

welcome to  
**LUVERNE**

*Tollefson Publishing 2016 Guide to Luverne*



"Prairie Smoke"  
Blue Mounds State Park,  
Luverne  
Photo by Jim Brandenburg



**Luverne**  
*Love the life!*



# Love the opportunities

There's a reason why our community is always bustling. The people of Luverne support local businesses – old and new – and our city offers a variety of benefits and incentives to commercial interests. We make the success of *your* business *our* business.

## The City of Luverne's Incentives for Business:

- Tax Abatement
- Tax Increment Financing
- Gap Financing/Building Financing
- Energy Efficient Incentives
- Job Creation Credits
- Commercial Demolition Grants
- Discounted Residential Lots
- Revolving Loan Fund
- Professional Business Consultation
- Webcasts for Entrepreneurs
- Technical Assistance
- Employee Relocation Assistance
- Industrial Park Land Available

With beautiful parks, an outstanding public school system and lots of entertainment and event options, Luverne is a great place to live and work. **In Luverne, you'll love the opportunities!**

**Luverne**

MINNESOTA

*Love the life!*

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT:

**Holly J. Sammons**  
Economic Development Director  
507.449.5033  
hsammons@cityofluverne.org



# build your

# DREAMS

here.

Find everything you need  
to build your dream  
in Luverne, Minnesota  
— a charming city with  
a proud past and  
a promising future.

## CHECK OUT WHAT LUVERNE HAS TO OFFER!

### Outdoor fun?

- ✓ 12 Parks
- ✓ Blue Mounds State Park
- ✓ Bike Trails

### Education?

- ✓ Outstanding schools
- ✓ Big Dollars for Scholars Endowment
- ✓ Minnesota West Community & Technical College

### Lifestyle?

- ✓ Unique shops and restaurants
- ✓ Culture rich with history and arts
- ✓ Charming downtown

### Healthcare?

- ✓ Hospital
- ✓ MN Veterans Home

### Incentives?

- ✓ Low property taxes
- ✓ Discounts available on some lots \*

There's lots to love in Luverne.

Find a perfect spot to build your new home.  
See maps, pricing and incentives  
at [www.CityOfLuverne.org](http://www.CityOfLuverne.org).  
507.449.5033

**Luverne**  
MINNESOTA  
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\*Some restrictions apply.





- Visitor Guides
- Maps
- Custom Tours
- Community Events

**Luverne**  
Area Chamber & CVB

At the Rock County Courthouse Square  
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Phone/Fax: 507.283.4061  
luvernechamber.com

888.283.4061  
luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us

**m** EXPLORE  
MINNESOTA

# LUverne

M I N N E S O T A

*Love the life!*

**I**t is our pleasure to welcome you to Luverne, the Gateway to Minnesota. A city of nearly 5,000 progressive citizens, the area boasts superior schools, a robust economy, clean water, fresh air, safe neighborhoods, excellent medical care, convenient transportation services and a contagious community spirit.

Luverne offers many benefits that make it an attractive place to live — parks, culture, arts, entertainment, sports and recreation. We are a community of families deeply rooted in values and an undying commitment to building a city we can all be proud of. We are excited about Luverne and its future, and we welcome you to discover the excitement and enjoy it for yourself.

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## ON THE COVER

“Prairie Smoke” is one of Jim Brandenburg’s most endearing images from the Blue Mounds State Park near his hometown of Luverne, Minnesota. It was featured in a 1992 National Geographic Magazine assignment, “The American Prairie.” Brandenburg, recognized worldwide as one of the best in his field, founded the Brandenburg Prairie Foundation, which supports native prairie restoration projects like Touch the Sky Prairie in northwestern Rock County (pages 20-21). His Brandenburg Gallery (pages 28-29) in Luverne’s historic Veterans Memorial Building in the Courthouse Square supports the foundation’s efforts.



Touch the Sky Prairie in northwestern Rock County (pages 20-21). His Brandenburg Gallery (pages 28-29) in Luverne’s historic Veterans Memorial Building in the Courthouse Square supports the foundation’s efforts.





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# Luverne City Parks



This beautiful wooded park serves as a scenic welcome to travelers entering Luverne from the east. Nestled along the Rock River, it offers several well-maintained playgrounds, a shelterhouse, ball diamonds, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits and much more. To get there, travel east on Main Street over the river and enter the park on the south side of the road.

The city of Luverne also offers fully equipped pocket parks throughout the city, giving residential neighborhoods quick access to outdoor recreation near their homes.

There are 11 pocket parks scattered strategically in neighborhoods all over Luverne. See the city map on pages 38 and 39 for a small retreat near you.

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Luverne Ace Hardware is so much more than just a hardware store! We are also your neighborhood home decor and gift store.

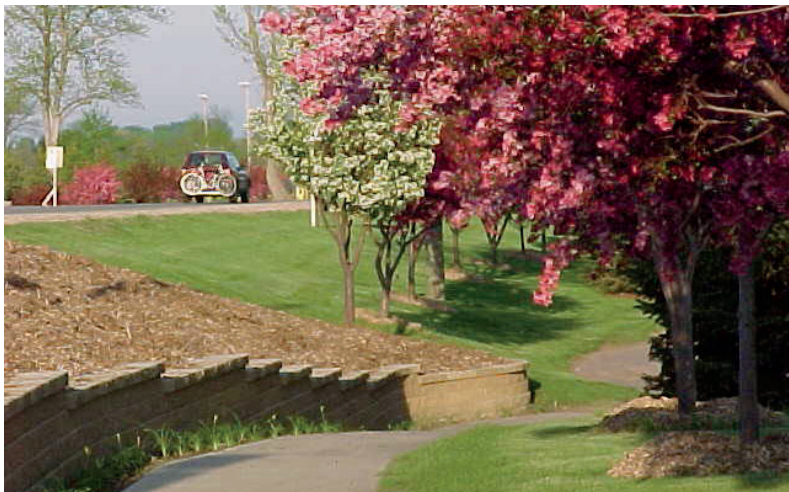
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# Blue Mounds State Park

**B**lue Mounds State Park is one of the largest prairie parks in Minnesota. The park office and main campground entrance is four miles north of Luverne on Highway 75. The phone number is 507-283-6050 for reservations and information.

The park's approximately 1,500 acres of prairie and grassland preserves a wide array of rare and common plants and wildlife. A bison herd grazes peacefully on a portion of this prairie.

Most of the park's prairie sits atop a massive outcrop of rock known as Sioux quartzite. The rock outcrop slopes gently up from the surrounding countryside but terminates abruptly in a spectacular cliff line. The cliff, one and one-half miles long and at some points 90 feet in height, provides a panoramic view of the countryside and is also used by a number of rock climbers from throughout the Midwest.

Miles of hiking and cross country skiing trails take you along the cliffs, around the park's two lakes, into the oak woods, and through the prairie.

Blue Mounds offers you the opportunity to see, hear and feel Minnesota's prairie environment firsthand. Here you can experience tall grasses and colorful wildflowers swaying in the wind or witness the power and color of a summer prairie thunderstorm rolling in from the west.

The mystery of the Blue Mounds is not restricted to the cliffs. At the Blue Mounds' southern end is a 1,250-foot-long line of rocks aligned in an east-west direction. Who built it and why is unknown. It is known that on the first day of spring and fall the sunrise and sunset are lined up on this stone alignment. Visitors can hike to the alignment to ponder the well-marked sunrises of spring and fall.

Blue Mounds State Park features 73 semi-modern campsites, 40 with electrical hookups. There are also a primitive camping area that includes two teepee campsites. There are 13 miles of hiking trails and opportunities for all levels climbing challenges.

Throughout the summer season the park naturalist provides a variety of programs both at the park amphitheater area and the interpretive center located at the south end of the park.









**Indoor Pool and Fitness Center**



# LuVerne

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[www.cityofluverne.org](http://www.cityofluverne.org)  
**Click on Pool &  
 Fitness Center**

The Luverne Area Aquatics and Fitness Center provides the community with a state-of-the-art recreation facility. The center is open seven days a week and can be rented for special events by reservation.

The pool area boasts an Olympic-size pool with a large wading area and special equipment to make swimming a fun activity for the entire family.

During the summer months the large glass panels can be opened to allow swimmers to go outside and enjoy the sunshine or remain inside out of the sun.

A hot tub that seats 10 to 12 people is also located adjacent to the pool area.

The fitness area of the center includes weight rooms with a variety of recently updated apparatus and free weights; a cardio fitness room houses treadmills, stationary bikes and elliptical machines.

In addition to the equipment, fitness personnel can set up individual programs for participants. This year-round facility is one of the premier facilities for a community of this size. You are encouraged to join the pool and fitness center on an annual, monthly, or daily basis.

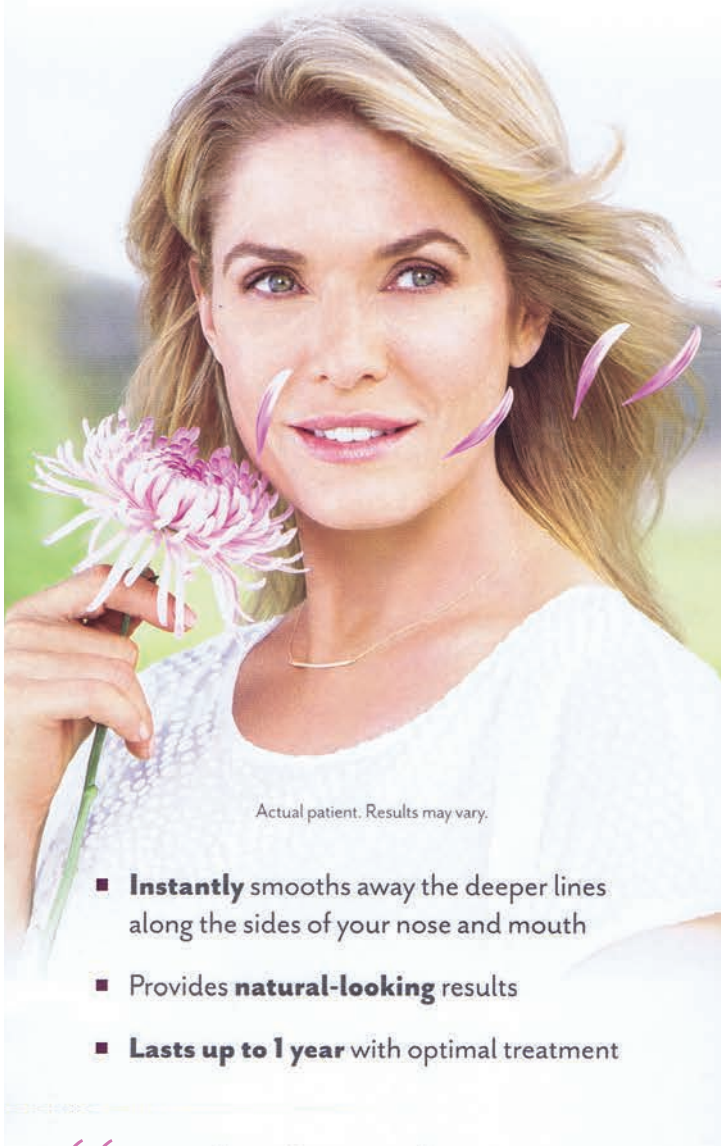
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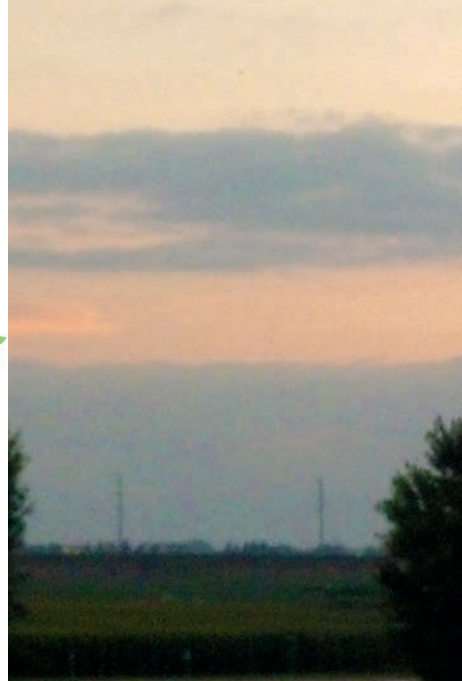




