



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Flood threat continues as snowpack thaws, showers in forecast

By Lori Sorenson

Raging floodwaters that closed roads and damaged property last week quieted down over the weekend, and several dry days and freezing overnights have slowed the spring thaw.

But area residents and emergency officials are bracing for the next round with a warmer forecast and hydrology warnings for the Rock River and Split Rock Creek in Rock County.

As of Tuesday morning, the National Weather Service had issued flood warnings for areas in Rock County near Split Rock Creek south of Jasper and the Rock River at Luverne, near Hardwick and in Rock Valley, Iowa.

This news comes while many homeowners are still cleaning flood-damaged basements and public works crews are checking roads damaged March 14-15.

In response to the March 14 flood event, the Rock County Commissioners on Tuesday declared a state of emergency. The declaration covers



Mavis Fodness photo/0321 Flooding March 15
A "Road" sign (intended to be a "Road Closed" sign) is all that is visible Friday morning along 161st Street two miles south of Kenneth. The township gravel road was taken over by melting snow Thursday and by Friday morning was covered by frozen slush and water.

the next 30 days in order to tabulate damage to public property.

Damage threshold for Rock County to receive state funds is just over \$18,000.

Local problems stemmed from an historic storm system that moved across the central United States pro-

Flood risk continues/see page 6A

Governor Walz signs bill to expand recovery loan program for farmers through Rural Finance Authority

After a rough winter that caused damage to dozens of agricultural buildings, Gov. Tim Walz on Monday signed a bill passed unanimously by both chambers of the Minnesota Legislature.

The bill amends the farm disaster recovery loan program to add "the weight of snow, sleet or ice" as conditions for which a farmer is eligible to participate in the program.

It allows the Rural Finance Authority (RFA) to determine whether a weather event constitutes an emergency and allows it to unlock funding for farm weather disaster recovery not covered by insurance.

"Minnesota's farms are the bedrock of our economy and our communities," Walz said.

"That's why I'm proud to sign this

bill to allow farmers impacted by snow, sleet, or ice to participate in the farm disaster recovery loan program. This relief is critical for the farmers who have been affected by extreme snow and blizzard conditions."

More than 100 barns and sheds have collapsed across the state, according to reports from Minnesota Milk and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. It has led to many farmers selling or relocating their cattle, often at short notice.

"Weather damage has been adding insult to injury for farmers facing five years of negative income," said Minnesota Farmers Union President Gary Wertish.

"We appreciate the swift bipartisan action by the Legislature and Gov. Walz to provide some relief."

Luverne Shopko to close

Liquidation in process, to be finished by June

By Mavis Fodness

Shopko Hometown in Luverne will close its doors by June.

Local store employees were informed Monday of the closure affecting all Shopko stores nationwide.

"This is not the outcome we had hoped for when we started our restructuring efforts," said CEO Russ Steinhorst, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Hometown Shopko retail stores were owned by an affiliate of Sun Capital Partners.

Financial struggles prompted closures of the large Shopko facilities, and a Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing in mid-January meant the court-supervised auction of pharmacy assets.

Lewis Family Drug, Sioux Falls, purchased the Luverne Hometown Shopko pharmacy assets.

Lewis Family Drug operates a store in Luverne, where some Shopko personnel were offered employment.

Since January, company officials were seeking a buyer to take over the Shopko Hometown operations.

According to a press release from the Green Bay, Wisconsin-based company, it was unable to find a buyer and, as a result, an orderly wind-down of its retail operations began this week.

The liquidation process is expected to conclude in 10-12 weeks.

The Luverne location employs 23 full- and part-time employees.

The store opened at the South Highway 75 location in 1997.



Mavis Fodness photos/0321 St Pats Parade 2019
Welta Dunn, 3, and his sister, Ari Jung, 8, wave from the vehicle driven by Travis Dunn, as one of a dozen entries in the St. Patrick's Day parade on Main Street in Luverne Monday.

Everyone can be 'Irish' for a day

Luverne's Irish and Irish at heart donned green and lined up in the Living Rock Church parking lot on East Main Street Monday late afternoon to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Sunshine and mild temperatures made for a pleasant outdoor celebration.

At right, Brenda Latten dresses the part of a Lucky Leprechaun, representing Teal's Market.



Lack of wind causes cuts in production tax revenue

By Mavis Fodness

Weather in 2018 adversely affected productivity from Rock County's four wind farms.

Based on production tax numbers released in late February, Rock County will collect \$754,440 in production tax revenue, the lowest amount collected since 2012.

Last year, the county received \$825,431 from 2017 production numbers. The highest amount collected, \$896,429, came from 2014 production.

Wind farms in Rock County include Community Renewables LLC and Community Renewables II, Prairie Rose Wind and Rock

County Energy.

County Administrator Kyle Oldre said state revenue department officials researched the validity of the production tax self-reporting process and determined weather patterns were the reason for lower production.

Department of revenue spokesman Ryan Brown pointed to a report released in March from the Institute of Energy Research.

The not-for-profit global energy research organization pointed to the El Nino weather patterns for reduced electrical outputs

Wind production/see page 2A

Weather, other factors delay annual property tax meetings

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County residents need to wait an extra month for their annual property evaluation and classification notices to arrive in the mail.

