



# Cardinal Country Highlights

Upsala Area Schools District #487

*Every Student ... Every Day*

**WINTER 2023-24**



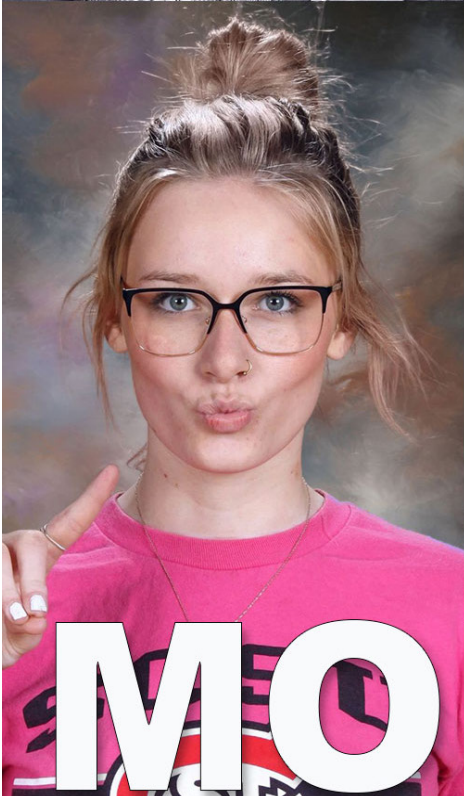
Postage paid by  
Upsala Lions Club

District: (320) 573-2174

K-12: (320) 573-2175

(320) 573-2176

# SENIOR



# MOMENTS





## Greeting UAS Community

As I write this update to you, we are experiencing an above normal stretch of warm weather for mid-November. The warmer temperature has provided us with an extended fall season as we have concluded our first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year and with that the fall activities. While

we are enjoying the mild weather to this point, we know that winter weather will soon arrive and with that the potential of school closures and delays. Communication is the most important part of these decisions and we want to ensure that we communicate any decisions to close/delay based on weather with parents/families as soon as possible.

The decision to close, or start late, begins at the moment there is a predicted storm or prior to 5:00 am on the morning of the storm. I begin gathering information about the weather and road conditions from various sources, such as the Minnesota Department of Transportation, National Weather Service (NWS), area Superintendents, and Morrison County Public Works, as well as consulting with our building and grounds manager, Andy Harren and some transportation coordinator, Sherry Soltis. I also will get out and drive the roads myself to gauge the conditions.

Even with all this information, the decision to close or delay is still a very difficult one to make and I am certain there will be times when others will disagree with my decision. I cannot guarantee that I will make the correct decision every time, but I will guarantee that the decision to close or delay school will be made with the safety of our students and staff as my primary concern. I will also make every effort to make the decision to close or delay in a timely fashion that will minimize any disruptions to the schedules of our families. Depending on the snowfall and/or current weather conditions, and how soon plows may be on the roads, I will attempt to make this decision by 5:45 am at the latest.

The decision to close or delay is not always an easy one to make, but through careful analysis of various sources of information, we will make our decision as quickly as possible in order to communicate with everyone as early as we can. Once a decision has been made to close, start late, or close early; communicating this decision to parents and staff is critical. Upsala Area Schools uses a variety of media to disseminate these decisions, including the use of automated phone calls, social media and news outlets. Primarily, we will use our JMC messaging system to communicate closures/delays with families. This system consists of text messages and robocalls to alert parents/guardians to school schedule changes. Parents/Guardians, please make sure that you have updated your primary contact information in the JMC parent portal. If you require assistance in updating your contact information, please contact the main office. We will also post the announcements on the live feed of our District webpage/app and social media sites. In addition, we will post announcements on the following news media outlets: WYRQ, KLTF, and KFML Radio - Little Falls; WCCO & WCCO Radio 830 - Minneapolis; KASM Radio - Albany; KCLD, KZPK, and KCML - St. Cloud; KSTP & KSAX - Alexandria; KMSP Fox 9; KEYL Radio - Long Prairie; SC Times Website; and KARE 11. When we communicate the decision to close, start late, or close early; we will attempt to include all the details for parents, students, and staff. Please understand that the media outlets may not include all the details when they distribute the announcement. In the event that we close school for the day, or if we close early, due to severe weather, all extra-curricular and after school activities will also be canceled or postponed. I also want to encourage all families to make sure that you have a plan in place in case of school closure or delay. Careful planning and communication will ensure that all of our students and staff members are safe during any winter storm weather.