## Blue Mound Trail

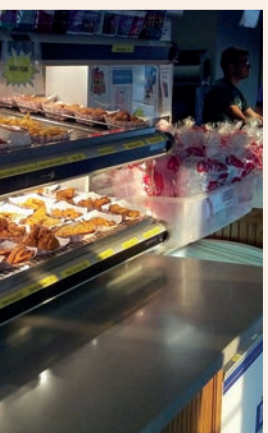
Jim Juhl photo

The Blue Mound Trail, a multi-purpose bike and pedestrian trail, was completed in 2003. The six-mile path officially starts at the corner of Blue Mound Avenue and Main Street and connects Luverne with the Blue Mounds State Park at the parking lot. It features open scenery, tree-lined shade and a beautiful view of the Blue Mounds cliff line. The project originally called for paving to end at the climber's parking lot on the curve with just packed gravel the rest of the way. But additional grant money allowed for the entire project to be paved all the way to the park.





# Verne Drive-In Theatre



**T**he Verne Drive-In draws movie enthusiasts to Luverne from the entire tri-state area.

The drive-in is operated by the Glen Burmeister family who put up a new two-story concession stand and a new ticket building.

The screen was repainted and trees were planted to surround the theater that will hold 300 to 350 vehicles.

The theater broadcasts its sound through regular car radios via an antenna located on top of the concession stand so there will be no more separate speakers necessary. The opening of the drive-in marked the rebirth of a Luverne business that has its roots back in the 1950s when it was first built.

The original drive-in was built by Kenneth and Maude Sargent. The buildings were constructed atop an underground circuit system of 8,000 feet of wires that were stretched throughout the theater to link autos with sound and picture. The first movies had an admission price of 60 cents with children under 12 admitted free.

Burmeister appreciates the fact that he had a place to go in the form of a drive-in theater during his high school days, and he wants to give movie fans of all ages the chance to live the experience only an outdoor facility can provide. With the opening of the drive-in, Luverne is the only community within 90 miles that has such a facility. Call 283-0007 for a schedule of show times.

MOVIES NIGHTLY



Verne  
Drive-In Theatre

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# Luverne Country Club

**T**he semi-private golf course is one of the most spectacular nine-hole courses in the region.

Beautiful trees, sand and water make Luverne Country Club a delightful challenge to any golfer. The course was founded in 1939 and was designed by Joel Goldstrand.

The club is located two miles east and one mile south of Luverne. Visitors are welcome.

For green fees and hours of operation, see [www.luverne-countryclub.com](http://www.luverne-countryclub.com) or contact [golfcc@yahoo.com](mailto:golfcc@yahoo.com)

Motor carts are available for rent in the clubhouse. The course is closed after 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for league play. Our driving range is open daily to the public.

Luverne Country Club offers many different membership packages and leagues to golfers of any skill level and ability.


Luverne Country Club also has tournaments that are open to the public. Call 507-283-4383 for tee times or directions.

## Enjoy a Round of Golf at the LUVERNE COUNTRY CLUB

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**GOLF**





# Blue Mound Ice Arena Luverne Hockey Association



Luverne High School made an appearance in the state hockey championships in 2013.

**Blue Mound Ice Arena**  
 Luverne Hockey Association  
 601 W. Hatting, Luverne, MN • 449-9138

The Blue Mound Ice Arena is used year-round by local hockey and figure skating clubs and teams from around the area, in addition to the public.

The building is a source of pride in the community and is ranked as one of the finest ice facilities in the area.

The Luverne Hockey Association has taken responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the building and has continually improved the arena with bleachers, heating, locker rooms, concessions and a variety of other improvements.

A two-story 112-by-32-foot addition in 2013 expanded space in the entry and concession areas and added two handicap-accessible restrooms. Also, a new hockey dryland training room allows for off-ice workouts for stick handling, plyometrics and cardiovascular work.

The building can be rented for other uses throughout the year and is often used for special events in the community. During the winter season we encourage visitors to call the arena for open skating times.

The Blue Mound Ice Arena can be reached at 449-9138 or visit [luvernehockey.org](http://luvernehockey.org).

## ARENA ACTIVITIES

- Hockey
- Ice Shows
- Public Skating
- Skating Lessons

Ice Sheet: 85' x 200'  
 Seating Capacity: 500  
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Building available for off-season rental during summer months



Small SW Minnesota community makes a state appearance



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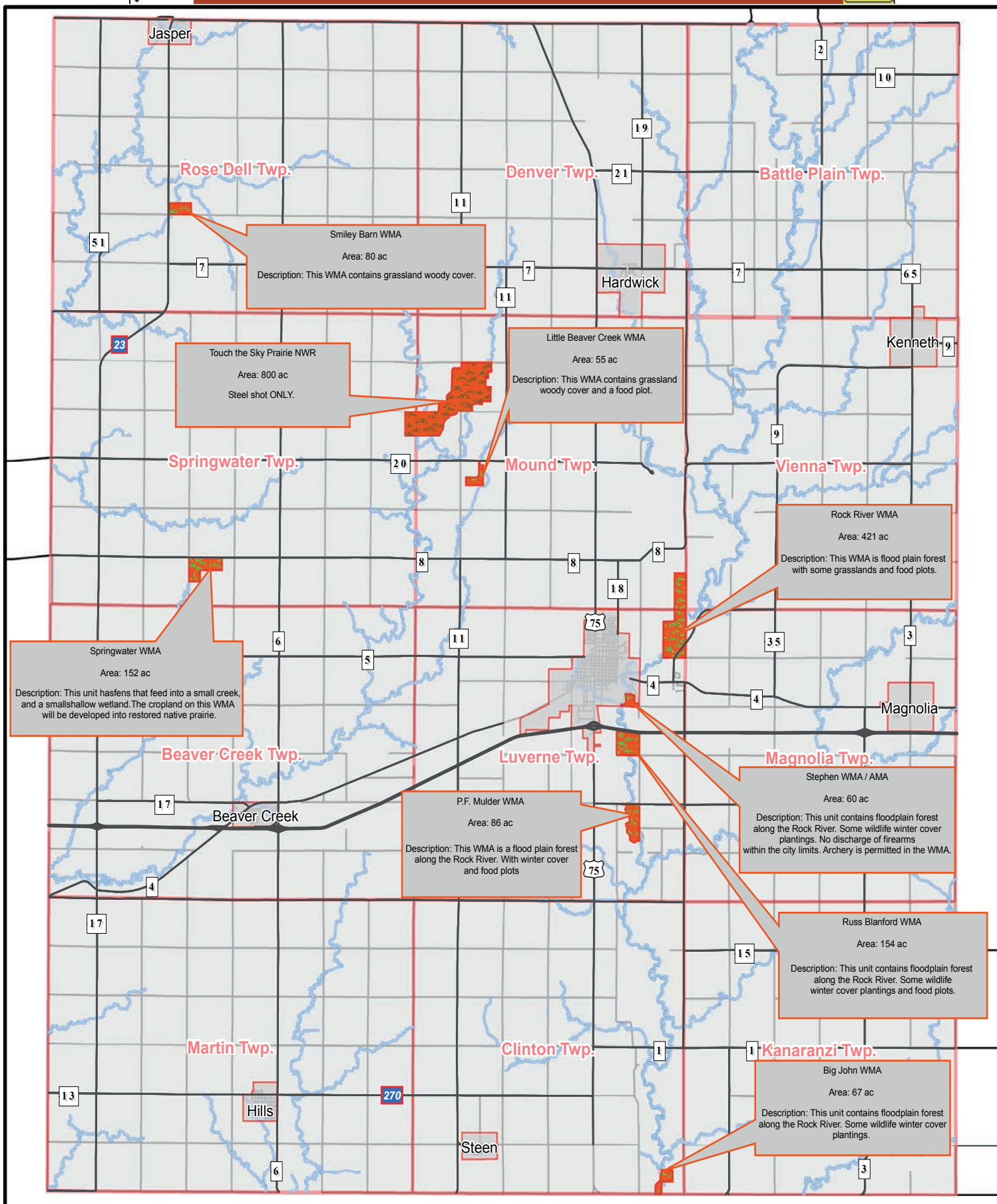
**OR CALL:**  
 507-449-9138





# Rock County

## Public Hunting Areas





# Hunting opportunities

Rock County is home to nearly 1,000 acres of Wildlife Management Areas, providing ample opportunities for hunting enthusiasts to experience the local outdoors.

The Rock County chapter of Pheasants Forever maintains an active presence in the community, serving to connect sportsmen with each other and with resources to improve their hunting experiences.

Jeff Wieneke can be reached at 507-283-2339 for information about Rock County Pheasants Forever and about where to find the best area public hunting grounds.



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## Rock County Sportsman's Club

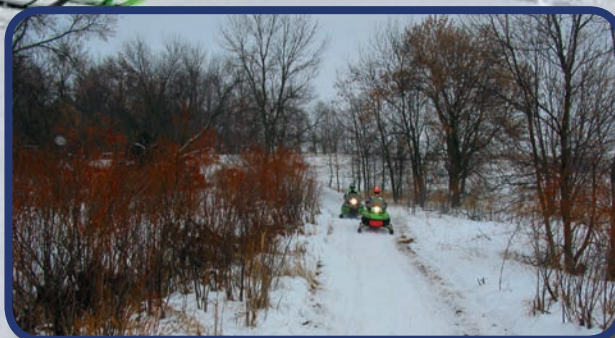
The Rock County Sportman's Club dates back to the turn of the century, but its current location — 40 acres near the Rock River just west of the golf course — dates to the 1930s. The clubhouse itself is fashioned from a former World War II barracks that was moved here from Sioux Falls. Today, the Rock County Sportsman's Club has roughly 70 members, and on any given Tuesday night league shoot, about 60 show up. Call Steve Nath, 507-283-9619, with questions about target fees, ammunition prices and yearly memberships.



# Snowmobiling in Rock County

The Rock County SnoMasters Snowmobiling Club maintains 90 miles of groomed trails throughout rural Rock County during the winter riding season. The well-maintained trail system allows for remarkable scenery amid the heart of the community's nature areas. The prettier parts of the trail wind through the

Blue Mounds State Park. Riders say it's not uncommon to encounter dozens of deer on some off-road trails near the river. For information on the trail system or about the SnoMaster's Club, contact Greg Vande Velde at 507-920-5189. Maps are available at gas stations, the Luverne Chamber Office and at a local bars.