"It's a combination of a perfect storm," said Land Records Director Tom Houselog.

A March 6 letter to township and city officials explained the reasons for the delay and to reschedule the individual Board of Appeal and Equalization meetings. Instead of April, the meetings begin the first week in May.

"The main reason has been the



Houselog

inclement, severe, harsh (you insert your word) winter weather that we all have experienced this year," Houselog wrote.

The weather delayed property reviews and caused staff to miss work.

However, weather wasn't the only factor delaying the start of the meetings until three to four weeks later than expected.

Other factors include missed work hours due to illness and due to physical injuries from slips on the ice.

Delayed tax meetings/see page 3A

Change brewing for business partners

WildFlowers for sale but remaining open during transition

By Lori Sorenson

Business partners and friends Vicki Altena and Manda Steensma have poured their hearts into Wild-Flowers Coffee Boutique in downtown Luverne.

"Between remodeling the building, working as baristas and managing part-time employees, it has been a joyful adventure," Altena said.

They announced last week that they're selling the business, but will remain open as usual until the right buyer is found.

Steensma said their decision was driven entirely by outside factors.

"It's not financial, because Wild-Flowers is doing well," Steensma said. "We started this business together, and we will sell it together."

They said WildFlowers is on the verge of growth, but personal commitments are limiting the time they're able to invest in the coffee boutique's opportunities for expansion.

"There is so much more potential here. We have people asking about us staying open later or serving wine or offering more food on weekends," Steensma said.

"We would love to see a book club and regular Bible studies meet here, or to do more catering. There just hasn't been the time for marketing or putting in the extra hours. I'm excited all over again just thinking of where someone can take it from here."

Steensma, who has a young daughter at home and another in college, is also the office manager at Minnesota Special Liquids, the Steensma family business that she and her husband, Mark, are part of.

Altena said her lupus, an autoimmune disorder, recently became active after years in remission, and she needs to protect her health.

"I've loved to push through because I love the work and I'm a hard worker," she said. "But this business simply requires more hands-on work from an owner than I can give."

She added that she's grateful for quality employees who fill in when she needs to rest.

Altena is married to American Reformed Church Pastor Mike Altena

WildFlowers/see page 2A



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Luverne, MN 56156 USPS 468-040

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How to reach us

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editor@star-herald.com Luverne, MN 56156

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Parkinson's Support Group will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne.

Pleaseantview Cemetery Association annual meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 1, in the home of association president Jodi Taubert. Call 507-855-2266.

Beaver Creek Sportsman's Club will host its annual membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 5, at the Spring Brooke Golf and Grille Club House in Beaver Creek. All current and prospective members are encouraged to attend, Contact Arlyn Gehrke at 507-672-2430.

Sanford Luverne Pink Ladies will meet for a salad lunch at noon Monday, April 8, in the Sanford Luverne Blue Mound Room. Bring a salad to share and your own tableware. Call 283-2297 with questions.

Beaver Creek Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 8, in the Beaver Creek Township Hall.

Blue Mound Quilters will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, April 8, at the Rock County Library. Call Dianne at 507-530-3307.

Hardwick Goal Seekers meet every Monday in Hardwick City Hall for the purpose of support and encouragement for weight loss journeys. Weigh-in begins at 6 p.m., and the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Call Glenda, 449-0568, with questions.

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

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

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

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

Spring weight restrictions in effect

Spring weight road restrictions are in place on Rock County roadways. Because of the unpredictability of how weather affects roadway strength, restrictions will remain in place until further notice. Call Rock County Highway Engineer Mark Sehr at 507-283-5010 with questions.

Free food giveaway March 21

New Life Celebration Church will offer free produce, bread and meat from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21, in the Senior Citizens Building at 319 East Lincoln Street in Luverne for those having trouble putting food on the table. Bring your own bags and boxes. Call 507-283-3466.

Service projects needed for youth

Rock The Edge: Rock County's Christian Youth in Action "Service Over Self" mission week will be from June 3-7. Their purpose is to assist individuals and/or organizations with projects around the county. If you have a project or would like to be an adult volunteer, call 507-283-9664.

Grief Support meetings begin April 1

Sanford Luverne Hospice will begin a grief support group Mondays starting April 1 for five consecutive Mondays from 5-6:30 p.m. at Sanford Luverne Medical Center. Meetings are free and confidential. Call 507-283-1805 to register.

'Plaster Tracking' March 22 at park

Learn about the tracks and trails at the Blue Mounds State Park this winter and make a plaster track to take home at "Plaster Tracking" from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday, March 22, at the Cart-in Site Picnic Shelter. You'll learn how to identify coyotes, rabbits, and other little critters in the park. Call 507-283-6061 with questions.

Kindergarten Round-up March 28

Luverne Kindergarten Round-Up will be Thursday, March 28, at the Luverne Elementary School. Session 1 for new kindergarten parents is at 5:30 p.m. Session 2, an informal "meet & greet" is from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Children must be 5 years old before Sept. 1, 2019, in order to register for kindergarten. Call 507-283-4497 with questions.

