



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, September 23, 2021

Luverne hosts 70th Tri-State Band Festival

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne's 70th Annual Tri-State Band Festival returns to Main Street and Cardinal Field Saturday after a pandemic year off in 2020.

The 2021 lineup features 23 participating bands, with 17 competing in parade performances and 11 marching on the field.

The parade begins at 9:30 a.m. with the route heading east on Main Street and judging at the corner of Main Street and McKenzie.

Parade Marshal honorees this year are members of the Band Festival Committee, a team of volunteers that organizes and operates the event each year.

Current members are chair Scott Loosbrock, vice chair Eric Hartman, Cheryl Hartman, Caitlin Hartman, Dale Nelson, Eugene and Janet Marshall, James Jarvie, Janet Slieter, Jason Berghorst, Julia

Tri-State Band Festival/see page 3A

Hundreds participate in suicide awareness event

By Lori Sorenson

Saturday morning's "Out of the Darkness" suicide prevention and awareness walk at Cardinal Field involved more than 300 people and raised more than \$14,000.

That far exceeded the initial goal of 75 people and \$5,000.

"It's so exciting to see people come together for this," said Angela Nolz, one of the event organizers.

Funds raised will support research to prevent suicide, community education and a curriculum for students about suicide awareness and brain health.

As people gathered at Cardinal Field Saturday, they picked up colored beads to wear around their necks. Each color represented a different reason for "why we walk."

The different colored



Walkers wrap up the "Out of the Darkness" Suicide Awareness and Prevention Walk Saturday with a final lap with the "hope wall," which contained ribbons that people wrote messages on.

beads symbolized memories of friends, children, parents and others.

Kevin Aaker with St. Catherine Church led the

group in an invocation at the start of the walk.

"We have an opportunity today to start making a difference. We have an opportunity

to start a change in society's view of the value of life. By being here today you're telling

Suicide walk/see page 3A

Storm hits hard in Hardwick

By Mavis Fodness

Nicole Halverson was sitting at her dining room table early Friday morning, Sept. 17, when she heard a noise around 12:30 a.m. that caused her to move away from the table.

"Thank God I did, because as soon as I was out of the way, that's when the tree came down on my house — that was one of the loudest impacts," she said.

"As things calmed down, that's when I noticed a tree (limb) resting on top of my fridge and it knocked out the whole east side of my house."

No one was injured, including a friend of Halverson's, who was asleep in the basement.

Her house on East First Street (County Road 7) in Hardwick was destroyed.

"I heard the wind pick up and then I heard the most eerie noise I ever heard," she said. "I hope I never have to hear or see it ever again."

Halverson is staying with a family member as she works with her insurance company. The tree is being removed from her house piece by piece.

"The tree guy said that this is one of the worst ones he has ever



Mavis Fodness photo/0923 Storm Damage 9-17

High winds forced a tree to fall on Nicole Halverson's home on East First Street (County Road 7) in Hardwick early Friday morning.

done," Halverson said.

The National Weather Service issued a severe thunderstorm warning for early Friday morning stating that 70 mph wind gusts were possible.

"Expect considerable tree damage," the warning stated.

Many areas in Rock County experienced downed trees and property damage to a lesser extent than Halverson's.

Leader dog lights path for Luverne woman

By Lori Sorenson

Allan is a 3-year-old lab-retriever mix who's lighting the way for Kimberly Schoneman's ever-darkening world.

Schoneman, Luverne, was diagnosed in 2009 with retinopathy uveitis. "My retinas are dying," she told a roomful of Luverne Lions Club members last week.

The autoimmune disease has taken her night vision, peripheral vision and many of the freedoms she previously enjoyed. By 2012 Schoneman was legally blind.

Helping the blind and visually impaired is the primary mission of Lions Clubs International, and Schoneman found help through the Lions.

She and Allan met at Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester, Michigan, one of the nation's leading centers for raising and training leader dogs for people who are visually impaired.

The organization was founded in 1939 by the Lions Club and is supported by Lions Club chapters around the nation — including the Luverne Lions Club.

Schoneman and Allan have



Allan, a 3-year-old lab-retriever mix, guides the way for Luverne's Kim Schoneman who is legally blind.

been together since February 2020 and she introduced him to the Lions Club members Monday night, Sept. 13, to share their story.

"He's been a wonderful addition to my life," she told the group gathered in the Pizza Ranch meeting room. "He's given me back my confidence to go

Leader dog/see page 8A



Mavis Fodness photo/0923 Mask Mandate Dropped

More than 75 people wait for Thursday's emergency meeting of the Luverne School Board, which voted 7-0 to remove the mask mandate.

Luverne board drops mask mandate due to lack of support

By Mavis Fodness

In an emergency meeting Sept. 16, the Luverne School Board unanimously supported dropping the mask mandate that was instituted Sept. 14.

The emergency meeting had one agenda item: "Due to the lack of community support, the Luverne School District is not able

to institute the mask mandate at this time. The administration recommends returning to CDC and MDH guidelines effective Sept. 17, 2021."

Both the Centers for Disease Control and Minnesota Department of Health recommend indoor masking for everyone.

About 75 people attended the 8:45 p.m.

meeting. People both for and against the mask mandate crowded the board room, with some standing in the halls and the administrative office hallway.

Board members talked for 15 minutes before voting to end the mandate.

Mask mandate dropped/see page 3A

Solar farm, county reach development agreement

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County and developers of the future Elk Creek Solar Farm near Magnolia signed a development agreement Sept. 7.

Commissioners were the last entities to sign on to the agreement for the 700-acre solar farm located between Vienna and Magnolia townships.

Officials of both townships reviewed the document that stipulates various responsibilities, specifically the use and maintenance of county and township roads for the upcoming project.

Both townships agreed to have

Elk Creek Solar/see page 2A



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Town and Country Garden Club will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28, at Howie's Floral in Adrian to make a fall floral arrangement. RSVP to Lynn Crawford, 507-920-9024, by Sept. 21. Call Linda at 507-597-6378 for more information.

Parkinson's Support Group will meet at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, in Poplar Creek Estates on Oak Drive in Luverne. Masks must be worn.

Community Education

Luverne Community Education will offer the following classes and activities. Call 507-283-4724 or visit the website: comed.isd2184.net

Parents with children ages 0-5 will enjoy animals and activities at **Fall Time Fun at Harmony Gardens on Tuesday, Sept. 28.** Registration required by September 21. Fee is \$9/child.

Grade 5-6 Volleyball begins Sept. 30 and meets for 8 after school sessions. Fee is \$25.

Learn everything you need to know about having a pet at **Paw Patrol** class on Oct. 4 for students in grades K-5. Fee is \$10

Learn how to play **Pickleball** on Oct. 9. Fee is \$5

Learn the ins and outs of using a library, checking out ebooks, and more at **Library 101** on Oct. 6. Fee is \$5

Kids in the Kitchen (grades K-6) will make Halloween Goodies on Oct. 7. Fee is \$16.

Cheer Camp for grades K-5 meeting is on Oct. 8. Fee is \$12.

Intro to 3D Printing on Oct. 11 will show how it works and how it is a useful tool. Fee is \$8

Defensive Driving Classes allow adults 55 years of age and older to save on insurance premiums. After the beginning eight-hour class, every three years drivers take a four-hour refresher class. The Beginning classes will be Nov. 11 and 18 (four hours each evening). Refresher four-hour classes are Oct. 14 (Edgerton), Dec. 16.

'Paint the Prairie Purple'

The SW MN Dementia Awareness Network wants individuals to show support and bring awareness to dementia by "Painting the Prairie Purple" from Sept. 27 through Oct. 2. Participants are encouraged to decorate businesses and home exteriors in purple for the week. Pictures can be shared or questions asked to ace.rock@co.rock.mn.us. Pictures will be shared on the SW MN Dementia Awareness social media site.

'CoffeeBreak' begins Sept. 28

The kick-off for "CoffeeBreak," a free Bible study group for all ages and denominations, will be at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28, at the Luverne Christian Reformed Church. The group meets each Tuesday and includes a StoryHour for children ages 3 through kindergarten. A nursery is available for children younger than 3. On Oct. 5, the group will begin studying Revelations 1-3. Contact kristi.stroeh@hotmail.com 507-227-5102 or email kristi.stroeh@hotmail.com

Library seeks ideas

As part of the American Library Association grant, Rock County Library personnel is continuing the grant's community conversation through a paper survey about programming outside the library's walls. The survey is available through Sept. 24 to gather initial ideas. A second survey about programming ideas will be available from Sept. 27-Oct. 1. A public meeting at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 4 at the library will review survey results and finalize programming for grant funding.

Library Happenings

For more information about library happenings, call 507-449-5040 or email at rockcountystaff@gmail.com

Trivia Night is at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at Take 16 in Luverne. Team registration begins at 6 p.m.

Story Time with Bronwyn is at 10:30 a.m. Fridays through Nov. 19. As the weather permits, the event will be in one of Luverne's city parks. See the library's social media page for specific locations.

The September **Take-and-Make Project** is "book page canvas art." Email the library a picture of the completed craft to be entered into a prize drawing.

Dementia Walk coming Oct. 2

Dementia Walk for a Cure will be Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Luverne City Park. Registration begins at 9 a.m. with the walk beginning at 10 a.m. Register at <http://walk-for-a-cure-swdan-2021.eventbrite.com>. The event is sponsored by the SW MN Dementia Awareness Network. All funds raised remain in southwest Minnesota to promote dementia education and increase awareness. In case of inclement weather, the event will take place at Grand Prairie Events in Luverne. Contact Linda Wenzel, 507-283-5064.



Rock River Community Church celebrates ribbon-cutting

Rock River Community Church celebrated its rebranding and remodeling with a ribbon-cutting Wednesday morning, Sept. 15, at its remodeled building west of Luverne on County Road 4. Pictured are (front, from left) Nathaniel Hernandez, Shelly Nibbelink, Manda Steensma, Esmeralda Hernandez, Pastor Harry Flanagan, Marilyn Flanagan, Pastors Bob and Annette Junak, Jim Vanderburg, Pam Kopp, Becky Walgrave, (back), Mark Steensma, Delbert Bullerman, Michael Blank, Bob and Karla Osterday, Amber Lais and Jane Wildung Lanphere. In March the Junaks took over as pastors of the First Assembly of God Church, now known as Rock River Community Church. Pastor Ken Kashner retired last fall. Worship times and more information can be found at www.rockrivercommunity.church.

Lori Sorenson photos/0623 rock river church ribboncutting

Fire damages Page 1 Printers, affects local ad inserts

By Lori Sorenson

A fire Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 15, at Page 1 Printers in Slayton caused damage to the warehouse portion of the building and sent four people for medical treatment for smoke inhalation.

Firefighters were able to contain the fire to the warehouse, sparing the facility's printing operations.

The Rock County Star Herald and Luverne Announcer are printed at Page One in Slayton, and publications themselves weren't affected by the fire.

However, the Announcer inserts, such as Bomgaars, Sunshine and Runnings, were already printed and waiting in the warehouse to be inserted in the Announcer in the coming days.

Those inserts were destroyed, and the Announcer was distributed over the weekend minus the advertising inserts.

Bomgaars was able to share its files directly with Page One and some of those inserts were printed in time for distribution.

The fire began in the

paper baler, while a worker was packing waste newsprint and paper trimmings into bales for recycling. A motor apparently failed, producing sparks that ignited paper in the baler.

While the company is still assessing structural and equipment damage, Page 1 Printers has made arrangements to continue printing the Announcer and Star Herald, as well as other publications and commercial print jobs it handles in the region.

The baler was destroyed and there was loss of newsprint and other paper inven-

tory, due to fire, smoke and water.

Because smoke spread throughout the plant, extensive cleaning is required and all equipment must be wiped clean and gone over to ensure ash and smoke particles are removed, especially in electronic components. Owners of the plant are Chuck Draper of Pipestone and Jim Keul of Tracy.

The plant employs about 55 people, full and part-time, and none will lose their jobs. The loss was insured.

Solar farm/ From page 1A

the county as the authority on the final agreement.

National Grid Renewables will build and operate the 80-megawatt solar farm and discussed the agreement with commissioners via Zoom.