## ENJOY OUR TRAILS BUT PLEASE KEEP THEM SAFE

### ROCK COUNTY SNO-MASTERS

Some of our trails cross private land which the landowners have been kind enough to grant us easement for. Please help us protect and appreciate their generosity by remaining on the marked snowmobile trail. We thank you and so does the wildlife.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR  
\* NEW MEMBERS \*

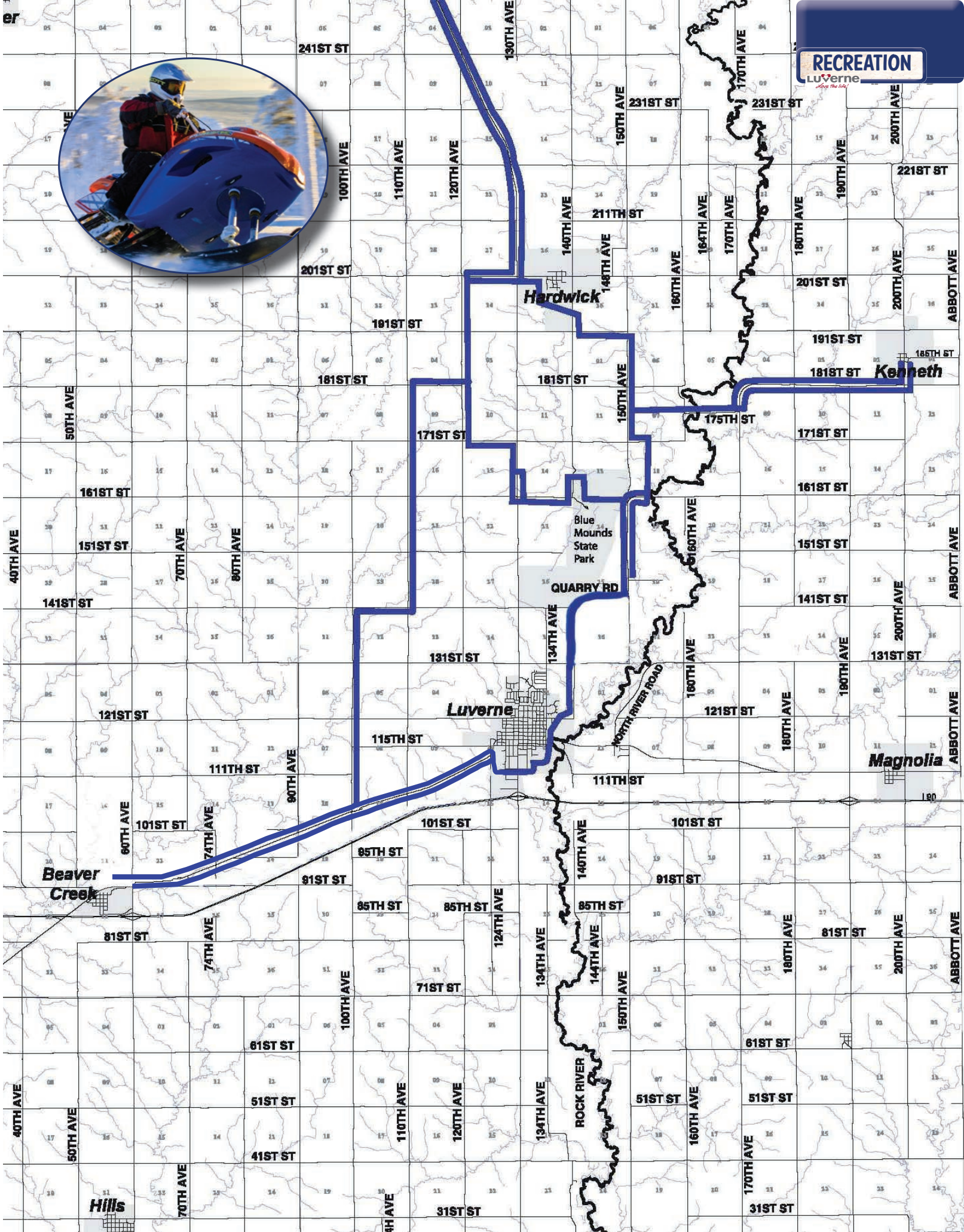


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# Touch the Sky Prairie preserves, educates



**J**im Brandenburg and the Brandenburg Foundation dedicated Touch the Sky Prairie in 2001 for the purposes of preserving and restoring the prairie and educating the public about its beauty and resources.

Brandenburg is well known for his photography of wolves and National Geographic stories, as well as of Minnesota's North Woods, where he makes his home. This award-winning photographer is a former farm boy who grew up near Luverne and graduated from Luverne High School in 1963.

While he lives up north, he never forgot his hometown and he wanted to give back to it. In May 1999, Brandenburg, in cooperation with the Luverne Chamber of Commerce, opened Brandenburg Gallery in Luverne. Over 100 of his popular and famous photographs line the walls. One area is called "Seasonal Prints." Another has "Images of Blue Mounds State Park." There are wolf photos, of course, but the focus is on the prairie.

Brandenburg once stated that he thinks the prairie, in its own way, is as beautiful as the North Woods. He obviously still feels an attachment to it, for the Brandenburg Gallery houses more than breathtaking photographs. It is also the headquarters of the Brandenburg Prairie Foundation.

Jim and Judy Brandenburg established the Foundation to preserve and expand prairie in southwest Minnesota. The Foundation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have purchased more than 1,000 acres of untilled prairie northwest of Luverne, adjacent to the farm where Brandenburg grew up. Named "Touch the Sky Prairie," it is open for the public to enjoy.

What makes an artist an artist is the ability to see what our oft-times jaded vision ignores. Viewing the photos in the Brandenburg Gallery is like taking a walk on the prairie, seeing wildlife and unexpected beauty through the eyes of an artist. Seeing what our eyes often overlook. Inviting us to open our eyes to the world around us.

Brandenburg's images of Touch the Sky Prairie can be viewed at the Brandenburg Gallery housed in the Galleries at the Rock County Courthouse Square.





Beaver Creek water feature photo at Touch the Sky Prairie by Bob Dunlap.

## Outdoor classroom

**T**hird-graders in Luverne Elementary School — through the Prairie Ecology Bus, Lakefield — tour Touch the Sky Prairie annually to study prairie ecology and trek through the tall grass looking for evidence of plant and animal life forms.



# Schoneman Park

Schoneman Park is a county park located south of Luverne on Highway 75. The park is maintained by the county and provides fishing, picnic areas and nature walks around the larger ponds that have been developed for nature observance.

Throughout the spring, summer and fall, the park has become home to a flock of Canada geese which provide entertainment to people of all ages. They they wait for the arrival of the geese and watch the young develop into mature geese that leave with others as they migrate south in the fall.

The park is a popular fishing spot with a floating dock that has been developed to allow youngsters, adults and even those with disabilities the opportunity to fish. Ice fishing is also popular.

At the south end of the park an observation tower allows visitors to view the entire park from the top.

There are also picnic tables, covered shelters and restroom facilities available at the park.



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# Thursdays Farmers Market

## all summer

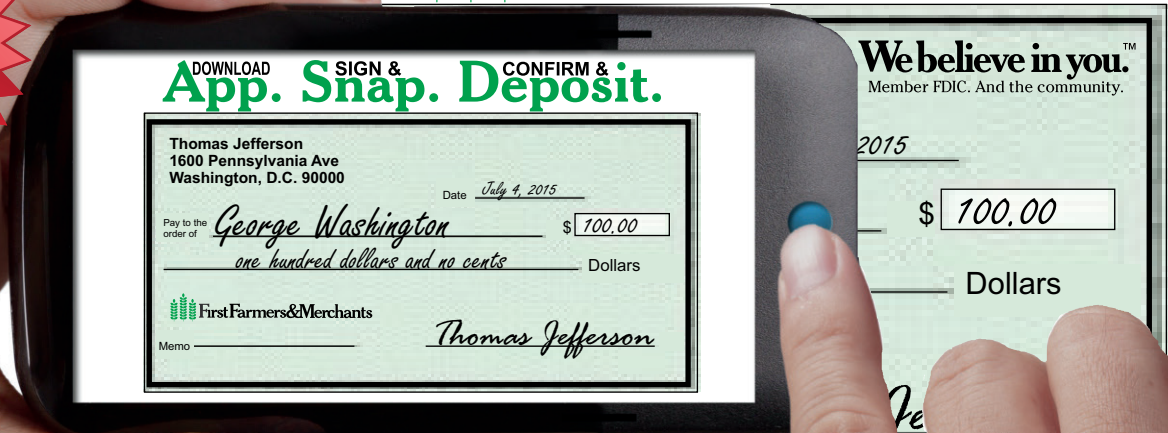


**L**uverne's Farmers Market draws dozens of local vendors from 4 to 7 p.m. every Thursday from June through October to their location just south of East Main Street near Redbird Field. In addition to produce and baked goods, there are

vendors, such as the Master Gardeners and composting clubs who share public information. Nonprofit groups serve meals as fundraisers during the market. To register as a vendor, contact Corrine Bonnema at 920-3802.

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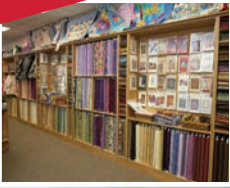


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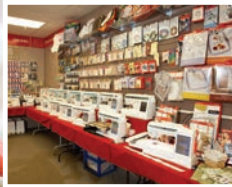
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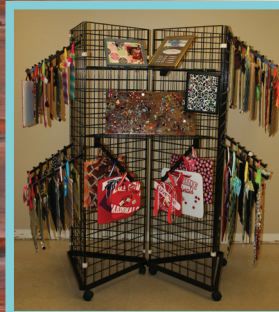
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In 1892 Mr. R.B. Hinkly, then mayor of Luverne, built a beautiful home for himself and his family. The house was constructed of Sioux Quartzite quarried and hauled on horse-drawn carts from the Blue Mound Quarry north of Luverne. In April of 1959, the home was donated to the Rock County Historical Society and opened as a museum in August of the same year. The Hinkly House was placed on the Register of the National Historic Sites on June 10, 1975. Within the last ten years, great efforts have been made toward the restoration of the museum.



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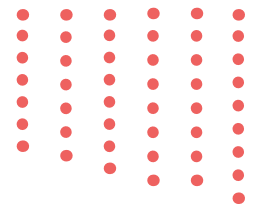
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# Brandenburg Gallery, Luverne



Internationally known nature photographer Jim Brandenburg, a native of Luverne, uses the gallery in his hometown to market his photography to residents and visitors alike.

The Brandenburg Gallery is managed by the Luverne Chamber staff and is located in the Galleries Building on the

Rock County Courthouse Square.

Brandenburg became noted for his photography of wolves and the beauty of the north woods. But his first photos and his current interest are of his native prairie of southwest Minnesota.

Brandenburg started his career as a contract photographer with National Geographic and spent almost 30 years in that capacity. He has also done contract work for other national and international publications.

Over the past few years, Brandenburg has completed a three-year project of capturing the seasons of the prairie for a Japanese public television special. He is currently working on a companion book of native prairie as well as a book on the timber wolf of northern Minnesota.

The Luverne gallery opened in 1999 and a few years later Brandenburg also opened a gallery in Ely, Minnesota, his current residence. The Luverne gallery is owned by the Brandenburg Prairie Foundation with all proceeds from the gallery going to the Foundation, whose mission statement is, "to educate, expand and

promote native prairie in southwest Minnesota."

The "Touch the Sky Prairie" is a project located northwest of Luverne that is also part of the Brandenburg Prairie Foundation, and the gallery is not only a display of his prairie images, but also an educational component of the prairie project.

The artist said he's enthusiastic about the project because Luverne is his hometown, and profits from the gallery support local prairie preservation projects. "The gallery, to me, is about giving back to the prairie that's been good to me," he said.