Love the Ladies Expo set for March 30

Luverne's third annual Love the Ladies Expo will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 30, at Grand Prairie Events in Luverne. Women and men of all ages are welcome. \$1,000 in cash and prizes will be given away. Title sponsor Sanford Health Luverne will serve a brunch from 10 a.m. until gone. More than 40 businesses will have displays, and several free seminars will be offered. No admission charge — free parking.



Submitted photos/0321 wildflowers coffee portrait

The historic brick building at the corner of Main Street and Cedar Avenue was remodeled into a rustic space with modern elements, featuring tin ceiling tile, exposed brick walls and a kitchen inside the former bank vault.

WildFlowers business partners seek new owner/

and has two sons and four granddaughters.

"We left two good jobs to do this, because we wanted to be a blessing to the community," Altena said.

"We saw a need for a gathering place. We have our wonderful regulars who meet here. I've seen people pray together and I've witnessed people crying as they have a conversation."

Both Steensma and Altena said they're optimistic about the future of the WildFlowers Coffee Boutique, which customers say fills an important need in the community.

"Knowing there is a faith-based atmosphere makes it a wonderful place to meet friends and family and enjoy the great food and drink choices with servers and preparers who actually become friends, too," said customer Barb Olson of Magnolia.

"Thank you, Manda and Vicki, for providing this blessing to the community, I wish you both well."

Dale and Patti Nelson of Luverne said they enjoy the atmosphere and the fact that metro quality establishment is in Luverne.

"We have traveled within the state and other states,

"We saw a need for a gathering place. We have our wonderful regulars who meet here. I've seen people pray together and I've witnessed people crying as they have a conversation."

— Vicki Altena
WildFlowers



Business partners and friends Manda Steensma (left) and Vicki Altena are seeking a new owner for their WildFlowers Coffee Boutique but will keep the business open and operating as usual until the right buyer can be found.

and the quality of food and coffee does not compare to WildFlowers," Patti said.

"When we have out-of-town friends visiting we bring them there and it's a highlight of their visit."

The historic brick building at the corner of Main Street and Cedar Avenue once served as the Rock County Bank and Mort Skewes' law office.

It was remodeled over the course of six months into a "cozy and rustically designed space with modern elements," with tin ceiling

tile, exposed brick walls and a kitchen inside the former bank vault.

"The goal was for it to feel calm and welcoming with small-town service, yet look as if it could fit in any larger city's downtown," Steensma said.

In addition to gourmet coffee, WildFlowers serves salads, sandwiches, soups, pie, cookies and bars, ice cream, tea and smoothies.

It has free Wi-Fi and retail space for cards, gifts and locally created art.

Steensma said she and

her husband, Mark, would likely retain ownership of the building after the coffee boutique is purchased, and Altena said she'd consider returning as a part-time employee.

"It's a turnkey operation for someone and they don't necessarily have to invest in the whole building," Steensma said. "We'll be around to help in any transition."

They can be reached at wildflowerscoffee@gmail.com and information is posted online at wildFlowers.com.

Wind production tax funds/continued from page 1

throughout the Midwest.

The local output reduction resulted in \$70,991 less production tax collected this year (\$754,440) compared to a year ago (\$825,431) and \$141,989 less than the amount collected in 2015 (\$896,429), the highest amount in the past eight years.

The IER released its report on weather events earlier this month.

The El Nino weather pat-

tern brought calm winds to the Midwest in 2018, reducing wind output by 14 percent despite the addition of new turbines to the region.

The 2018 production tax means fewer dollars divided among the townships where the turbines are located and the county.

Amounts (rounded to the nearest dollar) that townships are scheduled to receive in 2019 are:

- Beaver Creek, \$1,648.
 - Denver, \$79,965.
 - Martin, \$555.
 - Rose Dell, \$57,475.
 - Springwater, \$11,245.
- Rock County receives \$603,552, the majority of which pays for two general obligation bonds the county sold in 2014 and 2015.
- The bond payments total \$484,850, payable in 2019. The rest of the production tax dollars (\$118,702) is placed

in the Highway Department capital outlay fund.

In 2014, commissioners approved a \$5 million, 10-year capital improvement bond for road and bridge improvements completed during the 2015 construction season.

In 2015 commissioners sold a 30-year, \$1 million tax abatement bond for a countywide broadband internet project.



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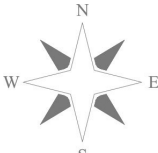


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• Land Surveying

Local census committee seeks support for ‘complete count’ in 2020

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne City Council members approved a resolution at their March 12 meeting to support local efforts toward a complete count in the 2020 census.

The city of Luverne established a Complete Count Committee (CCC) earlier this year to support the 2020 U.S. Census efforts. The committee’s goals are to:

- increase response rates in the city of Luverne.
- promote and educate community members of the Census.
- build trust of the Census among community members.
- increase the awareness of the importance of an accurate census count.

Luverne City Clerk Jessica Mead is leading the effort and has been training with the League of Minnesota Cities and the Minnesota State Demographic Center to learn how local committees can improve census participation.

She requested the city’s support resolution on behalf of the local CCC at Tuesday’s council meeting, explaining the census for the public record.

The U.S. Census counts every person in the United States, as mandated by the U.S. Constitution.

“America gets just one chance each decade to count its population,” Mead said at the meeting.

The data collected by the decennial census determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and is also used to distribute billions in federal funds to local communities.