Occasionally, the timing of winter weather is such that we do not need to close/delay the school day, however, co-curricular activity schedules may be disrupted. We will rely on the same messaging systems to communicate any schedule changes outside of the school day as well. You may also stay informed by frequently checking the District website/app where the current activity schedules will be published. The schedules will reflect the most up to date information on co-curricular events and activities.



It has been an exciting start to the 2023-2024 school year! I just wanted to take a moment to pass along a few messages and announcements.

Our fall sports teams have concluded their seasons. Volleyball, football, cross country and swimming have all come to an end. I want to take a moment to

congratulate all our student-athletes at all levels on their accomplishments this fall season! The dedication these student athletes exhibit is truly amazing! Thank you athletes and coaches for representing the community of Upsala with pride!

As the season changes from fall to winter, please make sure your child(ren) is/are wearing proper attire to school. Elementary students (K-4) will be going outside for recess unless it is below zero (air temp or wind chill). Phy Ed students (5-12) may be going outside as well if the weather permits and should have proper attire as well. Students who ride the bus to and from school and to sporting events should be prepared as well in case the bus breaks down. If this happens, it could be a while before another bus arrives to rescue them. It is better to be safe than sorry if these situations happen to arise.

Please make sure to update your information on JMC for weather alerts. Weather announcements for school cancellations can also be heard on local radio stations and local TV stations. Winter will be here before we know it!

With the arrival of winter comes an increase in illnesses at school. This impacts students as well as staff. If your child is sick please keep them home.

We are in great need of subs in all areas. If you or you know anyone who is interested in subbing in the building as a teacher, paraprofessional, kitchen help, custodian, and bus driver encourage them to contact the main office.

Every year the Minnesota State High School League awards 2 seniors with the Triple A Award. Triple A stands for academics, arts, and athletics. This year our two recipients for the Triple A Award are Isabelle Leners and Jacob Gunderson. Both Isabelle and Jacob excel in these three areas and will be great representatives for our school! Congratulations to both of them!

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas please call me 320-573-2175, contact me by email: [nklug@upsala.k12.mn.us](mailto:nklug@upsala.k12.mn.us), or stop in the office.

Take Care,  
*Nick Klug,*  
*K-12 Principal*  
*Upsala Area Schools*

## Superintendent's Corner (cont.)

Meteorologists have been predicting that the winter of 23-24 will not be as intense as last winter, however, we all know that Mother Nature doesn't always cooperate. Winter weather is something that Minnesotans are accustomed to and we will make every effort to minimize

the disruption caused by winter weather as we move into the winter months. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

*Vern Capelle, Ed.S.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

*Every Student*



*... Every Day*

# September Students of the Month

## Elementary

Mrs. Peterson Kendra Goebel	Mrs. Duclos Lucas Ley	Mr. Riitters Wayne Bloom	Music Emily Walker
Mrs. Wolbeck Jayden Kuhl	Mr. Van Sloten Nolan Job	Mrs. Fuchs Vincent Bahn	Bauer PE Irria Theisen
Mrs. Bengston Harris Fletcher	Mrs. Nienaber Ethan Goebel	Ms. Justen Morgan Ripplinger	Leither PE Avery Achmann
Ms. Jackson Kennedy Van Sloten			Art Connor Hoffman

## Junior High

English Emmalynn Harren	Science Madison Goebel	Health Isabella Warga	Art Madison Goebel
Math Emily Ripplinger	PE Skyler Landowski	Ag/Voc Ed Aubree Roerick	Music Trygg Aleckson
Social Studies Natalee Hoffman			

## Senior High

English Evelynn Aleckson	Science Carson Primus	Ag/Voc Ed Keyona Carlson	Music Hailie Luedtke
Math Isabelle Leners	PE Aaron Hiltunen	Technology Holly Johnson	FCS Erica Roske
Social Studies Zoey Leners	Health Matthew Tschida	Art Joseph Guthrie	AVID Addie Scepaniak

