



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, October 7, 2021

Sharkee's lot apartments may break ground soon

Builders of \$8 million apartments eye October groundbreaking

By Lori Sorenson

The path to developing the former Sharkee's property has been long and winding as city leaders work with government agencies, private investors and local contractors.

Luverne City Council members took action last week to move the \$8 million project closer to an October groundbreaking.

They authorized the mayor and city administrator to sign amended and "restated" documents related to the Towne Square Apartments.

These include purchase and sale agreements, a development agreement and deferred loan and grant paperwork.

The changes reflect investors Aaron Smith, Bloomington, and Marc Wigder, Florida, joining existing developer Alvin Johnson, Texas, who initially signed agreements in March for the project.

Together, the three investors formed GreenSmith Luverne Holdings LLC as the new developer for the two 27-unit apartment buildings on South Highway 75 at Hatting Street.

Luverne's Don Jahnke, who is coordinating apartment construction, brought new investors to the project after learning of their interest in green projects in small communities.

Towne Square/see page 5A



Lori Sorenson photo/1007 hills fire department 2021

Brad Vandenberg combines corn with grain cart driver Brent Schepel in a field north of Hills Monday night. Vandenberg said he's pleased with the yields in that field, which managed to receive some timely rains while escaping some of the wind damage and hail that hit other nearby fields.

Rock County harvest 2021 continues with both surprising yields and results from drought, storms

By Lori Sorenson

Warm temperatures in September pushed the 2021 corn and soybean crop toward maturity, and area farmers have capitalized on good harvest conditions.

By the end of September, soybean harvest was over 50 percent completed, while some areas still need a bit more time for soybeans to fully mature.

Many corn hybrids were also nearly ready by mid-September and local producers are taking those fields out as well.

Rock County farmer Brad Vandenberg was combining corn in a field near his home

place north north of Hills and said that field had done well.

But he said many others in that part of the county had been affected by hail and wind damage.

According to Kent Thiesse, farm management analyst, soybean yields have been highly variable across the Upper Midwest due to differing impacts from drought conditions in 2021.

He said the moisture content on much of the corn being harvested dropped considerably during the last half of September and is now near 20 percent or lower.

Corn is usually dried down to a final moisture content of 15-16 percent moisture for safe storage until the following summer.

Corn will dry down about .50 percent per day naturally at an average daily temperature of 60 degrees F, which increases considerably at higher temperature levels, such as have existed in recent weeks.

In southern Minnesota normal daily average air temperature drops to about 48 degrees during October. If favorable drying weather continues in the coming weeks, it is

Harvest update/continued on page 8A

Students perform 'Eighty Days' at performing arts center

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne High School students are learning more than lines for the upcoming fall play, "Around the World in Eighty Days."

The play will take place in three performances Thursday, Oct. 14, Friday, Oct. 15, and Saturday, Oct. 16. Curtain rises at 7 p.m.

They are learning to perform in a new facility, which director Shawn Kinsinger said has been "fun and interesting."

"Every theater has its own personality," he said. "The light casts certain shadows and the sounds bounce off of surfaces in unique ways."

Previously LHS plays and musicals were performed in the school's auditorium or Little Theater.

Due to the school's remodel and construction project, the theater was demolished and changed into the choral and instrumental classrooms.

Construction of the new performing arts center was completed this fall.

"In the Little Theater and The Palace, we knew how to use the strengths of the space. Now that

'Eighty days'/see page 3A



Mavis Fodness photo/1007 80 Days LHS Play

Luverne High School drama students will present "Around the World in Eighty Days" Oct. 14-16 in the school district's new performing arts center. Cast includes (front, left) Alex Perkins, Pierce Cunningham, Mia Wenzel, Chance Tunnissen, Luke Thorson, Parker Carbonneau, Griffen Jarchow, Ashlyn Johnson, Grace Ingebretsen, Xavier McKenzie, (back) Gemma Nelson, Chris Bonilla, Bethany Behr, Brianna Kinsinger, Elijah Hendricks, Kaitlin Conger, Abby Boltjes, Zoe Berghorst and Egypt Forrest.

Bike path use increasing in community

By Lori Sorenson

Trail use on the Luverne Loop has increased by more than 24 percent in the past three years as more phases of the city path are completed and as residents and visitors become more familiar with the trail.

Luverne Economic Development Authority Director Holly Sammons shared results from a bicycle and pedestrian counter on the Loop at the board's September meeting.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation installed the counter on the Luverne Loop trail where the path curves from the St. Catherine's Cemetery before the crosswalk at Highway 75 near the Veterans Home.

The counter tracked bike and pedestrian traffic from July 17 to Aug. 5, 2021.

Total bike and pedestrian traffic on the trail during this period was 1,606, with a peak of

Bike path counts/see page 8A



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

American Legion Auxiliary 123 will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13, at the Pizza Ranch. Call Dianna Tomlinson with questions.

Meeting for H-BC levy Oct. 7, 12

Residents in the Hills-Beaver Creek School District can attend an information session about renewing the district's current operating levy at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, at the H-BC Elementary School in Beaver Creek and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the H-BC High School in Hills. The referendum vote takes place Nov. 2. More information about the operating levy referendum is available at the district website: www.hbc Patriots.com.

H-BC FFA corn drive Oct. 8

The Hills-Beaver Creek FFA Chapter corn drive is Friday, Oct. 8, during the school day. FFA members will be at the New Vision Co-Op Elevator near Hills accepting cash and corn donations. FFA'ers will also be collecting grain from farmers in the field as well as providing farmers with a free grilled lunch at the elevator. Proceeds benefit H-BC grad Preston Wilhelmi of Steen to help defray medical expenses. Contact FFA advisor Cloey Anderson at c.anderson@isd671.net.

Rock the Edge food drive Oct. 10

Rock the Edge community youth group will canvas the community to collect food for the Rock County Food Shelf beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 10. To participate while also respecting social distance, place food items in bags on doorsteps. Call 507-283-4529 if your house is missed.

Living Well With Diabetes

A.C.E. of Southwest MN will offer six classes of "Living Well With Diabetes" from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 12, 19 and 26 and Nov. 2, 9 and 16, in the Southwest Health and Human Services community room on North Blue Mound Avenue. Participants make weekly action plans, share experiences and help each other solve problems in self-management. Family members, friends and partners are welcome. Call 1-855-215-2174 to register for class #2677, or register at yourjuniper.org. There is no cost to attend these classes, however donations are welcomed.

Mobile Dental Clinic Oct. 27

A mobile dental clinic will be in Luverne on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the Rock County Health and Human Services community room. These clinics provide dental care for adults and children of all ages. Call 612-746-1530 to schedule an appointment. All forms of insurance accepted. Organized by #Luv1LuvAll's Rock County Oral Health Task Force.

H-BC Class of 2019 event Oct. 16

The H-BC Class of 2019 parents and graduates will host a community event from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, for 2019 H-BC grad Preston Wilhelmi who has cancer. The event at the Steen Reformed Church includes a meal, baked goods and auction. Call Staci Bundesen, 507-227-5175, or Marie LaRock, 605-929-9291 for information.

Free food offered Oct. 21

New Life Celebration Church will offer free food at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, at the Generations Building on East Lincoln Street in Luverne. Vehicles should enter the west parking lot from Lincoln Street and drive to the double glass doors on the west side of the building where volunteers will load groceries into cars. Walkers should receive pre-packaged groceries on the east side of the building. Call 507-283-4366.

Hospice volunteer training

Sanford Luverne Hospice is in need of men and women volunteers at The Cottage and for patient visiting. An application and orientation is required and will be offered in October. If interested, contact Helen Saum at 507-283-1805.



Mavis Fodness photo/1007 Commissioners Visit Food Shelf

Commissioners visit local food shelf

Katie Baustian (center) with the Rock County Food Shelf led a tour of the new facility on Maple Street in Luverne for the Rock County Commissioners Sept. 21. Baustian explains the ease in which the new facility allows food to be stored on racks for easy inventory and the 24-hour drop-off of items. The added freezer and refrigeration capabilities allows the Shelf to distribute food items volunteers were unable to distribute until the facility moved to the new location. Pictured (from left) are commissioners Gary Overgaard, Sherri Thompson, Stan Williamson, Jody Reisch, Greg Burger (hidden) and County Administrator Kyle Oldre.

COVID-19 cases are on the rise in community

By Lori Sorenson

Public health officials are warning community members that COVID-19 case numbers are on the rise in Rock County, and that masking and vaccination are recommended.

The Luverne School District's Incident Command Team hasn't met since the School Board opted out of the mask mandate in response to parent and community pressure.

However, Jason Kloss of Southwest Health and Human Services is urging people to take precautions.

"We are seeing increasing spread in our communities," he said.

"This will certainly contribute to an increase in cases for schools and an increase in individuals that are close contacts and recommended to quarantine."

He said the 14-day case rate in Rock County is about 70, which means the local test positivity rate is high as well.

Sanford Luverne this week will offer two vaccine clinics offering the Pfizer booster shot and third dose for those who meet criteria to receive it.

The clinics will be Thursday, Oct. 7 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday, Oct. 8, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Appointments can be scheduled through Sanford Luverne Clinic, 507-283-4476.

Lewis Family Drug in Luverne is offering walk-in Pfizer shots from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Covid testing is available at Sanford Luverne.

Patients are told to call ahead, and if symptomatic a nurse will call for more information and instructions on whether to be seen.

If asymptomatic, people are instructed to wait five to seven days after exposure prior to getting a test.

All testing is done in the ambulance garage at the Sanford Luverne campus at 10 a.m. with 2 p.m. times as necessary.

This is not a rapid test, so it takes 24 to 48 hours for results.

WHO SHOULD GET A COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOT?

PFIZER VACCINE

People who should get a booster shot:

- ✓ People 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings.
- ✓ People aged 50-64 years with underlying medical conditions.

In addition, these people can also receive a booster shot:

- ✓ People aged 18-49 years with underlying medical conditions.
- ✓ People aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting (e.g. frontline medical workers, teachers, and first responders).

○ Federal health experts are determining when other groups will be due for boosters.



MODERNA VACCINE

○ Boosters have not been authorized yet. Reviews are underway by federal health experts.



JOHNSON & JOHNSON VACCINE

○ Boosters have not been authorized yet. Reviews are underway by federal health experts.



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SPRAYING NOTICE DENVER TOWNSHIP

Denver Township will be spraying ditches on or about October 15.

Anyone NOT wanting their ditch sprayed should call Kyle Hemme at 507-290-5053.

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H-BC begins closer look at school facilities

By Mavis Fodness

Hills-Beaver Creek School Board members recently signed an agreement with a construction management company to guide them through possible improvements to the district's facilities.

The pre-plan process from Preston Euerle of R.A. Morton & Associates of St. Cloud will be at no charge to the district.

"The fees for providing pre-referendum facility planning are 'at risk/no charge' until the referendum is successful or the board decides not to go to a referendum," Euerle wrote in the proposal.

"Upon a successful bond referendum, we would apply the base fee toward the project budget and invoice for the (pre-) referendum service."