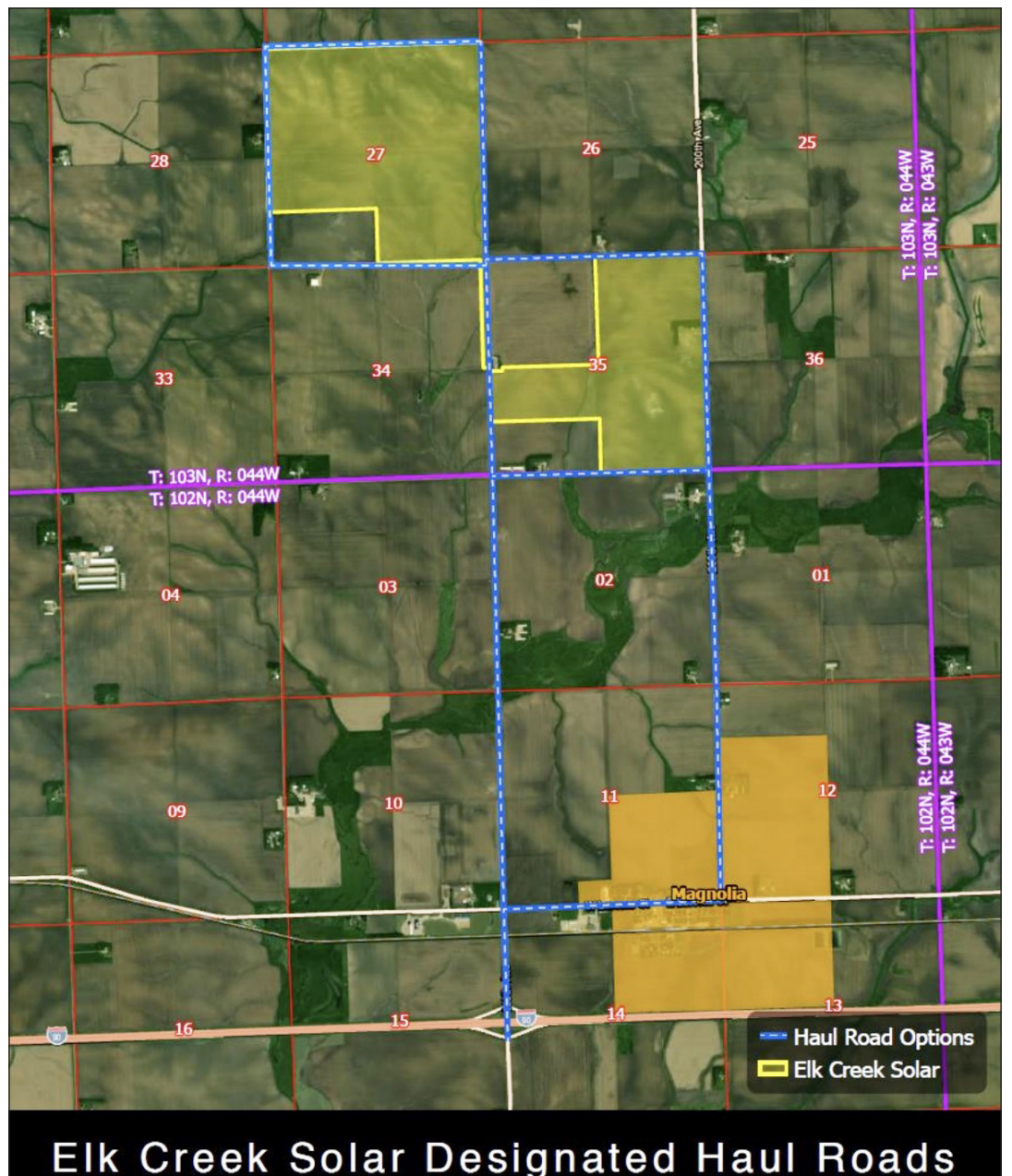
Jordan Burmeister is project manager for Elk Creek Solar and outlined the construction timeline.

"We are still working through some final items on the transmission-interconnection front," he said. "We'll finalize those items over the next few months."

He estimated work will begin in spring of 2022, with completion by the end of the year. The farm is scheduled to be online in early 2023.

Late last year the project received the necessary site permit and certificate of need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Estimated cost of the project is \$118 million.

The commissioners voted 3-0 to accept the agreement. Commissioner Gary Overgaard abstained from voting as a landowner involved in the project. Commissioner Jody Reisch was unavailable for the vote.



Construction on the Elk Creek Solar Farm north of Magnolia is expected to begin in the spring of 2022. Rock County commissioners accepted a developmental agreement with National Grid Renewables, which is developing the project in Vienna and Magnolia townships. The agreement outlines which county and township roads National Grid will use during the construction period. Graphic courtesy of National Grid Renewables

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Information meetings set for H-BC referendum

By Mavis Fodness

Residents in the Hills-Beaver Creek School District have two opportunities in October to learn more about an operating levy referendum renewal vote coming up in a special election Nov. 2.

The first meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, at the elementary school in Beaver Creek.

The second is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the secondary school in Hills.

Money from voter-approved operating levies is used for the general operation of the school district including personnel, curriculum and utilities.

Referendums are added to property taxes, with agriculture properties being taxed differently. Operating levies tax agricultural properties for the house, garage and one acre.

Hills-Beaver Creek School District's ballot includes two questions.

The first question asks voters to renew the existing levy of \$897.15 per pupil unit for the next 10 years.

The second question asks voters to approve the existing levy but add an inflationary factor, which averages nearly 2 percent each year, according to the Minnesota Department of Education.

Currently the area school districts of Adrian, Ellsworth and Edgerton have voter approved levies that include an inflationary factor.

Hills-Beaver Creek School District's current 10-year referendum expires in 2022.

Operating levies are based on enrollment.

H-BC received \$352,000 from the local operating levy for the recently completed school year.

In total, H-BC's budget is \$4.495 million for the current school year.

Area school districts and their operating referendums are:

- Edgerton, \$342
- Luverne, \$463
- Pipestone Area, \$474
- Worthington, \$500
- Murray County Central, \$626

- Adrian, \$862
- Ellsworth, \$1,780
- Fulda, \$2,300

Absentee and early voting is current open through Nov. 1.

Polling places open for in-person voting Nov. 2 are at the Beaver Creek City Offices and the Hills American Legion. Polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

More information about the operating referendum, including tax estimates, is available on the district's website at hbc Patriots.com.

In addition to the operating levy questions, the Nov. 2 ballot also has voting to fill a vacancy on the school board.

Harley Fransman, who was appointed to the board after Dan LaRock resigned earlier this year, is the only candidate.

The board term expires on Jan. 2, 2023.



More than 300 participated in Saturday's "Out of the Darkness" suicide awareness and prevention walk at Cardinal Field.

Suicide awareness walk 'Out of the Darkness' from page 1A

that the life of others are important to you. That is a sign of hope," Aaker said.

"It's time to become a people of hope. A people who value all life, regardless of our differences. Regardless of a person's physical or mental state. ... We need to let them know they are loved. Let them know they're important. Let them know there's help. Let them know there's hope."

"I'd like to challenge the community to consider your words before you express your thoughts. Can you say them in a way that will improve the life of those who hear them?"

The LuvLuvAll Brain Health group organized the "Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk" on Saturday with support through The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Local businesses and organizations supported the event with money and donations.

The purpose of the walks (in many communities nationwide) is to increase awareness in order to help save lives.

Sanford Luverne behavioral health specialist Angela Nolz said she was encouraged to see the strong local participation Saturday. "We are thrilled to be able to host our first walk in Luverne. We have a tremendous crowd and I'm so thrilled to have our community come together."

She said the walk is to acknowledge loss, to show support, to show solidarity and to end the stigma of mental health and asking for help.

Many were there to simply remember their loved ones who took their own lives.

Luverne High School student Mary Opitz said she was there for her friend Dani Gacke who died several years ago. "It's really nice to have it here in Luverne, especially since it would have been her senior year. She was on the track team, too, so it's kind of bittersweet that it's here."

Eli Radtke also was there to remember Gacke. "We're here for our friend Dani. To remember her. It's good; it brings us closer. Dani's death affected all of us."

Riley Cowell walked to remember

his brother, Zach. His message about suicide: "It's not worth it. You matter in the world. Everyone needs love."

Luverne's Zach Wermager was one of the speakers who agreed to share his experience at Saturday's event.

He said he at first wrote his speech about his brother who took his own life at age 15. And he also wrote about his friend who died from suicide just a year later.

"Truth is no one knows what's in a person's heart," Wermager said.

But on Saturday afternoon he instead shared his own story about his struggle with mental illness. "I told myself if I ever felt like suicide was an option for me, I'd seek help," Wermager said.

"But even with this promise I struggled to reach out. I felt as though therapy would make me less of a man, that asking for help would be a sign of weakness."

The event wrapped up with a live-streamed message from Kevin Hines, who lived after jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge.

Mask mandate from page 1A

They called for everyone to be more respectful of authority and to work together in protecting the health of students and staff.

"I hope we move forward in a better direction," said board member Katie Baustian. "This has been chaotic and it was not healthy for anybody in school. It was awful."

Several board members mentioned the disrespect to authority exhibited in school Sept. 14-16 when the mask mandate was in effect.

They also pointed to false claims that the district violated open meeting laws and that the board announced no masks at the start of the school year in order to increase attendance numbers for funding purposes.

Board member Reva Sehr, who spoke emotionally at times, criticized those who took to social media with the false information that the board intended to implement facial coverings all along.

"That was very, very false and it hurt me because I am not looking at kids as dollar signs," she said. "People say we don't care for the kids. We wouldn't be here if we didn't."

Board member David Wrigg clarified with Superintendent Craig Oftedahl that if the CDC and the MDH mandated masks, the district would abide by the decision.

Oftedahl said yes. Masks are seen by the medical community as one way to prevent the virus from spreading. "It's hard as a community we cannot support keeping our kids in school," Wrigg said.

"I see our medical community here — and I have a wife in the medical community — and they are getting stressed (with caring for influx of sick patients)."

When the district issued the mask mandate, seven positive COVID cases

were reported in the first week of school. The decision to mask was an attempt to mitigate further spread of the coronavirus among the 1,200 students and staff.

"We need your help in respecting authority. Are we attempting to make law here? I don't think so," Wrigg said. "I think we are attempting to protect our kids."

Sehr added that the district didn't roll out their mask mandate perfectly, something that the board will try to do better.

For the start of the school year on Sept. 7, Minnesota school districts were given control of the coronavirus precautions they would require within local buildings and on school grounds.

Last school year, the state mandated that masks be worn indoors. A federal mandate is still in effect for mask wearing while in school vehicles.

Luverne administrators communicated a local mask mandate through electronic mail about 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13, stating the mandate would be in effect the following morning through Oct. 1.

On Tuesday, Sept. 14, about 50 parents and students gathered outside the district offices before the start of classes.

The group questioned the district's decision-making process through the incident command team and said they wanted input into the rights of the children.

A public listening session with the school board was scheduled for Friday, Sept. 17. Due to the decision at Thursday's special school board meeting, the listening session was canceled.



At left, Mark Sterrett attaches a hope ribbon to remember Zach Cowell. Below, colored beads signify "why we walk." At right, Tim Cowell holds his grandson, Jayce, and said he misses his son, Zach.



Tri-State Band Festival continued from page 1A

Ferguson, Karen Roberts, Knute Oldre, Kristi Groth, Rachel Renken, Sharon Rockman, Shawn Kinsinger, Susan Skattum, Teresa Kinsinger and Tyler LeBrun.

Afternoon field competition begins at 12:30 p.m. with the Luverne High School marching band playing the National Anthem.

The parade awards ceremony is at 1:30 p.m. and field awards are presented after the 4 p.m. guest

performance.

The guest marching band this year is the Maverick "Machine" Athletic Band from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Luverne, as the host band, doesn't compete for points; it marches as an exhibition performance.

Now in its 70th year, Luverne's Tri-State Band Festival is the longest-running marching band festival in the region.



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The annual parade and field competition draws bands from Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota with more than 2,500 students participating.

See the Luverne Area Chamber website, www.luvernechamber.com for details.

Open House Bridal Shower

MEAGAN STUEVEN
bride-to-be of MICHAEL HULSTEIN

Saturday, Sept. 25
beginning @ 1 pm
St. John Lutheran Church
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Homeschooling is not without shortcomings

Our homeschool, 1994-2012, was not without its shortcomings.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

Each of our students overcame the adversities inflicted upon them by the educational system in which they were raised. Your kid will, too.

We had a school shooting the day a rabid raccoon climbed a tree outside our son's bedroom during math class.

Blam. We had a stabbing the day one student became so blazing furious with her brother that she plunged the tip of her pencil into his arm.

Strife among the staff (Mom), the administration (Dad), and the student body (the children) was not uncommon.

There were protests. "Why can't we be like everybody else? Everybody else gets to. Why can't we?"

There were standardized testing disasters. "Two? Two?! How can anyone get two right out of 100 on a spelling test? You almost need to know how to spell the words to be that consistently wrong."

There was the science experiment gone awry when the brother attempted to send the sister downstream in an old bathtub.

Hypothesis: a bathtub with a sister in it acts like a boat.

Conclusion: It does not.

The husbandry program became a forensics program as the chickens were killed one by one.

"Looks like a mink got this one. Notice how the body appears unharmed? The mink sucks the blood but does not consume the chicken."

Other possible causes of chicken death included dogs, foxes, heat and of course - crossing the road.

The student body nearly died as one the day I rolled the family van driving to home-school bowling. I was literally in the process of explaining to the students the dangers of driving on icy roads when the van began

to sway. They thought it was a demonstration.

And then the students grew up. "The reader girl" became an engineer who manages 64 men in a manufacturing plant.

"The salesman" grew up to be a salesman who uses much of his salesmanship to convince six- and three-year-old daughters that it is almost bedtime. He also sells real estate.

"The homebody" became a world traveler who's lived in London, Beijing and Bangkok. Right now she's teaching English to students in Ho Chi Min City, Viet Nam.

Each of our students overcame the adversities inflicted upon them by the educational system in which they were raised.

Your kid will, too.

Views expressed on this page may not reflect those of Star Herald

Views expressed on this page are those of the authors. They do not reflect the opinions or views of the Rock County Star Herald.

This should be obvious. It's the Opinion Page, after all. We invite our readers to submit letters expressing their views, and we encourage opposing viewpoints to play out on this page. It's a sign of a healthy and engaged readership.

Since the advent of Facebook and other social media, opposing viewpoints are way more likely to play out online rather than on this page.

Facebook has also made possible the wild and reckless online sharing of "disinformation" (lies) which came to a head in the 2016 presidential election.

Facebook scrollers discovered abrasive memes or unsourced "breaking news" that matched their own opinions and clicked and shared at will. The more they clicked, the more the Facebook algorithms fed their fancies.

This went on unchecked among otherwise respectable and educated people, unaware that they were pawns in foreign meddlers' attempt to "divide and conquer" an unsus-

pecting American public.

Since then, tech companies have weeded out many suspicious actors, and Facebook users are becoming more savvy about posts they trust and share.

But the damage is done.

Foreign players got the American leadership they wanted, and the American public is more divided and polarized than ever.

Meanwhile it's become acceptable to discredit the credible and lend credibility to the uncredible. (A dictator's first item of business is to label the press as "enemies of the people" in order to push propaganda.)