## Athletes & Activities



Cross Country  
Joe Guthrie

Cross Country  
Evelynn Aleckson

Swimming  
Madison Tschida

Volleyball  
Samantha Pilarski

Football  
Peyton Gerads

Girls Soccer  
Richelle Thompson

FFA  
Dan Gunderson



## Elementary

Mrs. Peterson  
Tristan Hagen

Mrs. Duclos  
Chloe Goebel

Mr. Riitters  
Abby Rakotz

Music  
Lucy Wensmann

Mrs. Wolbeck  
Isaiah Barthel

Mr. Van Sloten  
Kaelyn Vetsch

Mrs. Fuchs  
Emily Walker

Bauer PE  
Bryson Nelson

Mrs. Bengston  
Addison Finken

Mrs. Nienaber  
Kaleb McLaughlin

Ms. Justen  
Noah Gerads

Leither PE  
Harrison Van Sloten

Ms. Jackson  
Andrew Hoffman

Art  
Adison Tanner

## Junior High

English  
Addisyn Hovland

Science  
Jakson Blenker

Health  
Ori Prokott

Art  
Suzette Guthrie

Math  
Madison Goebel

PE  
Emma Dickinson

Ag/Voc Ed  
Raven Nienaber

Music  
Isabella Warga

Social Studies  
Braxton Ailie

## Senior High

English  
Kaylea Loscheider

Science  
Addie Scepaniak

Ag/Voc Ed  
Isaiah Sobiech

Music  
Aiden Brannan

Math  
Brandon Mugg

PE  
Dan Kokett

Technology  
Austin Klein

World Language  
Jacob Brinkman

Social Studies  
Isabelle Leners

Health  
Lucylee Aleckson

Art  
Claire Arvig

FCS  
Vance Benson

AVID  
Matthew Tschida

## Athletes & Activities



Football  
Aden Warga



Volleyball  
Isabelle Leners



Swimming  
Lynn Arvig



Cross Country  
Quinn Guthrie



Cross Country  
Claire Arvig



Drama  
Lilieana Daniel



Robotics  
Holly Johnson



FFA  
Hailie Luedtke

# November Students of the Month

## Elementary

Mrs. Peterson  
Kennerly Nohner  
Colt Steinhofer

Mrs. Wolbeck  
Abigail Hoffman  
Jackson Wolbeck

Mrs. Bengston  
Makena Lange  
Jase Bense

Ms. Jackson  
Lucy Wensmann

Mrs. Duclos  
Spencer Dobmeier

Mr. Van Sloten  
Jasmyn Oldakowski

Mrs. Nienaber  
Sidney Schulte

Mr. Riitters  
Emmett Warga

Mrs. Fuchs  
Josie Roerick

Ms. Justen  
Auden Hovland

Music  
Auden Hovland

Bauer PE  
Cody Johnson

Leither PE  
Brea Rakotz

Art  
Hailey Kiley

## Junior High

English  
Owen Klug

Math  
Jakson Blenker

Social Studies  
Dalton Welinski

Science  
Brookelynn Schmidt

PE  
Emily Ripplinger

Health  
Carter Steinhofer

Ag/Voc Ed  
Daniel Gunderson

Art  
Edward Horvath

Music  
Emmalyn Harren

## Senior High

English  
Isabelle Klug

Math  
Lydia Kokett

Social Studies  
Noah Takach

Science  
Owen Smith

PE  
Nathan Breth

Health  
Owen Smith

Ag/Voc Ed  
Eric Landowski

Technology  
Matthew Tschida

Art  
Alyssa Young

Music  
Isabelle Leners

World Language  
Sierra Bense

FCS  
Brooke Opatz

AVID  
Abby Carlson

## Athletes & Activities



Football  
Jack Primus



Swimming  
Madison Tschida



Cross Country  
Suzette Guthrie

Cross Country  
Jimmy Jensen



Drama  
Eli Roerick



FFA  
Aubree Roerick



Mentor  
Noah  
Boeckermann



Mentor  
Jacob Gunderson



Upsala Area Schools is continuing its 2nd year in partnership with FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). Our partnership last year led to a large 3 year grant with LEGO® to provide classroom kits for STEM activities based upon FIRST®'s LEGO® League (FLL) challenges. There are three levels of FLL available for our students to participate with, FLL Discover (K-2), FLL Explore (3-4) FLL Challenge (5-6). Each level provides new experiences, increased growth and learning, plus the hands-on experience of playing with LEGOs!



Through our partnership with FIRST® and LEGO®, Upsala has created its inaugural FLL Challenge team for competition! Team #64211 the “Upsala Cardinals”, was created at the end of October, and will be piloted by nine 5th graders. These students will be creating a LEGO® robot that will need to perform up to 15 unique tasks and challenges. Each task/challenge will be valued for points depending on difficulty. Following, the students will also be judged based upon their learning process, demonstration and explanation of knowledge, plus a unique learning project that is relative to the game. This year’s game is called MASTERPIECE, and is based upon the Arts. Team #64211 will be taking their robot to competition on December 15th, in Bemidji MN at the Sanford Center. There the students will be competing with and against other schools from around Minnesota. Based upon how they do, they could potentially qualify for a State level competition too! Good Luck Cardinals!



