984 he moved to Newnan, Georgia, where he was employed at Southern Foundry Recycling as a crane operator.

He married Virginia Wharton in 1989 at the Trinity Baptist Church in Senoia, Georgia. They lived in Newnan where John continued work as a crane operator until 1997 and then as a custodian at Newnan High School from 1997 to 2008. The couple moved to the Centen-



nial Apartments in Luverne, Virginia's childhood home, in 2008. In August 2016 John became a resident at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne. Virginia died on Oct. 5, 2018.

John was a member of the First Baptist Church in Luverne where he frequently served as an usher. He enjoyed playing SkipBo, woodworking, and had a love of fishing.

John is survived by his children, Donna (Dewayne) Curney of Abbeita Springs, Louisiana, Sheila Cavalier of Abbeita Springs, and Brent (Stacey) Allen of Napoleonville, Louisiana; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; two brothers, Edwin (Becky) Allen of Deep Park, Texas, and William (Margaret) Allen of Cleaveland, Texas; sister-in-law Betty of Denver, Colorado; and brother-in-law Robert Wharton of Luverne.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia; son-in-law Anthony "T-Boy" Cavalier; his parents; and a brother, James Allen.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (1024 F)

Hilda Uilk

Hilda Adela Uilk, 95, Jasper, died Monday, Oct. 14, 2019, at the Good Samaritan Communities in Pipestone.

A funeral service was Friday, Oct. 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper. Burial followed at New Woodlawn Cemetery in Pipestone.

Hilda Winter was born on Dec. 7, 1923, to Herman and Margaret (Heinsohn) Winter in Olivet, South Dakota. In 1930 Hilda and her family relocated to a farm near Boyden, Iowa, where she attended parochial school.

On Jan. 9, 1947, she married Herman Uilk at St. John's Lutheran Church in Boyden. During their first three years of marriage, the couple farmed southwest of Jasper. They then lived on a farm near Pipestone for 10 years before purchasing a farm in Rose Dell Township near Jasper where they lived until Herman's retirement in November 1985 when they moved to Pipestone. Herman died on June 30, 1990. Hilda continued to live in their home until November 2017, when she moved to Sunrise Village in Jasper. She had recently entered hospice care at Good Samaritan Communities of Pipestone.

Hilda was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper. She was baptized on Jan. 6, 1924, at her home and confirmed on March 21, 1937,

at St. John's Lutheran Church in Boyden. She was a member of the Couple's Club, Ladies Aid and Helping Hand Club as well as the Bible study. She was an avid quilter since the 1970s.

Hilda is survived by five children, Leon (Diana) Uilk of Pipestone, Marlys (Dwight) Rafferty of The Villages, Florida, Joyce (Chuck) Hammer of Pipestone, Wayne (Becky) Uilk of Jasper, and Darla (Bill) Morton of Brighton, Colorado; 13 grandchildren, Jarrod (Heidi) Uilk, Janelle (Scott) Hampton, Rachelle (Matt) Mayse, Chad (Hayley) Rafferty, Kara (Jim) Rieke, Cherrille (fiancé Jason) Hammer, Seth (Jessica) Hammer, Ashley (Ryan) Delahoyde, Heather (Brent) Bielec, Tyler (Dannier) Uilk, Nic (Kristen) Uilk, Rebecca Morton and Shelley (Alan) LaMar; 31 great-grandchildren; siblings Alvin Winter of Whitesboro, Texas, Ruben Winter of Sheldon, Iowa, Luella Loges of Boyden and Norven Winter of Boyden.

She was preceded in death by her husband; three premature great-grandsons; her parents; sisters Louise Uilk, Elsie Fick, and Meta Fick; and brothers August and Gerhard.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (1024 F)



Graphics courtesy of Rock Ranch

The Rock Ranch arena will be built on six acres of farmland donated by Dan and Marie LaRock.

Rock Ranch expansion/continued from page 1

ranch to expand their counseling options.

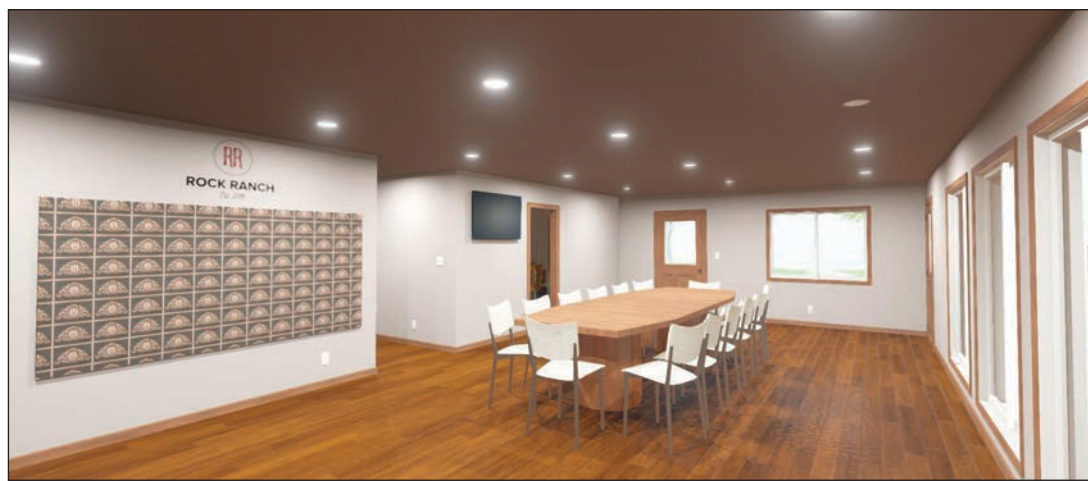
Because of their dedication to equine-led therapy, the LaRocks are committed to moving the project forward through the use of their own personal funds and the donation of their own farmland to the arena project.

They are working with Dysthe Construction to develop the six-acre site and the plans for the indoor arena.

Here's how to give

The LaRocks have formed a nine-member steering committee to oversee the pledge campaign that will help with the construction costs.

Pledges, which can be dropped off at Security Savings Bank in the tri-state area,



The LaRocks have also planned a large conference room to host meetings. The room would be open to organizations seeking a place to meet.

can be made one time or over a three-year period. The pledge campaign will continue now through the end of the year. Rock Ranch is a 501(c)3

organization. More information about Rock Ranch and the arena project can be found on the group's website, www.riderockranch.org.

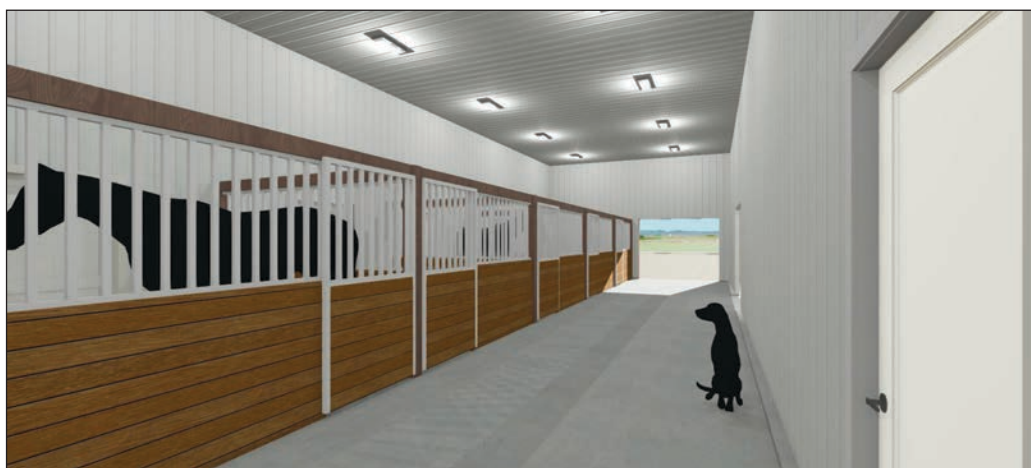
Groundbreaking for the arena is planned for November with a projected finish in the spring of 2020.