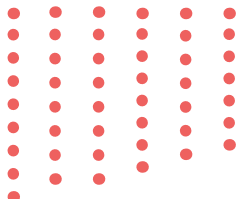
"All my ancestors farmed in Rock County; my great-great-grandparents broke sod here. Growing up here, I was very interested in the prairie ... It's a very spiritual thing for me. I have deep, deep roots in the prairie of the Blue Mounds State Park."

The gallery continues to be the cornerstone of a series of local initiatives to cultivate a "Spirit of the Prairie" theme, and the images in the gallery capture and interpret the beauty of the prairie for visitors.

"The landscape is very elusive, if not beguiling, and I think people don't truly appreciate what they're seeing when they're on the prairie of the Blue Mounds. Photography can be helpful to visually interpret that remarkable beauty," Brandenburg said.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by the gallery in the Courthouse Square to see more than 100 images of the prairie and beyond. In addition to the images, there are posters, videos, and note cards available. Luverne is very proud of its native son, and we look forward to sharing our pride with others.

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# Historic Palace Theatre



(Jim Brandenburg photo)

Ken Burns, creator and producer of the world-acclaimed documentary series, “The War,” greets audience members during the film’s premiere in the Historic Palace Theatre in September 2007.



The Palace Theatre in downtown Luverne is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year with a centennial lineup of quality entertainment (see the page at right). The Palace Theatre was built in 1915 by Herman Jochims, primarily for the presentation of stage plays by traveling theatre troupes and for the “moving pictures,” then an upcoming form of entertainment.

Focal points of the building are the originally painted wall panels, stage curtains, pipe organ, and the artistic wall and ceiling decor. A ballroom originally occupied the second floor of the building.

The theater is still in operation today for movies and live productions, thanks to tireless efforts of volunteers with the Blue Mound Area Theater Board. Lorie Line, Tonic Solfa and Deuces Wild are only a few of the big name performers to take the Palace stage this year. Ticket information is available at the Carnegie Cultural Center box office, 507-283-8294.

Thanks to Papik Motors and First Farmers and Merchants Bank, free movie night has returned to the Palace Theatre. A free family-friendly movie will be shown on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. Plus, the evening features a cash drawing, just as it was done in

the 1930s, when the free movie night was known as “Bank Nite” at the Palace, sponsored by the local banks.

To help support the efforts of the Palace, checks can be made out and mailed to: Luverne Area Community Foundation P.O. Box 623 Luverne, MN 56156.

See the Palace website [www.palacetheatre.us](http://www.palacetheatre.us) for a schedule of movies and events.

The Historic Palace Theatre building has contributed significantly to the history of culture on the prairies of Southwest Minnesota since 1915. In September 2007 several improvements were completed extending the theatre’s useful life while preserving its significant historical character.

The improvements were completed just in time for the world premiere of Ken Burn’s documentary film, “The War,” which featured Luverne as one of four communities in the film to illustrate the effects of war not only on the soldiers but on the communities they left behind.

See page 33 for more information about “The War” premiere in Luverne.





**Green Earth Players Community Theater**



**2015/16 Calendar of Events**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>November 1</b> Sweet Adeline's "Let's Sing Again" with Step it Up Men's Barbershop            | <b>December 19</b> Monroe Crossing presents "A Bluegrass Christmas" |
| <b>November 5</b> Bank Nite FREE Movie   | <b>December 18, 20</b> Movie TBD                                    |
| <b>Nov. 13-15 &amp; 20-22</b> Green Earth Players present "The Homecoming"                       | <b>February 21</b> Spotlight Dance Recital                          |
| <b>November 28</b> Tonic Sol Fa Holiday Show (sponsored by The Bluestem & Main Street Financial) | <b>March 11-13, 18-20</b> GEP presents "A Year with Frog and Toad"  |
| <b>December 3</b> Bank Nite FREE Movie   | <b>April 2</b> Luverne Home & Living Show                           |
| <b>December 4,6</b> Movie "The Peanuts Movie"  | <b>May 25</b> Spotlight Dance Recital                               |
| <b>December 5,7</b> Luverne Street Music presents "The Sounds of Christmas"                      | <b>July 11-16</b> Missoula Children's Theatre                       |
| <b>December 12</b> Christmas at the Palace   | <b>September 11</b> Remember 911 Rally                              |
|  | <b>December 30</b> Deuces Wild! Dueling Pianos                      |

Community theater at its best is performed several times a year on local stages by the Green Earth Players, one of the premier theater groups in this area. These performers draw members and audiences from the tri-state area and deliver grand musicals, informal readers' theaters and children's theater camps. For a schedule of GEP performances or for general information call 507-283-2765. For ticket information, call the Palace Theatre box office at 507-283-4339. It's located next to the Palace Theatre at 102 E. Main St. in the office of the Luverne Area Community Foundation. Office hours are noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



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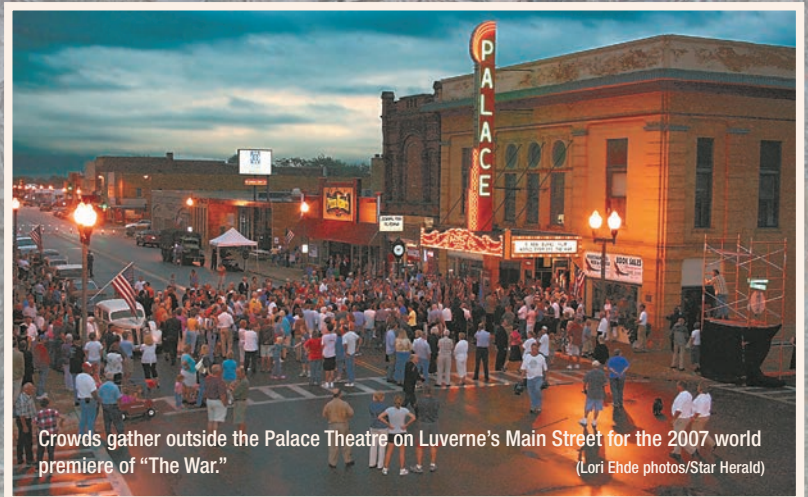


# 'The War' puts LuVerne in national spotlight

## THE WAR



Documentary film producer Ken Burns stops traffic on LuVerne's Main Street to take in the view of downtown, saying, "This is my country."



Crowds gather outside the Palace Theatre on LuVerne's Main Street for the 2007 world premiere of "The War."  
(Lori Ehde photos/Star Herald)



The late LuVerne WWII veteran Charles Mann is one of the featured soldiers in the film. He and his wife, the late Verna Mann, were moved to tears after the veterans showing.

**O**n Sept. 6, 2007, LuVerne's historic Palace Theatre hosted the world premiere of the Ken Burns documentary film, **THE WAR**. The film, which critics and Burns himself declared one of his best ever, features LuVerne and three other communities to tell the story of World War II from the perspective of the soldiers and their loved ones at home who lived it.

This perspective of WWII — from the bottom up, as Burns calls it — is what **THE WAR** documentary set out to accomplish. Quentin Aanenson's PBS film is the reason LuVerne was discovered for the film, but Burns said the town and the people he met there were perfect for telling the story the way he envisioned it.

In a process that took more than six years, Burns and his producers spent time in LuVerne collecting treasures from family scrapbooks and home movies, interviewing soldiers and recording testimonials from those who survived back at

home without their loved ones. Along the way, Burns found Al McIntosh, the late editor and publisher of the Rock County Star Herald in LuVerne. His columns detailed soldiers deploying and returning home, and the anxieties and exuberance of those experiences at the time. The columns also captured the horrifying sadness of local families receiving news that their loved ones would not be coming home.

McIntosh's words narrate much of the film through the voice of actor Tom Hanks. Burns calls McIntosh the "one man Greek chorus" in the film, and those poignant wartime columns are now compiled in a book, "Selected Chaff."

As a result of the film and its spectacular world premiere, the community continues to enjoy national attention and increased awareness of its rich historical heritage.

**THE WAR** DVDs and the "Selected Chaff" books are available in LuVerne but can also be found in major bookstores nationwide and online.



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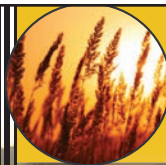
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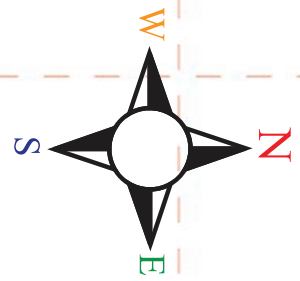
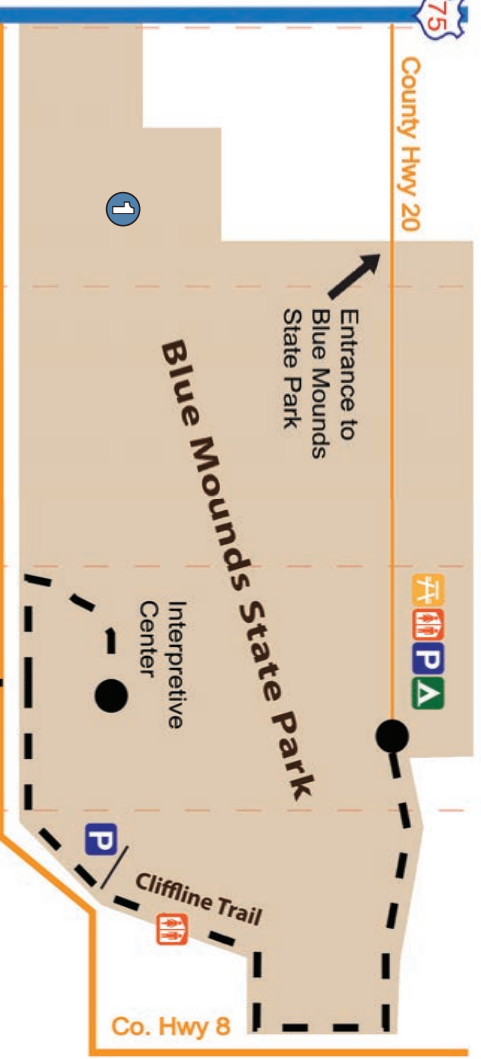
- LODGING & CAMPING**
- 1 Blue Mounds State Park  
507-283-6050, 1410 161st. St.
  - 2 Cozy Rest Motel  
507-283-4461, 116 S. Kniss Ave.
  - 3 GrandStay Hotel & Suites  
507-449-4949, 908 S Kniss Ave.
  - 4 Hillcrest Motel  
507-283-2363, 210 W. Virginia St.
  - 5 Quality Inn  
507-283-9488, 801 S. Kniss Ave.
  - 6 Super 8 Motel  
507-283-9541, 1202 1/2 S. Kniss Ave.