“Achieving an accurate census count is imperative for our democracy,” Mead said.

Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian sent letters to state representatives last week, also seeking their support.

“In the 2010 census the city of Luverne’s population grew by 2 percent from the 2000 census to 4,745,” Baustian wrote in a document dated March 14.

“We are extremely close to achieving a population count of over 5,000.”

The letter continued, “Should we reach that magical number, the city would benefit greatly from the new money we would receive to pay for our aging roads, among many other [priorities that rely on] federal and state funding.”

The council unanimously approved the resolution.

Mead said the CCC is planning a local social media campaign that will launch April 1 to kick off a year of planning for the 2020 census.



Mavis Fodness photo/0321 LHS Spring Play

The cast of “Larceny and Old Lace” will perform at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 29 and 30, at the Palace Theatre. Participating students include (on floor, from left) Meagan Hansen, Mia Wenzel, (second row, sitting) Jordan Winter, Kyle Ferguson, Luke Thorson, Alexa Chesley, Rylee Gee, Gunnar Oldre, Elise Jarchow, Seno Chanthalangsy, (back standing) Xavier Carbonneau, Jacob Hansen, Pierce Cunningham, Sophia Holmberg, Nicole Aanenson, Catalina Oakes, Adrianna Gonzalez, Melanie Rittenhouse, Katlin Petronek, Josie Golla, Drake Matherne, Hannah Ehlers and Griffen Jarchow.

Students perform ‘Larceny and Old Lace’ March 29, 30 in historic Palace Theatre

By Mavis Fodness

For Luverne High School spring play director Shawn Kinsinger, the choice for this year’s production is a compromise between students.

“Last fall I asked the kids what they wanted to do; half the kids wanted to do a musical and half wanted to do something different, but well-known,” he said.

“Larceny and Old Lace,” by Van Vandagriff is a spoof of the well-known theater production, “Arsenic and Old Lace.”

The two-act play takes place over one day, starting in the morning and ending later in the evening.

The play centers on Harold Peabody (played by junior Gunnar Oldre) and his elderly aunts Millie (sophomore Rylee Gee) and Gertie (junior Alexa Chesley).



Gunnar Oldre (left) portrays Harold Peabody in “Larceny and Old Lace” and Elise Jarchow plays his fiancée, Gloria.



Xavier Carbonneau (left) and Pierce Cunningham, with the FBI hot on their heels, discuss places to hide the money they took in the bank robbery.

While Gertie and Millie are gaming in Las Vegas, Harold stays at home to watch over his eccentric Uncle Charlie (freshman Luke Thorson), who thinks he is a pirate and is constantly “burying” treasure in the basement.

When Harold hears that the local bank has been robbed and then discovers a bag of money in the basement, he declares that Charlie must go to a home for senior citizens.

However, Millie and Gertie know

that Charlie had nothing to do with the bank robbery. They stole the money from several casinos.

However, when Harold’s cousin Mordred (sophomore Xavier Carbonneau) and his sidekick Lester (freshman Pierce Cunningham) show up with their bag of money, the confusion begins.

Harold tries to keep his aunts out of jail, commit his uncle to a hospital, keep his fiancée Gloria (sophomore Elise Jarchow), and prevent Mordred from killing them all.

Additional cast members include FBI agents Klick (junior Meagan Hansen) and Klack (freshman Mia Wenzel), police officers (junior Jordan Winter and sophomore Seno Chanthalangsy), medical staff (freshman Griffen Jarchow, sophomore Josie Golla and freshman Drake Matherne), and taxi driver (freshman Isabelle Hoiland.)

Theater crew members include Jordyn Cleveland, Sophie Holmberg, Adriana Gonzalez, Nicole Hoogland, Catalina Oakes and Melanie Rittenhouse.

This year’s production takes place Friday, March 29, and Saturday, March 30, at the Palace Theatre in downtown Luverne, due to construction at the high school.

Both performances will begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased through the Palace Theater Box Office, 283-4339.

Friends of Blue Mounds State Park receives \$3,288 grant to complete habitat restoration

Volunteer-led Friends of Blue Mounds State Park will implement a habitat restoration project at Blue Mounds State Park with support from the Minnesota DNR and funds issued by Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota.

The project will include volunteer opportunities for community members at events throughout the fall months.

Friends of Blue Mounds State Park is one of seven groups selected to receive a grant from Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota under a statewide grant program that seeks to restore habitat in state parks.

This grant program was made possible by the Henry S. Crosby Foundation, which issued grant money to Parks & Trails Council to advance protection of state parks through land acquisition and habitat restoration projects.

All awardees of this grant include:

- Friends of Blue Mounds State Park.
- Friends of Lake Bemidji State Park.
- Friends of Minneopa State Park.
- Friends of Tettegouche State Park.
- Friends of Whitewater State Park.
- Friends of Zippel Bay State Park.
- Sibley State Park Improvement Association.

Parks & Trails Council worked with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to identify potential projects and overlap them with active friends groups.

These projects complement long-term, natural resource management goals of the parks and fit into the wide variety of activities of friends groups.

Friends groups support state parks in various ways, from raising money and promotion, to advocacy and programming.