The disinformation is spilling out into live, person-to-person conversations, and now we're seeing it on our Opinion Page.

... which we do reserve the right to steer toward a degree of accuracy.

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

On the bottom of the page, the "Letters Policy" states that letters containing offensive language, libelous or slanderous material or misleading or false information will be rewritten before being published.

On this front, our Star Herald editorial board has been asleep at the wheel. We've allowed letters to appear that we should have moderated or added disclaimers to.

One such letter last week was so full of inaccurate statements we wouldn't have known where to start editing.

We hoped that the headline, "Things that you won't hear on the news that are 100 percent true," would suggest caution, but in hindsight, we should have done better.

Beware, dear readers, of what you click and share. And please check your sources if you're sharing "truths" on our opinion page.

Blake: The U.S. needs to protect our power grid

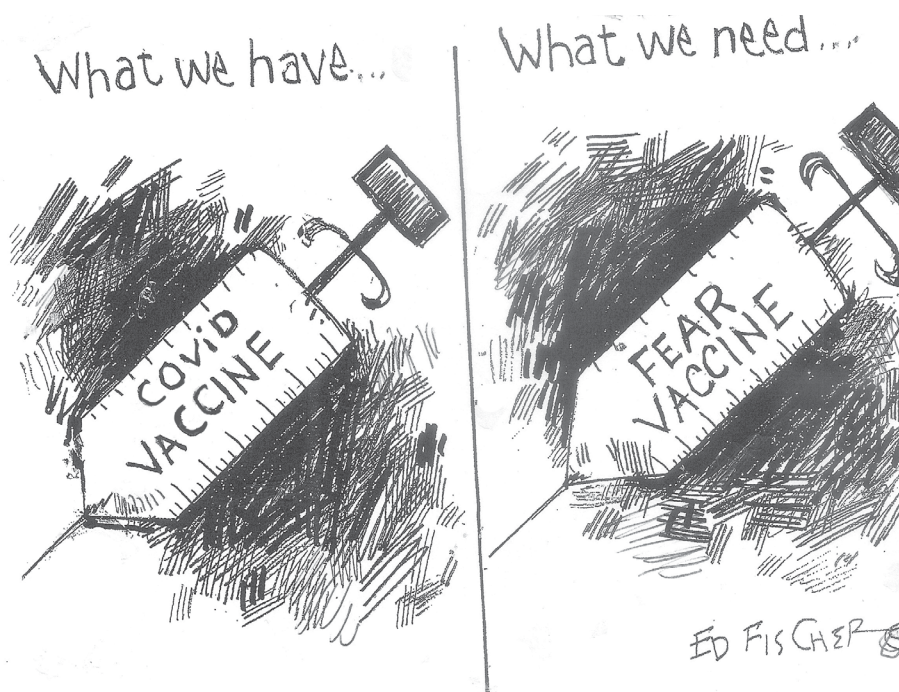
To the Editor:

We must do more to strengthen our power grid against an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) event. Such an event can result from an attack by terrorists or another country (e.g.

China may already have the capability - which it may use in an economic crisis,) or it can occur naturally. It could result in devastating loss of life. There is disagreement on this, but why take chances?

We should also have a ground-based GPS back-up system (like Russia has), or we could lose internet at the least in an anti-satellite attack.

Alvin Blake, Luverne



Sasker: Thanks for insightful letter

To the Editor:

That was a very insightful letter in the Sept. 9 Star Herald.

I know about our constitution, but I had not heard of this Convention of States.

To quote John Adams, our second

president of the United States, who said: "Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people." This is true.

Thanks, Kristi, for the information.

Marilyn Sasker, Luverne

Fire shows 'stronger together' works a lot better than 'weaker apart'

You may or may not be aware that Page One in Slayton is where we print the Rock County Star Herald and Luverne Announcer.

We send our pages online to the Slayton printing plant, and a driver delivers our papers to the post office for mail distribution and to our office for news stand distribution.

Last week a fire broke out in the warehouse area of Page One, where many of the advertising inserts (Sunshine, Bomgaars and Runnings) were destroyed before they could be inserted into the Announcer.

Four employees of Page One



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

suffered from smoke inhalation and received medical attention, and one of those was airlifted to the Twin Cities for additional treatment. Thankfully all have recovered and are doing fine.

The pandemic has made it a

hectic 18 months in our business and many others with labor shortages, employee illnesses and quarantining, and loss of revenue.

Page One can add to this list a shutdown due to fire.

All of this has been exhausting,

to say the least, but the thing that is driving me over the edge is the constant fighting about what is the right or wrong way to fight the pandemic.

There seems to be no common ground anymore in this country. We have this "either you're with us or you're against us" mentality.

Friends, families, neighbors, co-workers and others have picked sides and are going to disagree until the bitter end.

I think about how bad things could have been if the fire at Page One would have raged out of control. Workers would have been

displaced probably for a very long time. We would have experienced a shutdown in production and loss of revenue. But worst of all, there could have possibly been loss of life.

For a brief few days we scrambled to make arrangements for printing while the staff at Page One worked to get the printing plant back in operation.

During this time there was no right or wrong, there was no "you're with us or you're against us." We just all worked together to put the pieces back together.

"Stronger together" works a lot better than "weaker apart."

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The *Star Herald* encourages letters to the editor expressing the opinions of readers and intends to print all letters. Letters not meeting the guidelines will not be printed. The *Star Herald* will verify the authenticity of all letters. Letters must have the name of the writer, a signature and address.

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

VOICE OF OUR READERS

Kracht: Kids go to school to learn, not worry about masks

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to what went on with the mask mandate for the Luverne School District last week.

At the start of the school year, the parents were told the school would go by the CDC and MDH recommendations, which are masking is recommended, but not mandated. Parents made the decision on where they would send their kids to school based on this. On Monday, Sept. 13, at 6 p.m., an email was sent out saying that masks were mandated in school on Tuesday, the 14th.

No discussion with the public. No warning. Nothing! This was the way it was going to be!

Tuesday morning, several parents and students gathered outside the school, waiting for an explanation. No one would talk to us! Finally, a school board member and a reporter came out and asked what was going on. We explained our view on masking our kids and standing up for our rights. After a short discussion, we were told our kids could go to class, and masks would be optional.

Over the next two days, some kids were told to put a mask on, and if they declined, their names were written on a paper. There seemed to be different rules, depending on the teachers.

A group of parents requested an

emergency school board meeting to express our views. We were granted a meeting on Friday, the 17th, at 6 p.m. On Thursday at 7 p.m., an email went out that the school board was having a meeting at 8:45 to rescind the mask mandate. As you can imagine, with such short notice, many people couldn't make it. However, a large group of concerned parents showed up.

What happened next was appalling! We were told we were playing Russian roulette with our kids! We were told we didn't know what we were doing! We were told we didn't respect the school board and their decisions! Well, respect works both ways. No data was presented, no numbers, just the parents being talked down to like we were nobody! Only one young man on the school board thanked us for our concern.

This is not your school! This is the Luverne Public School. Paid for by our tax dollars! We send our kids to school to get an education, not to have to worry about getting in trouble about wearing masks!

Could this all have been handled in a better way? Maybe some public input? Maybe a little communication? I think so!

**Mert Kracht,
Luverne**

Mundt: 'I am not willing to play Russian Roulette with our children's lives. Are you?'

To the Editor:

My name is Ashley Mundt. My husband and I have lived in Luverne for six years, and we have three children. I was going to speak in favor of the mask/face covering mandate at the public forum, but since the decision was made before members of the community were heard, I'll speak here.

I'm not sure how the school could say there was a "lack of community support" for masking when the only members of the community that were listened to were the ones throwing a tantrum at the school doors.

First of all, when we send our children to school, we all expect them to be safe there. We expect the school to have our children's best interests in mind.

I have never heard a parent complain about the school doing ALICE drills, fire drills, or tornado drills. I've never heard a parent complain that their child is asked not to bring a weapon on school property or for show and tell.

I've never heard parents complain that their child couldn't bring peanuts in a room that has a nut allergy.

So why are we having such an issue with masks? I believe the

end goal to all these precautions is to keep our children safe.

We don't wait for a school shooter to open fire before putting precautions in place, so why would we wait for a student or staff member to get critically sick or die before doing something to prevent that?

I'm guessing that it is because masks have been made political when they never should have been. This is a medical crisis around the world, and it is not limited to the U.S. and just our politics, so we need to stop turning it into a political fight.

In our house we value and teach our children to be compassionate and empathetic toward others.

This mask mandate is not all about you. It affects other people around you. It affects kids that have medical conditions. It affects the teachers and staff who are trying to help your child learn.

If you want to go without a mask mandate, our COVID numbers will increase and then we will have school through ZOOM again.

Then we will be seeing more mental health issues in our children and staff.

Right now they can be in

school, around friends and teachers, and they are learning in person. Isn't that how we all want to keep it? We have a chance to by wearing a mask.

Please do research through respectable sites. Check with pediatric journals that are written by doctors or talk to your own child's pediatrician.

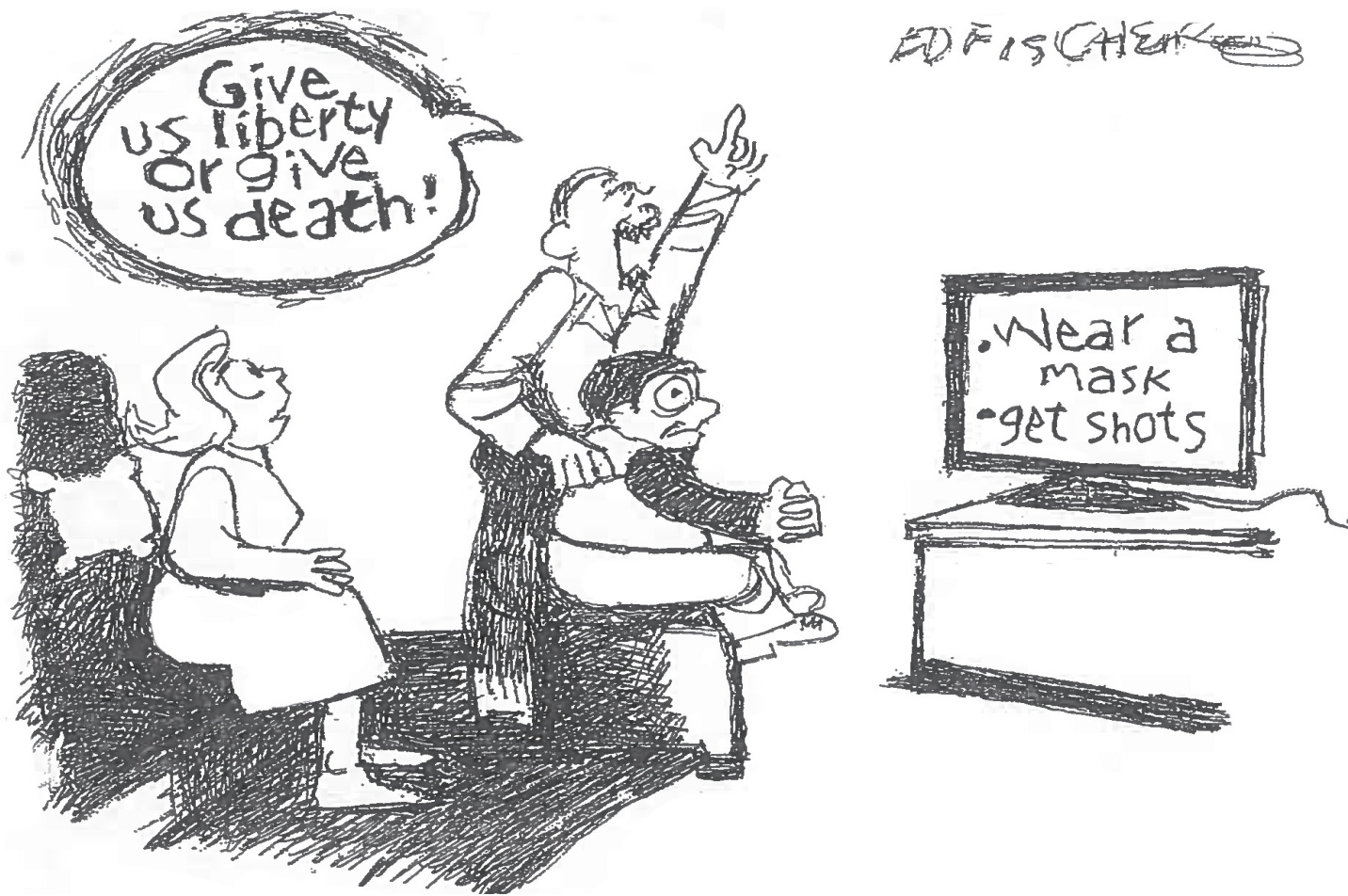
Face masks do not make it harder for children to breathe, they do not harm their lung function, they do not produce harmful amounts of carbon dioxide. I guarantee there is a difference if a kid sneezes on you with or without a mask on.

And if you are worried about their mask getting germs on it during the day, send two. Face shields can help also. I guarantee it is more the parent that has a problem with the idea of face coverings than it is the actual child.

Our children deserve more credit than we are giving them. They did it last year, and they can do it again if parents and teachers give them a little respect.

I am not willing to play Russian Roulette with our children's lives. Are you?

**Ashley Mundt,
Luverne**



Thumbs Down to the Star Herald

To the Editor:

After reading the article in the Sept. 9 Star Herald about the settlement between the County and the ACLU, I understand why they might have settled without going through a lengthy court case that could cost the County much more money.

However, I am curious as to why the need to publish pictures of Sheriff Verbrugge and Deputy Hamm and not everyone else who was involved.