Cost is \$10,000.

Any potential bond referendum vote would take place in 2022.

Meanwhile, Euerle will review the recently completed facility assessments of the elementary and high school buildings and the Hugo Goehle gymnasium.

He will develop a plan/budget to present to board members this fall.

\$7.5 million in facility upgrades identified

Late last year, H-BC school officials reviewed a list of recommended facility upgrades, completed by ICS Builds of Sioux Falls.

Nearly \$7.5 million worth of improvements are recommended over the next 10 years.

The firm assessed various components

inside and outside of the elementary school in Beaver Creek, the secondary school in Hills, the bus garages, the Hugo Goehle gymnasium and the former high school no longer in use.

School officials have identified the Top 10 projects that could be completed from 2022 to 2032.

Euerle will assist in identifying projects, costs and how the improvements can be funded. The district levies roughly \$150,000 annually for facility maintenance and upgrades.

The elementary school needs the most attention, according to the ICS Builds report.

The boiler system is inefficient and contributes to the district's high energy costs. At 24 years old, the boiler system is several years beyond the recommended median life of 15 years.

Improvements to the Goehle gymnasium were estimated at \$1 million.

Euerle: Community input a must

Community input is part of the district's plan, as discussed with Euerle at a recent meeting with the district's buildings and grounds committee.

"We want to study it first, then get the proposal out there and everyone will have their say," said board member Ethan Rozeboom.

A community building committee will be organized this fall to consider Euerle's recommendations and bring forward a possible bond referendum to the board next year.

Max levy accepted as H-BC School Board collects less tax money locally

Also adopts new two-year teacher contracts

By Mavis Fodness

Hills-Beaver Creek School District will collect less money from property taxes from district residents in 2022 after local school board members adopted the maximum levy amount allowed by the state at their Sept. 27 meeting.

Overall, the H-BC levy will drop 2.61 percent or \$35,726 in 2022 if board members accept the maximum levy amount in December.

Locally property owners will contribute \$1.33 million to the district's \$4.8 million 2021-22 budget.

Superintendent Todd Holthaus explained the decrease in the levy is due to the district's refinancing of debt, which saved \$9,919 in 2022.

The local levy in 2022 will contribute \$660,759 to the general fund, a decrease of \$26,650 or 3.88 percent. The community service fund will see a \$842 increase (2.56 percent) in 2022.

A public Truth in Taxation and budget hearing is scheduled for 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13.

Enrollment is down

Student enrollment is down at H-BC elementary and secondary schools for the 2021-22 school year.

Superintendent Holthaus said the decrease of 20 students from last year to 360 this school year was expected.

"We knew our numbers would be down because of the ins and outs," he said.

The district had 33 seniors graduate in the spring of 2021 and 19 kindergarten students started this fall.

Teachers' contracts signed

The Hills-Beaver Creek teachers union and the H-BC School Board recently signed a new two-year contract that increases the licensed staff salaries.

For 2021-22, teachers will receive an average increase of 3.5 percent or \$1,850. They will also receive an additional \$325 toward health insurance.

For the second year of the contract, 2022-2023, each teacher will receive a flat \$1,500 increase and another \$325 toward health insurance.

Board chairman and personnel committee members Arlyn Gehrke and Tami Rauk told board members that an additional personal day was added to the teachers' contracts.

Personal days increased from two per school year to three. If not used, personal days can also be rolled to the following school year or cashed in for \$175.

Rauk added the rollover of personal days is limited to four in one year.



Mavis Fodness photos/1007 80 Days LHS Play

Luverne High School students (from left) Brianna Kinsinger, Luke Thorson, Mia Wenzel and Chance Tunnissen practice the upcoming fall play, "Around the World in Eighty Days" Monday afternoon in the school's new performing arts center.

'Eighty days'/continued from page 1A

we're in the PAC, it's all new," Kinsinger said.

"Around the World in Eighty Days" by Mark Brown was chosen for its flexibility.

"Being a brand-new venue means learning all of its systems," Kinsinger said. "(It's) a show that lets you get as technical as you want with lights, sound and rigging — a great advantage while we're getting comfortable in a new home of LHS theater."

The play centers around Phileas Fogg (portrayed by senior Luke Thorson), a wealthy businessman, who agrees to a wager that places his fortune and his life on the line in a race around the world.

Fogg and his French servant named Passepartout (junior Parker Carbonneau) must circle the globe in an unheard-of 80 days while being chased by Detective Fix (senior Chance Tunnissen), who is convinced that Fogg has pulled off the bank robbery of the century and will stop at nothing to arrest him.

During the 80-day journey using trains, steamships and elephants, Fogg and Passepartout meet a variety of characters including:

- Aouda, portrayed by senior Mia Wenzel.
- Actor 1/young Parsi, junior Myles Trimble.
- James Foster/Mudge, freshman Bethany Behr.
- Andrew Stuart/Proctor, sophomore Alex Perkins.
- John Sullivan/Speedy senior Pierce Cunningham.



Over a game of cards, a bet is sealed where Phileas Fogg (far left, played by Luke Thorson) puts up his family's fortune that he can circumnavigate the world in 80 days, an unheard of feat. Taking the bet are (from left) John Sullivan (Pierce Cunningham), Andrew Stuart (Alex Perkins), and Gauthier

- Gauthier Ralph/Judge Obidiah, freshman Xavier McKenzie.
- Newspaper person, freshman Chris Bonilla.
- Actor 2/Reverend Wilson's servant, junior Ashlyn Johnson.
- Actor 3/Oysterspuff, senior Creedence Petroff.
- Actor 4/Bunsby, freshman Brianna Kinsinger.
- British consul/U.S. conductor, sophomore Joelia Lopez-Bomstad.
- Director of police/priest, junior Grace Ingebretsen.
- Sir Francis Cromarty/ship engineer, senior Griffen Jarchow.
- India conductor/train clerk, sophomore Hannah Vaudrin.
- Elephant owner/ship clerk,

sophomore Abby Boltjes.

Crew members include Zoey Berghorst, sound; stage manager Kaitlin Conger; Egypt Forrest, lights; and Gemma Nelson, promotion and marketing.

Kinsinger said he has a handful of students who do not want to perform on stage but want to be involved with the show.

"The PAC has excellent light, sound, video and rigging systems and the students are in on the ground floor as far as learning how to operate them safely and with great, effect," Kinsinger said.

Cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for students, and free to LHS students with activity passes.



Above left: Riding an elephant to the next stop in the trip around the world are Passepartout (Parker Carbonneau), Sir Francis Cromarty (Griffen Jarchow), Phileas Fogg (Luke Thorson) and Aouda (Mia Wenzel). Above right: At the bow of a steam ship, Aouda (left, portrayed by Mia Wenzel) and Phileas Fogg (Luke Thorson) discuss plans to get to Hong Kong from Calcutta. At the helm is the boat captain (Brianna Kinsinger).

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It's time to plan for 2022, with pencil on paper or with Siri on an iPhone

It's time to organize my Star Herald plans for 2022.



ON SECOND THOUGHT

By Lori Sorenson, editor

I know this because our month-at-a-glance, 14-month spiral-bound 2022 calendar planners were distributed this week at the office.

Did I prefer a teal- or raspberry-colored plastic cover? I didn't care. My planner is propped open on my desk so the cover is never visible.

"Pick one." I chose raspberry, but it looked more like cranberry. Not that I cared.

I'm caring less about annual planners as Siri is doing a better job of organizing my life.

"Siri, remind me of my City Council meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday." She replies, "Okay. I'll remind you."

She doesn't need to look up a phone number in a Rolodex, which is collecting dust next to my landline telephone.

"Siri, call the mayor." She calls him. "Siri, text Mavis." "What would like to say in your text?" I tell her. She reads it back. "Would you like me to send this?" I tell her to "send."

But Siri is only as good as her human, who sometimes doesn't specify a.m. or p.m. and sometimes doesn't enunciate well. "Call Matt S" often sounds like "Matus" (as in Todd Matus).

And I still supplement my digital planner with the paper and pencil one, if for no other reason than nostalgia.

In the front is a section, "This is the personal property of ..." with blanks to fill in a name, address, home phone and business phone (no cell phone).

The good student in me feels compelled to fill in these blanks to get credit for the assignment.

The cranberry planner has plain sheets of lined paper for "notes," and several pages to record contacts ... names, addresses, email addresses, websites and, of course, fax numbers.

There's a section to fill in my emergency contact and medical information, including my blood type. Because you never know when you'll have to present your cranberry planner in an emergency.

Of course, Siri has this all in my iPhone filed under ICE (in case of emergency).

The 2022 cranberry-colored planner also has metric conversions for distance, capacity, weight, area, volume and temperature.

Did you know that one liquid barrel is equal to 158.980 liters?

I didn't, but if I needed to know, I would ask Siri.

In defense of my cranberry planner, Siri doesn't smell like fresh ink and paper. And she doesn't require a No. 2 pencil sharpened with a 1950s wall-mounted sharpener and an eraser (because plans can change).

Old habits die hard. If only my paper cranberry planner would generate an alarm when it's time to go to an appointment or meet a special deadline.

Happy planning, dear readers. 2022 is just around the corner.

It's National Newspaper Week. What's in your news diet?

This week is National Newspaper Week and it's a good time to consider why the Star Herald is worth the price of a subscription.

•We are the only news outlet that covers your school boards, city councils and Rock County Board of Commissioners.

These elected officials, dear readers, are the ones who spend your tax dollars and take action on building projects, commercial development and other matters that could affect you. Protesting a project after the cement is poured is too late. Follow your local news to stay informed along the way.

•We are the only news outlet that publishes school honor rolls, weekly high school sports contests and student artistic and academic accomplishments.

We carry news about you that you can't find anywhere else. Why? Because it's our job.

Occasional social media posts about local happenings are entertaining and informative, but they can't be relied on for accuracy and consistency that professional local journalists are committed to providing.

Choose to get free "news" elsewhere? Good luck finding something substantial about

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

We are your newspaper. We are your newspeople. Rock County news is what we do. It's our job; the Star Herald isn't a side gig that we swing on a laptop between other work.

We record the news and capture the flavor and personality of your community in a way no other news or social media outlet does.

Just ask researchers at the Rock County History Center how important the local newspaper has been in recording the history of our local towns.

In honor of National Newspaper Week, we encourage our readers to become more mindful about their "information diet," which includes their local paper and legitimate state and national news outlets.

According to the Minnesota Newspaper Association, a lot of us are living on nutrition-free "news" that might satisfy our biases but it's not the balanced diet we need

participate in democracies.

Here are some ways MNA suggests we can recognize real news sites online:

•Do they sometimes make you a bit uncomfortable by raising doubts about what you thought to be true?

•Do they make it easy for you to reach a real human being if you have a question or a complaint?

•Do they correct mistakes? •Do they ask you to subscribe? Gathering facts costs money.

For Newspaper Week this week, we at the Star Herald are grateful for your readership, and we encourage you to enrich your information diet with other trusted news sources.