At left: A handicapped-accessible observation deck allows spectators to watch activities in the indoor arena.

Below: Inside the Rock Ranch arena structure will be five stalls to house the horses used in the therapeutic riding program.

Rock Ranch recently launched a pledge campaign to raise \$680,000 for an 80-by-200-foot heated building to include an 80-by-120-foot riding arena, five horse stalls, a conference room, offices, restrooms and a handicap-accessible viewing platform. A 60-by-100-foot riding arena will also be constructed outdoors.



Fall harvest season behind normal

**By Kent Thiesse
Farm Management Analyst**

The 2019 harvest season started late in the Upper Midwest and is further delayed by wetter than normal weather in many areas.

As of Oct. 15, the weekly USDA Crop Progress Report listed only 19 percent of the soybeans harvested in Minnesota, compared to a 5-year average of 62 percent harvested by that date.

Iowa reported only 17 percent of the soybeans harvested by Oct. 15, compared to an average of 43 percent harvested by that date. North and South Dakota were at 16 percent and 13 percent of the soybeans harvested.

Nationwide, 26 percent of the soybeans were harvested by then ... well below the 5-year average of 49 percent harvested by that date. There was some significant advancement in the soybean harvest in many areas during this past week.

According to the Oct. 15 Crop Report, only 5 percent of Minnesota's 2019 corn crop had been harvested, compared to a 5-year average of 19 percent by that date.

Iowa had only 7 percent of the corn crop harvested by Oct. 15, South Dakota was at 3 percent harvested, and North Dakota had only 1 percent of the corn harvested.

Nationwide, 22 percent of the corn crop had been harvested by Oct. 15, compared to an average of 36 percent typically harvested by that date.

Another concern in some portions of Minnesota and northern Iowa, as well as in North and South Dakota, is the fact that some corn was not mature when the first frost occurred during the week of Oct. 7-13.

While this is slightly later than the normal first-frost date in many locations, the freeze still came too early for large numbers of corn acres in the Upper Midwest that were planted in late May and early June.

The USDA Report on Oct. 15 listed the following percentages for corn that had reached maturity: Minnesota at 66 percent, Iowa at 72 percent, South Dakota at 53 percent, and North Dakota at 42 percent.

This means that potentially nearly one-third of Minnesota's corn crop and nearly half of North and South Dakota's corn crops had not yet reached maturity when the first killing frost occurred.

When a killing frost occurs before the corn is mature, it can reduce yield, result in lighter test weights, and slow the field dry-down of the corn.

Early reports of soybean

yields have been highly variable across southern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

Reported whole-field soybean yields of 50-60 bushels per acre have been quite common in many areas of south central Minnesota, with a few yields exceeding those levels. There were some reduced yields in areas that were impacted by late planting and excessive rainfall during the 2019 growing season.

Areas that are dealing with harvest challenges due to excessive rainfall and the early mid-October snowstorm are also likely to have yield reductions.

The 2019 soybean yields in most areas of the Upper Midwest will likely be average or below, compared to normal soybean yield levels, and well below the record soybean yields that some farm operators have experienced in recent years.

Due to limited corn harvest progress in most areas, it is a bit early to project yield trends for corn in the region. It is expected that corn yields across the Upper Midwest will be highly variable, just as the soybeans have been.

In many areas, the 2019 corn crop has been challenged the entire growing season by late planting, severe storms, late maturity, and finally by harvest challenges. It appears that the region is going to have a very long and tenuous harvest season for corn this fall.

Producers are hoping that the harvest moisture of the corn coming out of the field starts to decline; however, this could be a challenge as we get later into the fall, especially on corn that had not reached maturity.

Most of the corn being harvested in south central Minnesota in the past week has been at 24- to 28-percent moisture, meaning a significant amount of additional drying is required before the corn is placed in on-farm bins for storage.

Corn should be dried to about 15-16 percent moisture before going into the grain bin for safe storage until next spring or summer.

In late October and early November, the field moisture content of the corn is only likely to drop one-quarter to one-half percent per day under favorable conditions, and lesser amounts in cool, cloudy weather.

For additional information contact Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst and Senior Vice President, MinnStar Bank, Lake Crystal. (Phone: 507-381-7960; email kent.thiesse@minnstarbank.com; website: www.minnstarbank.com.)

Atlas/continued from page 7

agencies that may need immediate housing for individuals or families.

Matthew 6 Outreach is for Rock County residents facing life-threatening medical conditions.

The group provides support to families both emotionally and financially.

Since 2006, Matthew 6 Outreach has helped more than 50 families, donating more than \$50,000 to those in need.

Recently the ATLAS office became the new home to the Luverne Backpack Program.

The group uses a large back conference room to assemble more than 150 food bags for school-aged children in Luverne each week.

"We had the space and we weren't using it," Heideman said.

ATLAS also provides space for the One Warm Coat program, which accepts new or gently used winter coats through Oct. 31 and distributes them Nov. 2 and 7.

A box in the ATLAS lobby is available for the coat donations.

No more banquets

ATLAS supporters used to organize a community fundraising banquet each fall but stopped last year.

Heideman said instead of one large event, ATLAS completes several smaller events, such as Pizza Ranch Tip Night, throughout the

year. All donations are used within Rock County.

Currently the group is weighing options for an updated, more reliable delivery van for pick-ups and deliveries.

"We won't take that out of town," Heideman said.

In addition to a van, the group would also like to fill an empty position on its ATLAS board of directors.

For more information, the ATLAS office is open from 9 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Laura Luitjens works part time for ATLAS as the organization's administrative assistant.

The phone number to ATLAS is 507-449-5777.



The Holiday Season will soon be upon us. It is not only a time for families to share memories, but also a time to create new ones. In an effort to help, we would like to invite you to our annual:

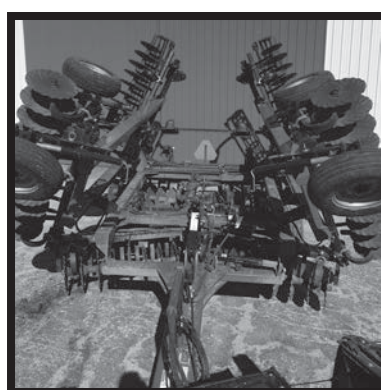
"Service of Remembrance"

Sunday, November 3, 2019
1:00 PM
Hartquist Funeral Home

We ask that you R.S.V.P. with the number that will be in attendance from your family by Thursday, October 31, 2019. We may be reached at 507-283-2777.



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Patriots oust EHS from tourney field

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball team moved into the quarterfinal round of the South Section 3A Tournament by topping Ellsworth 3-1 Monday in Hills.

The eighth-seeded Patriots took the first two sets of the match before No. 9 Ellsworth rallied to pull out a win in the third set.

A three-point run at the end of the fourth set clinched the win for the 13-14 Patriots, who play No. 1 Adrian during a quarterfinal-round contest in Adrian Friday.

Ellsworth ends the season with a 7-18 record.

The Patriots dominated play

early in the opening set.

H-BC registered the first two points of the evening on the way to building an 11-2 cushion after Joslyn Birger delivered a service point.

The Patriots extended their lead to 14 points (20-6) with a service point from Kailey Rozeboom, but the Panthers trimmed the difference to 12 points (20-8) with a service point from Kallie Chapa.