Tax meetings delayed/continued from page 1

“Along with this I have new personnel, which can’t process the work as quickly as in the past,” House log explained. “To their credit, they are doing the work as fast as possible.”

“To sum it up in a few words, it’s been a terrible winter/spring.”

Evaluation and classification notices inform property owners of tax amounts payable in 2020.

Specific meeting times and dates to appeal the assessed values and/or classifications are included in the notices.

Appeal meetings occur in each township and city based on the property’s location. The final appeal and equalization meeting is conducted in June by the county commissioners.

By state law, the local boards of appeal and equaliza-

tion meetings need to convene in April or May.

No delays are expected in the notification of property taxes payable in 2019.

Auditor-treasurer Ashley Kurtz said the notifications are on track to be mailed before March 29.

The first half tax payments for 2019 are due May 15.



Luverne High School students Alexa Chesley (far left), Rylee Gee, Luke Thorson, Meagan Hansen, Mia Wenzel and Gunnar Oldre rehearse “Larceny and Old Lace” Monday night on the stage of the Palace Theatre in Luverne.

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Notice To All Bidders

Springwater Township is accepting bids for mowing the township hall and the cemetery. Bids should be per mowing. Bidder will furnish their own equipment and fuel. The Township board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
A certificate of insurance MUST ACCOMPANY all bids! Please contact a board member or e-mail springwater@alliancecom.net, concerning insurance liability limits.
Bids must be submitted before Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019 to: Teresa Kramer, Clerk
137 131st St.
Garretson, SD 57030
or presented at the township board meeting that evening at the home of the clerk.

Teresa Kramer

Springwater Township Clerk

Have something to sell?

Star Herald Classifieds

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GRAVEL BIDS:

BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP

Class 5, pit run, and screened to be spread on Beaver Creek Township roads.
Bids will be expected on, before or at the monthly meeting
Monday, April 8th at 7:30 p.m.
at the township hall.
Bids may be sent to:
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JoEllen Benson, Clerk
PO Box 67
Beaver Creek MN 56156

JoEllen Benson

Township Clerk

Prom shopping for the boy made easy in light of date's glittery gold dress

The expression on his face said it all.

The high school junior was forced to try on a suit coat and matching slacks over the weekend as a step toward finding prom attire.

In casual conversation with a friend last week, I mentioned prom, and she speculated that her son had a prom suit he'd be willing to sell.

So, she brought it to me, and I brought it home, and the kid was required to try it on.

Sigh. He was busy doing other things (xBox) and wasn't excited about a fashion show.

He emerged from the laundry room with what appeared to be a good fit.

"Stand up straight so I can see how it fits through the shoulders."

Sigh.

"Reach forward with your arms so I can see how it fits across the back."

Sigh.

"You'll have to put on a pair of dress shoes so we can see if the pants length is right."

"Mom! Really?"

He complied, and his audience approved. Especially his mother, who was surprised by the suit's magical power to transform the rowdy cowboy into an apparent gentleman.

It might not be THE suit, but it's a start.

For the modest price, it would at least be a standby suit for a wedding or funeral.

But this was prom, and the kid is also aware that if there ever were an occasion to put effort into an outfit, this would be it. And we were running out of time.

His date already has her attire selected, purchased and tailored, so I wonder if she and her mom are nervous about the other half



ON SECOND THOUGHT

By Lori Sorenson, editor

of the prom date keeping up with his end of the deal.

I texted the other mom a photo of the kid in the second-hand suit, just so they knew we hadn't forgotten about prom. (She, too, was entertained by the boy's eyes rolled toward the ceiling.)

It's been five years since his big brother went to prom, so I've forgotten how it works.

Except that I remember scrambling for a tie at the last minute, and I'd rather avoid that route.

So, we're pressing the junior to make some decisions. ... Which start with coordinating his colors with the dress she'll be wearing.

"It's gold," he informed me.

Gold as in Minnesota Gophers gold? Or metallic gold?

He produced a cell phone image of the girl in a shimmering, satiny, glittery gold evening gown.

She looked stunning. And that was just the dressing room mirror snapshot.

With her on his arm for the grand march, nobody will even notice he's there, let alone care about what he's wearing.

He just needs to show up in a suitable suit and smile.

Seeing that photo took all the pressure off shopping for the boy — as far as his mother was concerned.

Meanwhile we'll start whitening his teeth and shopping for some really flashy gold patent leather shoes.

Prom shopping just got more interesting.

On National Ag Day (and every day) we celebrate #OurFarmers

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Joe Martin and Troy Daniell

Farmers and ranchers are the backbone of America. They grow food to feed us, fiber to clothe us, and fuel to run our homes and cars. Their hard work and dedication provide economic stability across the nation — stability that supports rural economies and creates much-needed jobs in local communities. No matter who we are, where we live, or what we do, we all have a reason every day to celebrate and thank #ourfarmers.

March 14 was designated as National Ag Day. Today and every day, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Minnesota join fellow agencies, non-profits, private industries, and consumers in thanking our agricultural producers for their contributions to our nation and beyond.

This year's National Ag Day theme, Agriculture: Food for Life, spotlights the hard work of American

farmers and ranchers who diligently work to provide food and fiber for the United States and countries around the world. At USDA, our driving commitment is to support them as they put food on America's tables.