Since apparently it was determined that no one committed an offense worth going to trial for, why not publish a picture of the accuser and the attorney who benefited financially.

And I wonder, since no one was found guilty of any wrongdoing, couldn't Sheriff Verbrugge and Deputy Hamm also be awarded \$140,000 to share between the two of them for being falsely accused?

I want to be clear, I am all for disciplining those who abuse their authority, but I felt the way the article was written, it led me to believe that you are guilty until proven innocent.

And based on other information in the article, apparently you can win a large settlement of money by falsely accusing someone. I give this story a thumbs down.

**Mike Altena,
Luverne**

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Sept. 11

•Deputies assisted Pipestone County.

•Complainant on 161st Street, Luverne, reported vehicle theft.

•Complainant on W. Main Street reported suspicious activity.

Sept. 12

•Complainant on Luverne Street, Magnolia, reported a stolen vehicle.

•Complainant on 40th Avenue, Hills, reported an abandoned vehicle.

•Missing person was reported at Blue Mounds State Park.

•Complainant on W. Virginia Street requested a deputy at location.

Sept. 13

•Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported a noise complaint.

•Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported an assault at location.

•Complainant on 51st Street, Luverne, reported car repossession.

•Complainant on E. 1st Street, Hardwick, reported harassing communication at location.

•Complainant reported a lost chainsaw.

•Complainant on Brown

Street reported suspicious activity.

•Edgerton fire/ambulance ran rescue drill training.

Sept. 14

•Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported loud music in the area.

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported a protest at location.

•Complainant reported a subject with a Rock County warrant.

•Complainant on Koehn Avenue reported debris on the road.

•Complainant on S. 2nd Street, Beaver Creek, reported repossession at location

•Complainant requested a tint check.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported finding a cell phone.

•Complainant on County Highway 4 and 110th Avenue, Luverne, reported a vehicle fire.

•Complainant on SW Park Street reported an HRO/harassment issue.

•Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 4, Beaver Creek, reported a tarp in roadway.

Sept. 15

•Complainant on 3rd Avenue, Pipestone, reported a subject with a Rock County

warrant.

•Roadside assistance was conducted on W. Hatting Street and S. Kniss Avenue.

•Harassing communication was reported at location on N. Oakley Street.

•Assistance from another department was conducted.

•Complainant reported identity theft.

Sept. 16

•Complainant on E. Warren Street reported fraud.

•Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported threats.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a confused customer.

•Complainant reported a found chainsaw.

•Complainant on Railroad, Kanaranzi, reported unsafe driving.

Sept. 17

•Complainant on E. 1st Street, Hardwick, reported severe property damage.

•Complainant on Highway 75 and County Road 16, Luverne, reported a tree down over roadway.

•Citywide power outage was reported for city of Luverne.

•Complainant on E. Veterans Drive reported a death notification.

•Complainant on Harrison Street requested extra patrol.

In addition, officers re-

sponded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 1 vehicle in ditch, 1 transport, 9 ambulance runs, 1 paper service, 1 animal complaint, 3 fingerprint requests, 5 burn permits, 6 alarms, 2 fingerprint requests, 3 gas drive-offs, 4 purchase and carry permits, 3 stalled vehicles, 12 traffic stops, 20 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 4 welfare checks, 2 reports of cattle out and 1 follow-up.

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A great day for a parade



Mallorie Boeve (left) and Henry Kellenberger lead the second-grade class through the parade.

Hills-Beaver Creek elementary and secondary students gathered for a Homecoming parade Friday afternoon in Hills. Students decorated trailers, vehicles or, in the case of elementary students, walked with banners displaying their Patriot spirit. Both schools celebrated Homecoming Week, Sept. 13-17, which culminated with the Homecoming football game. The Patriots won. (See page 2B for more information on the game.)

Below left: Hills-Beaver Creek High School seniors complete the parade route on a trailer displaying the banner that read "165 days until graduation!"

Below: Homecoming queen, Kenadie Fick, and king, Andrew Harris, wave to parade-goers.

Samantha McGaffee
photos for the Star Herald



REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2011)

•The Rock County Sheriff's Office and the FBI are investigating an auto sales scam that has shoppers wondering where 237 S. Kniss Ave. is located in Luverne.

As it turns out, there's no such thing as ATB Autos, and there is no such address as 237 S. Kniss Ave.

Unfortunately, several would-be auto buyers found that out after they lost thousands of dollars. ...

According to Verbrugge, an online auto sales company lists a Luverne location and a Luverne phone number (with 507-283 prefix) on the ATB Autos website.

A photograph on the site even shows South Highway 75 with cars from the legitimate company, Southgate Auto, pictured in the frame.

The Southgate sign is not in the photograph, which implies the cars belong to ATB Autos.

The victims told law enforcement that when they asked for proof, the business owners provided a digital image of what appeared to be a legitimate auto dealer license.

When shoppers find cars for what appears to be a bargain, the sales transactions ultimately have them wiring money to a bank account in the United Kingdom.

"People have to remember that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is," Verbrugge said. ...

For the time being, he said the FBI and affiliated law enforcement are working with online agencies to get the fraudulent business off the Internet.

25 years ago (1996)

•Alison Dinger, 13, an eighth-grader at Luverne Middle School, has a particular interest in the September 1996 issue of The High School Writer. Her book review, which she wrote as a student in Elizabeth Petersen's seventh-grade English class, is the first accepted by the publication. The students solicit advice from their classmates. "We conference with other people to get an idea of what our peers think," said Dinger, daughter of Don and Lisa Dinger. Petersen said the system works well,

"They learn from each other because they really are very good critics. They know good work when they see it."

50 years ago (1971)

•The highly technical instrument package of a cosmic ray research balloon landed on the I-90 turnoff east of Beaver Creek Thursday morning, after the balloon which was carrying it malfunctioned. The balloon portion landed on the Gordon Helgeson farm a mile west of Beaver Creek.

75 years ago (1946)

•Luverne's newest industry, the Paulson Dehydrated Products Company, is now in operation.

After numerous delays, due to materials shortages, the company launched by H. A. Paulson, Hardwick, is now turning out a high quality alfalfa meal, made of Rock county grown alfalfa.

Getting started this late in the season, Mr. Paulson said, will make production of meal limited, as so many farmers had already cut their last crop of alfalfa. However, that which is being cut and dehydrated now is producing an outstanding finished product.

100 years ago (1921)

•The Presbyterian Synod of Minnesota, which is to convene in this city on the evening of Tuesday, October 11th, will continue its sessions until Friday noon, October 14th.

This gathering of Presbyterian ministers and laymen, will represent most of the leading men and the denomination, in the state. The presiding officer at the general assembly, who moderated the recent assembly, will deliver the opening address Tuesday evening. ...

Dr. Garver is being locally assisted by the people of his congregation in making arrangements for this important gathering, and four committees have been selected, the chairmen of which are: Entertainment, R. L. Smith; hospitality, F. A. Leicher; publicly, L. H. Jones; reception, Wm. Bratton.

1923: Co-op loads 204 railcars with livestock

The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on Jan. 5, 1923.

Co-Operatives Ship 204 Cars of Livestock

Luverne Co-operative Shipping Assn. Markets 184 Cars of Hogs and 20 of Cattle in 1922

Expenses Total Only \$13.93 Per Carload

John Welzenbach Elected New President; Chas. Preston and J. L. Snook Re-Elected V. P. and Sec.-Treas.

A total of two hundred four carloads of livestock, consisting of 184 carloads of hogs, and 20 carloads of cattle, were shipped to markets during the year 1922 by the Luverne Cooperative shipping association, for which \$291,719.70 was received, according to the reports of the past year's business submitted by Manager Fred Lutgens, at the annual meeting of the members of this association held Wednesday afternoon at the court house.

On this volume of business the manager received a commission of 7 cents per cwt. making an average of \$11.07 per carload, or a salary for the year of \$2,360.66, while the sinking fund of 1 1/2 cents per hundred amounted to \$2.86 per carload, which amounted to \$589.94. This made the total local expense for handling the 204 carloads \$2,950.60, leaving a balance of \$288,769.10 for the producers of the livestock.

At the beginning of the year the association had \$659.58 in the sinking fund, and in addition to the \$589.75 derived from the deduction of 1 1/2 per cent for this fund, \$82.00 was received as initial membership fees from forty-one new members. The total distributions from this fund were \$545.75, of which \$471.50 was paid to shippers for crippled and dead hogs, and \$74.25 for incidentals, including \$50.00 for two shares of stock in the Sioux



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

Falls Producers' Commission Co., which left a balance of \$785.77 in the sinking fund on January 1st, 1923.

President L. D. Long called the meeting to order, and after the above mentioned report had been read, approved and accepted, the election of three directors for a term of three years was taken up, and John Welzenbach, Henry Cook and Jesse Goemmel were elected to succeed L. D. Long, Harry Binford and J. F. Kohn.

The other members of the board of directors are Fred Bendt, Christ Fitzer, John Carlson, J. L. Snook, Chas. Preston and Adolph Axelsen.

The board later met and organized by the election of Mr. Welzenbach as president, Chas. Preston, vice president, and Mr. Snook as secretary-treasurer. Mr. Preston and Mr. Snook filled the same offices during the past year.

Before the general meeting adjourned, it was voted to reduce the manager's commission to 6 cents per cwt., and the sinking fund assessment to 1 cent per cwt.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to manmade@iw.net.

CELEBRATIONS

Open house

An open house bridal shower for **Meagan Stueven**, bride-to-be of **Michael Hulstein**, will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at St. John Lutheran Church, 803 N. Cedar St., Luverne.

COLLEGE NEWS

Rollag receives doctorate at ISU

Sean Rollag of Beaver Creek completed his Doctor of Philosophy degree in chemical engineering following the summer term at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

MENU

Monday, Sept. 27: Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, carrots, bread, gelatin with whipped topping.

Tuesday, Sept. 28: Pork loin, candied yam, broccoli, bread, bar.

Wednesday, Sept. 29: Taco salad with salsa, sour cream and corn chips, fresh fruit, dessert.

Half-Price Day sponsored by Main Street Financial.

Thursday, Sept. 30: Spaghetti, lettuce salad with dressing, fruit, dessert.

Friday, Oct. 1: Turkey and mashed potatoes with gravy, roasted beets, dinner roll, cake.

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

Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9846 to arrange to pick up a dinner or for home-delivered meals.

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

For poinsettias to bloom at Christmas, pay attention now to photoperiod

We are in the time frame of Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, and those weeks are when poinsettia plants initiate their flowering.

That window of time, called the photoperiod, is when during a 24-hour period, the length of darkness at night time exceeds the length of daytime light.

Plants recognize these routines of nature and respond accordingly. Thus a poinsettia always blooms for Christmas unless someone messes with that photoperiod. Without thinking, we turn lights on in our homes when it gets dark outside. That totally confuses a plant like a poinsettia because artificial light never happens in nature.

So I am saying that if you want to get a poinsettia that you grew over the summer to bloom for Christmas, for the next four weeks it needs sunlight during the day, but absolutely no additional light when the sun sets. Even a streetlight shining through a window can impact that sensitive photoperiod for a poinsettia.

The next week or two is also the time to bring plants that have been "vacationing" outdoors for the summer back indoors before you get caught off guard by a frost. Be careful not to bring hitchhikers in with those plants. I'm talking about bugs whose populations have been kept in check by outdoor weather conditions, but once inside, their populations explode because the environment is perfect for their reproduction.

Thorough spray coverage of insecticidal soap is the perfect remedy, but thorough is the key word here. Those buggers hide underneath the leaves and in the leaf axis. You want to be sure to eradicate them now or you will fight them for the whole winter. Spraying



KNOW IT AND GROW IT

By George Bonnema, Luverne Horticulturalist

twice about seven days apart should do the trick.

If those indoor plants have really grown well during the summer and they seem out of proportion with the pot they are growing in, this is a good time to shift them to the next size larger pot.

Also, remember that as the days get shorter, the rate of growth for plants slows dramatically. When a plant is not growing actively, it will not use as much water or fertilizer. Excess of either of these elements will cause problems.

As you get onto a schedule, feel the soil surface before you water the plant. If the surface feels damp, wait until it feels dry.

I like a weekly watering schedule because then you will remember to get it done. Adjust the amount of water you use accordingly.

Use of water-soluble plant food once in four to six weeks is enough for the winter months. As day length increases in spring, the plants respond with new growth, and that is when to resume a more frequent use of fertilizer.



Successful day of fishing

More than 100 adults and children gathered at Veterans Pond Aug. 29 for the Luverne Optimist Club's annual fishing derby.

Over 200 small fish were caught, with Jayden DeKam (pictured left) catching the largest gamefish/walleye. Keyona Klingenberg had a hot fishing hand, according to organizer Travis Pierce. Klingenberg caught and released 36 small perch and sunfish.

"It was an awesome day," Pierce said. "Prizes were won and given to all with hotdogs to fill their bellies." The derby was open to children ages 5 to 15 years old.



Submitted photos

OBITUARIES

Nancy Christianson

Nancy Christianson, 91, of Pierre, passed away Monday, Sept. 6, 2021.



A memorial celebration of her life will be held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 23, 2021, at Feigum Funeral Home with Pastor Craig Wexler officiating. Nancy's service will also be broadcast live at www.feigumfh.com.

Nancy Suzanne Christianson was born on Feb. 10, 1930, to Ernst and Mary (Dugan) Juhl in Rock County, Minnesota. Nancy was baptized and confirmed in Rock County and was later a member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Aberdeen and Lutheran Memorial Church in Pierre.

Nancy grew up on a farm outside of Luverne, Minnesota, where the family raised purebred Duroc hogs. The family held auctions that were attended by people from across the country. Nancy was an active member of 4-H. In 1947 she became headline news as the first female to win blue ribbons at the Rock County and Minnesota State Fair for both showmanship and her purebred Duroc gilt. She graduated from Luverne High School in 1948 and continued her education at the University of South Dakota.