- POINTS OF INTEREST**
- 7 Blue Mound Ice Arena  
507-449-9138, 601 W.Hatting St.
  - 8 Blue Mound Liquor  
507-449-5052, 319 W. Main St.
  - 9 Good Samaritan Society  
507-283-2375, 110 S. Walnut Ave.
  - 10 Hinky House  
507-283-4061, 217 N. Freeman Ave.
  - 11 Luverne Area Aquatic & Fitness  
507-449-5036, 802 N. Blue Mound Ave.
  - 12 Luverne City Hall  
507-449-2388, 305 E. Luverne St.
  - 13 Luverne Public Schools  
507-283-4491, 709 N. Kniss Ave.
  - 14 Minnesota Veterans Home  
507-283-1100, 1300 N. Kniss Ave.
  - 15 Minnesota West  
507-449-2772, 305 E. Luverne. St.
  - 16 Palace Theatre  
507-283-4339, 104 E. Main St.
  - 17 Quentin Anenson Field/Luverne Airport  
507-283-5041, 941 US Highway 75
  - 18 Redbird Field  
209 S. Redbird Rd.
  - 19 Rock County Community Library  
507-449-5040, 201 W. Main St.
  - 20 Rock County Courthouse Square  
507-283-5065, 204 E. Brown St.
  - 21 Rock County Veterans Memorial Building  
507-283-4061, 213 E. Luverne St.
  - 22 Brandenburgh Gallery  
507-283-4061, 213 E. Luverne St.
  - 23 Herreid Military Museum  
Kahler Terrace
  - 24 Rock County Veterans Memorial  
Rock County Fairgrounds
  - 25 601 S. Cedar St.
  - 26 Rock County Museum  
507-283-2122, 123 N. Freeman Ave.

- VISITOR SERVICES**
- 20 Luverne Area Chamber  
507-283-4061, 213 E. Luverne St.  
local & regional info
  - 23 Those Blasted Things  
507-283-4021, 924 S. Kniss Ave.  
local info

- PARKS & RECREATION**
- 24 Evergreen Park
  - 25 Tonto Park
  - 26 Veterans Memorial Park
  - 27 Prairie Moon Park
  - 28 Longhorn Park
  - 29 Sitting Bull Park
  - 30 Hawkinson Park
  - 31 Kolbert Park
  - 32 Moccasin Park
  - 33 Riverside Park
  - 34 Luverne City Park
  - 35 Buffalo Bill Park
  - 36 The Lake
  - 37 Veterans Pond
  - 38 Flag Park

- EMERGENCY SERVICES**
- 39 Rock County Law Enforcement Center  
507-283-5000, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave
  - 40 Sanford Luverne Medical Center  
507-283-2321, 1600 N.Kniss Ave.
  - Sanford Luverne Clinic  
507-283-4476, 1601 Sioux Valley Dr.



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[www.LuverneChamber.com](http://www.LuverneChamber.com)





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 Friday-Saturday: 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
 Sundays: 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Winter Hours - Oct - Apr  
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 Friday-Saturday: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
 Sundays: 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

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hours:  
**Monday-Saturday**  
 10am-2am  
 Kitchen: 11am-10pm

507-449-0454





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Visit our brewery on  
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glassware sales, samples and tours**  
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Restaurant: Mon-Thu: 5-9pm | Fri & Sat: 5-10pm

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FRIDAY-SATURDAY 11 AM-12 AM  
SUNDAY 10 AM-10 PM**

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# Rock County Community Library

The Rock County Community Library is a priceless tool for residents and their families. In addition to serving as a resource center for information, it connects children at an early age with a love of reading and learning. Below, Mike Prestby and his sidekick "Bongo" the gorilla delight a full house of children and grownups to kick off the library's summer reading program.



**Rock County Community Library**  
 201 W Main  
 Luverne, MN 56156  
 507-449-5040  
 Fax 507-449-5034

**Hours**  
**Monday - Thursday**  
 10 A.M. to 8 P.M.  
**Friday**  
 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.  
**Saturday**  
 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.  
**Sunday closed**

**Staff**  
**Director:**  
 Serena Gutnik  
**Assistant Librarian:**  
 Barb Verhey  
**Children's Librarian:**  
 Bronwyn Wenzel

## LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL

Little Lambs Preschool offers early childhood education in a loving, Christ-centered environment.

<b>M-W-F CLASSES</b>	<b>T-TH CLASSES</b>
8:30-11 A.M.	8:30-11 A.M.
12:30-3 P.M.	12:30-3 P.M.

Website  
[StJohnLutheranLuverne.org](http://StJohnLutheranLuverne.org)


Email  
[littlelambs@iw.net](mailto:littlelambs@iw.net)





**507-283-2316**  
 803 N Cedar Luverne, MN

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 507-920-5197  
[luvernetrolley@gmail.com](mailto:luvernetrolley@gmail.com)  
[www.luvernetrolley.com](http://www.luvernetrolley.com)



# Luverne Public Schools

## Academics

- 30 College credits offered through on-campus courses taught by Luverne Teachers
- 10 College Course offerings in Science, Math English and Social Studies
- 3 Languages - Spanish, German, and Sign Language
- Visual Arts, Industrial Technology, Agriculture Ed. FACS, Business and Computer
- Inter-active TV Opportunities (ITV)
- Special Services
- Alternative Learning Center (ALC)

## Athletics and Activities

- Tennis, Football, Cross Country, Volleyball
- Wrestling, Hockey, Basketball, Gymnastics
- Softball, Track, Baseball, Golf
- Drama, FFA, FCCLA, Band, Choir, Math League, BPA, Intramural Sports, Peer Helpers, Student Council, Speech, Mock Trial, German Club, and Spanish Club

## Community Education

- Early Childhood Education (ECFE)
- School Readiness
- Discovery Time Preschool
- Summer Recreation
- Family U (after school care)
- Driver Education
- Adult and Youth Programs
- Nature Explore Outdoor Classroom

## Elementary Programs

- Spacious, Modern Elementary Facility
- All Day Kindergarten
- Media Center, Technology Labs, iPad Lab, Smartboards
- Child Guide Program
- Accelerated Reading Program
- RTI Program
- Reading and Math Corps Intervention Programs
- Comprehensive Special Education Program
- Positive Behavior Intervention & Support Program

## Scholarships

- Dollars for Scholars has awarded more than 1,500 scholarships totaling over 2.1 million dollars awarded in the past 25 years. Total endowment is slightly more than \$7.5 million (Present annual awards total over \$294,750)
- AR Wood Scholarships (\$7,000)
- Gunderson Agricultural Scholarships (\$3,000)
- Finke Forensics Scholarships (\$1,000)

[www.isd2184.net](http://www.isd2184.net)



**Luverne Public Schools**

(507) 283-8088

709 North Kniss Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota



The student body of Luverne Public Schools is comprised of nearly 1,200 students. All students are served through the program of the school district. These students present a wide variety of needs and talents.

Luverne High School students have consistently led the way in academic achievement. They score above the national average in ACT tests, and our dropout rate is less than 3 percent per year.

Through our emphasis on instruction the students realize their primary purpose in school is to succeed in the subjects we teach so they can grow and develop to their fullest capacity in order to be contributing citizens.

By any measure one might use, our students are achieving well, and we are continually looking for new challenges for our students and new ways to reach all students.

The program in the Luverne Public School District begins with the diverse needs and abilities of our students. We demonstrate the district's commitment to excellence through a broad scope of programs that accommodate the students from preschool through adult age.

The district now offers access to increased college credits, up to a full year, and pre-engineering credits in the graphics department.

The program goal is to assure measurable academic achievement, observable growth in emotional maturity, physical well-being and social responsibility for all students.

In addition to a complete curriculum of learning experiences the Luverne School District prides itself on a wide variety of

extracurricular activities that serve a wide variety of students.

In addition to a full line of athletics, middle and high school students also have the chance to participate in speech, debate, drama, newspaper, year book, band, student council, choir, math league, science fair, German Club, Spanish Club, FFA, FLA, BPA and mock trial.

The school, with help from community members, has developed a plan for the district's future.

The educational beliefs that were developed are as follows:

- Educational systems must be flexible and adaptable.
- All people can learn.
- We will provide a variety of opportunities for all people to learn.
- Current technology will be part of our educational system.
- We must prepare people to compete and function in an ever-changing world.
- We must provide a positive educational atmosphere.
- The school must provide a safe and stable learning environment.
- Family and community must be involved in education.
- We must model and promote responsible citizenship.
- We must provide and maintain quality facilities.
- People and property must be treated with respect.
- We must promote an understanding of cultural diversity.
- We must promote an understanding of global issues.
- Quality staff is essential to learning.
- We must promote lifelong wellness.
- Learning is a lifelong activity.



# Luverne Public Schools





# Luverne Community Education



The mission of Luverne Community Education is to provide “lifelong learning” opportunities for everyone, from infants and toddlers to senior citizens. We are very fortunate to live in a community that willingly shares its talent, experience and expertise for the broader good. This is what makes “Community Education” work. The Community Education office, located on the Luverne Public Schools campus, is the parent organization for several vital learning programs in the community. For example, the summer recreation program — which oversees everything from kinderball and T-ball to youth soccer and major league baseball — is operated through Community Ed, as are the early childhood

education programs and senior defensive driving classes. Visit the Luverne Community Education website through the Luverne School District website, [www.isd2184.net](http://www.isd2184.net), and click on Community Education. Click on the current brochure for a full listing of current class offerings. The phone number is 507-283-4724.



ECFE is a Community Education program for parents and their children, from birth to kindergarten age. It offers information and support to parents and provides activities for parents and children to explore together through classes that meet throughout the school year. We offer two 12-week sessions. Sibling care is available for other children in the family (\$1.75 per class), in addition to transportation on Heartland Express if needed. Classes are open first to Luverne School District residents and open-enrolled families at no cost (just ask to have fee waived) or whatever you wish to pay up to \$50 /per child/per class. Out-of-district residents may enroll if classes are not full, at a cost of \$50/per child/per class.



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FRIDAY 7:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.



MICHAEL P. SMITH, DC

"The doctor of the future  
will give no medicine  
but will interest his patients  
in the care of the human frame  
in diet, and in the cause  
and prevention of disease."

Thomas E.



NATALIE REISCH



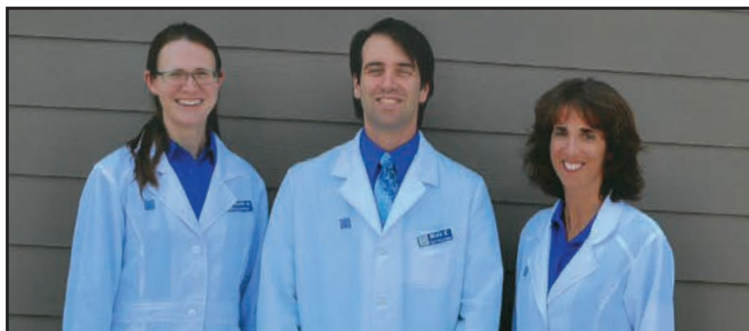
Serving the Luverne Community

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- Women's Health Services
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# Sanford Hospice Luverne



Hospice is considered the model of quality, compassionate care for people facing a life-limiting illness or injury. It involves a team-oriented approach, combining expert medical care with emotional and spiritual support, tailored to each patient's needs and wishes. Support is extended to patients' loved ones as well.

Care is provided in the patient's home — whether that is a house, apartment, assisted living facility or one of nine area nursing homes. Hospice services are also available to people in the hospital and at The Cottage, a four-bed residential hospice home located in Luverne (see photo).

Hospice care begins with a referral from the patient's physician. A nurse meets with the patient and family to discuss services and set up a plan of care to meet the patient's current needs. Members of the hospice team make regular visits to monitor the patient's condition and provide care and services. A hospice nurse is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for questions and concerns and to make additional visits as needed.

Hospice is a paid benefit under Medicare Part A, Medical Assistance and most health insurance policies. The benefit does not, however, cover room and board costs at The Cottage. Hospice care will not be denied based on the ability to pay.

For more information, contact Sanford Luverne Hospice at (507) 283-1805.



## When it's time for Hospice

Choosing hospice care for yourself or a loved one can be hard. It often comes after months, even years of treatments and weighing options.

When you turn to Sanford Luverne Hospice, you've turned to care that brings hope, dignity and love. Hope to help people live their life as fully as possible. Dignity where there is no cure. And love for family at one of life's most difficult times.