An investment in a free press supports our American democracy and is therefore worth the cost of a subscription.

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Still bringing communities together!



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

The real victory in couple's golf outing is getting together with friends

You may not have noticed it, but last week hell froze over, a cow jumped over the moon, and Mary and I won a golf tournament.

The chances of hell freezing over and a cow jumping over the moon are more probable than Mary and I taking home the championship trophy in a couples' golf tournament.

The tournament field is comprised of just four couples, and I believe this is the ninth year the four couples have gotten together for a mixed doubles scramble.



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

The group ages are about the same, ranging from 62 to 68. Our golfing skills range is a little farther apart. Some in the group are fair golfers, and others are ... let's just say, non-contenders.

Mary and I are the latter.

We have never really come close to winning the traveling trophy. That is, until this year. For whatever the reasons, the golf gods shined their ever-loving light

on us the day of the tournament.

The only way to explain Mary's 20-foot birdie putt on Hole 7 was divine intervention. Keep in mind it was Hole 7, and she still was asking me which club is the putter.

To say Mary dislikes golf would be an understatement. So, for her to join me on the golf cart tells you just how much she loves me.

I'll spare you the hole-by-hole account of our glorious triumphant victory, but I will tell you we won by four strokes. Mary

and I carded a 38 on the nine-hole course.

All kidding aside, we may have won our little four couples golf outing, but the real victory is that we gathered for the outing at all.

We're four couples who have been friends for years and now live hours apart, but we don't let that stop us from finding a weekend we can all get together for a little golf, catching up with each other's lives.

And this year, Mary and I get to put our names on the traveling trophy.

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Sept. 24
 •Complainant wished to report suspicious activity.
 •Property was found at location on 161st Street, Luverne.
 •Bike was found at location on N. Kniss Avenue.
 •A driving complaint was filed northbound on Highway 75, near Sanford.
 •A burglary was reported on E. Lincoln Street.
Sept. 25
 •Complainant on Fasset Drive reported suspicious activity.
 •A parking issue was reported at location on N. Kniss Avenue.
 •A parking issue was reported on E. Main Street.
 •Complainant in Savannah, Georgia, reported a missing person was found.
 •Debris was in the roadway at location on S. Kniss Avenue.
 •Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported strange lights.
Sept. 26
 •Complainant on W. Mead Court reported a stolen vehicle.
 •Property was found in Luverne.
 •Complainant south of Interstate 90, east of County Road 3, reported a subject threatened him and tried to fistfight him.
 •Complainant on W. Warren Street and Sunshine Avenue reported an abandoned vehicle.
 •Lyon County reported a trespasser or possible burglary near the Iowa State line on 11th Street.
 •Complainant on S. Walnut Avenue, Luverne, reported a suspicious noise.
Sept. 27
 •Complainant on 90th Avenue, Steen, requested VIN verification for sale of vehicle.
 •Complainant on 100th Avenue, Luverne, reported subject with a warrant.
 •Complainant on S. Water Avenue, Hills, requested to speak to a deputy about neighborhood dispute/property damage.
Sept. 28
 •A power outage was reported.
 •Complainant on U.S. Highway 75 and County Road 7, Hardwick, reported tractors pulling equipment with no flashers on.
 •A citizen's complaint was filed on Barck Avenue and Cedar Street.
 •Complainant on Walnut Avenue reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on S.

Kniss Avenue had questions about trespassing.
 •Complainant on 170th Avenue, Ellsworth, reported a fire at location.
 •Complainant on Highway 75, mile marker 13, Luverne, reported debris on the road.
 •Complainant on S. Church Avenue, Hills, reported theft.
Sept. 29
 •Trespassing issue was reported on N. Kniss Avenue.
 •Complainant on E. Veterans Drive reported an abandoned vehicle.
 •Complainant on W. Mead Court reported a scam call.
 •Assistance from another department was conducted on Highway 75, south of Luverne.
Sept. 30
 •Complainant on County Road 4, westbound from Magnolia, reported vehicle for driving conduct.
 •Assistance from another department was conducted on W. Main Street.
 •Complainant on S. Third Street, Beaver Creek, reported a death.
 •Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 19, Luverne, reported a hazard.
 •Complainant in an unknown location reported theft.
 •Complainant on S. Church Avenue, Hills, reported a suspicious item on property.
 •Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.
Oct. 1
 •Complainant on corner of Main Street and S. West Park Street reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported a possible missing person.
 •Complainant reported a harassing communication.
 •Complainant on Edgehill Street reported dumped trash at location.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported subject will not delete picture of her.
 In addition, officers responded to 4 motor vehicle accidents, 1 escort, 15 ambulance runs, 2 paper services, 6 animal complaints, 1 fingerprint request, 6 burn permits, 2 vehicle impounds, 2 background checks, 4 alarms, 5 purchase and carry permits, 5 traffic stops, 8 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 1 welfare check and 1 follow-up.



MIXED USE - ILLUSTRATIVE PERSPECTIVE



27 UNIT MULTI FAMILY - ILLUSTRATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Construction will use "Extreme Structural Insulated Panels," high performance heat pumps, in-floor heat, LED lighting that qualifies for Energy Star, and the Net Zero Ready Program. The buildings will have one- and two-bedroom units on three floors with elevators and off-street parking. Plans still call for a mixed-use retail and residential property.

Towne Square apartments /continued from page 1B

"I think both Alvin and I came to Luverne at the behest of Don Jahnke, and I would be remiss if I didn't say that he's a great ambassador for your town," Smith told the council at its Sept. 28 meeting. "He told me, 'Aaron, I think what you're doing ... the kind of town that you want to invest in, is where I live.'" Smith said they visited Luverne this summer and met with local leaders. "We were so impressed with the community, with what you're doing in the town," Smith said. "It's the kind of investment that we believe in. We want to invest in smaller towns that are committed to growing and have beautiful downtowns. And, boy. Luverne just fit the bill." Johnson and his colleagues have been working with Luverne leaders for the past 18 months. "All of the city staff has been great to work with," he said Tuesday via Zoom. "It is an honor to work with Aaron and Marc on this project. ... I think we're going to make all you guys really, really proud of the product that's going to be delivered." Mayor Pat Baustian acknowledged the long timeline and praised

city staff and investors for persevering. "It's going to be a great project to provide housing in our community," he said. "Everybody came together to make it happen, and we appreciate your investment in our community." The three investors will sign the new guaranty agreement for the \$550,000 loan from the city deferred for 10 years at 2 percent interest. They'll also abide by the terms of the federal \$680,000 workforce housing grant that Luverne obtained earlier. All terms and conditions of the previous agreements are included in the new updated agreements. The two apartments will be constructed in the TIF District and the land will be conveyed for \$1. The site development provided by the city includes paving the parking areas, in addition to costs already incurred in acquiring the property, demolishing the structures and installing utilities. Future property tax payments will provide revenue to repay the loan for all of the improvements that have been made.

Additional land in TIF District No. 23 along Highway 75 is also available for development. First Farmers & Merchants Bank in LeSueur, is providing the financing for this project and closed on the loan on Sept. 30. The bank loan, owner equity, and a federal PACE loan will provide the financing for the construction of the two apartment buildings. PACE (property assessed clean energy) loans finance energy-efficient and renewable energy projects on private property. Construction will use "Extreme Structural Insulated Panels," high performance heat pumps, in-floor heat, LED lighting that qualifies for Energy Star, and the Net Zero Ready Program. The two buildings will have one- and two-bedroom units on three floors with elevators and off-street parking. Plans still call for a mixed-use retail and residential property to front Highway 75. Plans were delayed in 2019 when the area qualified for federal Opportunity Zone investments; however, parameters of the incentive didn't meet what investors were looking for and the project proceeded without it.

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DATES AND TIMES
 Friday, Oct. 8 • 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Friday, Oct. 15 • Noon-4:30 p.m.
 Friday, Oct. 22 • 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Friday, Oct. 29 • 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

LOCATION
 Sanford Luverne Clinic
 1601 Sioux Valley Dr.

Appointments highly encouraged. Walk ins welcome. Masks required.

Call (507) 283-4476 to schedule your appointment.

SANFORD HEALTH



Mavis Fodness photos/1007 CLIMB Theatre

Luverne Elementary third- through fifth-graders watch the CLIMB Theatre production of "Bullseye," which shows students what bullying looks like and how they can stop bullying acts. **Below right:** Alberto the bull (portrayed by CLIMB Theatre actor-educator Noah Hynick) assumes a yoga pose as he ignores the taunts from fellow actor-educator Beth Marquez Barreto who tries to chase the bull back to the arena to face the older, deadlier bullfighter. **Bottom:** Noah Hynick, as Alberto the Fighting Bull, waves two stools to show how fierce he is — and before he escapes and hides in the park.

Theater presentations encourage students to express feelings, how to stop bullying

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne Elementary School students learned about "Angry Lizards" and "Bullseye" during a daylong CLIMB Theater presentation Sept. 29.

Six actor-educators from Inver Grove Heights performed plays in the performing arts center and met with each of the 25 classrooms to discuss character.

The kindergarten through second-graders watched "Angry Lizards," which focused on self-control.

"I want the students to learn that it is OK to have feelings," said school

counselor Marie Atkinson-Smeins. "It is important to use self-control to express feelings in a positive way that doesn't hurt yourself, others and things."

The "Angry Lizards" featured Dr. Kramer who is tired of being called a mad scientist. He designs an experiment to teach people all about emotions using dinosaurs.

Older elementary students learned about "Bullseye," a brave bull who sneaks away from the arena and hides in a nearby park.

The youngest sibling of a bullfighter stumbles across Alberto, and together they define

bullying and resiliency.

"I wanted the children to learn what bullying is," Atkinson-Smeins said.

"I also wanted the children to learn how to stand up to bullying and that bystanders have a lot of power to take action."

The new daylong format with six actors for the CLIMB productions and follow-up lessons replaced the previous weeklong format with two actor-educators.

Last year, due to the pandemic, CLIMB Theater conducted virtual presentations for the K-5 students.

"The students love the



interactive presentations," Atkinson-Smeins said. "We have had CLIMB Theatre

come to our school for many years — they always do a great job."



REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2011)

•Judge Timothy Connell wears a black robe over a white collar, but he said ruling from the bench is rarely as simple as black and white.

"It's not a one-size-fits-all sort of thing that comes with experience."

After 35 years of practicing law, Connell has acquired a voice of experience.

He'll retire next week after 24 years as Rock County's Fifth Judicial judge, but his roots in Luverne go deeper than that.

25 years ago (1996)

•New homes are going up. Luverne contractor Okie Honken started work Friday on the first house planned for the Sybesma Subdivision, located on the west side of Luverne. He has signed an agreement with the Luverne Economic Development Authority to build three homes on the lots before Dec. 31, 1998.

Two other area contractors, Bruce Dysthe and Darrel Van Aartsen have also each committed to build houses on three lots in the area. If grants are awarded, four additional lots are spoken for, and another was sold Monday.

Of the 35 lots available in the area, 14 were spoken for, as of Tuesday.