Lastly, Our FIRST® Robotics Competition (FRC) team UC-Botics (Team 4480) has been rebuilding their robot from last spring and went to competition at the end of October as well in Babbitt, MN. There the team participated in the Northern Minnesota Robotics Conference Championship event. The team did a marvelous job learning how the FRC process works, did a great job building a robot to compete with in a mere three weeks before competition, and are super excited for our new season to start in January! Our official Competitive season will be starting on January 6th, and Upsala will be host to the Kick Off event once again for our area! This year we have 5 different teams from Central Minnesota attending the Kick Off here at Upsala. Following kickoff - Our team has 7 weeks to design, problem solve, prototype, build, wire, program, iterate, test, and finalize a new competitive robot. Then we will be taking our new robot and team to competition at the Granite City Regional, in St. Cloud Minnesota on April 5th-7th, 2024. Competition this year will be hosted at the River’s Edge Convention Center, and will be the inaugural event for Central Minnesota! It is currently set to host 54 teams from North Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota!



UC-Botics would also like to thank its current 2024 season sponsors, and for helping support our new year! Thank you to 3M, Medtronic, Sytek, Felling Trailers, Midwest Machinery from Little Falls, Midwest Automatic Products, and the Gene Haas Foundation. We truly appreciate your help and support for the coming season!



## Music Notes

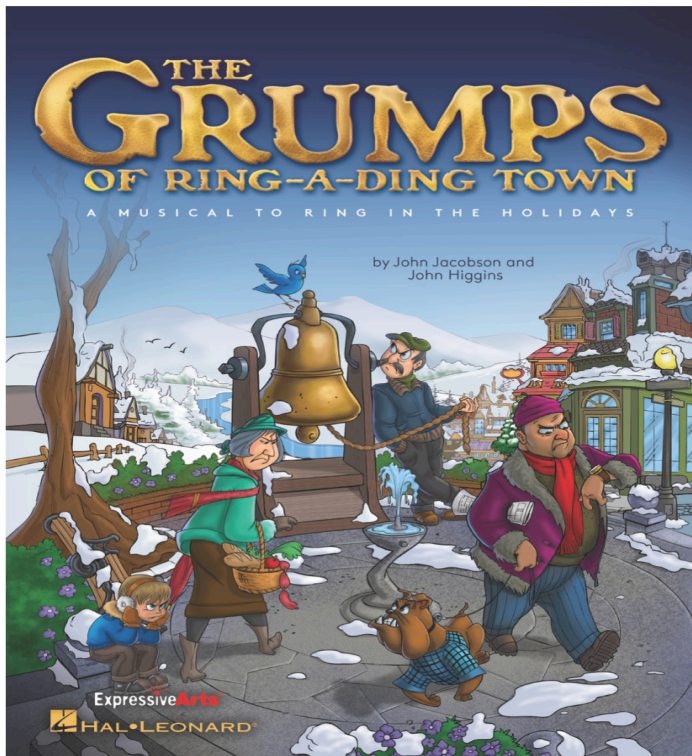
The senior high band is preparing for their biennial band tour. Students will participate in a clinic and have a concert during their trip to Florida Cruise.

Thank you to the Upsala Creamery for donating cheese for the croissant sandwich sale. Thank you to Paul and Kathy's for the cheese and meat that was prepared for the 2,300+ sandwiches. Thank you to all those who support the band in every way!

Gr. 5-12 Band Concert 7:30 pm, Monday, December 18.



### Upsala Elementary Grades K-3 Present



**Thursday, December 7, 2023**  
**1:00 pm & 6:00 pm**

### Upsala Elementary Grades 4-6 Present



**Thursday, December 7, 2023**  
**1:45 pm & 6:45 pm**



## 5-12 WINTER BAND CONCERT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 at 7:30PM  
 UPSALA AUDITORIUM



## FALL PLAY

For their fall production the Upsala Drama Club performed the comedy “Bad Auditions by Bad Actors” by Ian McWethy.

The show was about new director Carol (Evie Aleckson) who was charged with casting the leads for a production of “Romeo & Juliet” - but the actors who came in to audition left a lot to be desired. The rest of the cast included Jacob Gunderson, Olivia Kleve, Lilieana Daniel, Eli Roerick, Lucylee Aleckson, Genevieve Mrozek, Abby Carlson, Addie Scepaniak, Nick Young, Trygg Aleckson, Aubree Roerick, Bianca Mrozek, Addisyn Hovland, Raven Nienaber, & Ethan Young.