H-BC led by 15 points (23-8) when Kenadie Fick registered a service point before Sadie Fuerstenberg locked up a 25-11 victory with a kill.

Ellsworth scored the first
Oust/continued on page 10



H-BC's Whitney Elbers (14) challenges Ellsworth's Kallie Chapa at the net during Monday's tournament match in Hills.

H-BC thwarts upset bid Oct. 16

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek football team thwarted a late challenge from Madelia to post a 46-40 win in Madelia Oct. 16.

H-BC appeared to be on its way to an easy victory after scoring 16 unanswered points in the third quarter to open a 46-20 lead.

The Blackhawks, however, scored 20 fourth-quarter points to make it a six-point difference before H-BC fielded an onside-kick attempt before running the final 2:30 off the clock to ice the win.

Leading 30-20 at the intermission, H-BC opened the third quarter with a burst as Tyson Bork returned the kick-off 89 yards for a touchdown.

A Gavin Wysong-to-Zander Wysong conversion followed the kick return, giving H-BC a

38-20 cushion.

H-BC's Tryce Bennett recovered a fumble on Madelia's 39-yard line as the third quarter progressed, and Gavin Wysong scored on a 15-yard run four plays later before carrying in the two-point conversion to make it a 46-20 game.

The game's momentum switched in the fourth quarter after an apparent H-BC touchdown pass was negated by a penalty.

The penalty eventually forced H-BC to punt, and the Blackhawks battled their way back into contention.

Ramiro Zamora raced 34 yards for a touchdown and quarterback Ethan Arndt carried in the two-point conversion to make it a 46-28 game early in the fourth quarter.

H-BC lost a fumble on the

first play of its next offensive possession, setting up a 12-yard Arndt-to-Nick Chloros touchdown pass that trimmed the difference to 12 points (46-38).

Madelia executed a successful onside kick following the touchdown to regain possession of the ball, setting up a 36-yard Arndt-to-Ja'Sean Glover touchdown pass that made it a 46-40 game.

H-BC recovered Madelia's ensuing onside-kick attempt and never lost possession of the ball in the final 2:30.

Gavin Wysong intercepted a pass in the H-BC end zone to stop Madelia's opening possession of the game.

The Patriot offense covered 80 yards in six plays with Bork

H-BC/continued on page 10

Luverne overcomes deficit to cage Belle Plaine Tigers

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne football team overcame a 12-point deficit by scoring 33 unanswered points to cap a 6-2 regular season with a 33-12 victory in Belle Plaine Oct. 16.

The home-standing Tigers registered a pair of rushing touchdowns in the first 13:16 to gain an early advantage.

Luverne trimmed the difference to six points (12-6) before the first half was complete and outscored BP 27-0 in the second half to prevail by 21 points.

The Tigers got off to a good start by putting together a 67-yard, 14-play drive with their opening offensive possession.

Luke Luskey capped the march at the 4:07 mark of the first quarter with a 15-yard run to give the hosts a 6-0 cushion.

Luskey scored on a 14-yard run to make it a 12-0 contest at the 10:56 mark of the second quarter, but that proved to be the last time BP would find the end zone in the game.

Luverne's rally started late in the second quarter when the Cardinals fielded a punt to start a five-play, 41-yard possession. Quarterback Casey Sehr

fired a 19-yard touchdown pass to Gannon Ahrendt with 2:56 remaining in the first half to make it a 12-6 difference.

LHS completed its comeback by registering touchdowns with four consecutive possessions in the second half.

The Cards received the kick-off to start the third quarter and promptly moved the ball 58 yards in five plays.

Bailey Cowell, who ran the ball for 90 yards in the game, knotted the score at 12 when he registered his first of three rushing touchdowns at the end of a seven-yard run 1:33 into the stanza.

The LHS offense covered 64 yards in five plays during its second offensive possession of the third quarter.

Cowell pranced into the end zone from 10 yards away and Shaïd Shearer added his first of three extra points to give the Cards a 19-12 lead at the 4:41 mark of the third quarter.

Luverne's next offensive possession developed into a nine-play, 55-yard march.

The drive started in the third quarter and ended with Cowell scoring on a one-yard plunge

49 seconds into the fourth quarter to up the lead to 26-12.

The fourth play of BP's next offensive possession resulted in a fumble that was recovered by Luverne's Zach Ahrendt at the Tigers' 37-yardline.

Zach Kruse raced 34 yards for a touchdown three plays later to cap the scoring with 7:44 remaining in the game.

The Cards open the Section 3AAA Playoffs by hosting a game Tuesday (Oct. 22).

Team statistics
Luverne: 209 rushing yards, 78 passing yards, 287 total yards, 16 first downs, two penalties for 20 yards, two turnovers.
BP: 190 rushing yards, four passing yards, 194 total yards, 10 first downs, one penalty for 15 yards, one turnover.

Individual statistics
Rushing: Cowell 10-90, Kruse 8-60, Casey Sehr 1-27, Ashton Sandbulte 9-26, Jacob Von Tersch 2-6, Trevor Halverson 2-0.
Passing: Sehr 5-12 for 78 yards, Cowell 0-3 for zero yards.
Receiving: Ahrendt 3-71, Cowell 1-11, Matthew Sehr 1-minus 4.
Defense: Jamie McCarthy seven tackles, Tate Baum 5.5 tackles, Cade Wenninger four tackles, Nick Feit four tackles, Colby Crabtree four tackles, Brayden Ripka four tackles, Kameron Keene 3.5 tackles, Von Tersch three tackles, Nathaniel Cole-Kraty one fumble recovery, Ahrendt one fumble recovery.



Six members of the Luverne cross country program raked in honors during the Big South Conference Small School Division Meet in Mountain Lake Oct. 15. They are (from left) Grace Ingebretson, Elizabeth Wagner, Brooklynn Ver Steeg, Jenna DeBates, Brayden Tofteland and Tenley Nelson. Nelson, DeBates and Ver Steeg made the all-conference squad, while Wagner, Ingebretson and Tofteland received honorable mention for their performances at the event.

Six Cards collect BSC honors

Girls claim fifth straight Small School team title

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne Cardinals finished the regular season by competing at the Big South Conference Cross Country Championships Oct. 15 in Mountain Lake.

The LHS girls won the Small School Division for the fifth consecutive season.

The Cardinal boys placed fourth in a seven-team field.

Luverne's girls faced little resistance in capturing their team title for the fifth straight year.

With four runners finishing among the top 10 runners, the Cardinals led a field of five complete teams with 27 points.

Redwood Valley placed second to LHS with 53 points.

Three Cardinal girls made the All-BSC squad by placing

in the top seven individual finishers and two more received honorable mention by finishing between eighth and 15th in the race.

Tenley Nelson won the individual title with a time of 18:17, making the all-conference squad along with Jenna DeBates (third in 19:48) and Brooklynn Ver Steeg (sixth in 20:12).

Along with padding Luverne's winning team tally, Elizabeth Wagner and Grace Ingebretson earned honorable mention status by placing

ninth and 13th with respective 20:33 and 21:27 times.

Kayla Bloemendaal came up one place short of earning honorable mention after placing 16th in 21:43.

Makena Nelson and Tiana Lais placed 29th and 30th in the varsity race with 23:27 and 23:28 efforts.

After placing third in the team standings last season, the LHS boys placed fourth in a seven-team field with 105 points in 2019.

BCS/continued on page 10



Adrian senior Kasie Tweet slips the ball past Luverne's Mallory Thorson during an Oct. 15 match in Luverne. AHS overcame a 1-0 deficit to secure a 3-1 victory.