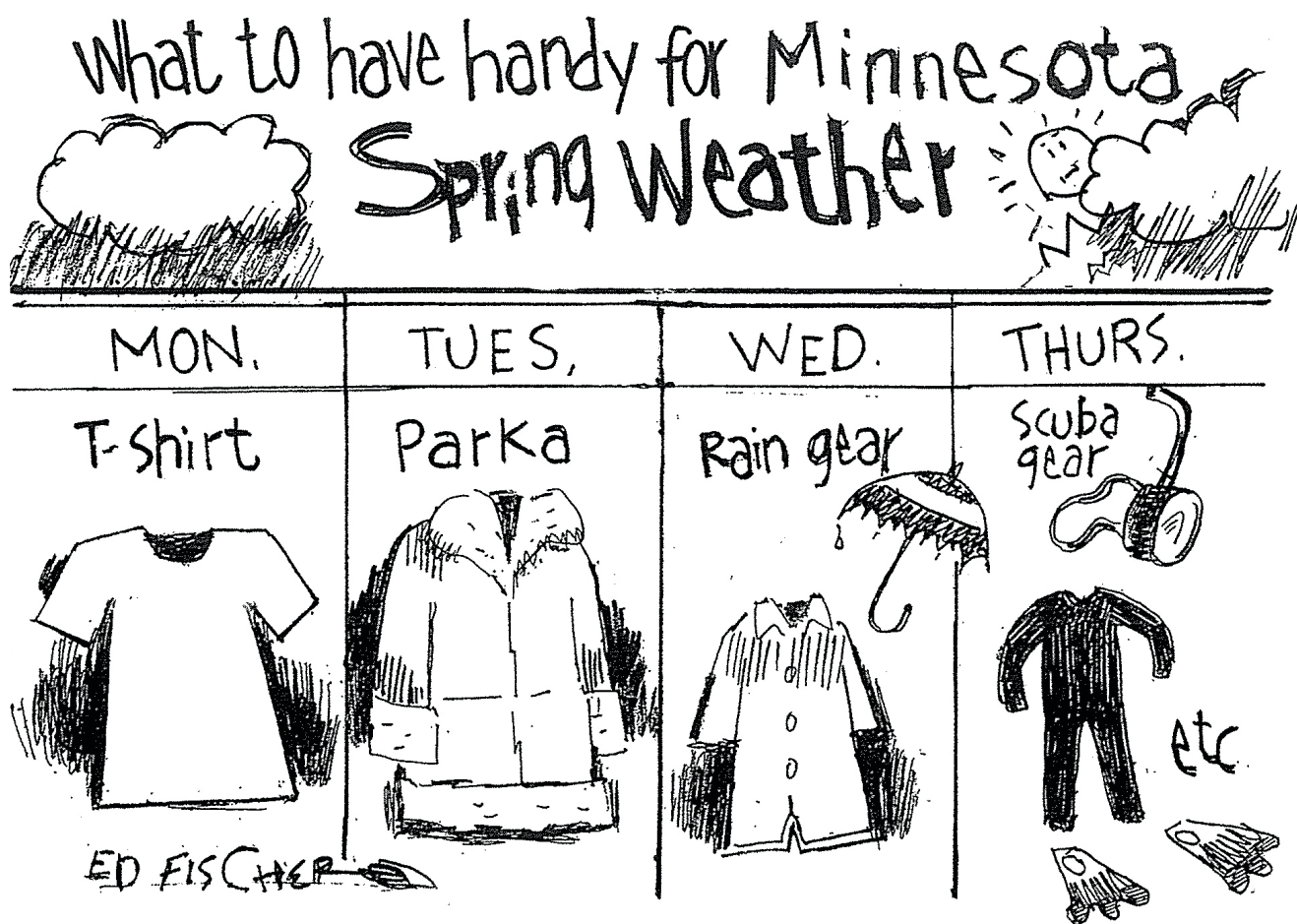
USDA works with millions of rural producers through a network of local service centers that serve every county. Our farmers face challenges each day, and we're proud to offer a variety of programs to help them fund their operations, manage risk, conserve natural resources, and recover from natural disasters.

On behalf of USDA, we would like

to thank #ourfarmers for feeding our nation and the world. To our farmers and ranchers: We are here to support you every step of the way. Visit your local service center for one-on-one support with USDA programs and services, or learn more at farmers.gov. On National Ag Day, and every other day of the year, we celebrate you.

Joe Martin is the state executive director of the Minnesota Farm Service Agency.

Troy Daniell is the state conservationist with the Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service.



Civil penalties possible if placement of snow on roadway creates hazard

Question: What is the law about pickup trucks with the flashing amber lights? I noticed some of them traveling down the road when they are not actively plowing. Also, is there a law against plowing or blowing snow onto a public road?



Answer: Minnesota state law says that a service vehicle shall not display a lighted lamp when traveling on the highway or at any other time except at the scene of a disabled vehicle or while conducting snow removal or road maintenance.

Any service vehicle may be equipped with a type of flashing amber lamp that is approved by the commissioner of public safety. Remember that other traffic on the main roadway will have the right of way, so be sure to pay attention and use due care.

Activities such as plowing, blowing or shoveling snow onto public roads is prohibited. This includes the ditch and right-of-way area along the roads.