## ONE ACT PLAY CONTEST

We are planning on participating in the MSHSL One-Act Play Contest once again this year. Rehearsals will be after school in January. The subsection contest is scheduled for Saturday, January 27. Schools that advance will then compete in the section finals the following week. Interested students should talk with Mr Cheney.

## SPRING MUSICAL

We are very close to announcing our spring musical for this year. You can, however, mark your calendars. Performances are scheduled for April 19-21, 2024.

## Support Staff Honored



Congratulations to Marilyn Lanners and Andy Harren who were recognized as outstanding educational support staff by Resource Training and Solutions.

They were honored at an event in St Cloud where 137 support staff from around the region were recognized.

## ASVAB Career Exploration Program

Upsala High School 11th grade students will take the ASVAB Career Exploration Test on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024. The test will run from 8:15AM until noon. Testing will be completed in time for students to have their normal lunch time.

The results/Interpretation will be given to students several weeks after testing has been completed. It will include a one hour hands on computer presentation from the National Guard of Camp Ripley.

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program can help you take steps toward finding a career that's right for you.



## Financial Aid Night

Upsala High School will host a 'hands on' FAFSA Completion Night on Monday, January 22, 2024. This event will take place in the high school media center computer lab, from 5:00-7:30PM. All Upsala seniors and their parents are encouraged to attend.

Anita Baugh, Financial Aid Director from St. Cloud Community & Technical College will be here to assist you with the completion of your online FAFSA.

Any questions concerning this event, please contact Jayne Glaser at 320-573-2175.



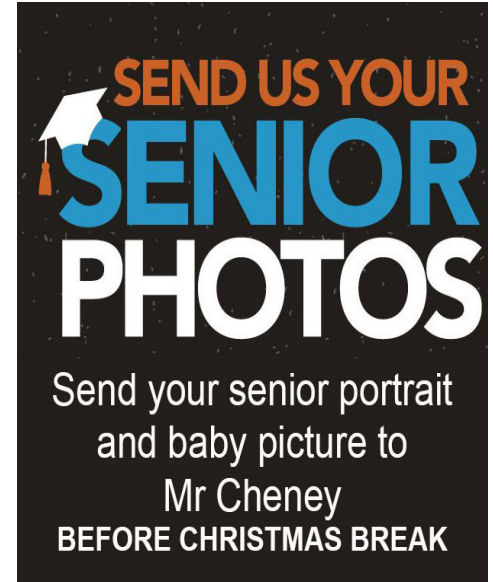
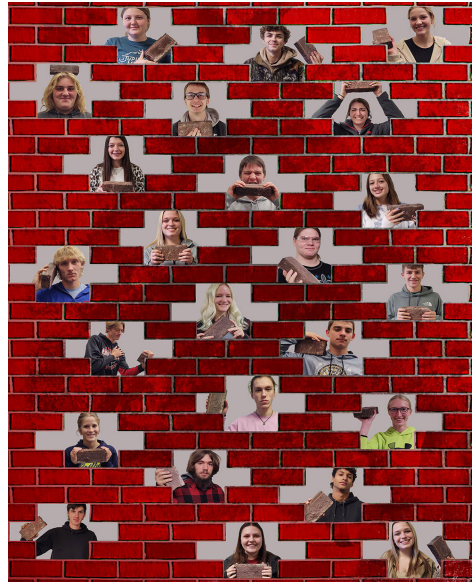
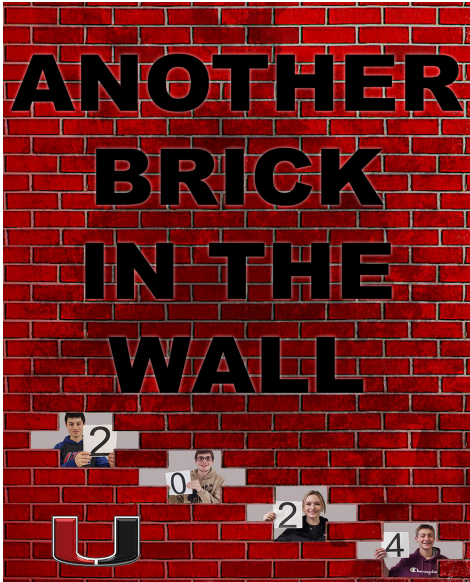


If you haven't already, make sure to purchase your 2023-24 yearbook! It's 88 full-color pages of you, your friends, your activities, and memories of the school year!

The yearbook class chose as this year's theme "Another Brick In The Wall." It's a metaphor about how all the things we do in school contribute to the building of our lives, and how we all add to the legacy of Upsala Schools. You can see the front and back covers of the book below.