Nancy met her future husband, Raydon (Ray) Christianson, at the university and reportedly helped many of Ray's fraternity brothers, who were returning soldiers from World War II, with their course assignments.

She married Ray on June 17, 1951, in Luverne. After their marriage she worked for the federal government in Aberdeen, South Dakota, and Minneapolis, Minnesota, until she left to raise two sons. When her sons entered grade school, she attended Northern State University and graduated with a degree in elementary education.

She taught fourth grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Aberdeen until her retirement in 1986.

In 1988 Ray and Nancy moved to Pierre, South Dakota, to be closer to family, where she was living at the time of her death.

Nancy loved to cross stitch and was exceptional at it. She enjoyed her time with her cross stitch group, and the group would often take road trips to visit stores in other towns. In their later years, when it became more difficult to travel, yet staying true to their tradition, the out-of-town road trip became an overnight stay in Fort Pierre.

She treasured her husband of 61 years, her sons, Mark and Bob, grandsons Eric and Marcus and met her great-grandson, Alexander. She would check in twice daily to see if there was any new update in the family and would often say one of her greatest joys was to be a part of her grandsons' lives. In later years she developed a love for gardening and could be found tending to her flowers and vegetables.

Grateful for having shared in her life are Mark and his wife Mary (Skulborstad) of Bolingbrook, Illinois; Bob and his wife L. Ann (Harrington) of Pierre, South Dakota, and their sons Eric and Lisa (Weber), Marcus and Corey (Wannamaker). She cherished getting to hold and welcome her great-grandson Alexander into her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, sister and two brothers.

In lieu of flowers or memorials, please perform an act of kindness while holding Nancy in your heart and memory.

Condolences may be conveyed to the family at www.feigumfh.com (0923 V)

Robert Tomlinson

Robert Stephen Tomlinson, 74, Luverne, died Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.



A funeral service was Saturday, Sept. 18, at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. Burial with full military honors followed at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Robert Tomlinson was born on Dec. 7, 1946, to Robert and Hazel (Larson) Tomlinson in Luverne. He was baptized at First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. He graduated from Luverne High School in 1964 and then worked at Jordan Millwork in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, making cabinets and windows.

In May 1967, Robert enlisted in the Navy during the Vietnam War. Following his honorable discharge in March 1969, he returned to Jordan Millwork where he worked for many years.

On Dec. 12, 1970, Robert married Dianna DeZeeuw at the Methodist Church in Lake Benton, and the couple lived in Luverne. During a strike, Robert began working for A.R. Wood as a welder and in the brooder department. When the company closed down, he worked for Land O' Lakes as a bagger. In 1987

Robert had knee surgery, and a short time later he retired due to health issues. He then went into full-time service helping others.

Robert was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. He was a member of the Luverne Lions Club, Woodcarvers, VFW, American Legion Honor Guard, and a church greeter at the Veterans Home.

In his spare time, Robert enjoyed woodworking, scroll work, driving all the grandkids to pre-school, taking scenic drives, and visiting. He loved raising calves and helping the grandkids show animals through 4-H at the fair.

Robert is survived by his wife, Dianna Tomlinson of Luverne; a daughter, Laura (Rodney) Richters of Luverne; four grandchildren, Brittney (Kurtis) Van Gent, Brenton (Aimee) Richters, Brian Tomlinson (significant other Courtney Kruger), and Breanna Richters (significant other Andy Wolters); and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Donna Loud.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquistfuneral.com. (0923 F)

Guenther Luitjens

Guenther Peter Luitjens, 76, died on Sept. 8, 2021, in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, from a heart attack.



A funeral service was Monday, Sept. 13, at Green Hill Funeral Home Chapel in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. Interment was at Green Hill Memorial Gardens.

Guenther Luitjens was born on June 2, 1945, in Pulkau, Austria, to LeRoy and Margarete Luitjens. He lived the first 13 years of his life in Austria, attending the local Catholic school. He was an altar boy who fondly remembered the stern nuns with their ruler.

After moving to Luverne, he attended Luverne schools until he graduated in 1964. After graduation, Guenther enlisted in the United States Navy, spending time on both ship and submarine, where he was honorably discharged in 1971.

He worked the majority of his life as a Ford car salesman. His most recent

position was a shuttle driver for a local dealership.

Guenther loved watching football and basketball, but he especially loved watching the Minnesota Vikings games while wearing team clothing.

After his first wife of 25 years, Patricia Sue, passed away, he later married Karen in March of 2016.

Guenther is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter Kimberly (Dave) Medrick; Karen's daughter Tammy (Shawn) Leonard; grandchildren Alysha Medrick, Aaron (Brittany) Medrick, Elizabeth (Matthew) Koppe, Zachary (Sara) Medrick, Michael Phillips, Wyatt Phillips; great-grandchildren Maverick, Ethan, Grayson, Hadley, and Ryker.

Guenther was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia Sue, of Ardmore, Oklahoma, his parents; and his brother, Roy, and his wife, Rose, Luitjens of Bloomington, Illinois.

(0923 F)

DEATH NOTICE

Steve Baumgard

Steve Baumgard, 62, Luverne, died Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage in Luverne.

A funeral service was Monday, Sept. 20, at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne. Burial was in the Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Arrangements were provided by Benson Funeral Home of Worthington, www.bensonfh.com. (0923 DN)

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Lori Sorenson photos/0923 schoneman leader dog

Kimberly Schoneman and her leader dog, Allan, shared their story with the Luverne Lions Club Monday night, Sept. 13, in the Luverne Pizza Ranch meeting room. Once Allan is off harness, it means he's not working and his tail immediately begins wagging as he makes his way around the room to meet Luverne Lions Club members.

Leader dog named Allan guides Luverne woman/from 1A

places and do things I wasn't able to do."

She said her journey started in 2013 when she started training at the School for the Blind in Sioux Falls where she learned Braille, how to use a cane and other life skills.

Meanwhile she applied for a dog through Leader Dogs in Rochester, and in July of 2019 she went through cane training and was placed on a waiting list for a dog.

In December of 2019 she learned she could have a dog, and in February of 2020 she returned to Rochester for 21 days of training with her dog.

She also explained Allan's background to the Luverne Lions.

Leader Dogs in Rochester are labs, retrievers or a mix, and the puppies are



Kimberly Schoneman and Allan met at Leader Dogs for the Blind, Rochester, Michigan, which is supported by Lions Club chapters around the nation — including the Luverne Lions Club.

weaned at 8 to 12 weeks old.

They spend the next year of their lives in a prison (Allan was in the Iowa State Penitentiary) where they're taught basic commands, such as "sit," "stay,"

"down" and "come."

They're also introduced to a leash, put on a feeding schedule and potty trained.

Schoneman explained why prisons are ideal for puppy training.

"Because you're dedicating a year of your life to a puppy that isn't going to be with you," she said. "Not very many other people want to do that."

And she said prisons and leader dog schools have learned it's mutually beneficial for the puppies and the prisoners.

After a year, dogs are assigned based on specific needs of the human.

"They look at your surroundings, your home, your work and how you walk," Schoneman said. "If you're a fast walker, you don't want a slow dog or you're going to get ahead of them. If you're a slow walker, you don't want a dog that's going to pull you."

And then the humans and dogs practice what they learned in training. For example, when they're approaching a curb, Allan will start to slow down and then will stop in front of her.

If he senses she's in danger, he'll place himself between her and what might harm her.

Schoneman said it takes a good year to bond with a dog, and Allan fit in right away, even with her two chihuahuas. "But they have to look out for his big feet," she said.

She works in the office

at Luverne Health and Wellness, where Allan has become the greeter and entertainer when he's off leash (which means he's not working and he may play.)

"He's great with kids, even though he's never been around kids," Schoneman said, adding that she's grateful for Dr. Codie Zeutenhorst accommodating Allan in the reception area.

She and Allan still spend time bonding. "He never leaves my side," she said.

Her husband, Brian, shared a photo of Allan snuggled on top of Kim, his furry head on her chest.

Allan will work as a leader dog for eight to 10 years before retiring. "Then he'll be my pet," Schoneman said. "And I'll get another guide dog."

Dreckman seeks variance to build storage units at former mink ranch

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County Commissioners will consider an ordinance change to include storage units as a conditional use on zoned agricultural land during an Oct. 5 public hearing.

The hearing begins at 9 a.m. in the commissioners' room of the courthouse.

Land Management Director Eric Hartman brought the proposed zoning change to commissioners Sept. 7 as a recommendation from the County Planning Commission.

Hartman said his office received a petition earlier this year from Rich Dreckman of RSD Development, Luverne.

He requested that the former mink ranch property northeast of Luverne near the Blue Mounds State Park be rezoned from its current A-1 limited ag classification to residential.

At that time, Dreckman proposed building up to six homes on the 10 acres of land.

However, an onsite investigation of the Vienna Township property revealed the land was not conducive to onsite septic systems.

"That original idea was not going to work, so he withdrew his application for rezoning that property for residential and put forth the request to allow self-storage in an A-1 district," Hartman said.

On Aug. 30, the zoning commission took up Dreckman's rezoning request and also suggested adding storage facilities as a conditional use to A-2

Luverne developer Rich Dreckman initially proposed building up to six homes on the 10 acres of land. However, an onsite investigation of the Vienna Township property revealed the land was not conducive to onsite septic systems.

general agriculture classified properties.

In the ordinance change, the commission defined self-storage facilities as "a building or group of buildings containing separate, individual and private storage space of varying sizes for lease or rent for varying periods of time."

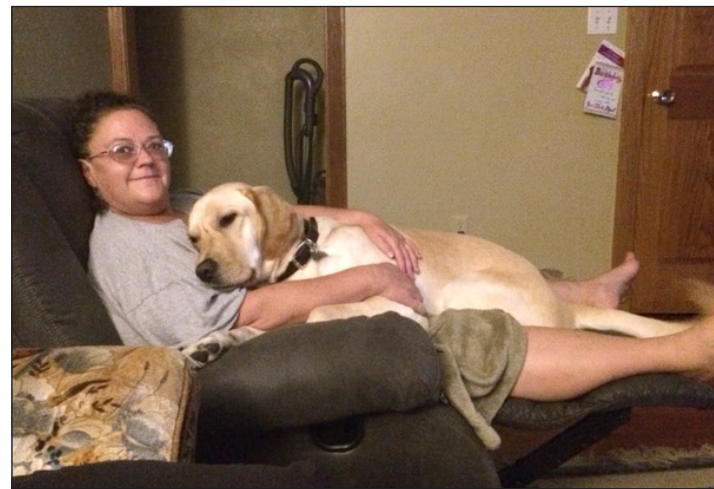
Commissioners approve tax abatement

In other business, the commissioners reinstated the veterans' disability waiver to Alice Hansen's home on East First Street in Hardwick.

Due to a system error, the property was assessed \$628 in property taxes for 2021. Commissioners unanimously abated that amount.

As a widow of a disabled veteran, Hansen is eligible for the program.

A special assessment fee of \$42, however, was paid by Hansen and will not be refunded.



Kimberly Schoneman and Allan still spend time bonding. "He never leaves my side," she said. She's pictured here with Allan snuggled on top of Kim, his furry head on her chest.

70TH TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

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Field competition begins at 12:30 pm at Luverne High School's Cardinal Field

<p>CLASS A</p> <p>Adrian-Ellsworth High School Garretson High School George-Little Rock High School Murray County Central High School</p>	<p>CLASS AA</p> <p>Boydell-Hull High School Dell Rapids High School Lennox High School Madison High School Pipestone High School Sioux Falls Christian High School Tri-Valley High School West Central High School West Lyon High School</p>	<p>CLASS AAA</p> <p>Brookings High School Huron High School O'Gorman High School Stewartville High School Tea Area High School</p>	<p>CLASS AAAA</p> <p>Brandon Valley High School Worthington High School</p>
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Mavis Fodness photos/0923 LHS Coronation 2021

The Luverne High School Homecoming Royalty pose for a group photo Monday night after the coronation ceremony in the school's new performing arts center. Pictured (seated from left) are Mia Wenzel, Payton Behr, Belle Smidt, Cedar Viessman, page Hobey Sandbulte, King Casey Sehr, page Charlotte Rensink, queen Brooklynn VerSteeg, Trista Baustian, Billi Connell, Elise Ferrell, Olivia Wieneke, (standing, back) Ethan Rahm, Keaton Ahrendt, Will Serie, Trenton Carson, Griffen Jarchow, Kendall Buss, Mary Opitz, Eli Radke, Hunter Ahrendt, Trygve Gangestad, Ashton Sandbulte and Luke Thorson.

Luverne High School celebrates Homecoming

Casey Sehr crowned LHS king 50 years after grandfather

By Mavis Fodness

Fifty years after his grandfather, Steve Sehr, was crowned LHS Homecoming King, his grandson, Casey Sehr, followed in his footsteps Monday night as Casey and Brooklynn VerSteeg were crowned LHS Homecoming King and Queen respectively in the new performing arts center.

Steve said he was crowned homecoming king in the fall of 1971 and the late Kim (Dougherty) Larson was crowned queen. He considered it quite an honor.

"You don't think about it at the time as to what an honor it is," the elder Sehr said. "Hopefully, he has a better football team."

The current Cardinals have a chance to reach .500 against New Ulm Friday night.

Casey Sehr is the son of Micky and Heidi Sehr.

VerSteeg's parents are Nate and Tonya VerSteeg.

Other royalty members include king candidates Hunter Ahrendt,



Brooklynn VerSteeg reacts in surprise as 2020 Luverne High School Homecoming Queen Lauren VerSteeg places the crown on her head as the queen candidates Elise Ferrell (left) and Olivia Wieneke watch.