Dragons post 3-1 win over LHS

By John Rittenhouse

A pair of volleyball teams from the Star Herald coverage area locked horns for a match in Luverne Oct. 15.

Class A power Adrian took on the Class AA Cardinals for a match on Luverne's home court.

LHS stunned AHS by posting a comfortable win in the opening set, but the Dragons outscored the Cards 75-38 while winning the next three battles to secure a 3-1 victory.

Luverne scored the first three points of the opening set and slowly padded its lead to 11 (22-11) after Trista Baustian delivered an ace serve.

The Dragons rallied to trim the difference to six points (24-18) with a block by Bailey Lonneman before a serve into the net gave LHS a 25-18 win.

The score was knotted at

three in the second set when Adrian embarked on a 20-3 run ending with a kill by Shawna Rogers to open a 23-6 cushion.

Adrian prevailed by 18 points (25-7) when Kasie Tweet served a set-ending ace.

AHS scored the first four points on the way to building a 20-6 advantage after Rogers registered a kill in the third set.

The Dragons settled with a 13-point (25-12) conquest when Lonneman ended the set with a kill.

Luverne overcame an 8-3 deficit early in the fourth set to sport an 11-9 edge after Sydney Bieber charted a kill.

The score was knotted at 15 when AHS gained some separation with a 7-1 surge ending with a service point from Mayssa Tweet to gain a 22-16 advantage.

AHS prevailed 25-19 when

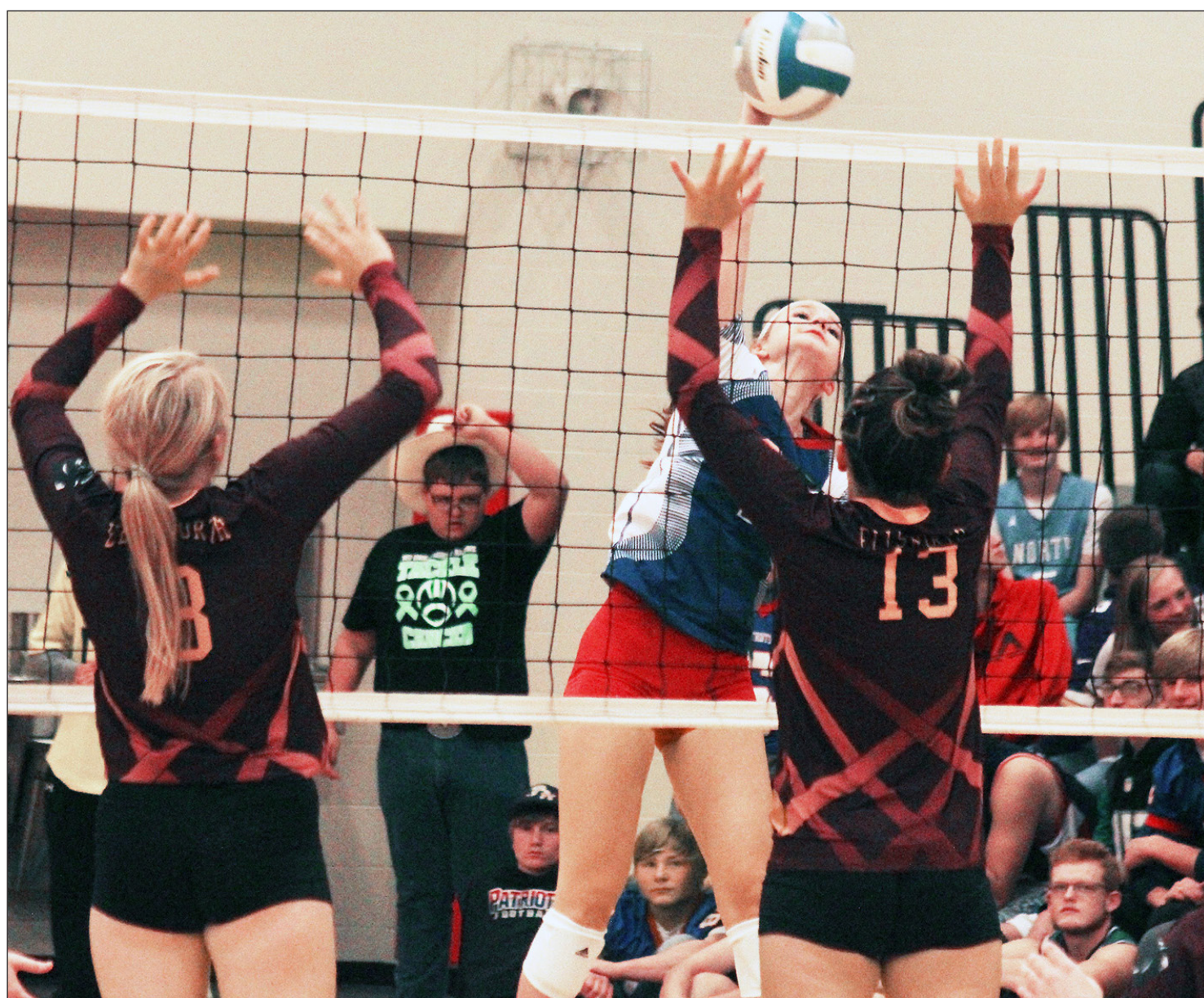
Julia Bullerman recorded a match-ending kill.

Rogers (11 kills, 15 digs and four blocks), Kasie Tweet (36 set assists and 22 digs), Kendra Frodermann (nine kills and four blocks), Mayssa Tweet (29 digs and 19 of 20 serving with four aces) and Brianna Reckamp (12 digs and 16 of 17 serving) led the 25-2 Dragons to victory.

Lonneman and Marissa Lehnhoff added 14 and eight kills to the winning effort.

Mallory Thorson (16 digs and four kills), Tacey Baustian (15 digs, 15 set assists and 16 of 16 serving) and Gracie Zewiske (15 blocks and six kills) played well for the 10-12 Cardinals.

Morgan Gonnerman charted four kills and Trista Baustian completed all 18 of her serves and charted one ace for LHS.



John Rittenhouse photo/1024 he vb 5

H-BC's Kenadie Fick attacks the ball at the net in front of Ellsworth's Kallie Chapa (3) and Matilyn Mulder during Monday's South Section 3A Volleyball Tournament match in Hills. The Patriots handed EHS a 3-1 loss.

Oust/continued from page 9

point of the second set and led 10-7 after Ashlyn Meester delivered an ace serve.

H-BC regained the lead at 18-14 when Fick capped an 11-4 run with a service point, but EHS battled back to make it a two-point difference at four different occasions as the set progressed.

The Patriots thwarted the challenge to win 25-21 after Whitney Elbers recorded a set-ending kill.

Ellsworth led 7-4 when Kendra DeBeer registered a

service point before H-BC put together a 10-6 surge to gain a 14-13 edge with a service point from Annie Bos.

An ace serve from Taryn Rauk gave the Patriots a 20-15 advantage, but the pesky Panthers didn't give up the fight.

EHS faced a 24-20 deficit before going on a 6-1 run to sport a 26-25 lead after DeBeer recorded a service point.

The Panthers prevailed 28-26 when Katie Buntjer produced a tip kill.

Ellsworth led 3-1 early in

the fourth set and sported an 18-16 advantage when Morgan Dreesen recorded a kill.

H-BC forged in front 22-19 when Abby Knobloch came up with a kill, but EHS knotted the score at 22 with a service point from DeBeer.

The Patriots bounced back to secure a 25-22 victory when Bos delivered a match-ending service point.