50 years ago (1971)

•A small "twister" is reported to have been the cause of between \$500-1,000 damage on the north edge of Luverne last Thursday evening.

A small hog confinement area owned jointly by Bob Juhl

and George Edmonds received considerable damage between 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. during a period of wind and rain last Thursday evening.

Most of the damage was to an open barn-type building used to house livestock.

Edmonds had been working close to the vicinity at the time of the "touchdown." He had heard a strange noise, but never suspected anything until he came upon the damaged area.

The location of the damaged property is just south of the Catholic Cemetery.

75 years ago (1946)

•The Frederick Kahl estate farm in Springwater township, sold at auction Friday, brought \$151.50 per acre. Successful bidder was Edwin Swanson, Springwater township farmer. Despite the rainy weather, about 150 persons were present and there were a number of bidders. Opening bid was \$125 per acre.

100 years ago (1921)

•At the Methodist Episcopal conference held at Waseca last week, Rev. H. Hugh Gower, of this city, was assigned to the M. E. church of Tracy. He and his family expect to leave next week for their new home, and Rev. Gower will deliver his farewell sermon next Sunday.

Mr. Gower has been pastor of the Luverne church for the last three years, and from the outset has taken an active interest in public affairs, and has been prominently identified with practically all reform movements. He is one of the city's most energetic opponents of Sunday amusements.

1923: Beaver Creek Township tops in alfalfa production

The following appeared in *The Rock County Herald* on April 6, 1923.

Beaver Creek Leads in Alfalfa Acreage

County Agent Roske Finds That Acreage in County is 1560 Acres, With 350 Acres in Beaver Creek

"Rock county doubled its acreage in alfalfa the last two years. In 1920 there were but 850 acres in the county. In 1922 there were 1560 acres in the county," contends county agent Roske.

"The largest acreage of alfalfa is in the southwest part of the county. Beaver Creek leads in this with 350 acres; Martin township follows with 255 acres and Springwater with 181 acres; Luverne township also has 181 acres and Clinton township has 160 acres. It is expected that this average will be doubled again

CELEBRATIONS

Card Shower

Robert and Sharon Zinnel are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary Friday, Oct. 8. Greetings may be sent to them at 1608 Blue Ridge Drive, Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Monday, Oct. 11: Sloppy Joe on a bun, broccoli salad, cinnamon applesauce, dessert.

Tuesday, Oct. 12: Ham, au gratin potatoes, peas, dinner roll, dessert.

Wednesday, Oct. 13: Chef's choice, vegetable, bread, fruit, dessert.

Thursday, Oct. 14: Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, California Normandy blend, bread, dessert.

Half-Price Day by anonymous sponsor.

Friday, Oct. 15: Chicken alfredo and fettuccine pasta, mixed vegetables, mandarin oranges, frosted 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.

LIBRARY

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

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

Intro to Seed Saving will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, at the library.

Scandinavian Songs with Ross Sutter will be 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 18, at the library.



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

by the end of this year.

"Farmers have left orders at the Farm Bureau office for 3000 pounds of this seed already this spring. This seed is being secured from farmers in other parts of the county that have state inspected fields and the seed is known

Bits, go to page 7A

OBITUARIES

James Klein

James A. Klein, 94, Luverne, died Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021, at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

A funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, at the American Reformed Church in Luverne. Burial with military honors will follow at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

James Klein was born on July 10, 1927, to Arthur and Susie (Altena) Klein in Sioux County, Iowa. He spent his childhood on the family farm and attended Sioux County country school through the eighth grade. After school, Jim helped his dad on the farm. He loved to farm and that passion never waned.

On Nov. 27, 1945, James enlisted in the United States Army. He served his country, ranked as corporal, until his honorable discharge on Feb. 15, 1947.

Jim married Geraldine



Smits on Dec. 8, 1950, in Maurice, Iowa. The couple made their home on the farm in Springwater Township in Rock County. While remaining active in farming, Jim started Klein Tractor Salvage in Pipestone in 1965. Jim worked hard at his business and farming and took pride in a job well done. He continued to farm and work at the store until his formal retirement in 1993.

Geraldine preceded him in death on Sept. 22, 1998. In January 2020 Jim became a resident at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

Jim was a member of the American Reformed Church in Luverne. He enjoyed traveling with Geraldine in their motor home, especially their winters spent in Texas. He enjoyed coffee with his "education class" and John Deere tractors.

He loved his time spent with family, and he will be

remembered for his honesty and hard work ethic as well as being a sweet man who enjoyed telling stories.

He is survived by his children, Stanley (Sandra "Cookie") Klein of Wauke, Iowa, Glenda (Mark) Schneekloth of Luverne, and Donna Klein of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; four grandchildren, Jared Scheekloth, Melissa (Rick) Westberg, Amy (Shane) Wright and Ann (Nick) Jaques; and three great-grandchildren, Sommer Schneekloth, Bryson Wright and Garrett Wright; and a brother, Adrian Klein of Pipestone.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Geraldine; his parents; and his siblings and their spouses, Clarence (Bertha) Klein, Alice (Fred) Langstraat and Sam (Dorothy) Klein; and sister-in-law Albertha Klein.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquist-funeral.com.

(1007 F)

Dennis Smook

Dennis Smook, 67, Luverne, died Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021, at the Sanford Hospice Cottage in Luverne.

A memorial service was Friday, Oct. 8, at the Magnolia United Methodist Church in Magnolia.

Dennis Smook was born March 16, 1954, to Harold and Marjorie (Donth) Smook in Luverne. He graduated from Magnolia High School in 1972.

He married Arlene McCollum on June 12, 1979. Dennis has been an over-the-road trucker for his entire working career. Through the years Arlene was his co-pilot on trucking adventures and



in their lives. He always kept the truck and his vehicles at home clean and in top-top shape.

In his free time, he enjoyed collecting guns, tools (at least four of every kind), and spending time with his family.

He was very self-sufficient and was a whiz in the kitchen. He was known as dependable and quick with a sarcastic quip.

He is survived by his wife, Arlene, of Luverne; a son, Chris (Lexy) Smook of Hills; three daughters, Sarah (Andy) Paul of Eagan,

Kelli (Zach) Swenson of Sherman, South Dakota, and Kacee (Joey) Knap of Luverne; grandchildren Charlee, Otto, Madi, Jason, Ford, and Cole; brothers Curtis (Mary) Smook of Magnolia, Randy (Vicky) Smook of rural Kenneth, and Kevin Smook of Magnolia; sister Jenalee (Allen) Klein of Fort Myers, Florida; and many nieces, nephews, and other extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Myron Smook.

Arrangements were provided by George Boom Funeral Home of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, www.georgeboom.com.

(1007 F)

James Johannsen

James John "Jimmy Jo" Johannsen, 78, Luverne, died Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021, at the Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

A funeral service was Monday, Sept. 27, at First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. Burial followed in Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

James "Jimmy Jo" Johannsen was born on May 2, 1943, to Clarence and Lillian (Remme) Johannsen in Luverne. He was baptized and received his confirmation at Zion Lutheran Church in Hardwick. Jim attended school in Hardwick through the eighth grade and then Luverne High School, graduating in 1961. He continued his education at Worthington Technical School in Worthington, where he played college football for a year until a knee injury forced him out of the game.

Jim bought his first truck



in 1962 and started his own trucking business. In 1964 he was hired as a deputy with the local law enforcement, a position he held until 1977.

On Oct. 3, 1965, Jim was united in marriage to Bonita Smith at the First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. In 1998 he began delivering fire trucks full time for Luverne Truck. Bonnie preceded him in death on Jan. 9, 2003, following a battle with breast cancer. Jim continued to reside at their home on Elm Street. Jim suffered a stroke in 2012 and was forced to retire. In 2017 he moved into the Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

Jim joined the Luverne Fire Department in 1973, and from 1981 to 1997 he served as the fire chief. He was an active member of the Minnesota Fire Chief Association. In 1996 he was named the "Friend of Education."

Jim loved fishing, hunting, and trapping his entire life. He also liked to travel, drink coffee with the guys, brew his own beer and cook. He will be remembered for striking up a conversation with anyone who crossed his path.

Jim is survived by his two children, Mark (Karie) Johannsen of Parker, Colorado, and Crystal (Cory) Tiesler of Luverne; four grandchildren, Tannin Johannsen and Madison Johannsen; siblings Daryle (Esther) Schuett of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and David (Dianne) Schuett of Des Moines, Iowa; and special friend Kathy Siebenahler of Luverne.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bonnie Johannsen; his parents; and sisters Beverly Schmuck and Ivalene Schuett.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquist-funeral.com.

(1007 F)

STUDENT NEWS

Luverne senior named 'commended student'

Burke Johnson, a senior at Luverne High School, was named a "Commended Student" for the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program.

LHS Principal Ryan Johnson presented Johnson with a Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the annual scholarship program.

Johnson was one of 50,000 high school students across the U.S. who scored high on the 2020 preliminary scholastic aptitude test PSAT/National Merit



Scholarship Qualifying Test taken as high school juniors.

According to the NMSC press release, "Those being named Commended Students

have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success. These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in the academic development."

The honor is based on the index scores in the reading, writing and language, and math tests.

Of the 50,000 students recognized by NMSC, about 34,000 students are named "Commended Students," while the other 16,000 move on to the semi-final and final competition to be named Merit Scholarship winners.

Johnson is the son of Jim and Heather Johnson of Luverne.

FFA NEWS

Local students participate in FFA Greenhand, officer activities

The Luverne-Adrian FFA Chapter participated in the Region 6 FFA Greenhand and Chapter Officer Day at Windom on Sept. 29.

First-year members, known as Greenhands, participated in mini-contests, learned about FFA and listened to messages from state FFA officers and Region 6 FFA officers.

Greenhands who attended include Jaden Reisch, Maren Stegenga, Landon Ahrendt, Layke

Miller, Tucker Remme, Jesse Aning, Andrea Luitjens, Emma Deutsch and Layne Saker

Chapter officers set goals and learned how to map out their program of activities for this year.

Officers attending were sentinel A.J. Ossefoort, reporter Morgan Bonnett, treasurer Morgan Ahrendt, secretary Macie Swenson, vice-president Lacey Saker, and president J.T. Remme.

Bits/continued from page 6A

to be pure as to the particular kind, either grim or South Dakota, No. 12.

"We would like very much to keep a check on the alfalfa planted this year so as to determine the increase in the county. We know that five acres of good alfalfa is the most valuable five acres in crop that can be planted. Five acres of alfalfa will take care of 100 swine from May

through the season. If five acres will take care of 100 to 150 swine one can readily figure up what that five acres is worth by comparing it to the amount of feed necessary to grow the amount of swine out during the same period.

"Besides the feed item, the condition of hogs that are grown on alfalfa should never be lost sight of. It produces the bone and stretch and that

thrifty condition of swine that the farmer most desires when he places his swine in the feed lot in the fall."

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.