Trygve Gangestad, Ashton Sandbulte, Luke Thorson; queen candidates Trista Baustian, Billi Connell, Elise Ferrell and Olivia Wieneke.

Class representatives included freshmen Payton Behr and Keaton Ahrendt, sophomores Belle Smidt and Will Serie; juniors Cedar Viessman and Trenton Carson.

Program attendents were Kendall Buss, Griffen Jarchow, Mary Opitz and Elie Radtke.

Pages were Charlotte Rensink and Hobey Sandbulte.

Mia Wenzel and Ethan Rahm were mistress and master of ceremonies.



LHS 2020 Homecoming Queen Lauren VerSteeg crowns Casey Sehr while (from left, seated) Luke Thorson, Ashton Sandbulte and Trygve Gangestad waited. Pictured in back is Keaton Ahrendt.



Hunter Ahrendt and Hobey Sandbulte (in front) clap for the fall activities updates presented by participants on the various sporting teams, marching band and cheerleaders.



Newly crowned LHS Homecoming King Casey Sehr (left) poses with his grandfather, Steve Sehr, who was LHS 1971 Homecoming King.

Right: In 1971 Steve Sehr (left) receives the Homecoming king crown as he stands next to Homecoming queen, the late Kim (Dougherty) Larson.

Submitted photo



Rock County well represented at state 4-H horse show

By Mavis Fodness

Seven Rock County 4-H'ers participated in the Minnesota State 4-H Horse Show Sept. 17-20 at the state fairgrounds in St. Paul.

Local riders included Kallie Chapa, Kennedy Safar, Kellie VanDerBrink, Ayden Bonnett, Morgan Bonnett, Mallie Fick and Cash Bonnett.

Chapa represented Rock County in the grand entry event by carrying the county 4-H flag.

In the show, ribbons are awarded to the top exhibitors in each class.

Chapa placed sixth in Grade 13 poles and second in barrels.

Safar placed 10th in

Grade 12-13 trail and fourth in Grade 12 English equitation.

VanDerBrink placed 10th in Grade 11 barrels.

Ayden Bonnett placed seventh in Grade 11 key race.

Morgan Bonnett placed ninth in Grade 9 western horsemanship.

Fick placed ninth in both Grade 8 showmanship and western horsemanship.

The local youth were among several hundred 4-H'ers from across the state who participated in the show's 50th anniversary.

The show began in 1970. However, the 2020 event was canceled due to the coronavirus. The anniversary was celebrated at this year's event.



Mavis Fodness photo/0923 State Horse Show 2021

Local 4-Hers at the State Horse Show were (from left) Ayden Bonnett, Mallie Fick, Morgan Bonnett, Kallie Chapa, Kennedy Safar, Kellie VanDerBrink and Cash Bonnett.

Western Heritage results

Five Rock County 4-H'ers participated in the state finals of the 4-H Western Heritage event Aug. 8 in Morton.

Kennedy Safar, Morgan Bonnett, Kellie VanDerBrink, Ayden Bonnett and Cash Bonnett participated at the event.

The team of Ayden Bonnett and Cash Bonnett earned first place in senior pen-to-pen event.

Ayden also placed eighth individually in senior goat tying.

VanDerBrink placed fifth in senior goat tying. Participants in Western Heritage learn and practice skills of roping, wrangling and sorting of livestock, which were common cowboy skills from the timeframe of 1860 to 1900.



Samantha McGaffee photo for the Star Herald

Hills-Beaver Creek's Donavon Leenderts pressures the Heron Lake-Okabena-Fulda quarterback with a near tackle that results in an interception to teammate Max Scholton during H-BC's Homecoming game Sept. 17.

H-BC enjoys Homecoming win Friday

By Dan Ellingson,
For the Star Herald

The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots pushed their record to 3-0 with a 45-12 Homecoming victory over the Heron Lake-Okabena-Fulda Coyotes on Friday in Hills.

Andrew Harris was one of the Patriots with an outstanding game in the win.

Harris accounted for a touchdown pass reception, a two-

point conversion catch, a 75-yard kick-off return for a touchdown, an interception on defense and three tackles for the game.

On the Monday preceding the Homecoming game, he was also crowned Homecoming king. It was a memorable week and game for Harris and the rest of the Patriots squad.

On the Coyotes' opening possession, they converted a fourth and one from their own 36-yard

line; however, the Patriots' defense forced the Coyotes to punt the ball away three plays later.

During the Patriots' first possession, quarterback Oliver Deelstra hooked up with receiver Ty Bundesen on a crucial third down and 11 for a 25-yard gain and a first down at the Coyotes 37-yard line.

H-BC football, continued on 4B

Cardinals take victory over Windom Eagles

By John Sichmeller,
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals registered their first win of the 2021 football season on Thursday night in Windom.

The first half featured a defensive battle that saw the Cardinals head into halftime with a 6-0 lead.

After struggling in the second half in the previous two games of the season, the Cardinals finally broke out for a strong second half which propelled them to a 26-6 victory.

Luverne coach Todd Oye said he was proud of his team's effort in the second half.

"We played a good second half after leading at halftime only 6-0," he said. "The team did a nice job in the third quarter."

After going three and out in their first possession of the game, the Cardinals capitalized in their second possession to take the early lead.

The possession started with a 24-yard punt return from Luverne junior Gannon Ahrendt, which gave the Cardinals excellent field position.

Taking over at the Windom 36-yard line, the Cardinals offense picked up a first down after se-

nior running back Ashton Sandbulte broke through the middle of the Eagles defense for a 26-yard run to get the Cardinals to the Eagles' 8-yard line.

After only gaining a yard in their next three plays, the Cardinals faced a fourth and goal from the Windom seven-yard line.

Luverne quarterback Casey Sehr was able to complete the fourth-down pass to Sandbulte, who ran in the touchdown to get the Cardinals on the board. After a failed two-point conversion, the Cardinals had the lead 6-0 with 1:40 to go in the first quarter.

The Cardinals made their way into Windom territory just one time in the second quarter, but the drive stalled after a penalty and then an Eagles interception.

The Cardinals' defense held strong the rest of the quarter, and the teams went into halftime with the score remaining at 6-0.

Luverne wasted no time getting back into the end zone after halftime.

After marching down the field quickly, Sehr found sophomore Conner Connell in the right side

LHS football, go to 4B

Luverne tennis team moves to 6-4 in the season, Big South play coming

By Jon Beers,
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals played two matches in the past week and went 1-1 to move their record to 6-4 in the season.

LHS started the week on Tuesday, Sept. 14, with a 4-3 loss to Worthington but came back on Thursday, Sept. 16, to defeat Pipestone 5-2 in the annual Battle Racquet Match.

The Cardinals were scheduled to travel to St. James Tuesday night and to Redwood Valley Thursday.

They'll meet River Valley for a rescheduled contest Monday in Worthington before heading into the Big South Championship on Tuesday, Sept. 28.

LHS 3, Worthington 4

In the Worthington match, LHS won one singles contest and was

able to win two of the three doubles matches.

Mia Wenzel continued her strong play at No. 1 singles, defeating Marah Darling 6-3, 6-4, 6-1 in a thrilling three-set match.

At No. 2 singles, Jacey Smith lost to Ivy Jenson 6-4, 6-3. Sarah Stegenga lost to Kessey Aljets 6-4, 6-1, and Rosylen Hartshorn was defeated by Bailey Newman 6-3, 6-0 at No. 3 and No. 4 singles.

In doubles play, Olivia Wieneke and Kristin Rud defeated Taya Oberloh and Brooke Nordseth by scores of 3-6, 7-6(3), 10-8 at No. 1 doubles.

Hope Thorson and Katharine Kelm defeated Calah Riley and Madison Shaffer 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 at No. 2 doubles. The No. 3 doubles team of Tori Hemm and Priscilla Muehr lost to Taylor Nordseth and Hanna McNab 6-4, 7-5.



Images by CD for the Star Herald

Kristin Rud, playing No. 1 doubles for Luverne, hits an overhead shot against the Pipestone Arrows Sept. 16 during the two teams' Battle Racquet Match.

"Most of our matches were very close. I was really pleased with Mia at No. 1 singles and the No. 1 and No. 2 doubles teams," said LHS coach Jon Beers.

"All three of those matches went to a third set, and I just love how the girls didn't give up and kept fighting for the win," Beers said.

LHS 5, Pipestone 2

In the Battle Racquet Match, LHS won three singles matches and two doubles matches for the 5-2 win.

At No. 1 singles, Wenzel again came out on top with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Brielle Kulm. Stegenga defeated Kennedy Manderschied 6-1, 6-0 at No. 3 singles, and Hartshorn beat Jasmine Boeke 6-0, 6-0.

The lone singles loss

Tennis, continued on 3B

Cardinals soar over Eagles in VB rematch

By Jacqueline Johnson

The Luverne volleyball squad relished a 4-1 win over the Windom Eagles in Windom Thursday, Sept. 16, in a rematch the Cards had been eyeing all week.

Coach Sarah DeBeer said that the word "redemption" came up frequently in practice all week after the Cardinals fell to the Eagles in the Sept. 11 Luverne tourney.

That changed Thursday when the Cardinals upset the Eagles 4-1 in their home nest.

Luverne came out strong with a 7-1 lead in the opening set, which was marked by kills by senior Elise Ferrell.

With a pass by Reghan Bork, a set by Trista Baustian and a kill by Junior Anja Jarchow, the Cards had a strong lead at 20-10. Ferrell capped Set 1 with two service aces.

Jarchow started Set 2 with a solid pass to Baustian, who set up Ferrell for a kill. Despite strong passes by Macy Stratton and kills by Ferrell and Kamryn Van Batavia, Windom knotted the score at 21-21.

Luverne errors riddled the final points of the set to give the Eagles a win at 25-23.

Slow play through the first 12 points kept the score tight early in Set 3 until Baustian delivered a tip kill and a service ace to tie the score at 7-7.

Consecutive kills by Ferrell and Van Batavia helped put the Cards ahead 12-10. Windom challenged the lead by forcing errors from Luverne, but the Cards responded with kills late in the match by Baustian and Jarchow to upend the Eagles at 25-22.

With a clean pass by Stratton, Ferrell was able to pound a kill from a Bork set to get the Cards

off to an exciting start in Set 4. Jarchow and Ferrell teamed up for a series of kills and a block to push the lead to 15-10.

After an ace by Ferrell, Bork set up Christina Wagner for a kill out of the middle to extend the lead to 19-13, forcing a Windom time out.

Luverne punished the Eagles with two aces by Van Batavia and a final kill by Ferrell for a 25-18 set score which resulted in a 4-1 win for the Cards.

Serving: Christina Wagner – 100 percent serving percentage; Elise Ferrell – 4 aces
Digs: Macy Stratton – 13; Elise Ferrell – 11
Set Assists: Reghan Bork – 19; Trista Baustian – 8
Kills: Elise Ferrell – 19; Anja Jarchow – 5

Blocks: Anja Jarchow – 3 assists; Trista Baustian – 1 solo, 2 assists

Season-end standings include several local drivers

The Late-Season Enduro Races wrapped up recently with several Rock County Enduro racers appearing in final point standings.

According to LSR volunteer Josh Klay, two of the six races were canceled due to rainouts and scheduling conflicts.

The Rock County Speedway in Luverne hosted two of the events, and Rapid Speedway in Rock Rapids, Iowa, and Murray County Speedway in Slayton hosted one each.

The Top 5 place earners received payouts with Rock County natives Jasmine Kalass (third) and Justin Mann (fifth) among them.

Other local racers, Chase Overgaard (seventh) and Tony

Fluit (10th), both of Luverne, made the Top 10 list of place earners.

Thirty-four cars competed this year with three wins for Stacey Krohnberg and one win for Stuart Nelson.

Following are the point standings for the season:

- 1 Stacey Krohnberg, Walters, 194
- 2 Rod Kramer, Sioux Falls, 192
- 3 Jasmine Kalass, Sioux Falls, 180
- 4 Stuart Nelson, Sioux Falls, 173
- 5 Justin Mann, Tea, SD 166
- 6 DJ Jones, Sioux Falls, 164
- 7 Chase Overgaard, Luverne, 161
- 8 Scott Jones, Sioux Falls, 154
- 9 Robert Thompson, S. Falls, 150
- 10 Tony Fluit, Luverne, 143
- 11 Blake Schneekloth Brandon 119
- 12 Hunter Fluit, Luverne, 108
- 20 Eric Gaul, Luverne, 25
- 30 Josh Fick Luverne, 24
- 33 Trevor Fluit Hardwick, 21
- 34 Bradden Kunkle, Adrian, 21

Lady Pates fall to Westbrook-Walnut Grove, Mountain Lake

**By Joni Deelstra,
For the Star Herald**

The Lady Pates volleyball team dropped two matches in the past week, one on the road and one during Homecoming Week in Hills.

The Patriots fell to the Westbrook Walnut Grove Chargers 4-1 in their first conference match on Tuesday, Sept. 14, and they dropped a home game to Mountain Lake 1-4 on Thursday, Sept. 16.

The Patriots were scheduled to play away at Red Rock Central on Tuesday, Sept. 21, and against Edgerton at home Thursday, Sept. 23.

They'll play two more home games on Sept. 27 and 28 against St. Mary and Murray County Central, respectively.

HBC 1, WWG 4

The Patriots had a tough time getting things to go their way, and this allowed the Chargers to dominate the first set, winning 25-16.

The score was tied on several occasions during the second set.

With the score 16-16, a big block and kill from senior Taylor Durst gave the Patriots their first lead 17-16.

The score was tied again at 21-21, 22-22, 23-23 and 24-24. A hard hit from WWG's DeSmith gave the Chargers the edge to win the game 26-24.