Civil penalties may apply if the placement of snow creates a hazard, such as a slippery area,

ASK A TROOPER

By Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

frozen rut or bump that contributes to a motor vehicle or pedestrian crash. The civil liability can extend to both the property owner and the person who placed the snow.

Please remember to help local fire departments by making a path and clearing snow around a fire hydrant when it is on or close to your property.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson - Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

Moerke: Let your support for state's freedom to drive legislation be known

To the Editor,

I recently renewed my license tabs and as usual, I had to show a valid driver's license and show proof of insurance. This ensures that I have been trained in the use of an automobile, understand the rules and regulations and have the necessary insurance. I believe that every driver on the road should do the same.

Soon our state legislators will have an opportunity to make the roads we drive on safer for all of us. Legislation allowing all Minnesotans, regardless of immigration status, to obtain a driver's license is currently under consideration in St. Paul. We are safer when all Minnesota drivers have a license, insurance, and knowledge of rules of the road. Access to a driver's license allows all our community members to fully participate as they contribute to our economy. Those of us in southwest Minnesota know how dependent we are on being able to drive to our work, church, school activities, and to fully participate in social and cultural activities. The economy of Greater Minnesota is dependent on a stable workforce who can safely commute to work.

There is broad support for Driver's License for All from many organizations including non-profit organizations, unions,

VOICE OF OUR READERS

immigrants' rights advocates, community-based groups and collectives, faith-based organizations, workers' rights advocates and businesses led by the Multiracial Coalition on Immigration. This legislation promotes public safety, economic growth, and access for all to fully participate in our communities.

Please encourage your legislators to support this common-sense measure (House File 1500) to public safety on our roads. You can reach Rep. Joe Schomacker by phone at 651-296-5505 or email at rep.joe.schomacker@house.mn and Senator Bill Weber by phone at 651-296-5650 or email at sen.bill.weber@senate.mn.

For additional information please check out <https://www.freedom2drivemn.com>.

Dale Moerke
Luverne

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Published Thursdays by Tollefson Enterprises, POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to 117 West Main, P.O. Box 837, Luverne,
MN 56156. Periodicals postage paid at Luverne, Permit #33 and at
additional mailing offices.

General manager: Rick Peterson
Office manager: Deb Lusty
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Rock County
STAR HERALD
Rock County's newspaper since 1873

(ISSN 0889-888X)
SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$74 per year in Rock County; \$91 per year all other areas. Single copies \$1.25

Entire contents copyrighted by
Tollefson Publishing Roger Tollefson, publisher

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

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

WHAT SHOULD THE PLAZA LOOK LIKE?

- Connection to local materials & aesthetic
 - Native prairie plantings
 - Sioux quartzite
- Trees & Green Space
- Pollinator Plants
- Sloped/grade change (not flat)
- Visual ties to buildings
- Connected to/visible from Mainstreet
- Expansion capable
- Creative Seating
 - Unique seating features (rocks/ stone walls)
 - Tables & chairs
 - Amphitheater seating
- Flexible spaces & uses
 - Movable seating
 - Movable vendor booths
 - Movable shelter
- Water Feature
 - Waterfall
 - Water jets
 - Splash park
- Stage for entertainment
- Festive lighting
- Variety of sun shade
- Flags
- Parking/Restrooms
- Clean and Safe
 - No smoking
 - Well lit
 - Well maintained
- Dog Friendly
- Public Art
 - Sculptures
- Large trees-decorated seasonally
- Covered area with weather protection
- Storage building
- Use of shipping containers
- Combine with other recreation opportunities
 - Outdoor pool?
- Market /vendor opportunities
 - Farmers market
 - Holiday market

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO AT THE PLAZA?

- Community Gathering Group Activities
 - Exercise
 - Hobbies
 - Classes
- Sunday church service
- Meet with people
 - Coffee
 - Picnic tables
 - Eat lunch
 - Recreation
 - Mini golf
 - Batting cage
 - Race track/go carts
 - Bike rental
 - Water feature for kids
 - Water jets
- Shopping/Markets
 - Farmers market (vendors with trailers)
 - Holiday market
 - Artists market
 - Pop-up shops
- Opportunities for “Adult Night Out”
 - Alcohol allowed
 - Food/Entertainment
- Musical Entertainment
 - Stage
- Screen for movies
- Parking & Restrooms
- Farm education booth
- Outdoor weddings/events
- Festivals (Beer festivals)

WHAT SHOULD THE PLAZA HAVE FOR KIDS/YOUTH?

- Water feature for play
 - Misters
 - Jets
 - Splashpad
- Bike Racks
- Ice Skating
- Lawn Games
- Interactive Features
- Educational Area
- Greenspace
- Art
- Music
- Storytime Area
- Stage Area
- Open Space
- Space for creative play
- Ping pong tables
- Family based activities
- Space for parties
- Wifi

WHAT SHOULD THE PLAZA HAVE FOR ADULTS?