DEATH NOTICE

Alison Baker

Alison L. Baker was born Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021, to Jesse and Alissa Baker of Hardwick at the Avera-McKenna Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and then received into the open arms of Jesus a short time later.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, at Zion Lutheran Church in Hardwick. A funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, at St. John

Lutheran Church in Luverne. Burial will be Friday, Oct. 8, at St. John Lutheran - Twin Lakes Cemetery near Nowthen, Minnesota.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred. Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. The service will be live-streamed at www.hartquistfuneral.com

(1007 DN)

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Bike path counts on Luverne Loop /continued from page 1A

126 on Sunday, July 18, 2021.

In 2018 the same bicycle and pedestrian counter was installed on the Loop near the same location during a similar date range.

Total bike and pedestrian traffic on the trail during this period in 2018 was 1,294, with a peak of 103.

The data shows 312 more people used the trail in 2021 than in 2018 for the time periods, which indicates an increase of 24 percent.

"Weather can play a role when collecting data," Sammons said at the Sept. 13 meeting.

"For example, if there hadn't been four days with air temperatures of 90 degrees or higher (with a peak high of 104 degrees on July 28) in 2021, trail use during this period in 2021 may have been even higher."

The highest temperature in 2018 was 88 degrees on Aug. 3.

"This report is informative regarding use of the trail and provides valuable data as we plan and evaluate future trail improvements and funding opportunities," Sammons said.

"This data also supports the efforts made to continue developing the trail system in Luverne and surrounding areas."

She said she'll sign up again for the MnDOT counter after the next phase of the Loop is completed in 2022.

That portion covers the southeast part of the city through the river ground area south of the city park continuing south and west toward Hatting Street where it will connect with the existing Loop path.

"I would say 2023 will be our first year of a full trail experience, so that's when I'd like to get the counter again to



probably put on that south end where people are exclusively using the Loop for that trail experience," Sammons said.

"Sometimes on the north side they might just circle their neighborhood or circle the area by the hospital or residential area. So my goal is for 2023 to have a counter on the

south end, because those people will be exclusively trail riders and walkers."

She shared information about Luverne's E-bike rentals from the Trailhead location at East Main Street and Blue Mound Avenue.

In June 2021 there were 122 rentals, in July there were 160 rentals and in August there were 144

rentals.

GPS tracking of the E-bikes shows that most riders are taking them up to the Blue Mounds State Park and then all the way around the Loop.

"Almost every mapped rental is the Loop, out to the State Park or both," Sammons said.

The Roll On Luverne

bike loan program also allows people to borrow traditional bikes for up to 24 hours to go biking on the Luverne Loop.

There are eight adult bikes, two adult trikes and four youth coaster bikes available for checkout day or night at the Grandstay Hotel & Suites front desk.

Commodity loans available to producers

Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) are available to help producers through periods of low market prices.

MALs and LDPs provide financing and marketing assistance for wheat, feed grains, soybeans and other oilseeds, pulse crops, rice, peanuts, cotton, wool and honey.

FSA is now accepting requests for MALs and LDPs for all eligible commodities after harvest.

MALs provide interim financing and allow producers to delay the sale of the commodity until more favorable market conditions occur. A producer who is eligible to obtain a loan, but agrees to forgo the loan, may obtain an LDP. Call 507-283-2369 for info.

Harvest / from page 1A

likely that corn drying costs in many areas will be greatly reduced in 2021.

It is too early to project 2021 corn yields across the Midwest, however, early indications are that corn yields in many areas will be even more variable than the soybean yields.

In portions of the upper Midwest that had timely and adequate rainfall during the growing season, 2021 corn yields may end up average or above average. However, in western Minnesota corn yields will be well below APH yields due the drought conditions this past Summer.

Based on the Sept. 10 USDA Crop Report, Minnesota's 2021 average corn yield was estimated at 174 bushels per acre, which is well below the record state-wide average corn yield of 194 bushels per acre in 2017.

Zion Lutheran Church's Fall Festival
Soup and Sandwich Supper
Hardwick Legion Hall
 Due to construction in the Church basement
SUNDAY OCTOBER 10
5 - 7 P.M.
 serving homemade soups - cheesy baked potato • chili chicken wild rice ham sandwiches & pies, desserts
 Free will offering to benefit local and regional missions - focus on Rock County Food Shelf
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 Please Help • Sunday, October 10th
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This will help us respect social distancing and keep everyone safe!
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Thank you in advance for your help!
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"Grain Cars in a Row" by Clara Sandager

CVB announces first half of 2021 photo contest winners

The Luverne Chamber and Convention and Visitors Bureau recently announced the winners of the first half of the 2021 CVB Photo Contest.

"The CVB judge had a very difficult time determining the winners, because there were so many great entries," said Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere.

"Thanks to everyone for participating."

All photos not selected as first half winners are eligible for the second part of the contest which is judged in early October.

Call 507-283-4061 with questions, or visit luvernechamber.com.

Following are the first half of 2021 photo contest winners:

LANDSCAPE-ADULT:

- "Grape Clouds," by Kelly Doyle
- "Twilight at the Creek," by Jim Klosterbuer
- "Prairie Smoke 1," by Paige Adams

LANDSCAPE-YOUTH

- "Grain Cars in a Row," by Clara Sandager
- "Railroad Grade North," by Clara Sandager
- "Wind Turbine," by Clara Sandager

PEOPLE -ADULT

- "On Golden Pond," by Canaan Petersen
- "Take me to the Mound," by Jayda Walgrave
- "Taking Flight," by Canaan Petersen

PEOPLE-YOUTH

- "Heading to Fish," by Teddy Petersen
- "Framed," by Teddy Petersen

"Grape Clouds" by Kelly Doyle



"On Golden Pond" by Canaan Petersen



"Heading to Fish" by Teddy Petersen



"Twilight at the Creek" by Jim Klosterbuer

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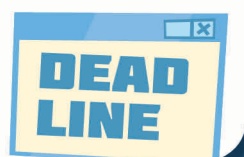
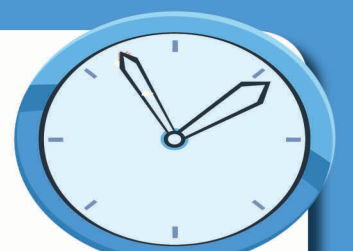


WE HAVE DEADLINES

Our deadlines for the Announcer and Star Herald are as follows. We appreciate your cooperation in getting us any advertising or legals in a timely manner. Thank you!

ANNOUNCER
DEADLINE FOR
DISPLAY ADS AND CLASSIFIEDS
THURSDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

STAR HERALD
DEADLINE FOR
DISPLAY ADS, CLASSIFIEDS AND LEGALS
MONDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.



LHS cross country celebrates stellar week on the road

By Sara Schmuck
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals cross country team traveled to St. James and Willmar last week to compete against a range of schools across the region.

Coach Pete Janiszewski said he's been pleased with his runners' progress.

"The kids are improving and coming into their own heading into the final few meets of the season," he said. "They performed well in both meets."

St. James Invitational

The Cardinals went to St. James Tuesday, Sept. 28, for the sixth meet of the year and came home with team titles for both the boys' and girls' varsity teams.

Luverne also had two individual varsity champions in Camden Janiszewski and Tenley Nelson as well as champion junior high girl Khloe Visker and junior high boy Marcus Papik.

Girls: Nelson finished first in varsity girls with a 5k time of 19:25.42 and Jenna DeBates came in third with a time of

"The kids are improving and coming into their own heading into the final few meets of the season. They performed well in both meets."

— Coach Pete Janiszewski

19:42.75.

Kayla Bloemendaal finished sixth with a time of 21:30.67 and Grace Ingebretson finished seventh with a time of 21:39.78.

Other girls varsity times were: Kianna Winter, 23:15.15; Ella Schmuck, 23:23.64; Tiana Lais, 23:25.44; Brynn Boyenga, 26:22.79; Andrea Luitjens, 30:30.04.

Boys: Camden Janiszewski placed first with a time of 17:26.71. Owen

Cross country/See page 2B



Samantha McGaffee photo/1007 football HBC

Andrew Harris tries to pull back the Jaguar running back while waiting for help from the other Patriot defensive players.

Renville hands H-BC first football loss of season

By Dan Ellingson,
For the Star Herald

The 4-0 Hills-Beaver Creek football team came up against a very physical 2-2 Renville County West squad on Friday night in Hills. The Patriots were not able to continue their streak as the Jaguars handed the home team its first loss of the season by a score of 18-12.

After exchanging three and outs, the Jaguars scored first with a five-yard touchdown run. The two-point

conversion run failed and RCW held an early 6-0 advantage.

However, the second quarter was all Patriots as the home team scored 12 points and gave up zero.

The first score came on a six-yard run by Cole Baker. The touchdown was set up by a 29-yard completion from Oliver Deelstra to Baker down to the six-yard line. The two-point pass attempt fell incomplete and the score was locked at six.

The next Jaguar possession saw Deelstra intercept a Jaguar pass at the Jaguar 45-yard line.

H-BC put together a five-play drive that culminated with a 6-yard touchdown run by Baker. The conversion pass was incomplete, but the Patriots held a 12-6 second quarter lead.

Later during the second quarter, the Patriots were able to drive to

Patriots football/See page 3B

Cardinals take down Trojans in five sets

By Reva Sehr
For the Star Herald

The Luverne volleyball team took on Worthington at home Tuesday, Sept. 28, with a boisterous crowd of fans, young and old, from both sides of the net. The energy seemed to magnify with each game of the five-game battle, with Luverne emerging as the victor at 3-2.

Luverne dominated Game 1 of the match establishing a five-point lead with Elise Ferrell delivering a couple of ace serves and her teammates, Trista Baustian and Kamryn Van Batavia, delivering set assists and kills.

Worthington called a time-out to slow Luverne's momentum, but Van Batavia delivered a surprising tap over the net to put another point on the board after the break.

The Cardinals continued their run with Baustian assisting Christina Wagner for a kill, and Macy Stratton



images by CD/1007 Luverne volleyball wagner

Christina Wagner delivers a hit during the Tuesday, Sept. 28, home match against Worthington. The Cardinals won the game 3-2 in five hard-fought sets.

executing a dig to Baustian who assisted Morgan Ahrendt on a kill.

Luverne further divided the point spread with a series of textbook volleyball plays: Anja

Jarchow passed to Reghan Bork who assisted Ferrell on one of her powerful kills. Then, Wagner and Ferrell executed a block to put Luverne up by eight.

Ferrell dug up a pass

to Baustian who put it over the net. Baustian, back at work, passed to Bork who set for Macy Stratton's back row attack,

LHS volleyball/See 2B

Luverne football team crushes Worthington

By John Sichelmer
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals football team extended its winning streak to three games after defeating the Worthington Trojans Friday night in Worthington.

Luverne dominated the Trojans on both sides of the ball in the first half, taking a 23-0 lead into halftime.

The Cardinals were able to tack on one more touchdown in the second half and hold the Trojans scoreless as they cruised to a 29-0 victory.

Luverne coach Todd Oye said he was impressed with his team's defense. "Our defense has improved each week," he said. "And because of that we were able to earn the shutout tonight."

The Cardinal defense set the tone in the game's first possession, and Luverne never looked back.