Some impressive net play by H-BC was key in the Patriots maintaining the lead in the third



Samantha McGaffee photo for the Star Herald

Senior Tess VanMaanen (6) sets up a shot for her Hills-Beaver Creek teammate Samantha Moser (12) against Mountain Lake Sept. 16 at home. The Patriots lost the match 1-4.

set.

Sophomore Lanae Elbers and seniors Durst, Sam Moser and Kenadie Fick all had kills with help from senior setter Tess VanMaanen.

A final kill from Durst gave the Patriots the win at 25-20.

WWG rallied back, however, to take Set 4. A kill from Moser brought the score

within a point of the Chargers at 11-10, but WWG extended the lead as the set progressed, winning 25-15.

Kenadie Fick: 14-14 serving, 1 ace serve, 7 kills
Sam Moser: 16-16 serving, 6 kills
Taylor Durst: 2 ace serves, 10 kills, 2 blocks
Lanae Elbers: 14 kills, 2 blocks
Tess VanMaanen: 38 set assists

HBC 1, Mountain Lake 4

The Lady Pates were not able to register a win at home during Homecoming Week against Mountain Lake on Thursday, Sept. 16.

MLAC started the game with a 7-0 lead before the Patriots were able to get on the board. A tip over the net by Sam Moser brought the score to 5-12 in favor of MLAC.

Tess VanMaanen's set to Kenadie Fick got the Patriots closer 12-16. Another kill from Fick gave them a final chance to serve but MLAC went on to win the first set 19-25.

The Patriots were able to maintain the lead throughout Set 2.

VanMaanen and Fick both contributed to the win by each serving four in a row. A final kill by Moser gave them the win 25-16.

The Patriots struggled getting things to work in their favor after that.

They went on to lose Set 3 by a score of 15-25 and Set 4 by a score of 14-25.

Senior Kenadie Fick, who played a very good game, said the Patriots need team chemistry. "We need to focus on working together as a team," she said.

Kenadie Fick: 2 ace serves, 11 kills
Tess VanMaanen: 25 set assists
Lanae Elbers: 5 kills
Olivia Bork: 9-9 serving, 2 ace serves

Teach a kid to hunt small game during Take a Kid Hunting Weekend

Getting youth outdoors in pursuit of squirrels, rabbits and other small game is the focus of Take a Kid Hunting Weekend on Saturday, Sept. 25, and Sunday, Sept. 26. During the weekend, adult Minnesota residents accompanied by a youth younger than age 16 may hunt small game without a license, although they must comply with open seasons, limits and other regulations.

Hunting small game is a great way to introduce kids to hunting. Kids learn how to search for game sign, properly handle firearms, and access hunting

land — all without too much time sitting still and being quiet.

Anyone who wants to learn how to hunt can find helpful how-to guides on the DNR website (dnr.state.mn.us) plus a recorded webinar about how to get started small game hunting.

Small game hunting regulations are available at the DNR small game hunting page.

Contact: James Burnham, hunting and angling recruitment, retention and reactivation coordinator, 651-259-5191.

Tennis/continued from page 2B

came at No. 2 singles where Smith was defeated 5-7, 6-3, 11-9 by Jenna Boeke.

Thorson and Kelm defeated Alyssa Enger and Madison Purdin 1-6, 6-2, 6-0 at No. 2 doubles, and Hemme and Muehr defeated Addison Draper and Vivian Brockberg 6-4, 6-1 at No. 3 doubles. Rud and Wieneke lost to Torny Woelber and Emma Stohl 7-6(5), 6-3 at No. 1 doubles.

"The girls were really focused for the match with Pipestone. They take much pride in the fact that they have won the Battle Racquet for the fourth straight year," Beers said.

"I was really pleased with the play of all the girls on Thursday. We have a really tough match coming up next week against St. James, and it will be nice going into that match after the big win against Pipestone."



Images by CD for the Star Herald

Luverne's No. 2 singles player Jacey Smith returns the ball to her Pipestone Arrows rival Sept. 16. Smith lost the match, 5-7, 6-3, 11-9.

Short season plus low bag limits equals most anticipated hunting outing of year

I have been so looking forward to this week. For about the last 10 years I have wanted to head west to hunt a very unusual bird called a sage grouse.

These are big birds that live in the sage brush country of Wyoming, Montana and other places west. The season is only three days long, and bag limits are very low.

Like many other open lands species, the sage grouse has been having a hard time over the past 20 years.

This is primarily due to tons of habitat destruction but also habitat intrusion. Even if the habitat is suitable, energy development and industries like mining result in human activity egressing into their habitats.

Too much activity, even just vehicle traffic, during the wrong times of the year can affect their reproduction success. Hunting is eliminated in places where numbers are low enough that it can have an impact.

In almost all cases, it allows for the harvest of a portion of the allowable surplus of any particular



THE OUTDOORS

Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

species. Hunting in a controlled season with set dates and limits has not and does not affect game populations in any measurable way.

Weather and suitable habitat contribute the vast majority of the outcomes of game reproduction and thus their ability to thrive.

One of the factors that has been identified as a measurable cause of sage grouse mortality is barb wire fences. These birds fly low over the sage and are often killed by flying into a strand of barbed wire.

The solution to this was discovered to be when ranchers and other wildlife conservationists started hanging a short section of white vinyl siding channel on the wire between the posts. If done in enough places, this would help with mortality caused

by human landscape management.

Invasion and encroachment of eastern red cedar trees into sage brush country is also a contributing factor in the decline of the sage grouse.

These challenges are similar with many other grassland bird species. Woody encroachment is negatively affecting the sharp-tail grouse populations in Minnesota, for example.

I am heading to Gillett, Wyoming, for a three-day sage grouse hunting season.

The limit is two per day with four in possession, but I intend to harvest exactly one bird. This is the same number the other three members of my hunting party intend to harvest. When we each have one sage grouse, we

are relocating to a different part of Wyoming to hunt the more plentiful sharp tail grouse.

When I spend days afield in other states, I do so with the understanding that we may very well be only mildly successful. Once in a while they can be a complete bust.

A severe, completely un-forecast weather change last January made my quail hunt to Kansas a four-day, 50 mph wind quail-less adventure.

When you hear stories about guys or gals breaking new ground in a new state with fabulous results, most of those reporters are using lots of editorial exaggeration.

We have hit a few home runs on these new spaces investigations, but they are few and far between.

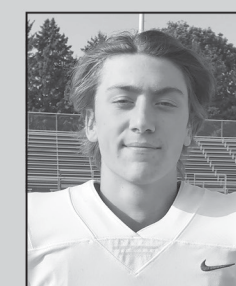
I go because it allows me to see and appreciate the beautiful landscapes of other states and get a better understanding of the special habitat types that exist there. I can have as much fun with a camera and a spotting scope as I can with a gun. My dogs

Rall, continued on 4B

SENIOR ATHLETES of the Week

Ethan Rahm

Sport: Cross Country
Parents: James and Becky Rahm
Favorite subject: Math
What I like most about Cross Country: The tightness of our team and the team bonding experiences.
Other extra-curricular activities: Band, choir and math league.



Eli Radtke

Sport: Football
Parents: Blaine and Jennifer Radtke
Favorite subject: Math
What I like most about Football: Playing with my teammates
Other extra-curricular activities: Basketball and track and field.

Kristin Rud

Sport: Tennis
Parents: Nathan and Sandy Rud
Favorite subject: Math
What I like most about Tennis: Having fun at practice with my teammates and the coach.
Other extra-curricular activities: Basketball, band and color guard.



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H-BC football team continues winning streak, pushing record to 3-0/continued from page 2B

Two plays later Deelstra connected with Harris on a 36-yard tight-end screen for a touchdown. Deelstra completed the conversion pass to Drew Leenderts for two points, giving the Patriots an 8-0 lead with 5:45 left in the first quarter.

A first-quarter Harris interception and return to the 19-yard line set up a three-yard run by Cole Baker, and a successful conversion run by Bundesen gave H-BC a 16-0 lead.

The Coyotes struck back quickly through the air with a 71-yard touchdown pass on their first play of their next possession. On the two-point conversion attempt, the Coyotes lined up with two receivers wide left, four linemen wide right and a receiver lined up directly behind them.

Only the center and quarterback lined up in the middle of the field near the ball. The Coyotes completed the pass to the receiver with four blockers and only two Patriot defenders in front of him.

However, Patriot Cole Baker broke through the blockers and stopped the Coyote receiver for a two-yard loss. The two point conversion was no good.

On the ensuing kick-off, Harris busted up the middle on the return, cut up in front of the Patriots sideline and dashed to a 75-yard kick-off return for a touchdown. Baker's conversion run was good, and the Patriots held a 24-6 lead after one quarter.

The HBC defensive units' play led to the home team's next score.

Defensive lineman Max



Samantha McGaffee photo for the Star Herald

Max Scholten is taken down by a pack of HL-O-F Coyotes in H-BC's Homecoming win Sept. 17.

Scholten intercepted a Coyote pass and rumbled nine yards to the Patriots' 39-yard line.

Two plays later, a Deelstra-to-Baker 60-yard pass for a touchdown moved the score to 30-6 in favor of the Patriots with 10:41 left in the half.

"We were able to make some big turnovers that put us in control early," Patriots coach Rex Metzger said.

Deelstra closed out the scoring in the first half with a 38-yard sprint for six points, followed by a successful conversion pass to

Harris, making the score Patriots 38, Coyotes 6.

Late in the second quarter, the Patriots were held on fourth down by the Coyotes at the six-yard line with 20 seconds left in the half. Even with that turnover on downs, the home team held a

38-6 halftime lead.

The third quarter saw a Deelstra-to-Baker connection, a 13-yard touchdown pass.

Bundesen booted the extra point to extend the lead to 45-6 after three quarters of play.

The lone fourth quarter score was by the Coyotes on a 12-yard touchdown run. The conversion attempt failed, closing out the game's scoring.

In summing up the game, Coach Metzger said, "They came out and stacked the box defensively, so we were able to throw over the top and connect on a few passes."

The 3-0 Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots travel to Westbrook-Walnut Grove Friday to take on the 2-1 Chargers. Game time is 7 p.m. in Westbrook.

Team statistics

HBC: 240 rushing yards, 160 passing yards, 400 total yards, 14 first downs, 8 penalties for 48 yards, zero turnovers.

HLOF: 141 rushing yards, 107 passing yards, 251 total yards, 10 first downs, five penalties for 35 yards, three turnovers.

Individual statistics:

Rushing: Baker 15-91, Deelstra 11- 81, Sawyer Bosch 2-35, Bundesen 2-10,

Drew Leenderts 1-10, Luke Fuerstenberg 2-7, Brock Harnack 2-6. Passing: Deelstra 8-10 for 160 yards.

Receiving: Baker 4-82, Bundesen 3-42, Andrew Harris 1-36, Drew Leenderts 1 extra point.

Defense: Casey Kueter 10 tackles, Troy Durst five tackles, Austin Allen five tackles, Baker five tackles and one sack, Max Scholten two tackles and one interception, Andrew Harris three tackles and one interception, Gideon Taubert two tackles and one fumble recovery.

Rall/continued from page 3B

would not say the same.

I spent a few days last year just south of the Badlands National Park, and there was a rugged beauty there I had never experienced. Hunting birds with the Badlands in the distance was just breathtaking.

Very few other hunters – and the middle of the day when temperatures were too hot for the dog – meant sitting under some giant trees with a breeze and good friends.

I manage to find the locals' favorite steakhouse and go out of my way to greet and visit with local ranchers who know where all of the birds are hanging out.

Maybe it's my age but killing lots of anything no longer really makes any difference to me. I am 60 years old and in pretty good health. I just hope, as do my dogs, that I will be able to experience some more unique places and even shoot a bird or two if I am lucky.

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 scottall@gmail.com, or on Twitter @habitat champion.

LHS football/continued from page 2B

of the end zone for a 20-yard touchdown reception just 1:52 into the third quarter.

Sehr then connected with Ahrendt on the two-point conversion to give the Cardinals a 14-0 lead.

After a solid defensive stand, Luverne took over on their own 40-yard line on their next possession. Sehr and Ahrendt connected on 16-yard and 29-yard receptions to lead the Cardinals down the field.

Sandbulte continued his strong night running the ball, and senior Braydon Ripka chipped in some solid runs to get the ball deep into Windom's side of the field. The Cardinals finished the 60-yard drive with a six-yard touchdown run from Sehr.

Luverne could not complete the two-point conversion but held a 20-0 lead with 52 seconds to go in the third quarter.

Windom bounced back after the Luverne scoring drive with a score of its own.

The Eagles returned the

kickoff 28-yards to the Luverne 46-yard line to start their drive. After a few short runs and a Luverne penalty, the Eagles used a 28-yard run from Wyatt Haugen to get their first score of the game.

After a failed 2-point conversion the Luverne lead was now 20-6 with 10:10 to go in the fourth quarter.

The Cardinals took over at their own 40-yard line, but a holding penalty on the first play of the drive pushed them back to the 30-yard line.

Sandbulte, who finished with a game-high 111 rushing yards, helped erase the penalty and get the Luverne momentum back with a 21-yard run to give the Cardinals a first down.

Luverne continued its drive when Sehr found sophomore Gavin DeBeer for a 26-yard reception that brought the Cardinals to the Windom 16-yard line.

After a run by Sehr and a 10-yard run by Ripka, the Cardinals were on the Eagles' 2-yard line. Ripka punched in the touchdown for the Cardi-

nals, and after failing to complete the 2-point conversion the Cardinals held a 26-6 lead with 7:11 to go in the game.

Following a defensive stop the Cardinals were able to run out the clock and finish the game with their first victory.

"It felt good to get the first one out of the way," Sehr said after the game.

"Hopefully we can use the energy we got from this game to carry on for the next couple of weeks and continue winning."