Rozeboom (20 of 20 serving with one ace and 23 set assists), Bos (eight set assists and six digs), Elbers (20 kills and four

blocks) and Knobloch (six kills and eight digs) led H-BC to victory.

Fick completed all 23 of her serves and recorded five aces for the winners, while Rauk completed 21 of 22 serves with two aces.

Meester (10 digs, two ace serves and 10 kills) and Chapa (15 digs and eight kills) led EHS statistically.

Claire Popkes and Dreesen charted nine digs each, while DeBeer recorded seven kills.

MVL's late run upends AHS football team

By John Rittenhouse

A second-half flurry from Minnesota Valley Lutheran spoiled the regular season football finale for the Adrian-Ellsworth Dragons Oct. 16 in New Ulm.

A-E turned a 7-6 halftime edge into a 13-6 advantage by registering seven points nine plays into the second half.

MVL, however, scored 22 unanswered points the rest of the game to secure a 30-13 victory.

The Dragons appeared to be on the verge of locking up a winning record for the regular season when Ian Stamer intercepted a pass on the second play of the third quarter to set up a seven-play, 32-yard drive ending with a one-yard touchdown run by Brandon Schnoor.

A-E's extra-point attempt was blocked, but the Dragons appeared to be in good shape with a 13-7 advantage.

The home-standing Chargers didn't seem to be phased by the early proceedings.

MVL produced touchdowns with their next three offensive possessions during a 24-point run that gave the Chargers a 17-point victory.

The second play of MVL's second offensive possession of the third quarter featured quarterback Mason Cox delivering a 49-yard touchdown pass to Jace Marotz.

A Cox-to-Colton Collum conversion pass following the touchdown gave the hosts their first lead at 14-13.

The Dragons ended up losing a fumble on their own 35-yard line to end their next

possession.

Cox hit Marotz for a two-yard touchdown pass six plays later and the same combination clicked for a conversion pass to up the lead to 22-13.

The Chargers capped the scoring when Cox scored on a 21-yard run before delivering a successful conversion pass to Marotz with 4:56 left in the game.

The teams nearly played to a scoreless draw in the first half before registering one touchdown each in the final minute of the second quarter.

AHS drew first blood after Schnoor wrapped up an 11-play, 82-yard march with a three-yard run that came with 35 seconds left.

Brady Vortherms added the extra point to make it 7-0.

The Chargers answered

when Cox fired a 14-yard touchdown pass to Marotz as time expired to trim the difference to one point (7-6).

Adrian-Ellsworth ends the regular season with a 4-4 record.

Team statistics
Adrian: 244 rushing yards, 101 passing yards, 345 total yards, 17 first downs, five penalties for 95 yards, one turnover. MVL: 177 rushing yards, 81 passing yards, 258 total yards, 15 first downs, six penalties for 48 yards, two turnovers.

Individual statistics
Rushing: Schnoor 27-217, Stamer 7-15, Logan Taylor 1-4, Isaac Bullerman 3-3, Preston Nelson 1-3, Quentin Wolf 1-2. Passing: Stamer 7-17 for 101 yards. Receiving: Vortherms 4-47, Schnoor 1-37, Grant Jansma 1-10, Taylor 1-7. Defense: Nelson nine tackles and one interception, Wolf seven tackles, Scot Edwards five tackles, Bullerman four tackles, Jansma four tackles, Lance Luettel three tackles, Taylor three tackles, Stamer three tackles and one interception.

BSC/continued from page 9

St. James claimed the team title with 21 points.

Brayden Tofteland made a bid to make the all-conference team before settling with honorable mention recognition by placing eighth in 17:07.

Jonah Friedrichsen came up one place short of securing honorable mention status after placing 16th in 17:55.

Camden Janiszski, Brady Bork and Griffin Jarchow capped the team scoring for

LHS by placing 26th, 27th and 28th in 18:27, 18:33 and 18:37.

Ethan Curtiss (32nd in 18:57), Sage Viessman (34th in 19:04), Ryan Fick (37th in 19:07) and Brody DeBates (40th in 19:27) also ran in the varsity race.

Here is a look at the rest of Luverne's results from the BSC meet.

Junior varsity girls: Maria Rops, ninth, 24:55; Madigan Flom, 12th, 25:48; Andrea Luitjens, 17th, 26:57.

Junior varsity boys: Ethan Rahm, eighth, 19:21; Evan Bumgardner, 11th, 19:27; Camden Hoven, 18th, 19:59; Carsen Tofteland, 20th, 20:20.3; Owen Janiszski, 21st, 20:20.5; Burke Johnson, 27th, 20:42; Graham Cunningham, 34th, 21:10; Leif Ingebretson, 38th, 21:19; Sam Emery, 43rd, 21:28; Levi Gonnerman, 53rd, 22:12; Kaleb Hemme, 56th, 22:21; Matthew Rogers, 61st, 23:14; Eli McLendon, 68th, 24:13.

Will we ever find the sweet spot?

I bet I get 15 calls every summer with concerned folks asking what the law is regarding ditch mowing. They ask, isn't it illegal to mow a road ditch before Aug. 1? They are very shocked when I tell them that for private individuals there is no such restriction.



OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, outdoors columnist

Aug. 15 or later?

My ideas about road ditch mowing have come from many different conversations within the agricultural and wildlife resource industry. These ideas would still provide the hay to producers but would reduce the negatives to wildlife substantially as well.

How about mowing after July 10 the north and east road ditches one year and the south and west ditches the following year? This would keep the tree problems controlled, reduce wildlife losses and still provide measurable hay resources to the producers.

The other thing many folks don't consider is the pollinator issues with intense mowing. Bees and other pollinators use the flowers and other forbs that grow in road ditches to fulfill their life cycle. We all need bees; this is not a secret. Young pheasants can move about easier in the shorter grasses in these areas as well.

I support the land-owners' right to derive income from ditch mowing. Ditches account for between 4,000 to 5,000 acres in most average-size counties. I wish there could be a way to allow all interests to benefit from a mowing and haying program that allows both wildlife and the land-owner to co-exist in some sort of harmony.

Eliminating or restricting ditch mowing would be as bad long term for wildlife as the unlimited mowing at any time of year that is allowed under current statutes.

I have sat in on a lot of meetings over the past five years on the subject and that balance so far has been impossible to find. Maybe the sweet spot between wildlife interests and income production will never be found, but I for one refuse to stop looking for it.

Eliminating or restricting ditch mowing would be as bad long term for wildlife as the unlimited mowing at any time of year that is allowed under current statutes.

I have sat in on a lot of meetings over the past five years on the subject and that balance so far has been impossible to find. Maybe the sweet spot between wildlife interests and income production will never be found, but I for one refuse to stop looking for it.

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

H-BC/continued from page 9

scoring on a seven-yard run and Gavin Wysong toting in the two-point conversion to give H-BC an 8-0 cushion.

Madelia trimmed the difference to two points (8-6) when Arndt fired a 32-yard touchdown pass to Glover, but the Patriots countered three plays later when Gavin Wysong dashed 67 yards for a score to give H-BC a 14-6

cushion.

Both teams registered two touchdowns in the second quarter.

H-BC received a 15-yard run by Bork and a four-yard scamper from Gavin Wysong.

Gavin Wysong added successful conversion runs after both H-BC touchdowns.

Chloros and Arndt scored on five- and one-yard runs for the Blackhawks.

Ahrendt also tossed a successful conversion pass after Madelia's second touchdown in the second quarter.

The 7-1 Patriots open the Section 3 Playoffs with a home game Tuesday (Oct. 22).

Team statistics
H-BC: 332 rushing yards, 55 passing yards, 387 total yards, 12 first downs, three penalties for 45 yards, one turnover. Madelia: 171 rushing yards, 255 passing yards, 426 total yards, 14 first downs, four penalties for 35 yards, two turnovers.