Facing a fourth and 19 from their own 37-yard

"This was a good team win against a division and section opponent. This puts us at 2-0 in the division and the section."

— Coach Todd Oye

line, the Trojans lined up to punt, but the snap flew over the head of the Worthington kicker who fell on the ball at the four-yard line where Luverne took over on downs.

It took the Cardinals only two plays to get in the end zone from there. After a short run on first down, Luverne senior Braydon Ripka ran through the Trojan defense for a three-yard touchdown score.

Cardinals football/See 2B

Girls tennis enters section playoff action

The Luverne Cardinals girls tennis team started Section 3A tournament action on Monday, Oct. 4, with a 7-0 victory over Yellow Medicine East at home.

Luverne earned the No. 1 seed in Section 3A, and will travel to Gustavas Adolphus College in St. Peter on Wednesday, Oct. 6, for the semifinals and finals.

In the semifinals, the Cardinals will face Benson/KMS Coop at 9 a.m.

The winner of that match will meet the winner of MACA/WCA and Montevideo in the section finals.

The finals are scheduled to start at approximately 1 p.m. on Wednesday.

Luverne's season tennis record stands at eight wins and six losses on the season.



images by CD/1007 Luverne tennis

Luverne's Jacey Smith returns a serve during Monday's opening Section 3A game in Luverne.

Snare breakaways required for trappers

Trappers who use snares are reminded that snares capable of taking a wild animal must include a breakaway device that causes the snare loop to disassemble at 350 pounds of pull as measured by a static load test.

This applies to all snares, except those set under the ice. Devices that cause the snare loop to disassemble at less than 350 pounds also meet this requirement.

This prevents the accidental capture of large mammals, while continuing to allow the use of snares statewide.

Breakaway devices allow large, non-target mammals such as adult deer to escape when the snare disassembles under high tension.

Smaller target animals such as coyotes, bobcats, and foxes are not able to break the snare by pulling.



images by CD/1007 luverne volleyball ahrendt

Morgan Ahrendt battles at the net during the Sept. 28 home match against Worthington.

Cardinals volleyball/continued from page 1B

and Luverne was up by 10. Luverne went on to win Game 1 by a score of 25-13.

Worthington woke up for Game 2 with a quick five-point lead. Luverne then rattled the Trojans with a blow by Stratton, Bork and Ferrell and then Stratton, Bork and Wagner for successive kills.

Bork then assisted Baustian on a kill to bring Luverne within two points.

A series of errors by both teams and a play by Wagner to Ferrell to Ahrendt for the kill tied the teams.

Worthington put up some excellent blocks and delivered wicked kills to keep the Cardinals at bay. Worthington won Game 2 by 20-25.

Both teams were fired up for Game 3. Luverne

took the lead with a couple of plays led by Stratton executing digs to the setters, Baustian and Bork, to aid Ferrell and Baustian, respectively, to score.

Worthington caught up and took the lead by six points. Luverne slowly got some momentum back when Wagner and Baustian went up for a block on defense, and later, the duo paired up on offense for a point.

Then, Stratton delivered a few ace serves to put Luverne even with Worthington. After that, it was oscillating points until the score was tied at 24.

Needing two points to win, Ferrell sent a ball over the net that Worthington couldn't return, and she delivered a light serve that the Trojans sent out of bounds. Luverne won Game

3 at 26-24.

Game 4 proved to be no less exciting.

Luverne started with the first point on the board but slipped behind Worthington on a series of Cardinal errors.

Luverne battled back with a win in Game 5, 15-12 and won the match.

The Cardinals were scheduled to meet Jackson on the road Tuesday and Martin County West at home Thursday this week.

Stat Highlights

Team serving percentage was 97% (103-106)
 Serves: Christina Wagner 21/21 with 2 aces; Macy Stratton 22/22 with 2 aces
 Set assists: Reghan Bork 23; Trista Baustian 17
 Blocks: Morgan Ahrendt 2 solos & 4 assists; Elise Ferrell 2 solos & 6 assists
 Attacks: Elise Ferrell 15; Kamryn Van Batavia 11

Cardinals take the Saints in three spirited games

By Reva Sehr
 For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals earned another volleyball win at St. James Thursday night, Sept. 30, against the Saints.

Luverne started slow against St. James, allowing the Saints to take the lead, but not for long.

Kamryn Van Batavia tied the game at 5 with a kill, and after that, the game was dominated by the Cardinals. Elise Ferrell surprised the Saints with a light serve over the net to put Luverne up by three.

Later, Macy Stratton executed a dig to Trista Baustian who set for a Ferrell kill, which increased the lead by six. Christina Wagner put a powerful attack through the Saints block to put Luverne up by 10. Shortly thereafter, Wagner delivered a serve just on the inside edge of the court to win Game 1 25-14.

Luverne carried that momentum into Game 2.

Reghan Bork started with an ace serve and then set to Anja Jarchow who put it over for the point. Macy Stratton served a run of points, which included two aces, to put Luverne up by six.

Christina Wagner furthered the spread with a kill, a block and kill on another play, and Morgan Ahrendt contributed a light placement into the Saints hole.

Later, Grace Sandbulte sent over a ball that the Saints returned with a double hit that drew a whistle. Then on defense, Sandbulte and Jarchow put up a block to increase Luverne's lead by 13.

Nearing the end of Game 2, Maddie Schmuck put the ball over on the inside edge of the Saints' side to put the game at 24-9. A Saints error gave Luverne the win at 25-10 for Game 2.

The Cardinals started Game 3 cheering, "We Got the Spirit," but the Saints didn't go down without a fight, allowing Luverne to lead by only four points or less the entire game.

A kill by Jarchow and four kills by Ferrell, assisted by the duo Bork and

Baustian, put Luverne in an early lead.

The Saints slowly came within two points by a series of Cardinal errors, but a kill by Elizabeth Wagner assisted by Baustian increased the Cardinal lead to three points.

An ace serve by the Saints and a serve landing on the inside edge of the Cardinals side put St. James ahead by one.

Continuing the battle, Morgan Gonnerman executed a dig to Bork, who placed the ball into the Saints hole. Baustian executed a strong block and later worked with Bork and Ferrell to help deliver additional points.

Down by two, Bork and Morgan Ahrendt put up a block, and then Ferrell attacked on another play to tie the game at 21.

The plays continued like that, each team alternating on their points. Luverne was first at 25 when Bork put the ball into the Saints hole, but the Saints came back with a kill to tie the game.

Then, Stratton came through with a dig to Baustian who set for a Ferrell kill, putting Luverne up by one, but an error by both teams and a return on the inside edge of the Saints court by Christina Wagner tied the teams at 27.

Jarchow earned a point by putting the ball into the Saints hole. Luverne won Game 3 when the Saints returned the ball into the net, 29-27.

"It was a fun match against St. James," coach Sarah DeBeer said. "The girls took control early and then just had fun. My favorite part was Game 2 when all seven seniors played key roles in winning that game."

Stat Highlights

Serves: Elise Ferrell 14/14 with 2 aces; Macy Stratton 19/19 with 2 aces
 Set Assists: Reghan Bork 14; Trista Baustian 20
 Blocks: Morgan Ahrendt 2 solos and 2 assists; Elizabeth Wagner 1 solo and 3 assists
 Attacks: Elise Ferrell 15; Trista Baustian 5

Cross country/continued from page 1B

Janiszkeski came in close behind to place second with a time of 17:42.51.

Other boys varsity times were: Griffen Jarchow, 18:22.64; Leif Ingebretson, 20:12.13; Ryan Fick, 20:17.83; Kaleb Hemme, 20:48.50; Camden Hoven, 21:05.23; Zach Brown, 22:05.71; Ethan Rahm, 22:20.94; Logan Ommen, 22:45.01; Eli

McLendon, 23:12.74.

Here's a look at other results from St. James:

Junior high girls 1,700 meter: Khloe Visker, 1st (7:09.07); Mariah Knorr, 3rd (7:39.05); Olivia Lund, 6th (8:26.39); Maddy Schepel, 11th (9:49.32)
Junior high boys 1,700 meter: Marcus Papik, 1st (6:51.90); Riley Ripka, 17th (10:16.95)

Willmar Invitational

Luverne traveled to Willmar on Saturday, Oct. 2, to participate in the Willmar Glacial Lakes Invitational.

Coach Janiszkeski said Luverne held up well against tough competition on a difficult course.

"In Willmar many kids had season or all-time best performances on a challenging course," he said. "It has been fun this week to watch their confidence grow."

Luverne's varsity girls team overall placed fifth behind Hopkins, Willmar, Marshall and Perham.

Varsity boys placed sixth overall behind Hopkins, Perham, Willmar, Sartell and Totino Grace.

Individually, varsity runner Tenley Nelson placed fourth with a 5k time of 19:14.3 and Jenna DeBates placed seventh with a time of 19:41.2.

Other girls varsity times were: Kayla Bloemendaal, 21:34.4; Ella Schmuck, 21:49.9; Tiana Lais, 22:31.2 and Khloe Visker, 23:01.6.

Camden Janiszkeski placed 14th in the boys varsity 5k with a time of 17:22.2 and Owen Janiszkeski placed 16th with a time of 17:44.2.

Other boys varsity times were: Sage Viessman, 18:59.6; Leif Ingebretson, 19:13.2, and Camden Hoven, 19:36.1.

Other results from Willmar are as follows.

Junior varsity boys 5k: Zach Brown, 27th (21:36.2); Eli McLendon, 35th (22:03.7)

Junior varsity girls 5k: Andrea Luitjens, 46th (28:33.2)

Middle school girls, 3,200: Mariah Knorr, 10th (14:14.2); Olivia Lund, 26th (15:48.2)

Middle school boys, 3,200: Marcus Papik, 7th (12:54.2); Riley Ripka, 32nd (17:09.6)

Cardinals football/continued from 1B

The Cardinals completed the two-point conversion after Luverne quarterback Casey Sehr found teammate Gannon Ahrendt on the right side of the Trojan end zone giving the Cardinals an 8-0 lead with 9:10 to go in the first quarter.

After forcing the Trojans to punt, the Cardinals took over at their own 45-yard line on the next possession. Sehr connected with Ahrendt again for an 18-yard reception on first down.

Three plays later Sehr found sophomore tight end Conner Connell over the middle for a 16-yard gain which brought the Cardinals to the Trojan 19-yard line.

Luverne would need only one play to punch it in from there as senior running back Ashton Sandbulte avoided tackles from multiple Trojan defenders and broke free up the left side of the field for the touchdown run.

The Cardinals' two-point conversion was successful once again as Sehr lofted a ball up to Ahrendt in the back of the end zone, giving the Cardinals a 16-0 lead with 3:38 to go in the first quarter.

The teams traded possessions much of the second quarter before Luverne was able to mount one more scoring drive before halftime.

The Cardinals' drive started at the Worthington 42-yard line with 3:17 to go in the half.

Sandbulte got the drive started with an impressive 27-yard run up the right side of the field, and the Cardinals got one more first down run from Sandbulte three plays later to get the ball to the Trojan 4-yard line.