Hope. Dignity. Love.

Call (507) 283-1805 for more information.

[sanfordluverne.org](http://sanfordluverne.org)

**SANFORD**  
Luverne





# SANFORD<sup>®</sup>

## Luverne



**S**anford Luverne is a modern clinic and hospital facility located on the north side of Luverne, on State Highway 75/North Kniss Avenue. It was built and opened its doors in 2005.

Sanford Luverne has a warm, comfortable and relaxing atmosphere designed for patient comfort, privacy and healing.

Eight family medicine physicians, a certified nurse practitioner, general surgeon, and a team of skilled nurses and technologists provide excellent, high-quality health care services at Sanford Luverne Clinic.

The clinic has 36 patient exam rooms and four procedure rooms.

At least 12 physicians provide specialized medical services at Sanford Luverne.

Specialties include cardiology, ear, nose and throat, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, ophthalmology surgery, orthopedics, podiatry, pulmonology, urology and vascular surgery.

Sanford Luverne Medical Center offers a full spectrum of inpatient and outpatient services:

- Ambulance
- Assisted Living

- Cardiac
  - Cardiac Scans
  - Doppler Studies
  - Echocardiograms
  - EEG, EKG
  - Stress Testing
- Cardiology
- Chemical Dependency (outpatient)
- Diabetic Education
- Dietitian
- Emergency Dept. (24 hr)
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Family Medicine & Specialty Ambulatory Clinics
- Foot Care
- Health/Wellness Screenings
- Home Health
- Hospice
- Inpatient Care
  - Medical, Surgical, Peds
  - Monitored Bed Unit
  - Nursery
  - Obstetrics
  - Swing Bed/ Skilled Care
  - Telemetry Monitoring
- Laboratory
- Members of Sanford Health
- Outpatient Care
  - Chemotherapy
  - IV Therapy
- Pharmacy
- OB/Gynecology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedics
- Prenatal Education & Lactation Specialist

- Pulmonology
- Radiology
  - CT Scanner
  - Dexascan
  - Digital Mammography
  - Doppler Studies
  - MRI
  - Nuclear Medicine
  - X-RAY
- Ultrasound
- Rehabilitation
  - Cardiac Rehab
  - Massage
  - Physical Therapy
  - Pulmonary Rehab
  - Speech Therapy
  - Occupational Therapy
- Respiratory
- Smoking Cessation
- Sleep Studies
- Surgery
  - Anesthesia
  - General, Laparoscopic
  - Inpatient, Outpatient
- Urology
- Vascular

Patients often voice how much they appreciate and enjoy the small-town, personal and genuine care they receive at Sanford Luverne. Staff members take the time to care for each patient, meet their needs and deliver the best experience possible.

Visit the Sanford Luverne website at [www.sanfordluverne.org](http://www.sanfordluverne.org) for more information. Take a virtual tour of our facility by clicking “Our Facilities” and selecting the area you’d like to tour.





## Good Samaritan Communities of Luverne



The Good Samaritan Campus in Luverne continues to grow to meet the needs of area seniors. Today the campus hosts a full continuum of retirement and nursing care options including:

- The Oaks – Senior Living Apartments (pictured at right)
- Poplar Creek Estates – Assisted Living Apartments (above)
- Good Samaritan Center Home Health Care
- Mary Jane Brown Good Samaritan Center – Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility

Mary Jane Brown Good Samaritan Center has been in the community for 48 years. The 60-bed facility features skilled and sub-acute care as well as advanced rehabilitation and therapy. The staff at Mary Jane Brown invites you to experience the loving, home-like atmosphere. The care and services have changed greatly over the years, yet the mission to “Share Christ’s Love” continues to be the foundation.

The Oaks, senior living apartments, were established just south of Mary Jane Brown in 1997. The 28 spacious apartment units are perfect for older adults who desire to plan for a secure and self-reliant future. Tenants enjoy carefree living, with all the

comfort, security and satisfaction of community living.

Poplar Creek Estates, the newest addition to the Good Samaritan campus, opened its doors July 19, 2004. The beautiful new assisted living facility is located just south of Mary Jane Brown and is connected to The Oaks. The 24 new apartment units offer seniors a home-like apartment setting with a full range of assisted living services. To learn more about The Oaks or Poplar Creek Estates, please call our housing manager at 507-283-3101.

Good Samaritan Home Health Care assists individuals in their goals to maintain their independent lifestyle while receiving the appropriate care and services needed. Our staff aides, homemakers, nurses and therapists can assist with a full range of home-care services. Tele-home-care and video phones are the newest addition to our services.

New technology allows clients accurate daily monitoring, including blood pressure, pulse and lung sound checks through a unit installed in their home and monitored by home-health professionals. For more information call: 1-800-870-3885.



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*We're part of your community.*

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[www.kozlowski-insurance.com](http://www.kozlowski-insurance.com)



# Luverne Family Dental

507-283-9129

115 East Main St. Luverne, MN

**Luverne Family Dental is a general dental practice providing a full range of dental services including:**

- cleanings
- same day crowns
- fillings
- root canals
- extractions
- teeth whitening
- dentures
- always accepting new patients







# Caring can be a job, a career or a way of life.

As an employee, being part of the Good Samaritan Society is about the fulfillment of playing a profound role in people's lives, and feeling as blessed by their presence as they are by yours. You're neither part of a business nor a system, but part of an organization that believes everyone deserves to feel loved and valued, and treated with dignity - both residents and staff alike.

To learn more about our community in Louverne, call us at (507) 283-2375 or visit [www.good-sam.com](http://www.good-sam.com)



All faiths or beliefs are welcome. 09-G0292



## Commitment to community

**SANFORD**

Louverne



**Timothy Ceynowa, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Judy Chesley, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Stephan Chesley, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Joshua Crabtree, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Diane Kennedy, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Richard Morgan, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Zach Nolz, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Jennifer Thone, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Norma Walks, MD**  
General Surgery



**Jonathan Pap, CNP**  
Family Medicine

At Sanford Louverne Clinic we believe quality care should be delivered close to home. Our team provides you with health and healing where it's convenient for you, by clinicians with a connection to your community.

### Clinic Hours

7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment, call (507) 283-4476 or (888) 283-4476.

[sanfordlouverne.org](http://sanfordlouverne.org)



# Minnesota Veterans Home

The Minnesota Veterans Home, built in 1993, is located on the north edge of Luverne with a scenic view of the Blue Mounds State Park. The residents enjoy a variety of outdoor activities including an enclosed picnic shelter and fishing dock located on the grounds of the Veterans Home. Local community events and golf cart rides are popular leisure activity choices for the residents.

Nursing staff is on-site 24 hours a day to provide individualized care for residents. Other services provided are bi-weekly physician visits, nutritional meals, social, recreation and chaplain services,

physical, occupational and speech therapy, pharmaceutical services, mental/behavioral health services, barber/beauty services, transportation to medical appointments and wireless Internet. A 17-bed special care unit is designed to provide care for the physical, emotional and social needs of residents with dementia.

The residents enjoy interacting with the community, and many volunteer opportunities are available. Please call 507-283-1100 if you are interested in more information about living, working, or volunteering at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.



Photo courtesy Jim Juhl, Myhre Studio



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# Festivals and celebrations



**November 6-8**  
**8th ANNUAL HOLIDAY STUDIO TOUR**  
Throughout Luverne and the surrounding area  
Visit artists' studios

**November 13-15 & 20-22**  
**GREEN EARTH PLAYERS FALL PRODUCTION**  
Check the Chamber website for details.

**November 28**  
**TONIC SOL FA HOLIDAY SHOW**  
Historic Palace Theatre – 8 pm

**December 4-5**  
**19th ANNUAL WINTERFEST**  
Throughout the City of Luverne  
Welcome in the Christmas holiday at Luverne's celebration of the season!

The weekend features events and activities for all ages, including: Theatrical Performances \* Skating Events \* Steak Feed \* Cribbage Tournament \* Historical Tours  
Christmas Trees \* Swimming Events \*  
**huge .... ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW,** featuring a guest appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus.  
Stay tuned to local media for announcements about plans for special holiday entertainment.

**March 11-13 & 18-20**  
**GREEN EARTH PLAY SPRING PRODUCTION**  
"A Year with Frog and Toad"

**March 17**  
**St. Patrick's Day Parade**  
Main Street - 4:30 pm

**April 2**  
**SPRING LOADED**  
At Luverne area businesses  
Luverne's new "loaded" Home, Health & Living Open Houses!

**May 6-7**  
**25th ANNUAL LUVERNE CITY-WIDE SPRING RUMMAGE SALES**

**June 3**  
**BUFFALO DAYS CRUISE-IN**  
Downtown Luverne - 6-10 pm  
Live band, food, beer garden

**June 4**  
**32nd ANNUAL BUFFALO DAYS PARADE**  
Main Street - 10 am  
**32nd ANNUAL ARTS IN THE PARK**  
Luverne City Park 9 am-4pm

**June 5**  
**TALES FROM THE GRAVE #5**  
Maplewood Cemetery 1-4 pm

Check the Luverne Chamber website for additional information:

[www.luvernechamber.com](http://www.luvernechamber.com)

Luverne Area Chamber 213 E. Luverne St.

Phone 888 283-4061 • [luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us](mailto:luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us)





**July 3-4**  
**4th OF JULY PARADE ON THE POND & FIREWORKS**

**July 14**  
**54th ANNUAL HOT DOG NITE**  
 Luverne Businesses - 5:30 pm - until gone  
 Free hot dogs!

**5th Annual Wienerman Triathlon**  
 Main Street - 7 pm

**8th Annual Wiener Dog Beauty Contest**  
 Main Street - 7:15 pm

**12th Annual Wiener Dog Races**  
 Main Street - 7:30 pm  
 Live music & beer garden on Main Street

**August 13**  
**ROCK RIVER BEER FEST**  
 Blue Mound Ice Arena  
 2-6 pm

**September 24**  
**66th ANNUAL TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL**  
 Parade, Main Street  
 9:30 am

**Field Competition, Cardinal Field**  
 12:30 pm  
 High school marching bands from the region appear in competition

**October 31**  
**4th ANNUAL TRUNK N' TREAT**  
 Downtown Luverne  
 4-5:30 pm

**November 12**  
**9th ANNUAL HOLIDAY STUDIO TOUR**  
 Throughout Luverne and the surrounding area  
 9 am - 4 pm  
 Visit artists' studios

**November 12**  
**4th ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**  
 Luverne Businesses and Home Vendors

**November**  
**GREEN EARTH PLAY**

**December 2-3**  
**20th ANNUAL WINTER-FEST**  
 Throughout the City of Luverne  
 Welcome in the Christmas holiday at Luverne's celebration of the season! The weekend features events and activities for all ages, including: Theatrical Performances \* Skating Events \* Steak Feed \* Cribbage Tournament \* Historical Tours Christmas Trees \* Swimming Events \* **huge ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW**, featuring a guest appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus. Stay tuned to local media for announcements about plans for special holiday entertainment.





**F**ounded on the plains of the Midwest in 1867, Luverne has changed dramatically over the years, but the roots for which this town was established still remain the same, and that is agriculture.

The productive soils of southwest Minnesota have given our home a special niche. Few get the opportunity to understand and appreciate the dynamics of livestock and crop production in the area. And few feel the sense of independence or the desire to be connected to the life on the land.

The world is quickly shifting around us, and by 2050 the population is expected to reach 9.6 billion. Demand for food will inevitably follow suit.