Individual statistics
Rushing: Bork 15-94, G. Wysong 23-238, Easton Harnack 1-0. Passing: G. Wysong 3-4 55 yards. Receiving: Chase Bosch 1-6, Z. Wysong 2-49. Defense: G. Wysong 10 tackles and one interception, Harnack seven tackles, Bosch 11 tackles and one sack, Bennett three tackles and one fumble recovery, Bork seven tackles, Cole Baker seven tackles, Casey Kueter eight tackles, Z. Wysong four tackles and one sack, Donovan Leenderts nine tackles.

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St. Catherine Catholic Church

203 E. Brown St., Luverne
St. Catherine Ph. 283-8502; email: stcatherine@iw.net
Saturday, Oct. 26: 5 p.m. Mass at St. Leo. Sunday, Oct. 27: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine. Children's Liturgy of the Word. K-5 Faith Formation. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Leo. 1 p.m. Mass.

Luverne Christian Reformed Church

605 N. Estey St., Luverne
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982
www.luverncrc.com — office@luverncrc.com
Roger Sparks, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 27: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 11 a.m. Sunday School and catechism. 6:30 p.m. Evening worship service. Monday, Oct. 28: 9 a.m. Perk-Up — Edgerton.

First Baptist Church

1033 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne
Ph. 283-4091; email: fbcluv@iw.net — www.fbcluverne.org
Walt Moser, Pastor
Thursday, Oct. 24: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Roll bandages for Zambia at FBC — all are welcome. 8 p.m. Worship Service on Channel 3. Sunday, Oct. 27: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. 6 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting. Monday, Oct. 28: 7 p.m. Women's Bible Study. Tuesday, Oct. 29: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 6:30 p.m. Awana/Orange Night. Thursday, Oct. 31: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Roll bandages for Zambia — all are welcome. 4 p.m. Trunk or Treat downtown Luverne. 8 p.m. Worship Service on Channel 3.

Grace Lutheran Church

500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Ron Nichols, Pastor / Ann Zastrow, Associate Pastor
Thursday, Oct. 24: 9:30 a.m. Rachel Circle at Mary Jane Brown Home. 1:30 p.m. Lydia Circle at Grace. 2 p.m. Sarah Circle at Camelot. 5-7 p.m. Soup Supper. 7 p.m. Priscilla/Elizabeth Circle at Grace. Friday, Oct. 25: 6:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Saturday, Oct. 26: 5:30 p.m. Worship Service. Sunday, Oct. 27: 8:15 a.m. KQAD Radio Broadcast. 9 a.m. Worship Service — Confirmation. 10 a.m. Fellowship coffee/treats. 10:15 a.m. Adult study; Sunday School. 6:30 p.m. Marriage Session. Monday, Oct. 28: 4:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. 5:45 p.m. Bells practice. Tuesday, Oct. 29: 9 a.m. Staff meeting; Grace notes assembly. 1:30 p.m. Worship at Mary Jane Brown Home. 2:30 p.m. Worship at Poplar Creek. 4 p.m. Worship at Veterans Home. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Naomi Circle at Poplar Creek. 3:30 p.m. Faithweavers. 5:30 p.m. Supper for confirmation students. 6:30 p.m. Woven Worship Service. 7:15 p.m. Grades 6-9 Confirmation class. Thursday, Oct. 31: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 6-7 p.m. Trunk or Treat.

Bethany Lutheran Church

720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 507-449-0291 or 605-215-9834
pastorapalmquist67@yahoo.com
Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 9:15 a.m. Bible Class. 10:15 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 3:30 p.m. Catechism class.

American Reformed Church

304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne
Ph. 283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org
Mike Aitena, Pastor
Thursday, Oct. 24: 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes. Friday, Oct. 25: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Pillow Cleaning. 8 a.m. Justice for All. 4:30 p.m. REFIT Fitness. 5 p.m. Rehearsal. Saturday, Oct. 26: Amanda DeBoer/Jordan Heiman wedding. Sunday, Oct. 27: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 10:50-11:50 a.m. Family Education. 3 p.m. Gospel Jubilee. 7 p.m. Prayer meeting. Tuesday, Oct. 29: Noon staff meeting. 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Bible Study Fellowship. 6:30 p.m. Praise Team. 7 p.m. Youth room reserved. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 4:30 p.m. REFIT Fitness. 5:30 p.m. Midweek Meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs; Youth groups. Thursday, Oct. 31: 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes.

First Assembly of God Church

1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 10 a.m. Morning Worship. 6:30 p.m. School of the Holy Spirit. Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Kids Connection; Men's Bible Study with Pastor Ken; Women's Bible Study with Pastor Gloria.

United Methodist Church

109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luvernumc@iw.net
Thursday, Oct. 24: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf. Saturday, Oct. 26: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Coffee Hour and Adult Sunday School. 10 a.m. All Church Celebration Brunch. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible Study. 6 p.m. ALIVE Youth Group — Haunted Farm. Monday, Oct. 28: 6:30 p.m. Movie night. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Tuesday, Oct. 29: 9:30 a.m. Folding Team. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 6 p.m. FUEL and Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Thursday, Oct. 31: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf.

Steen Reformed Church

112 W. Church Ave., Steen
Ph. 855-2336
Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship; service broadcast on KQAD. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School. 6 p.m. Youth Group. Evening worship at 6 p.m. first and third Sundays. Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Midweek.

First Presbyterian Church

302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net — www.fpcluverne.com
Thursday, Oct. 24: 10 a.m. Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 10:15 a.m. Worship Service. 11:15 a.m. Coffee and fellowship; Music staff. Tuesday, Oct. 29: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 3:30 p.m. Youth Club. 5:30 p.m. Bells. 6:15 p.m. Choir. 7:30 p.m. Deacons. Thursday, Oct. 31: 10 a.m. Worship on Channel 3.

St. John Lutheran Church

803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316; email: stjoh@iw.net
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org
Gary Klatt, Pastor
Thursday, Oct. 24: 9:30 a.m. Rock County Ministerial Association. Saturday, Oct. 26: 5:30 p.m. Worship with Communion. Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Worship with Communion. 10:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour. 10:20 a.m. Adult Bible Study. 11:15 a.m. Junior Choir. 4 p.m. Junior LYF. Tuesday, Oct. 29: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. 6:30 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 6 p.m. Youth dinner. 6:30 p.m. Catechism. 7 p.m. Senior choir; KFC/HS youth group. Thursday, Oct. 31: 11:30 a.m. DCE Jess Devotions at Mary Jane Brown Home. 7 p.m. Reformation Party.

Living Rock Church

500 E. Main St., Luverne
Ph. 449-0057; www.livingrockswmn.org
Billy Skaggs, Pastor
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship; Kids Rock Children's Ministry. 6 p.m. Youth Ministry. Life groups meet throughout the week.

New Life Celebration Church

110 N. Oakley, Luverne
Ph. 449-6522; email: newlifecel@iw.net
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at 110 N. Oakley. Every third Thursday: 4:30 p.m. Food give-away at Generations Building. Bible Study groups meet at various times and days.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. (507) 669-2855; zionoffice@alliancecom.net
Jesse Baker, Pastor
Thursday, Oct. 24: 3:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. 4:30 p.m. Food Mission at Generations. Friday, Oct. 25: 3:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Worship with Communion. 10:10 a.m. Mentor program. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School; Bible study. 1:30 p.m. Pastor at Good Samaritan. 2:15 p.m. Pastor at Poplar Creek. Monday, Oct. 28: 1 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 6 p.m. Confirmation. Thursday, Oct. 31: 3:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3.