The Cardinals will host New Ulm Friday night at 7 p.m. in their Homecoming game.

"New Ulm is in our section and also in our division," said Coach Oye. "It will be nice to have a big crowd in Luverne for Homecoming since we didn't get to have full capacity last year."

Team statistics:

Luverne: 157 rushing yards, 130 passing yards, 287 total yards, 14 first downs, 7 penalties for 72 yards, 2 turnovers.

Windom: 186 rushing yards, 20 passing yards, 206 total yards, 14 first downs, 6 penalties for 40 yards,

2 turnovers.

Individual statistics:

Rushing: Ashton Sandbulte 14-111, Braydon Ripka 7-37 Passing: Casey Sehr 8-12 for 130 yards

Receiving: Gannon Ahrendt 3-49, Ashton Sandbulte, 2-30

Defense: Braydon Ripka 7.5 tackles, Ashton Sandbulte 7 tackles, Eli Radtke 5 tackles.

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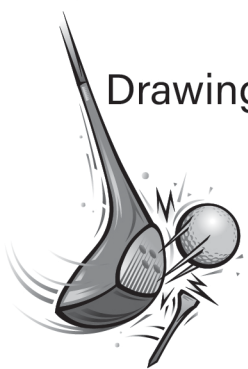
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Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

Bly probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF ROCK DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No. 67-PR-21-219

Estate of **NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON
Ronald P. Bly, PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND
Decedent APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on Monday, October 4th, 2021 at 8:30 A.M., a hearing will be held in this Court at 204 East Brown, Luverne, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, October 1, 2018, ("Will") and for the appointment of Sheila Jean Bly, whose address is 6655 Buckley Circle #306, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Date: September 8, 2021

/s/ Terry Vajgrt
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner
Donald R. Klosterbuer
Klosterbuer & Haubrich, LLP
120 N. McKenzie, PO Box 538
Luverne, MN 56156
Attorney License No: 0056674
Telephone: (507) 283-9111
FAX: (507) 283-9113
Email: drklosterbuer@khlawmn.com

(09-16, 09-23)

Main Street Marketing assumes name

MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true ownership of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: **Main Street Marketing**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:

206 East Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):

Name: **Stacy Riphagen**

Address: **206 East Main Street, Luverne MN 56156 USA**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Signature/s/: **Stacy Riphagen**

MAILING ADDRESS: **206 East Main Street, Luverne MN 56156 USA**

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **david.riphagen@gmail.com**
(09-23, 09-30)

H-BC School Board meets Aug. 23

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Minutes
Aug. 23, 2021

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the H-BC Elementary School, 404 S. 4th Street, Beaver Creek, MN. Meeting began at Beaver Creek Elementary School, then moved to Secondary School, 301 N. Summit Ave, Hills, MN.

Board members and Administration present were Bosch, Fransman, Gehrke, Harnack, Knobloch, Rauk and Rozeboom. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Kellenberger and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Motion by Bosch, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve the agenda.

Proposed additions or deletions to agenda: 5.6. and 5.7.

Visitor to the meeting was Mavis Fodness with Star Herald.

Board committee meeting reports: Personnel Finance Committee--8/11, 8/17 and 8/19

Motion by Fransman, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve Consent Agenda:
-Minutes--08/09/2021

-Bills
-Resignation of Rachel Wipf as paraprofessional effective immediately.
-Hiring Tedra Voss as paraprofessional for the 21-22 school year.
-Purchase of three new ovens as part of the food service fund spend down.
-Assigning Todd Holthaus, Andrew Kellenberger, and Lois Leenderts as district/site COVID 19 Coordinators for the 21-22 school year.
-District Testing Calendar for the 21-22 school year

INDIVIDUAL ACTION ITEMS:

Motion by Harnack, second by Bosch, and carried to approve submitted Fuel Quotes for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Motion by Harnack, second by Fransman, and carried to approve

Fall 2021 Return to School Plan.

Motion by Rauk, second by Bosch, and carried to approve Letter of Engagement with RA Morton Construction Managers.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Knobloch, and carried to adopt a Resolution declaring Supt. Todd Holthaus as the identified official with authority for the MN Department of Education and Identity and Access Management System.

Motion by Bosch, second by Fransman, and carried to approve adding "C" Team Volleyball Coaching position for the 21-22 volleyball season.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

•Secondary Principal Report
•Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
DATES TO REMEMBER:

-New Staff orientation August 27
-All Staff and Family Picnic, Monday, August 30
-Secondary and Elementary School Open House 9/1
-Regular Board Meeting, Monday, September 13
Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(09-23)

Dinger Sales & Service assumes name

MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true ownership of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: **Dinger Sales & Service**

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:

1404 Victory Circle, Luverne, MN 56156 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):

Name: **Donald B. Dinger**

Address: **1404 Victory Circle, Luverne, MN 56156 USA**

Name: **Lisa A. Dinger**

Address: **1404 Victory Circle, Luverne, MN 56156 USA**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Signature : /s/ **Donald B. Dinger**
MAILING ADDRESS: **1404 Victory Circle, Luverne, MN 56156 USA**
EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **dondinger@gmail.com**
(09-16, 09-23)

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CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Karri Korth says thank you for your words of sympathy, the cards, food and memorials given in Karri's honor. Your expressions of love and caring for Karri and each of us is treasured.

Bill Korth

Gary and Jean Staefler
Kammi (Bob) Biber
Sheryl (Greg) Staefler
(9.16-9.23)

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Help Wanted: Looking for a bookkeeper/receptionist. Apply in person or phone. 507-283-4226 Stroeh's Auto Center, 321 E. Main Street, Luverne MN 56156. (9.11-9.30)

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Manley Tire and Oil is hiring an on-call tow truck driver. Must have a valid driving record free of any major offenses. Health card required, clear background check. On-call as little as one weekend/month. Pay per tow \$30-\$50 per hour. Contact Joel at Manley tire for more information. 800-615-3704. (8.28-10.21)

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We have various Nursing Assistant shifts available for full time and part time

6:00am- 2:30pm 2:00pm- 10:30pm
3:30pm- 9:30pm 4:30pm- 9:00pm
10:00pm- 6:30am

SIGN-ON BONUS!

- Paid Training on Site
- Competitive Wages
- Flexible Scheduling
- Paid Time Off
- Sign-on Bonus for Full Time
- Incentive Pay including Weekends
- \$4 hour Weekend Differential
- Medical & Dental Insurance
- Referral Bonus
- Scholarship Opportunities

Contact Us
507-962-3275
Online application @ www.tuffmemorialhome.com
Pick up an application @ 505 East 4th St. Hills, MN

JBS MAKING YOUR WORLD STRONGER
Join our team!

MAINTENANCE TECH I **2 Night Shift Openings**
\$22.00/hr + \$2.00 Shift Differential

DESCRIPTION:
Position at JBS USA Food Company

Performs regular preventative maintenance and emergency/unscheduled maintenance of production, warehouse machines or equipment and plant facilities.
Oversees installation, operation, maintenance and repair of such equipment as centralized heat, gas, water and steam systems.
Performs regular checks on all buildings, HVAC systems, refrigeration systems, and various equipment according to schedule.
Performs preventative maintenance and repair electric forklifts and floor jacks.
Performs simple machinist duties and responsibilities.
Performs mechanics skills including, but not limited to, mechanical, electrical, pneumatic, hydraulic, troubleshooting and repair of production machines.
Reads and interprets equipment manuals and work orders to perform required maintenance and service.

EDUCATION: HS Diploma
REQUIREMENTS:
Must be Highly motivated and work independently as well as effectively as a team member.
Must be able to build and maintain quality working relationships with associated vendors.
Good oral and written communication skills.

EOE/Vets/Disability

Diagnoses problems, replaces or repairs parts, tests and makes adjustments.
Performs a variety of plumbing maintenance and carpentry functions.
Uses a variety of hand and power tools, electrical meters and material handling equipment in performing duties.
Uses hand and power air tools to maintain and repair equipment in each facility.
Performs electrical repairs, plumbing repairs and A/C repairs.
Checks and repair other Freon and ammonia refrigeration units.
Complies with company safety regulations and maintains a clean and orderly work area.
Follows HACCP and SSOP regulation

Ability to work in a dynamic operation with multiple priorities.
Must be able to tolerate frequent interruption while maintain cheerful, competent and efficient service.
Good computer literacy with functional knowledge of Microsoft office products.

Daily News → star-herald.com

Apply online at... jobs.jbssa.com/career-opportunities
JBS • 1401 Sioux Drive • Pipestone, MN 56164

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Maryn Rhoads, CPCU Cory Rhoads, CIC
 Steve Stoddard, CIC Nadia Stern
 South Hwy. 75, Luverne, MN
 507-283-2381

Interested in Advertising?
 Call
Rick or Chantel
 to advertise
283-2333

Here for you.
24/7 - Safe Line
(800) 376-4311

Providing support, advocacy, and hope to individuals and families impacted by sexual and domestic violence, sexual exploitation, and child abuse in Southwest Minnesota.



Southwest Crisis Center
 SUPPORT. ADVOCACY. HOPE.
 Offices in Windom, Jackson, Worthington, Luverne, and Pipestone

Help your loved one celebrate any occasion by posting an ad!

Call: 283-2333

*Birthdays
 Bridal Showers
 Anniversaries
 Baby showers*

ROCK COUNTY
37th Annual Banquet
Thursday, October 7
at Big Top Tents & Events
 321 W. Hatting St., Luverne, MN 56156



Crowing Time 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | Meal 7:00 p.m.
Drawings • Raffles • Live Auction • Silent Auction
OVER 15 Guns to be given away!

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

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

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

BUY YOUR TICKETS BEFORE OCTOBER 5 TO BE ENTERED IN THE EARLY BIRD DRAWING

\$20 ROOSTER RAFFLE
 Get your tickets from HB-C or Luverne Trap Team Members (or Darin or Rick).
 Starting October 7, 2021, Ending December 30, 2021
 12 Weekly \$200 Winners, Final Week one \$500 Winner
 Sponsored by Rock County Pheasants Forever • Permit #X-67001-21-015
 Winners listed on Star-Herald.com • Updated every Monday

ON SALE NOW!
 Need not be present to win.

BANQUET TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Give Where You Live
 today, tomorrow & beyond

LUVERNE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Who can apply?
 Not-for-profit organizations (either singly or as a consortium), government agencies, academic and research institutions located within Rock County are among the organizations eligible to request support from the Luverne Area Community Foundation.

The Luverne Area Community Foundation invites applications that will enhance the quality of life in the following areas:

- Arts & Humanities •Community & Civic Affairs
- Social & Economic Growth •Nutrition •Environment
- Recreation •Education
- Support Programs - children to senior citizen
- Community Health & Wellness including physical & mental health

APPLY ONLINE AT:
<http://www.luvacf.org/application-information.html>
 or contact Emily Crabtree at **507- 220-2424** or emily@luvacf.org

How to apply?

LUVERNE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
 P.O. Box 623 | 102 E. Main | Luverne, MN | 507-220-2424
 Office Hours: T-TH 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00
www.luvacf.org

A note from Mayor Patrick T. Baustian *We're All in This Together*



I would like to extend my congratulations to Luverne Public Schools including the Board of Education, administration, faculty, voters of the school district and the students. You have endured unprecedented obstacles due to construction and COVID-19 throughout the past two years. There are still some construction loose ends to tie up and COVID-19 lingers on, but you are in a fabulous new facility and ready for a new year!
 I encourage all of us to do our part to finally end the COVID-19 pandemic by following CDC guidelines. Get vaccinated, mask up at school and wherever else appropriate and let's end COVID-19 together for good.



Thank you district voters for supporting this project.




Luverne continues to take *great pride* in its schools and the *quality education* the schools provide our students.

STAY SAFE MN

As School Year Begins, Governor Walz, Lieutenant Governor Flanagan Encourage Minnesotans 12 and Up to Get Vaccinated

September 7, 2021 - "It is invigorating to see students and educators across the state back inside the classroom today after a year and a half of interrupted in-person learning. There's nothing quite like the first day of school. As a teacher for more than 20 years and as a dad, I know firsthand that in-person learning is critical to a child's wellbeing and academic success. I also know that getting vaccinated is the best way to keep our students safe, healthy, and in the classroom," said Governor Walz. "Kids look to adults in their life to keep them safe. As Minnesotans, the best thing we can do to protect our children and school communities is for everyone who is eligible to get the vaccine."

"As the mom of a third-grader, I know that the start of the school year is a time of excitement and new challenges for Minnesota families – especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Getting your COVID-19 vaccine helps prevent severe illness and reduce the spread of the virus, especially to our young people who cannot be vaccinated yet. The COVID-19 vaccine works, and our educators, students, and their families deserve this level of protection as they head back to the classroom this fall," said Lieutenant Governor Flanagan. "We know that kids do best when they're in the classroom learning from their teachers, playing with their friends, and engaging in sports and activities. It's our job to be good role models and show our kids how we care for each other by getting the eligible members of our family vaccinated."



Minnesotans 12 and older can get vaccinated wherever the Pfizer vaccine is being administered. Minnesotans can visit [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to filter by vaccine type and find a provider offering the Pfizer vaccine in their area, call their pediatrician to make an appointment or walk into a local pharmacy.

Governor Walz kicked off the school year at University Avenue Elementary School in Blaine.

STRONGER-HEALTHIER TOGETHER

I am confident that Luverne Area Residents, working together, will emerge from this pandemic much stronger as a community.

Luverne MINNESOTA
Love the life!

Sincerely,

 Mayor Patrick T. Baustian



Masks are RECOMMENDED at Luverne Public Schools

Let's ALL do our part to keep kids in the building this school year!

Wear a Mask • Be Kind • Cardinal Pride