To purchase this year's book you can go to [JostensYearbooks.com](http://JostensYearbooks.com), or bring check/cash to school. Don't miss out! High school books are \$59+tax.

Elementary memory books are also on sale for \$15+tax. Delivery for both books will be sometime in May.



**UPSALA AREA SCHOOLS IRELAND/SCOTLAND TRIP SHOE DRIVE**  
**Fundraiser**  
 (funds2orgs pays cash for each pound of usable shoes)



**WHO: YOU!!**  
**WHAT: DONATE YOUR GENTLY USED SHOES**  
**WHERE: UPSALA SCHOOL COMMONS SYTEK/LIBRARY ENTRY**  
**WHEN: NOW - APRIL 2024**  
**WHY: HELP STUDENTS RAISE MONEY TO EXPERIENCE THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!**


**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MRS. HENRY: 320-573-2176, EXT 145 JHENRY@UPSALA.K12.MN.US**

**\*SHOES MUST BE IN PAIRS, CLEAN, NEW OR GENTLY USED (NO HOLES) \*NO ROLLER SKATES/BLADES OR ICE SKATES**

Northern Pines Mental Health Center provides Children's Therapeutic Support Services (CTSS). These are counseling services offered on site at your school. Some services provided are diagnostic assessments, crisis assistance, and individual/family/group skills and therapy. Some interventions focus on anger control, problem solving, decision making, self-esteem, independence, conflict resolution, communication and stress reduction.

**HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL FOR NORTHERN PINES SERVICES:**  
 Go to our website at [www.npmh.org](http://www.npmh.org). Click on Client Forms tab, then scroll down to click on "Child Online Referral" and fill in the information.

Upsala School Resources:  
 Mariah, LICSW - School based therapist  
 Andrea, LSW - Individual and family skills practitioner  
 Brooke, LSW - Behavioral specialist, and individual skills practitioner





# Fall Photo Album





# Fall Photo Album



## Volleyball Awards

Academic All State  
Gold Team (3.75 or higher average GPA)

3.7+ Prairie Conference Academic Awards  
(Must be Varsity Letter winner Gr. 10-12):

Isabelle Leners, Hannah Luedtke, Monica Nienaber, Samantha Pilarski, Isabel Ripplinger, Erica Roske

Academic All State (3.8 Cum GPA - Seniors)  
Isabelle Leners, Monica Nienaber, Erica Roske

Varsity Letter Winners

Brooke Opatz, Erica Roske, Kaylee Kremers, Kaylea Loscheider, Monica Nienaber, McKenna Graves, Isabelle Leners, Samantha Pilarski, Hailie Luedtke, Isabel Ripplinger, Dakota Soltis, Hannah Heesen, Zoey Leners, Corryn McDermond



Stat Leaders

Most Ace Serves: Isabel Ripplinger  
Highest Serving Percentage: Hailie Luedtke  
Most Digs: Dakota Soltis  
Most Kills: Samantha Pilarski  
Highest Kill Percentage: Isabel Ripplinger  
Most Blocks: Monica Nienaber  
Most Assists: Samantha Pilarski

Team Awards - Voted by Players

Most Improved Player: Zoey Leners  
Practice Player: Isabelle Leners  
Team Attitude Player: Isabelle Leners  
Most Outstanding Defensive Player: Isabel Ripplinger  
Most Outstanding Offensive Player: Sammy Pilarski  
Most Outstanding Player: Samantha Pilarski

All Conference Honorable Mention:

Isabelle Leners, Isabelle Ripplinger, Dakota Soltis  
All Conference: Samantha Pilarski





Dan Cheney, Community Education Coordinator ([dancheney@upsala.k12.mn.us](mailto:dancheney@upsala.k12.mn.us))  
<https://upsala.k12.mn.us/page/upsala-community-education>

**At Upsala Community Education** our goal is to provide opportunities for people of all ages and to enrich their lives through many different offerings beyond the regular school day and school year. We work with other groups including civic, non-profits and local businesses to enrich the lives of our community members.

**If you have a talent, interest, or area of expertise; consider sharing your talents or interests with your community by becoming a Community Education instructor.**

### *Drivers Training*



The next drivers training classroom sessions will be held in the high school media center Feb 26-Mar 1 & Mar 4-8, 2024 after school from 3:30-6:30pm. The price is \$545.25 which includes 6 hours of behind the wheel with home or school pickup and drop off. The contract lets you take behind the wheel up to a year after the class ends.