Sehr then found Ahrendt in the back of the end zone to finish off the drive.

After sophomore, Patrick Kroski's, extra point kick was good, the Cardinals had a 23-0 lead with 1:19 to go in the second quarter.

Luverne was able to stop the Trojans' offense on their next possession and took the 23-0 lead into halftime.

Sehr sparked the Cardinals on the other side of the ball to start the second half as he intercepted a pass

with 9:57 to go in the third quarter.

This gave the Cardinals excellent field position as they took over at the Trojan 30-yard line.

After an 11-yard run from Sandbulte for first down, the Cardinals lost yardage on the next two plays after back-to-back penalties.

Facing second and 23, the Cardinals got a big play from Ahrendt who hauled in a 28-yard reception on a pass from Sehr to bring the Cardinals to the Worthington four-yard line.

Sandbulte ran in the game's final touchdown from there, and after a missed extra point Luverne held a 29-0 lead with 8:22 to go in the third quarter.

The Cardinal defense continued its strong play the remainder of the game, and the Luverne offense was content running the ball much of the second half to kill the clock.

Coach Oye said he was pleased with the effort of his team.

"This was a good team win against a division and section opponent," he said. "This puts us at 2-0 in the division and the section."

The Cardinals will now focus on their next opponent, the Pipestone Arrows, in a rivalry game at 7 p.m. Friday night at home.

"Playing an undefeated Pipestone for the Battle Axe is a great challenge and opportunity for our team," said coach Oye.

Team Statistics:

Luverne: 181 rushing yards, 100 passing yards, 281 total yards, 16 first downs, 8 penalties for 75 yards, 0 turnovers.
 Worthington: 24 rushing yards, 118 passing yards, 142 total yards, 12 first downs, 9 penalties for 80 yards, 1 turnover.

Individual Statistics:

Rushing: Ashton Sandbulte 15-130 (2 TD's), Braydon Ripka 7-22 (1 TD)
 Passing: Casey Sehr 10-15 for 100 yards (1 TD)
 Receiving: Gannon Ahrendt 5-56 (1 TD), Connor Connell 2-16
 Defense: Jamie McCarthy 4.5 tackles, Ashton Sandbulte 4 tackles, Nathaniel Cole-Kraty 3.5 tackles

SENIOR ATHLETES of the Week

Mia Wenzel

Sport: Tennis
 Parents: Gayle Wenzel
 Favorite subject: History
 What I like most about Tennis: It's an individual and team sport in one.
 Other extra-curricular activities: CEO, Theater, Speech, FCCLA, Track and Field and Peer Helping and hanging out with friends.



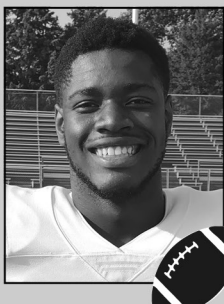
Pierce Cunningham

Sport: Cross Country
 Parents: Jason and Annalisa Cunningham
 Favorite subject: Economics Class
 What I like most about Cross Country: How close the team is because it is more of a family than a team.
 Other extra-curricular activities: Tennis, Math League, Robotics, FCCLA, Band, Choir, Theater and Peer Helping.



Nathaniel Cole-Kraty

Sport: Football
 Parents: Natking and Esther Cole-Kraty
 Favorite subject: English
 What I like most about Football: Spending time with my teammates that have turned into family
 Other extra-curricular activities: Peer Helping, Basketball and spending time with friends and family.



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Samantha McGaffee photo/1007 football HBC

Andrew Harris finds himself in open space looking to make something happen for the Patriot offense during the game against Renville County West on Friday night in Hills.

Patriots football/continued from page 1B

the Jaguar five-yard line, but a fourth down pass fell incomplete for the Patriots. However, they still held a 12-6 advantage heading into half-time.

A Patriot fumble at mid-field and a turnover on downs did not help the Patriots' cause in the third quarter.

The Jaguars, on the other hand, crossed the goal line on a 29-yard run from scrimmage to deadlock the score at 12 after three quarters.

Renville County West controlled the ball in the fourth quarter as the Jaguars ran 20 offensive plays compared to 10 Patriot offensive plays.

During the fourth quarter the Jaguars were able to take the lead on a

five-yard run after an 11-play, 93-yard drive. The 2-point conversion pass was incomplete. That would finish the scoring for the night.

Renville County West was able to hold on and kneel with the ball on the final few plays of the game to clip the Patriots by six points.

The Patriots are now 4-1 and Renville County West is 3-2.

Patriots head coach Rex Metzger said the Patriot boys played well, but the defensive line of Renville County West "kept up the pressure on our quarterback all night long and played very physical."

The Patriots take on the 4-1 Mountain Lake Wolverines on Friday, Oct.

8, at 7 p.m. in Mountain Lake.

Team Statistics
HBC – 78 rushing yards, 168 passing yards, 246 total yards, 11 first downs, 2 penalties for 10 yards, two turnovers.

RCW- 154 rushing yards, 63 passing yards, 217 total yards, 9 penalties for 56 yards, two turnovers.

Individual Statistics
Rushing: Baker 15 – 58, Deelstra 9 – 8 yards, Ty Bundesen 2 – 7, Drew Leenderts 1 – 5.

Passing: Deelstra 16-32 for 168 yards.

Receiving: Baker 4 – 69, Ty Bundesen 8-68, Drew Leenderts 2 – 20, Andrew Harris 1-6, Casey Kueter 1 – 5.

Defense: Ty Bundesen 12 tackles, Andrew Harris six tackles, Austin Allen six tackles, Donovan Leenderts five tackles, Casey Kueter five tackles and one QB sack, Baker 5 tackles and one QB sack, Drew Leenderts three tackles and one fumble recovery.

Quiet times refresh the soul



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

When I came home way after sunset a few days back, I asked my gal Cindy Scott why I was always so beat every night. I knew the answer, but she added that if I ever stopped long enough to let my engine cool off, it might help.

The past two months were great, and the upcoming two months are going to be great, but it means a lot more nights coming home beat.

Opening Pheasant Hunting weekend starts Oct. 16, and I am hosting a ladies-only mentor hunt in my county. There will be six inexperienced female hunters partnered with six veteran lady guides

The following week my local Pheasants Forever Chapter is hosting a Veterans Appreciation hunt, with 15 veterans from all over the United States in town.

The following weekend I am helping a friend with his extended family in town with my dogs and property to let them chase roosters.

The next two weekends after that are firearms deer season and the best part of the pheasant hunting season following that.

All of this happens in the fall. I wish winter lasted three days and fall lasted six months.

There was a moment a few Saturdays ago that was different when a friend invited me to go duck hunting with him on one of his private wetlands.

I am not much of a duck hunter but I do buy a license every year, so I said sure. I was just going to sit on a bucket and see if anything would fly over my head. No duck boats, no decoys, no trailers full of gear. Just a dog and a cup of coffee.

We got there in the dark and I set up my gear, which consisted of a brown 5-gallon pail, one box of shells, one thermos and one coffee cup and my 5-year-old Labrador, Raider.

The place was just alive. I could not see anything, but the sights and sounds made me feel like I was in an IMAX theater.

Ducks were communicating, pheasants were crowing and the frogs all made for a pretty neat nature choir. Meanwhile the sun peaked over the horizon and the colors of fall came alive.

There had not been a frost yet, but the leaves on the trees were just starting their fall dance. The starting shooting hours for waterfowl in Minnesota are a half hour before sunrise.

I had my phone but never checked to see exactly what time that would be. The exit began and I had ducks flying overhead in groups of about four or five. My five of this size made their way out to feed.

It was then that the wetland eruption started. Big groups of both ducks and geese had decided it was time to go eat. There was lots of noise and the sound of wings, and in about five minutes all of the ducks had left the area I was in.

It was about 15 minutes later that I heard the sound of gunshots in the distance. My partner had bagged a duck, so I knew it was legal shooting time.

As I sat there taking in the sights and sounds, I was amazed at the number of frogs I heard and saw. I would have figured in a drought year they would have been reduced due to not enough water. This was certainly not the case.

I had my back to a small shrub, and over the course of about 90 minutes I had about a half dozen little songbirds land in that tree no more than 4-6 feet away. They seemed to be saying hello and wishing me a good morning. They would leave and a different batch would take their place.

I could not identify the species of these birds but that in no way diminished the splendor of their visit.

As the dog sat quietly beside me and I watched the steam roll off my coffee cup, I could only wonder what the folks who never get to experience a morning like this would think if they ever had the opportunity to do so.

We as a species are drawn to the outdoors, but many people get sidetracked by electronic devices or sports that include many different shaped balls. I am sure they enjoy those activities as well, but I don't think anyone ever could or would say that an hour in the tall grass with the sights and smells of fall was not worth their time.

I never shot a duck and I never fired the gun, and still I had a very quality outing.

These are the down times between helping others get engaged in the outdoors, protecting and improving public lands, helping others train their dogs and advocating for the "up plug the device" lifestyle.

I hope I can live a while longer because there is still a lot of work to do.

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

Waterfowl hunting is underway

Minnesota's regular waterfowl hunters need to be aware of new regulations in effect for the 2021 season:

- Shooting hours end at sunset the entire season.

- The Canada goose daily bag limit is five per day the entire season, with a possession limit of 15

- In the South Zone, the split (closed period) is five days instead of 12 days. The closure is from Monday, Oct. 4, through Friday, Oct. 8.

- Motorized decoys may be used statewide throughout the entire waterfowl season, including on wildlife management areas.

Remote controls for motorized decoys are legal. Although drought conditions in some areas have improved, waterfowlers should plan ahead to ensure they can access areas they plan to hunt.

Information to help hunters properly identify waterfowl is available in an

illustrated guide contained in the 2021 Minnesota Waterfowl Hunting Regulations.

Complete regulations and the illustrated guide also are available in Hmong, Karen, Somali and Spanish.

Access to complete information on Minnesota's waterfowl hunting seasons is available from the DNR's waterfowl hunting web portal.

Contact: Steve Cordts, waterfowl specialist, 218-308-2281.



Drive-Up Flu Vaccine Clinic

A flu vaccine can prevent you from getting sick and protect the people around you.

The CDC recommends an annual flu vaccine for everyone 6 months and older, especially those at higher risk of complications including pregnant women, older adults and young children.

How it works:

- Wear a face mask.
- Dress yourself and family members in short-sleeved shirts.
- Have infants and toddlers dressed in a diaper or shorts.
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We Salute our ROCK COUNTY Fire Departments

Luverne Fire & Rescue



Lori Sorenson photo/1007 Luverne fire department 2021
Members of the Luverne Fire Department are (front, from left) Aaron Altman, Austin Kurtz, Brett Hood, Joe Juhl, Dalton Jacobsma, Nick Mead, Tyson Facile, Seth Miller, Eric Lammert, Jordan Siebenahler, Al Pilaczynski, Derek Elbers, Travis Franken, David Van Batavia, (back) Jon Kurtz, Tyler LeBrun, Dustin Walters, Mike Ketterling, Jordan Kopp, Cody Gehrke, Eric Woodley, Jesse Woodley, Chad Buss, Andrew Hamann, Mark Kurtz, Scott Ketterling, James Rahm, Anthony Graphenteen and Craig Shelton.