Our farmers have continued to utilize better information and advanced technologies to meet the increasing demand while at the same time promoting food and health safety.

Since the 1950s the amount of food needed to feed the world has nearly tripled, and farmers are meeting the demand. They are not only producing more, but they are using less land, water, and input to produce more food than ever before, thanks to their focus on productivity and efficiency.

By using reduced tillage practices, reducing nitrogen application and utilizing more corn varieties, farmers have reduced environmental impacts like erosion and water pollution. All of these efforts made by our farmers have greatly decreased the amount of income people spend to feed themselves.

In the United States, on average, only 6.8 percent of one's income is spent on food compared to the UK at 9 percent and Mexico at 24 percent.

In 1994 Luverne built one of the first ethanol plants. The increase in infrastructure left room for agriculture to prosper in the

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For us, these simple truths give us a deeper appreciation for our farming community that we likely take advantage of every day. Yet we continue to provide this overlooked service with gratitude and satisfaction. It's what separates us from the rest of the world.

Rock County is among the most productive counties in the state, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

In 2014 Rock County planted 109,500 acres of soybeans that yielded 62,709,000 bushels — nearly 47 bushels per acre.

That same year, Rock County planted 148,500 of corn that yielded 19,743,000 bushels — nearly 155 bushels per acre.

By all accounts, the 2015 harvest season in Rock County is on track to surpass these yields and even break some records.

Ag in Rock County, according to 2012 census data:

Average size of farms: 415 acres

Average value of agricultural products sold per farm:

\$211,395

Average value of crops sold per acre for harvested cropland:

\$214.86

The value of livestock, poultry, and their products as a percentage of the total market value of agricultural products sold: 64.08%

The percentage of farms operated by a family or individual: 88.35%

Average age of principal farm operators: 50 years

Average number of cattle and calves per 100 acres of all land in farms: 17.45



# Rock County Agriculture

last decade.

We've also seen more livestock moved to our area. As this shift occurs, it is becoming increasingly evident that the huge increase in demand from an exploding population will have to come from the Midwest. This means developing a business model that is sustainable.

Our expectations are that producers and farmers will be asked to manage a slimmer margin than in the past, which will promote these efficiencies even more, and our area will have to adapt.

Some folks do not realize the importance the farming industry serves. Very few places in the world allow their people to simply walk into a market and buy whatever food they wish.

Unless you were a king, there was no time in history that common citizens were granted the delicacy of meat every day, let alone three times a day.

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# ROCK COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL

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JIM BRANDENBURG PHOTO



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**Mail to:**

Rock County Veterans Memorial  
c/o Administrator  
PO Box 509  
Luverne, MN 56156

**Line 1, print veteran's name.**  
**Line 2, print veteran's rank or branch of service.**  
**Line 3, print dates of service or conflict.**

**Reminder: 20 characters per line (commas, dashes, spaces, and periods each count as a character)**

LINE 1																				
LINE 2																				
LINE 3																				

The cost is \$125 for each paver. (501C3 nonprofit).



# Rock County Veterans Memorial

*Memorial is a fitting tribute to veterans, beautiful community attraction*

The Rock County Veterans Memorial was dedicated on the front lawn of the Rock County Courthouse on Memorial Day 2007. More than 2,000 pavers have been spoken for in this spectacular 30-foot-wide memorial.

The Rock County Veterans Memorial is a gift from Warren Herreid II and his wife, Jeannine Rivet, Minnetrista, through their non-profit foundation called KAHR.

Herreid II said, "We wanted to do it to give something back to the community." His father, Warren Herreid I, Luverne, is a decorated veteran

and served during World War II and the Korean War. Many of his brothers did as well.

Herreid II said, "It was my father's idea to put the memorial on the courthouse lawn."

It features a life-size bronze statue of a veteran, known as "Poppie." Poppie (pictured at left) sits on one of five granite benches that circle a center obelisk that carries the names of local veterans who died in service.

The obelisk is 18 feet tall, made of five-sided black granite.

The five sides face the five benches, which sit at the points of a paved granite star. The pavers are next to the star and also line the sidewalk leading to the memorial.

Luverne's historic Civil War cannon and carriage were added to the memorial, and plans are underway to add a water feature. The memorial has proven to be a fitting place of honor for local veterans and a beautiful attraction to the community.

See [www.rockcountyveteransmemorial.com](http://www.rockcountyveteransmemorial.com).





# Veterans Memorial Building



A massive renovation and revitalization project in 2009 turned the century-old Rock County Jail and Sheriff's Residence into a new place of art, heritage and history, through the generosity of the K.A.H.R. Foundation and the Rock County community.

Called the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building, it features the Brandenburg Gallery, Herreid Military Museums and Kahler Terrace. Perhaps the project's most important purpose is to tell Rock County's history and pay tribute to those who made us the great community that we are.

The features artifacts, pictures, stories and memorabilia of the brave men and women who have served our country.

Students became soldiers, farmers became sailors and bookkeepers became airmen ... no matter what their call – the citizens of Rock County responded to the call of the nation.

Come and experience their story of service from the Civil War to Vietnam, from WWI to WWII, from the Korean War to more recent military conflicts. Learn of their sacrifice at the Herreid Military Museum.

The third floor of the museum tells the story of the Korean War, Vietnam War and post-WWII wars ... of Rock County families, friends and neighbors who were affected by recent war in American history.

The exhibit features a life-size restored military jeep and a bunker similar to what combat soldiers would have used in the jungles of Vietnam.

Hours at the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building are Mon-Fri: 8am – 5 pm, Sat: 10 am – 5 pm

Location: 213 East Luverne Street (two blocks north of Main Street and three blocks east of Highway 75)

Telephone: 888 283-4061

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# Rock County Historical Society



The former Ford Motor building on Luverne's Main Street is being remodeled as The History Center opening 2016



Dedicated to archiving and preserving our county's history, the Rock County Historical Society is a thriving organization of dedicated volunteers. From their headquarters at 123 North Freeman, the Society maintains and preserves artifacts, materials and exhibits from Rock County's 150-year history.

The Rock County Museum features displays of Rock County cities, Rock County government, and changing displays on specific historical topics. Throughout the past two decades the Society has developed a massive collection of organized articles, obituaries, and printed materials for public and private research.

ROCK COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

123 NORTH FREEMAN AVENUE  
LUVERNE, MN 56156

*History Matters*

### Downtown Luverne History Center on the horizon

To accommodate the treasures, and to make them more accessible to the public, the Historical Society this year purchased the Ford Motor building on Main Street in Luverne and has developed plans to convert it to what they're calling the History Center.

To support the fundraising drive, visit [Facebook.com/RockCountyHistoryCenter](https://www.facebook.com/RockCountyHistoryCenter) or call (507) 283-2122 RCHS or (507) 283-4061 Luverne Area Chamber.

### Multiple locations of local historic interest

The Rock County Historical Society, in addition to the beautiful Victorian home, **The Hinkly House**, also maintains four buildings at the Rock County Fairgrounds.

The **Fitzer Barn** was built over 100 years ago and features artifacts and displays of farming materials from Rock County. Working exhibits provide a hint of farm work throughout the 20th century.

The **One Room School** is a replica of County School District 1 and provides a glimpse of education during the first half of the 20th century at a time when Rock County had over 75 school districts.

The **Lopau Summer Kitchen** brings the past alive. In the days before air-conditioning...before electric and gas stoves...women spent hours cooking and cleaning in the summer kitchens to keep their homes cool during hot summer days. See what life was like!

The **Ordung Building** offers a glimpse of the past through a wonderful collection of historic farm machinery, manufacturing equipment, and historic vehicles.

Rock County Historical Society is located at:  
123 North Freeman Ave., Luverne, MN 56156

Call 507 283-2122 or email [rcmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:rcmuseum@hotmail.com) or contact Historical Society President Betty Mann: [mannmade@iw.net](mailto:mannmade@iw.net) 507 283-2913



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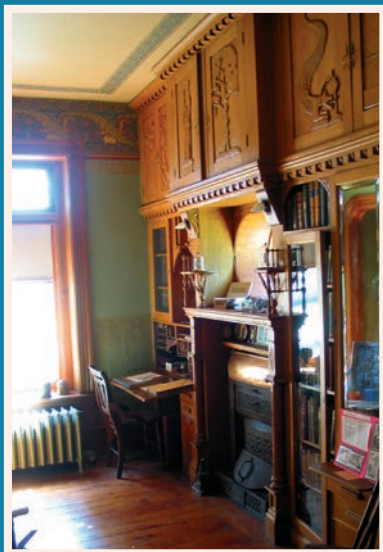
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# Hinkly House Museum



The Hinkly House is open in the summer from June through August on Thursdays from 2 to 4 pm.



On North Freeman Avenue, the Hinkly House is a beautifully preserved and accurately restored Victorian period home in Luverne presented to the Rock County Historical Society in April 1959 by the heirs of the R. B. Hinkly family.

Luverne businessman and pioneer, R. B. Hinkly, his wife and four children moved into the house on November 11, 1892. Architect W. E. Green designed this modified Queen Anne home that had 12 rooms, 2 bathrooms, and a story-high attic. The home was built of Sioux quartzite that was quarried and hauled on horse-drawn boats from Hinkly's Blue Mound Quarry north of Luverne. Master stone mason was Knute Steine, native of Valdres, Norway, who supervised the masonry. Steine also carved the two lions that stand guard at the home's front door.

R. B. Hinkly was a visionary of things to come. The house is an attribute to his foresight, engineering and artistic skills. He looked ahead to a time that electricity would be available in Luverne and installed wiring in his house during construction. Hinkly also installed a gravity operated plumbing system that used a large tank in the attic to supply water to the bathrooms and kitchen prior to the development of the city's water utility.

The name "HINKLY" is displayed in a panel of stained glass on the top of the threshold of the front door. Upon opening the door, the word "WELCOME" and a key are inlaid in the parquet floor. Wood-flooring throughout the first floor features unique inlay pattern designed by R. B. Hinkly.

The main floor rooms include a dining room, formal parlor, family parlor, music room, kitchen, bathroom and library/office. Stained glass and leaded windows prominently adorn many of the first floor rooms. The second floor features the master bedroom, five additional bedrooms, a spacious hallway and bathroom. The full basement features, among other rooms, the wood-working shop where the majority of the home's ornate woodwork was carved and manufactured. One of the home's most unique features is the tunnel constructed from the basement to a "cellar" located in the middle of the backyard. Hinkly used "the cellar" to store dynamite during the time he operated the quarry.

The photograph at the left features the library/office. The built-in desk, bookshelves and cabinets surround the fireplace. The office cabinetry was designed by R. B. Hinkly and carved by an artisan who had only one arm.

Tours are available June through August on Thursdays from 2 to 4 pm or by special appointment. Call 507 283-4061.



# Luverne dates back to 1867



## By Betty Mann, Historical Society president

When Philo Hawes passed through this area on June 14, 1867, to set up a mail route from Blue Earth to Yankton, S.D., it was held by hostile Indians. There was only a rough military road from Jackson through Dakota Territory to Yankton. He and his companion, Joe Fields, camped on the east side of Blue Mounds. He climbed to a high point and when he returned to camp he told his friend, "I have found the Garden of Eden and I will live here and lay my bones here." He did.

He returned in September to establish a mail station and put up hay. He was accompanied by four men and three teams of horses. He first stopped at Blue Mounds but discovered a better supply of timber to the south. There, out of poles and hay, he built a stable large enough for six horses, and he put up enough hay for the winter. He staked a claim by squatter's rights.