Payment is required with registration. Registration is **ONLY** through Today's Driving School. Do not pay at the school office. Their phone number is 844-374-8315.  
<https://www.todaysdrivingschool.com/upsala.phtml>

### *Potspot*



The next session for PotSpot Paint Your Own Pottery is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5 after school in the FCS room. This session will feature winter and holiday figurines. PotSpot brings your projects back to their shop to be kiln fired and then returns them to school in about two weeks. Cost is \$15.

*Register for Community Education classes  
 at the school's web store:  
[upsala.revtrak.net](http://upsala.revtrak.net)*

### *After School Sessions*



#### **COOKIE DECORATING**

Come and have some fun with holiday-themed cookie decorating. At the end of class you will bring home some beautifully decorated cookies for your family. A fun class activity is planned for when cookies are drying.

Wednesday, December 13, Grades K and up.

#### **FIDGETS, GAMES & MUSIC**

Learn how to use Popit Fidgets to create candy, make music and play games! In this class we will be playing games, dancing, listening/making music and more using fidgets. **EVERYONE** will bring home at least one fidget of choice.

Monday, January 8, Grades K and up.

#### **POPIT CHOCOLATE**

Let's make some M&M chocolate bars using a Popit Fidget! Come and have some fun with your friends while making beautifully designed chocolate bars. At the end of this class you will bring home your own Popit Fidget of choice as well as some chocolate for your family. Also fun games planned to win more fidgets!

Thursday, February 15th, Grades K and up

#### **Upsala Community Education Advisory Council**

Vern Capelle, Superintendent/Director	
Dan Cheney	Elizabeth Gunderson
Brittany Harren	Wendy Rene
James Warga	Jennifer Servatius
Denise Cheney	Jessica Wenker



Monday 10-4, Tuesday 2-6, Wednesday 2-8, Friday 2-8, Saturday 10-1

UPSALA PUBLIC LIBRARY- 117 Main St. • Phone: 320-412-2048 • [griver.org/events](http://griver.org/events)

### Short Story Month Writing Challenge



Photo provided by Stearns History Museum - @StearnsHistoryMuseum on Facebook

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but how about 33? During Short Story Writing Month, ShoStoWriMo, give us your best short story based on this historical picture. Submit this form December 1-31 at any GRRL location. You may also submit your form online at <https://griver.org/short-story-challenge>.

### Tech Time

Trouble understanding your laptop, iPad, Kindle, or other electronic device? Would you like to download books from the library website or use eBooks but aren't sure how to? Tech help will be on the first Wednesday of the Month from 4 to 5 p.m. or other dates/times by pre-arrangement.

**Wednesdays: Jan. 3 & Feb. 7 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

### Gnome for the Holidays

We will make a fun holiday gnome themed mini-stocking and other gnome inspired projects. All supplies provided. For teens and adults. Limit 12. Registration required.

**Monday, Dec. 4 at 4:00 p.m.**

### Storytimes

Join Miss Gwen or Miss Madelyn for a fun filled storytime. We will read stories, make a craft, and enjoy a snack. For ages 3 to 8 and their families. Limit 15. Preregistration encouraged.

**Gingerbread Storytime Wed., Dec. 6 from 4:00-4:45 p.m.**

**Winter Storytime Tues., Jan 16 from 3:30-4:15 p.m.**

**Friendship & Hearts Tues, Feb. 20 from 3:30-4:15 p.m.**

### Lego Hour Challenge

Inspire your creativity with our Lego challenges. All blocks provided to build. For ages 5 to 12. Limit 12. Sponsored by the Friends of the Upsala Public Library. Registration is required for each date.

**Wednesdays, Dec. 13 & Jan. 24 & Feb. 28 from 3:30 to 4:30**

### Crafternoon

Join us for a fun craft project led by librarian Gwen. All supplies will be provided. Limit 12. Registration required for each date.

**Fridays: Jan. 12 and Feb. 9 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.**

### Stan Tekiela presents "Backyard Birds: Welcomed Guests at Our Gardens and Feeders"



Magnificent photographs and fascinating facts spotlight the lives of the most captivating and beloved backyard birds. This talk is packed with information that is not

found in the ordinary field guide. Hundreds of award-winning images of your most favorite backyard birds. Why are some birds so brightly colored? Why do they sing songs? Life inside an egg and nest. Does feeding birds in your backyard help the birds? How many eggs can a bird lay? For all ages. This program was made possible with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment.