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Hills Fire & Rescue



Lori Sorenson photo/1007 hills fire department 2021
Members of the Hills Fire Department include (front, from left) Shaun Bruesch, Paul Page, Mark DeBoer, Justin Van Maanen, (back) Chief Jared Rozeboom, Derek Bundesen, Dan Fick, Dylan Klarenbeek, Jeff Bass and Lance Larson. Not pictured are Dalton Bass, Collin Leuthold, Wade Jel-ema, Dakota Steensma and Mark Top.

Magnolia Fire & Rescue



Lori Sorenson photo/1008 magnolia fire department 2020
Members of the Magnolia Fire Department are (from left) Luke Dohlmann, Zachery Dohlmann, Dennis Madison, Stacie Dohlmann, Scott Dohlmann, Josh Ossefoort, Derek Sandbulte, Jason Dohlmann, Robert Somnis, (back) Hailee Dohlmann and Angie Sandbulte. Not pictured are Logan Bosch, Tom Strassburg and Jeremy Roelfs.

October is Fire Prevention Month

Beaver Creek Fire & Rescue



Lori Sorenson photo/1007 beaver creek fire dept. 2021
Members of the Beaver Creek Fire Department include (front, from left) Travis Broesder, Josh Teune, Aaron Blank, Jacob Conger, Josh Haak, Randy Krull, (back) Chief Jason Rauk, David Olson, Chad Rauk, Jacob Hartz, Travis Helgeson and Andrew Blank. Not pictured are Daryl Fuerstenburg, Shannon Tatge, Ryan Rauk Austin Rauk and Kendra Rauk.

Hardwick Fire & Rescue



Mavis Fodness photo/1008 Hardwick Fire Dept 2020-21
Hardwick Fire Department members include (front, from left) Julie Fodness, Jen Luitjens, Harli Mulder, Joan Kindt, Emilee Haroldson, (back) Tom Haas, Don Luitjens, fire chief Lowell Schelhaas, Dan Kindt and Johnny Acevedo. Not pictured: Miles Brown, Ethan Thorson, Jason Thorson, Craig Mulder, Nic Johnson, John Javner, Caleb and Morgan Hansel.

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Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

October 7, 2021 Page 7B

FOR SALE

For Sale: Landscaping rock 1.5 and 3/4-inch rock. Also do stump grinding. Call Wayne Biever Construction at 507-227-4521 or 507-283-4614. Also have yard dirt. 715 SW Park Street, Luverne, MN. (9.18-10.7)

GARAGE SALES

Rummage Sale—Thurs., Oct. 7, Fri., Oct. 8, Sat., Oct. 9—204 W. Virginia Street, Luverne. Holiday decor, housewares, women's clothing, large assortment of things. (10.7-10.9)

CARDS OF THANKS

The most wonderful gifts we can ask for are the gifts of family and friends. Sincere thanks for the wonderful blessing of our friends and neighbors who have helped us all summer long while Jack has been struggling with health issues. Special thanks to Ross and Heather Metzger, Brayden, Jamin and Karson; Leroy and Shelley Van Wyhe; Randy and Brenda Van Maanen; and Jim and Marilyn Jellema. We are drawing strength from knowing that others care! Thanks to all who came to help us celebrate Jack's 80th birthday and especially our children, grandchildren and great-grands who orchestrated the wonderful party! Not a day goes by that we don't give thanks for God's gifts of family and friends.

Jack and Pat Paulsen
(10.7-10.9)

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Land Records Office Technician I

Rock County is now accepting applications for a Technician I to work in the Rock County Land Records Office until October 15, 2021 at 5:00 PM. Responsibilities include assisting in the execution of all functions of the Land Records Office to include: property assessments and appraisals, completing and maintaining GIS data, document recording and vital statistics records; work consists of both physical (field work) and office environment work. Minimum qualifications include a High School diploma or equivalent with a minimum of a 2-year degree in business administration or a field relating to real estate appraisal; additional certification is required upon employment offer. This is a full time position with a starting hourly wage of \$19.97 - \$21.61 per DOQ and includes a full benefit package to include public employee pension, paid health & life insurance, and paid sick/vacation.

A job description and an application form for this position are available at www.co.rock.mn.us; or by emailing susan.skattum@co.rock.mn.us. For additional questions, please contact the Rock County Administrator's office 507-283-5065.

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EMPLOYMENT

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EMPLOYMENT

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For further information, please contact the Luverne Aquatics & Fitness Center Manager Sam Honerman at (507)449-5036 or shonerman@cityofluverne.org. Applications are available at www.cityofluverne.org/employment; positions open until filled. First review date October 29, 2021.



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TWO FULL TIME POSITIONS ROCK COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF

The Rock County Administrator's Office is accepting applications until October 29, 2021 for (2) Deputy Sheriff positions. An employment eligibility list will be created from this announcement and will be valid until April 30, 2022. The Deputy Sheriff assists the Rock County Sheriff's Office in enforcing the law and the protection of life and property throughout the county; Rock County is the exclusive law enforcement agency within the county.

Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and a two-year degree in law enforcement or related field, plus an eight-week skills course. Upon being hired, the officer must either be eligible to be licensed, or be a fully licensed Peace Officer in order to comply with the post standards in Minnesota. In addition, the applicant must have completed the following training: qualified in the use of firearms, First Responder course, possess a current CPR card and a valid Minnesota class "D" driver's license. The starting annual salary range is \$48,609 - \$52,582, with the maximum range at \$69,180; additional compensation of up to \$7,500/year includes shift differential, standby, call back pay and uniform allowance. All officers are assigned a personal squad car and work is performed on a rotating shift basis. Full time positions are union eligible and include an excellent benefit package to include health, dental and life insurance, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, pension, tax deferred compensation.

To obtain a full job description and an application for this position, please visit county's web site at https://www.co.rock.mn.us/job_opportunities/index.php. For additional information please contact Sheriff Evan Verbrugge at 507-283-5000 or by email at evan.verbrugge@co.rock.mn.us or contact the Rock County Administrator's office at 507-283-5065. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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* Switch-and-Save Offer: Switch-and-Save offer is available to new customers switching from an active account with an Internet provider. Customer must provide a copy of current provider bill to qualify for offer. Savings claim based on comparison of promotional price and standard rate of Mediacom services. Internet 100 Offer: Advertised price is for the promotional period stated. Thereafter, the monthly price increases by \$30 in the second year and then in the third year the service will begin to be billed at the standard rate then in effect (currently, \$79.99). Advertised price does not include standard installation fee (\$109.99, more if special work needed); a one-time \$10 activation fee; or other one-time fees that may apply because of options you select nor does it include the following recurring monthly charges: (i) modem fee, currently \$12; (ii) taxes and other amounts required by law to be collected or paid; or (iii) fees for optional services or equipment you may want. All these monthly charges may increase from time to time. After the first year, if our standard rate for your service increases or we institute a new fee for service subscribers generally, we can pass that increase or new fee along to you. * Internet Service Usage Allowance & Speed: Internet service level is subject to the following monthly total bandwidth usage allowances: Internet 100 is 1,000 GB per monthly billing period. Excess usage will be billed at \$10 for every increment of up to 50 additional gigabytes used. For example, if usage exceeded the allowance by 51 gigabytes, the additional charge would be \$20. Usage allowances and excess usage charges are subject to change at any time. See <https://mediacomcable.com/usageallowance> for more information about usage allowances. Download and upload speeds may vary, see <https://mediacomcable.com/openinternet> for information on factors that could cause speeds to vary. ** Xstream WiFi360 Pro: WiFi360 Pro is free for 1 month when you subscribe to Xstream Internet service. Thereafter, the monthly fee of \$10 will apply which includes 2 eero Pro 6 devices and eero Secure service. Depending on characteristics of your residence, the number of connected devices and overall network usage, more than 2 eero devices may be needed to achieve optimal results. Each additional eero Pro 6 device is \$6/mo. Use of eero products and services requires the eero app and either a smartphone or other mobile device. You must create an account with eero through its app, which will require you to provide certain information to eero (such as your name, email address and phone number). Internet connection speeds depend on the current Internet speed you have with Mediacom. Maximum wireless signal rates are derived from IEEE standard 802.11 specifications. Experienced speeds may vary based on network configuration. Throughput and coverage estimates are a configuration reference, not a performance guarantee. Customer must agree to all applicable subscriber terms and policies of Mediacom and eero. See mediacomcable.com/legal and eero.com/legal for details. ** 99.9% Network Reliability: 2021 Mediacom Executive Summary Outage Exception Report. Offer Availability: Offer may change or be terminated any time without notice. Offer may not be available in all areas, cannot be combined with any other offer, is not transferable and is void where prohibited. Available only to residential customers who have not received any offered service within prior 90 days and meet applicable credit and other requirements. Customer must agree to all applicable subscriber terms and policies. See <https://mediacomcable.com/legal> for details. Other terms and conditions may apply. CA Consumers: Visit <https://mediacomcable.com/legal/ccpa-privacy-notice/> to read our Privacy Notice for California Consumers. M741-41712-MN-Luverne_Rock_County_Star_Herald-5.6875x10-P-Ad

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



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Offices in Windom, Jackson, Worthington, Luverne, and Pipestone



Rock County STAR HERALD

— Help Wanted — SPORTS REPORTER

The Rock County Star Herald in Luverne, Minnesota, is looking for the right person to help navigate the fast-paced world of **community sports reporting**. Our weekly award-winning newspaper covers two local districts and their high school sports teams, along with community outdoors and recreational activities. We're working to enhance our daily presence with social media posts, sports column/blog and occasional streamed coverage with athletes, coaches and fans. Our vision is to be on the local scene of whatever sports-related news is happening — whenever and wherever it occurs — and share that experience with sports fans to read and watch on social media and to enjoy in print and online pages. **If you share the same vision of a local sports news presence, and if you're passionate about sports with the ability to write about it and share it with others, you may be the person we're looking for.** We're accepting applications now for this **full-time position**. Sports reporting and photography experience is preferred, along with some knowledge of InDesign, PhotoShop and social media platforms.

Email cover letter, resume and work samples to Rick Peterson, general manager, at rick@star-herald.com.

star-herald.com

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

The NUMBERS Paint a Clear Picture Please Get Vaccinated

COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS SANFORD HEALTH

On Sept. 28, 2021 Total number of patients with COVID-19 at Sanford Health*

Category	Unvaccinated	Vaccinated
Hospitalized	146	12
In the ICU	45	2
On Ventilators	28	0

*22 Sanford Health-owned hospitals

IGOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!

GET YOUR VACCINE

I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE

COVID-19 VACCINE: A SHOT OF HOPE

100% COVID-19 VACCINATED

I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE

IMMUNIZE.ORG/COVID-19

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,
Patrick T. Baustian
Mayor Patrick T. Baustian