Ben Clare United Methodist Church

26762 Ben Clare Ave., Valley Springs, S.D.
igtwb@WOW.net
Bill Bates, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

First Lutheran Church

300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Laura Phillips, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 27: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at First Lutheran Church. 10:30 a.m. Worship at First Lutheran Church.

Palisade Lutheran Church

211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Laura Phillips, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Worship at Palisade Lutheran Church. 10 a.m. Sunday School at Palisade Lutheran Church. Monday, Oct. 28: 9 a.m. Quilting at Palisade Lutheran Church.

First Presbyterian Church

201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship.

Magnolia United Methodist Church

501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Pastor Nancy Manning
Ph. 605-215-3429
email: magnoliamnumc@gmail.com
Sundays: 9 a.m. Magnolia Worship Service. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation classes.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Pastor Maggie Berndt-Dreyer
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270
e-mail: bethlehmluth@alliancecom.net
Sunday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Communion at Bethlehem. Tuesday, Oct. 29: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 3:15 p.m. Bible Study at Village. Wednesday, Oct. 30: 9 a.m. Quilting.

Hills United Reformed Church

410 S. Central Ave., Hills
Office Ph. 962-3254
hillsurc@alliancecom.net
Alan Camarigg, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship Services.

'He who spared not His own Son ...'

If there is a holy, loving God, why do bad things keep happening? This question is asked often in our day and age. There certainly is no shortage of evil in the world in which we live! Mass shootings, murders, suicides, drug abuse, rape ... and the list goes on.

Two friends, one an unbeliever and the other a Christian, were enjoying their morning coffee together. They began to talk about the latest news and how much evil there was in the world.

After discussing several recent events one of the ladies gasped, "If there is a God, why is there so much evil in the world? Why doesn't He do something about it?"

Her friend, a Christian, was ready with the answer. She reassured her friend that God was real and that He does care and that He has done something about it.

Using a few Bible accounts and verses, she explained how and why she believed it to her friend. She recounted the creation story from Genesis 1 and pointed out that everything God had created was perfect. "Then God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was very good." (1:31)

She next turned to Genesis 3 and told how Adam and Eve had disobeyed God, thereby ushering sin into the world. From that point on, sin with all its evil would negatively affect the life of every living being. Pain, suffering, and death would be a part of every person's life.

Once again the question came, "Why didn't God do something about it?"

"He did!" was the resounding answer. He promised to send a Savior

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Rev. Andrew Palmquist
Bethany Lutheran Church, Luverne

into the world to save the world from all sin. (Genesis 3:15) At just the right time God sent His Son Jesus to earth to live as one of us. He lived His life perfectly without sin. He did so on our behalf as God demands that we live a perfect life but cannot. Then according to God's timing, Jesus Christ suffered and died on the cross, thereby paying for all the sin in the world. Three days later he rose from the dead, just as he promised. Everything that Jesus said was and is true, including this promise: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

Her unbelieving friend, who still was not sure, countered, "Did God really do all that?"

The Christian quickly quoted Romans 8:32, "Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for all us — how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?"

Intrigued, the unbelieving lady asked her friend where she could learn more. Her Christian friend gladly invited her to go to church with her, stating: "God has so much more for us to learn."

That same invitation stands for you and me. God loves you and cares about you. Please join us for Bible class and worship in God's House this Sunday.

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

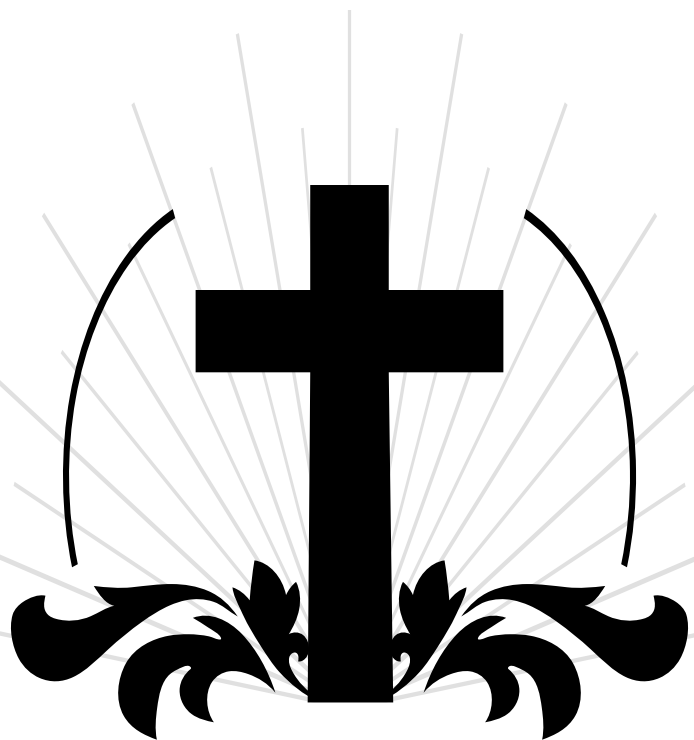
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Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

H-BC School Board meets Sept. 23

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Minutes
September 23, 2019

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the High School Conference room.

Board members present were Knobloch, LaRock, Rauk, Rozeboom and Wysong. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Schilling, and Business Manager Kuehl were also in attendance. Board members Bosch and Gehrke were absent.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Wysong, and carried to approve the agenda. Visitor to the meeting was Mavis Fodness of The Star Herald PATRIOT PRIDE:

- Big Announcement coming involving the Elementary School this week.

Motion by Wysong, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve minutes of last meeting, 9/9/2019 as sent out.

Motion by Knobloch, second by Wysong, and carried to approve bills. Motion by Rauk, second by Wysong, and carried to approve Student Accounts. Motion by Wysong, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve setting 2019 payable 2020 District Levy Limit at the Maximum Allowed amount.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Wysong, and carried to set Pay 2020 Truth in Taxation and Budget Hearing for 7 p.m. on Monday, December 9, 2019.

Motion by Knobloch, second by Rauk, and carried to approve Board and School District Support for the MSBA Cooperative Facilities Resolution.

Motion by Wysong, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve identifying Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day, October 14, 2019 as a non-school district holiday and holding a board of education regular meeting on that day.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Wysong, and carried to approve the Family Involvement Plan for the District's Title I program.

Motion by Rauk, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve Designation of Todd Holthaus as the Identified Official with Authority for the MN Department of Education External User Access Recertification System and Brenda Plimpton to act as the IOWA to add and remove names only for the Local Education Agency.

Motion by Wysong, second by Knobloch, and carried to set High School Kitchen Steamer as Excess District Property and Direct the Superintendent to place up for sale.