**Saturday, Dec. 9 starting at 1:00 p.m.**

**2024 Adult & Teen  
Winter Reading Program  
Perched On Reading  
January 2 - February 29**

Register at your library or  
online at [griver.beanstack.org](http://griver.beanstack.org)



### Between the Covers Book Club

Join "Between the Covers" book club for adults the fourth Monday of every month. Stop in for a copy of the book in print or audiobook (when available) ahead of time.

**\* Special Meeting for December will be on Wednesday, Dec. 26 at 9:30 a.m. at the Upsala Community Center**

**Mondays: Jan. 22 & Feb. 26 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

### Inside Story Strolls

Learn about the brave birds and other animals through fun interactive story strolls inside the library this winter. A different story each month. **January & February**

### Authors Michelle Aleckson & Mollie Rushmeyer



Join local area authors Michelle "Sass" Aleckson and Mollie Rushmeyer for book readings and discussions of their newest books.

**Monday, Jan. 29 starting at 6:00 p.m.**

Watch for more information on our other upcoming programs at <https://events.griver.org/>



Upsala Area Schools  
 415 South Main Street  
 PO Box 190  
 Upsala MN 56384  
 www.upsala.k12.mn.us

Bulk Rate  
 US Postage Paid  
 Non-Profit Org  
 Permit No. 2

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**

- 11/28 @ Brandon-Evansville
- 11/30 vs ACGC
- 12/2 vs Holdingford
- 12/5 vs Little Falls
- 12/7 @ LPGE
- 12/12 vs BBE
- 12/15 @ Osakist
- 12/19 @ Ogilvie
- 12/21 vs Melrose
- 12/28 vs Benson
- 1/4 vs Staples-Motley
- 1/5 vs Browerville
- 1/9 vs Swanville
- 1/12 @ Pillager
- 1/16 @ Pierz
- 1/18 vs LPGE
- 1/23 @ Mille Lacs
- 1/26 vs Osakis
- 1/30 @ Browerville
- 2/3 @ Pine River-Backus
- 2/6 vs Verndale
- 2/8 @ Swanville
- 2/12 @ Braham
- 2/15 vs Bertha-Hewitt
- 2/20 @ Kimball
- 2/23 @ Hinckley-Finlayson

**WRESTLING**

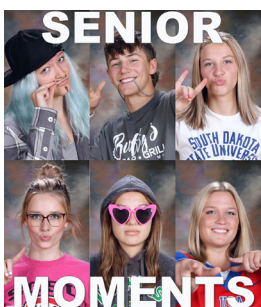
- 12/2 @ Coon Rapids
- 12/8 @ Brainerd
- 12/9 @ Brainerd
- 12/12 @ Bertha-Hewitt
- 12/15 @ Eden Valley-Watkins
- 12/16 @ Monticello
- 12/21 @ Royalton
- 1/4 @ Royalton
- 1/6 @ Foley
- 1/11 @ LPGE
- 1/13 @ Alexandria
- 1/18 @ Milaca
- 1/20 @ Lake Crystal
- 1/25 @ Royalton
- 2/1 @ Royalton
- 2/2 @ Kimball
- 2/8 @ Royalton

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

- 12/2 vs Holdingford
- 12/4 @ Brandon-Evansville
- 12/8 @ Browerville
- 12/11 @ Staples-Motley
- 12/14 vs Swanville
- 12/19 vs Verndale
- 12/21 @ ACGC
- 12/22 @ Little Falls
- 1/2 vs Royalton
- 1/5 @ BBE
- 1/11 vs St John's Prep
- 1/12 vs Parkers Prairie
- 1/16 @ LPGE
- 1/19 @ Osakis
- 1/23 vs Ogilvie
- 1/25 vs Bertha-Hewitt
- 1/30 vs Kimball
- 2/1 vs Browerville
- 2/3 @ Pine River-Backus
- 2/6 @ Swanville
- 2/9 @ St John's Prep
- 2/12 @ Braham
- 2/13 vs LPGE
- 2/15 @ Mille Lacs
- 2/20 vs Pierz
- 2/23 vs Osakis

**WINTER  
SPORTS  
SCHEDULES**

Every Student  ... Every Day



*Every fall (since they know they have their senior portraits coming soon) some seniors take a more humorous approach to picture day. Our cover samples a few of the more light-hearted photo sessions...*

<p><b>Administration:</b>          Vern Capelle, Superintendent          Nick Klug, Principal          Dylan Zimmerman, AD          Colleen Harren, Business Mgr.</p>	<p><b>School Board:</b>          Marvin Wensmann          Dean Peterson          Brittany Harren          Stephen Roerick          Mike Klasen          James Warga</p>
---	---