He visited his station in November and brought with him the John Leitze family and Miss Miranda Skinner to maintain a "half way" house on the mail route. The house was a dugout, lined with logs and covered with ridge poles. Hay and dirt were piled over the top for a roof. This was near where the power plant is now. Mr. Leitze and his family spent the winters of 1867 and 1868 there.

In March 1868, Mr. Hawes, accompanied by his lovely wife, son Charles and daughter Eva Luverne, arrived at the station and moved into the dugout vacated by the Leitze family. He at once built an 18-foot by 24-foot log cabin. In the fall a 12-foot by 24-foot addition was added. This was post office, city hall, church and

community center. Mr. Hawes named the post office Luverne after his daughter Eva Luverne.

The next to arrive as active promoters of Luverne were the Kniss brothers. P.J. Kniss built a log cabin at what is now the intersection of Warren Street and Kniss Avenue (south across from Smooky's Pizza). P.J. Kniss was a proficient surveyor and civil engineer so he plotted out the town west of the Rock River. The first streets plotted north and south were Cedar, McKenzie, Spring, Oakley and Blue Mound. East and west streets were Luverne, Lincoln, Main, Maple and Fletcher.

In January 1871 the governor proclaimed Luverne would be the county seat.

To find out how Luverne became the beautiful, progressive community that it is today, visit the Rock County Museum on North Freeman Avenue (see page 64).

The first school in Luverne was founded in 1871, and the first building was built in 1872. In 1875 a fire destroyed that building. The second building was built in 1875 where the Brandenburg Gallery and Prairie View Antiques are now. The building soon became too small and school was held in many churches and other buildings. In 1882, Central School was built where the old elementary school now stands. The first class graduated in 1888. In 1895 room was needed again, and a high school was built where Fledgling Field is now. In 1925 old Central School was moved to the side of the block and a new high school was built. That building is now the old elementary school which is being turned into apartments. The present high school was built in 1956. An

elementary and middle school was added in 1998 to the high school complex.

Early pioneers saw hard times, terrible blizzards, prairie fires and epidemics, but perhaps the greatest calamity was the grasshopper scourge in 1873 which resulted in a total loss of crops in 1874 and some loss in 1875. In Luverne, businesses failed and many moved away. Progress ceased and even regressed at this time.

When the crop of 1877 was saved the town began life anew. In 1878 the boom began. On November 15, 1878, the village government was established.

Construction of the railroads helped this boom. By October 1876, the first trains were running regularly into Luverne, then the terminus of the line. By 1879 a line was laid south to Doon, Iowa. By 1883 trains were running in all four directions. The first depot built of wood needed to be replaced in 1911, and the replacement building still stands in the south part of town.

In October 1880 the first snow began to fall. People were not prepared for such an early snowfall, and throughout the winter many storms left the town with few supplies. There was a three-month period where very little traveling could be done, and Luverne was blocked in by snow.

The pioneer church was the Methodist Church established in covered wagons in 1873 by the Rev. E.H. Bronson. The original part of the present church was begun in 1877. Many other churches began very soon after this. The Episcopal Church was constructed in 1891 and still stands on the corner of Cedar and Luverne streets.

The G.A.R. was a power in the town's early history, and many pictures are of the G.A.R. encampments held here. This has been a very patriotic community over the years. Many of the original settlers were Civil War veterans. We have had people serve in all wars since. In the Second World War, the National Guard unit from Luverne was called to active duty. A State Guard unit was formed at that time.

Over the years, we have had many doctors and druggists. Our first hospital was in a house. Dr. Sherman built a hospital on the corner of Brown and McKenzie streets, and now we have our present hospital and medical center on Luverne Street.

In May 1883, gas street lamps were erected. A man was hired to light the lamps every night and put them out in the morning. These lamps cost the village \$101. In August 1892, electric lights were installed using the water power at the pumping station. In 1911, the city light plant was remodeled. In 1914 the city was without electricity or water due to flooding of the power plant. A new plant was built in 1915 when residents had electricity for 24 hours a day. We now buy electricity from Western Area Power Administration and Missouri Basin Municipal Power Agency.

In 1873 customers were having trouble getting around from one business to the other, and store owners were urged to put up board walks in front of businesses. In 1886 storm gutters were installed. In 1900 concrete sidewalks were poured. In 1907 the streets were graveled. Oct. 1, 1920, four blocks of Main Street were paved with cement.



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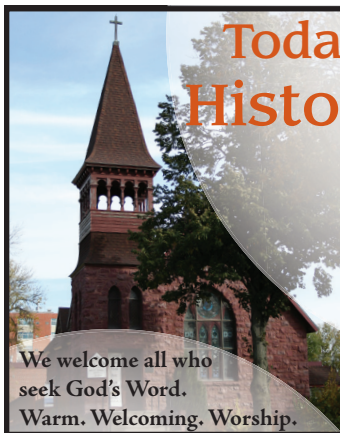
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**Sunday School:** 9:15 a.m.

### WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES:

**Awana Clubs:** 6:55 p.m.

Kindergarten - Grade 12

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## St. Catherine Church

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Father Tom Jennings  
stcatherine@iw.net  
507-283-8502

**WEEKEND MASSES**  
5:30 p.m. Saturday and  
10:30 a.m. Sunday

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
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11 a.m. - Come As You Are Contemporary Service  
Wed. Evening 6 p.m. - F.U.E.L. Children's Ministry

Pastor Dorie Hall

## United Methodist Church

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**Regular Service of Worship:**  
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**Summer Service of Worship:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Fellowship Time:** 10:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday Youth Club:**  
immediately following school (October - April)



## St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

803 North Cedar, Luverne • 507-283-2316  
Rev. Gary Klatt



[littlelambs@iw.net](mailto:littlelambs@iw.net)

### Little Lambs Preschool

For more information or to register call  
**St. John Lutheran Church**  
507-283-2316

**Regular Worship Services**  
5:30 p.m. Saturday • 9:00 a.m. Sunday  
**Christian Education Hour**  
10:15 a.m. Sunday



[www.StJohnLutheranLuverne.org](http://www.StJohnLutheranLuverne.org)

## Churches in Luverne

### American Reformed Church

Pastor Mike Altena  
304 N. Fairview Dr.  
283-8600

### First Baptist Church

Pastor Dick Lauger  
1033 N. Jackson St.  
283-4091

### United Methodist Church

Pastor Dorie Hall  
109 N. Freeman Ave.  
283-4529

### St. John Lutheran Church

Pastor Gary H. Klatt  
803 N. Cedar St.  
283-2316

### Bethany Lutheran Church

Pastor Andrew M. Palmquist  
720 N. Kniss Ave.  
283-4571

### First Presbyterian Church

Pastor Jason Cunningham  
302 Central Lane  
283-4787

### Grace Lutheran, ELCA

Pastors Ron Nichols and Cole McCormick  
500 N. Kniss Ave.  
283-4431

### First Assembly of God

Pastors Kenneth and Gloria Kashner  
1075 110th Ave., west of Luverne on  
County Rd. 4  
283-9070

### Luverne Christian Reformed Church

Pastor Roger Sparks  
605 N. Estey St.  
283-8482

### St. Catherine Catholic Church

Father Thomas Jennings  
203 E. Brown St.  
283-8502

### Living Rock Church

Pastor Billy Skaggs  
500 E. Main St.  
449-0057

### New Life Celebration Church

211 E. Main St. 449-6522

### Palisade Lutheran Church

Pastor Ray Heidenson  
48790 255th Ave., west end of County Rd.  
507-597-6257

### Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

220 N. Cedar St.  
227-6175

## Rural Churches

### Beaver Creek

**First Presbyterian Church**  
201 S. 3rd St.  
673-2428

### Steen

**Steen Reformed Church**  
Pastor Reuben Sinnema  
112 W. Church Ave.  
855-2336

### Magnolia

**United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Kristi Franken  
501 E. Luverne St.  
283-9698

### Hardwick

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
Pastor Mark Mumme  
305 E. 2nd St.  
669-2855

### Hills

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### **Emergency - 911**

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## **INFORMATION SERVICES:**

**Luverne Area Chamber/CVB**  
 507 283-4061 • 888 283-4061

## **EDUCATION:**

**Luverne Public Schools**  
**Community Education** 507 283-4724  
**Elementary School** 507 283-4497  
**High School** 507 283-4491  
**District Office** 507 283-8088  
**Alternative School** 507 283-0075  
**Little Lambs Preschool** 507 283-2316  
**Discovery Time Preschool** 507 283-4724  
**Minnesota West – Luverne Campus**  
 507 449-2772

## **HEALTH CARE SERVICES:**

**Chiropractic Services**  
**Luverne Health & Wellness**  
 507 449-4400

**Rock County Chiropractic**  
 507 283-2561

## **Medical Services**

**Sanford Clinic Luverne**  
 507 283-4476  
**Sanford Medical Center**  
 507 283-2321

## **Dental Services**

**Cornerstone Dental**  
 507 283-8130  
**Luverne Family Dentistry**  
 507 283-9129

## **Behavioral Health Services**

**Southwestern Mental  
 Health Center** 507 283-9511

## **Optometric Services**

**Rock County Eye Clinic**  
 507 283-2345

## **Hospice Services**

**The Cottage** 507 283-9356  
**Sanford Hospice** 507 283-1805

## **Pharmacy**

**Lewis Family Drug** 507 283-9549

## **Nursing Homes**

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 Samaritan**  
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 507 283-1100

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## **LOCAL NEWS SERVICES:**

**Newspapers**  
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**Radio ... K101/KQAD** 507 283-4444

## **LUVERNE CITY OFFICES:**

**City Hall** 507 449-2388  
**Building Inspector** 507 449-5031  
**Public Utilities** 507 449-9916  
**Public Works** 507 449-9914  
**Economic Development** 507 449-5033  
**Administrator** 507 449-5025

## **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES:**

**Luverne Municipal Airport**  
 507 449-5041  
**Rock County Heartland Express**  
 507 283-5058  
**Minnesota Southern Railway**  
 507 283-4269  
**Luverne Trolley**  
 507 920-0332

## **RECREATION & ENTERTAINMENT:**

**Luverne Aquatic and Fitness Center**  
 507 449-5036  
**Blue Mound Ice Arena**  
 507 449-9138

## **Luverne Country Club**

507 283-4383

## **Luverne Lanes Bowling**

507 283-8172

## **Palace Theatre/ Carnegie Cultural Center**

507 283-8294

## **Blue Mounds State Park**

507 283-6050

## **PHONE SERVICE:**

**Verizon** 507 283-0066

## **LIQUOR STORE:**

**Blue Mound Liquor**  
 507 449-5052

## **GARBAGE & RECYCLING:**

**Landfill/Transfer Station**  
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**Ketterling Services**  
 507 283-2863  
**Household Hazardous Waste**  
 507 283-8862

## **ROCK COUNTY OFFICES:**

**County Administrator**  
 507 283-5065  
**Land Records Office**  
 507 283-5014  
**Land Management Office**  
 507 283-8862  
**Natural Resources Conservation**  
 507 283-9146  
**Auditor/Treasurer**  
 507 283-5055  
**Highway Department**  
 507 283-5010  
**Clerk of Court/Judicial**  
 507 283-5020  
**County Attorney**  
 507 283-9111  
**Motor Vehicles/License Center**  
 507 283-5024  
**Family Service & Public Health Agency**  
 507 283-5070  
**Extension & 4-H** 507 283-1302  
**Veterans Service Office** 507 283-5061

## **MAIL:**

**USPS (Luverne Office)** 507 283-2186

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