PERSONNEL:

Motion by Rauk, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve hiring Amanda Rozeboom as the District Business Manager to begin on Monday, October 7, 2019.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Wysong, and carried to approve salary Lane change for Chris Louwagie to Masters Level, effective the 2019-2020 school year.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

- Tax Abatement Information
- Secondary Principal Report
- Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report
- Committee Reports: Transportation 9/23

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Special Board Meeting, Monday, September 30, 2019
 - Regular Board Meeting, Monday, October 14, 2019
- Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(10-24)

WORK WANTED

Will house sit during winter. Will look after your home, pets and plants. Clean/responsible/caring. Affordable and negotiable (local references available). 507-717-0121. (10.10-10.27)

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: Klarenbeek & Son Rendering, Corp. is in need of a daily route driver. Class B CDL with air brake. Clean driving record; paid holidays and vacation. Call Alan 507-220-5669. (tc)

EMPLOYMENT

Southwestern Youth Services (SYS), a nonprofit residential behavior treatment center for boys ages 10-18, is seeking applicants for a full- or part-time teacher as soon as possible. Weekends and holidays off. Full-time hours are 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., part-time hours negotiable. SD or MN teaching license required and all certifications considered. Salary based on experience. Send resume/credentials to Carole Naasz at cnaasz@southwestyouth.org. (10.20-11.7)

RENTALS

Rental: Top Hat Luxury unit - 301 E. Crawford two-bedroom, one-bath; all electric with garage; all appliances included with water softener and RR drinking water; gardening and snow removal done for you. Very upscale and classy. \$695.00/year lease; 507-920-5595. (tc)

For Rent: two-bedroom home with attached garage/large backyard. One block from schools. Call 605 610-6484 or 605 310-8989 anytime or 605 594-2169 after 6 p.m. Immediate availability. (10.13-10.31)

Rental: Two-bedroom apartment with central air. Includes water, heat and garage. Located in a quiet area. No smoking and no pets. Call 507-920-0406. (10.17-11.3)

For rent: One-bedroom apartment, upstairs with carport. No pets or smoking. Call 507-283-9720. (tc)

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sale: Fri., Oct. 25 and Sat., Oct. 26, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 2035 County Road 4, Magnolia. 1/8 mile east of Magnolia. Man cave collectibles/antiques, toy tractors, cars, trains, banks, beer signs, glassware, clocks, ceramic memorabilia figurines, dollhouses, flags, pennants, BB guns, knives, military uniforms, collectibles, Twins and Vikings stuff. Lots more! (10.20-10.24)

REAL ESTATE

For Sale: Two-story house, 3-bedroom, 1-bath. Remodeled kitchen, walk-in tub; double car garage in back. New windows and siding, metal roof in a quiet neighborhood in Magnolia. Serious inquiries only please. 507-283-8120 (10.6-10.24)

RENTALS

Mobile home for rent: two-bedroom, one-bath. All appliances included, plus water and sewage included. 605-366-7695. (10.13-10.31)



The Tuff Memorial Home is currently hiring an overnight RN/LPN and a full time evening C.N.A. If interested, contact Eli Ripley at 507-962-3275 or email eripley@tuffmemorialhome.com

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Submit resume to Rick Peterson at rick@star-herald.com or call 507-283-2333.

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

CARDS OF THANKS

Words cannot express how grateful we are to live in such a wonderful community. We would like to thank the businesses and individuals that donated prizes to the raffle; without your donation the raffle would not have been possible. To Mark, Annie and staff at Quality Printing, thank you for the fliers, they turned out amazing. To the individuals that made a direct deposit to the scholarship fund — thank you, your monetary donation did not go unnoticed. To the Luverne Country Club staff — Denise and Mandy, and the grounds crew — thank you for the hard work you did in preparing the course for the tournament. To the golfers, a huge thank you for spending a Saturday afternoon with us, doing what Dad loved. Without all of you, the 1st Annual Cliff Boom Memorial Golf Tournament would not have been a success. (10.24-10.27)

CARDS OF THANKS

A big thank you to all of our friends and family for their support during this difficult time. A special thanks to those who stopped by with hugs and supplies. We appreciate each and every one of you.

**The family of
Sandy Akkerman**
(10.24-10.27)

Thank you family and friends for the cards, gifts, and phone calls for my 80th birthday. It was a great day.

Janice Schei
(10.20-10.24)

MISCELLANEOUS

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- RN, HOSPITAL - PRN
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- PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN - PT
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- RN, HOSPICE - PRN
- LPN OR TMA, HOSPICE - PT
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To apply, visit sanfordhealth.jobs, search "Luverne" in the location search bar.

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THURSDAY
October 31st
4 to 5:30 pm
Main Street

Bad Weather Location: Elementary Commons

Hosted by the Luverne Area Chamber 283-4061
Sponsored by Luverne Area Businesses



PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday Oct. 24 2 p.m.		Afternoon Escape "Overcomer" \$5 Admission
Oct. 25-26-27 7 p.m.		Movie "Downton Abbey"
Nov. 7-8-9 7 p.m.		Luverne High School presents "Footloose"
Nov. 15-17 21-24		Green Earth Players present "The Beverly Hillbillies"

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HAPPY HALLOWEEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26
9PM - 1AM

Howling Dog SALOON
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Oct. 25th
Adults \$10
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Doors: 7:00pm
Show 7:30pm

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Tickets available at
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Trick-or-Treating

Thursday, Oct. 31 • 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Come to Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown, Poplar Creek and The Oaks for some trick-or-treating. All children are welcome to attend.

For more information, call (507) 283-2375.


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MinnesotaCare members renew health coverage

Minnesotans who rely on MinnesotaCare for affordable health care coverage should complete their annual renewal form by Dec. 15 to ensure coverage into the New Year. The Department of Human Services (DHS) has mailed MinnesotaCare renewal forms to more than 54,000 households throughout the state. These members must

verify their continued eligibility for the health care program to continue their coverage in 2020. After members return the renewal form, DHS will notify them by mail if their coverage is renewed, if they need to provide additional information or if they are no longer eligible for the program. DHS wants to ensure a smooth renewal

process for Minnesotans seeking affordable comprehensive coverage through MinnesotaCare, Commissioner Jodi Harpstead said.

"We need to remind the Minnesotans we serve of this important end-of-year deadline so they continue to receive consistent care," Harpstead said.

"We ask MinnesotaCare members to return their renewal form for processing as quickly as possible to maintain their MinnesotaCare coverage without interruption."

MinnesotaCare pays for a variety of services like doctor visits, prescriptions and hospital stays. MinnesotaCare members pay no more than \$80 per person per month in premiums and have very low out-of-pocket costs. MinnesotaCare provides health care coverage to more than 83,000

Minnesotans who earn too much to qualify for Medical Assistance but whose annual incomes are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. (A family of three may have income up to \$42,660 per year.)

Answers to frequently asked questions are available at mn.gov/dhs/health-care/renewal, which also features a video and a checklist to walk members through the renewal process.

DHS has added temporary staff to handle calls to the MinnesotaCare help line, 800-657-3672 or 651-297-3862, which is answered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Members should wait two weeks after returning their renewal form before calling DHS to find out the status of their renewal. This helps to ensure that DHS can answer their questions.

Unpaid utilities/from page 3

the process was successful in the past to get tenants to pay what they owe.

"No. In fact these same tenants owe me money too," Vandenberg said. "They're usually behind on rent, as well as their utilities."

Baustian reminded Vandenberg that ultimately it's the property owner's responsibility to pay utility bills. The city won't write off the loss at taxpayers' expense.

"The citizens of Luverne can't take on your bill for property you're owning to earn income on," Baustian said.

"It wouldn't be fair," Councilman Kevin Aaker, who also owns rental property, empathized with Vandenberg.

"I've been in your shoes. I've had tenants leave and stick me with that, and a lot of times they've stuck us with rent too," Aaker said.

"It's a tough place to be

and we want to try to help people... but they don't pay."

Vandenberg said, "A lot of times they won't leave until you actually shut them off. When they do leave, then I have to pay it on taxes too."

He said he's considered including utilities payments in rental amounts.

"But then they abuse the utilities," he said.

"They'll leave the windows open with the air conditioner running."

Baustian said, "It's part of the headaches that go along with income-generating property."

Vandenberg's property was among 13 this year with unpaid utility bills ranging from \$77 to \$489 totaling \$2,241.74 that will be assessed onto the owners' property taxes.

The interest rate on the assessment is 4 percent, but no interest will be charged if the amount is paid within 30 days.

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