- “Adult Night Out” programming
 - Music
 - Alcohol/Cocktails
 - Dancing Area
 - Bar
 - Tall cocktail height tables
- Theme Nights
- Fire Pit
- Bike racks/parking
- Concessions area/kitchen with electric hook up
- Coffee/Drink Carts
- Greenspace
- Information/postings board
- Game Space
 - Bocce Ball
 - Curling Space
 - Cornhole
 - Checkerboard & Chess Set
 - Cribbage Table
- Concert stage
 - Large enough for 5 people
- Outdoor TV screen
- Yoga Space
- Various seating elements
 - Comfortable Seating
 - Tables & Chairs
- Parking & Restrooms
- Shaded Areas
- Art/Sculptures
- Water feature to look at
- Sound System

SECOND COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION

Doors open at 5 pm

Monday - March 25 - 5:30 to 7:30 pm

GRAND PRAIRIE EVENTS

Coffee & Cookies will be served.

Offer input through this link to the community survey through April 1st

z.umn.edu/LuvPlaza

At the first Plaza meeting on Feb. 11 attracted 40 people to the Palace Theatre where they viewed images of gathering spaces that have been successful in other cities and learned about what plazas can do for communities. Then they teamed up to answer questions about what amenities they’d like to see in Luverne. Above are the lists they compiled at the end of the night.

What kind of plaza do we want to see in Luverne?

Community input sought at second planning meeting March 25 in Grand Prairie Events

By Lori Sorenson
Community members are encouraged to attend next week’s planning meeting for a plaza in downtown Luverne. It’s at 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, in Grand Prairie Events where refreshments will be served. Luverne Initiatives for Tomorrow (L.I.E.T.), Luverne Area Chamber, along with other community organizations and businesses are partnering to gather citizen feedback and ideas.

They’re working with the University of Minnesota (Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership and the Center for Sustainable Building Research) to develop a conceptual design for an outdoor public plaza in Luverne. Monday’s event will be the second in a series of informal gatherings that seek citizen input and ideas. The first meeting on Feb. 11 (during a blizzard) attracted 40 people to the Palace Theatre

where they viewed images of community gathering spaces that have been successful in other cities and learned about what plazas can do for communities. Then they teamed up to answer questions about what they’d like to see in a plaza and what amenities it should have. A grant-funded landscape architecture graduate student (Haily Schmitz) is working on the Luverne project with supervision from a professor

at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture. She and Dr. Virajita Singh from the College of Design and Anne Dybsetter from the Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership took the lead for the Feb. 11 discussion. Building on the results of those sessions, they worked on drawings and sketches of what might be appropriate in Luverne, and those images will be presented at the March 25

meeting. “That should be pretty exciting for people to see,” said Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere. “The sketches will be presented for public analysis, comment and discussion, to be incorporated into the next stage of development for the plaza.” She emphasized that the images presented Monday will be only concept drawings. “It’s a starting point,” she said. “It’s not going to happen right

away, but it should be pretty exciting to see what it could look like.” Lanphere also emphasized the importance of community involvement now, so that all ideas and voices can be heard. “Public input is very important, so we hope people come and share that with us,” she said. The doors open at 5 p.m. Monday for the 5:30 session. The public can offer input through April 1 by linking to a survey at z.umn.edu/LuvPlaza.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

- March 8**
- Complainant in Beaver Creek doing bird surveys.
 - Complainant requested a welfare check on North Estey.
 - Complainant reported black smoke coming from building on Spring Street.
 - Complainant requested a background check for a liquor license.
 - Complainant on Gabrielson Road reported a door open.
- March 9**
- Complainant reported subject in custody with a Rock County warrant in Worthington.
 - Complainant reported a blue SUV went into the median and hit the fence causing property damage on I-90, mile marker 16.
 - Deputy reported an abandoned vehicle on Highway 23, mile marker 2.
 - Complainant reported a vehicle accident at Estey and Dodge Street, no injuries.
 - Subject arrested on Rock County warrant in Fairfax.
- March 10**
- Complainant conducted

- traffic control on I-90, mile marker 10.
- March 11**
- Complainant reported a suspicious vehicle on 190th Avenue near Magnolia.
 - Extra patrol requested in Hills.
 - Complainant in Hills reported threats.
 - Complainant reported threats on Estey Street in Luverne.
 - Complainant requested assistance.
 - Complainant reported a social services issue.
- March 12**
- Complainant reported suspicious activity on Luverne Street.
 - Vehicles with no license plates parked on Warren Street.
 - Accident reported on Highway 75.
 - Complainant reported identity theft.
- March 13**
- Deputy reported open window on Commerce Road.
 - Outage reported.
 - Road flooded on County Road 11 under I-90.

- Flood warning reported for Rock County.
 - Road closed from County Road 5 to County Road 17, Beaver Creek.
 - Road closed on I-90 eastbound, one mile west of Jasper exit, Valley Springs.
 - Road closed on County Road 4 from Manley to Beaver Creek.
 - Roadside assistance requested near Hardwick.
 - Road closed on County Road 6, 2½ miles south of I-90.
 - Complainant on Cashin Drive reported water in home.
 - Complainant reported an accident on Luverne Street in Magnolia.
 - Complainant reported large amounts of water standing on 101st Street.
 - State Patrol assisted with arrest on I-90 eastbound, mile marker 15.
 - Complainant on Kniss Avenue reported vehicle theft.
- March 14**
- Flood warning reported for Rock County.
 - Complainant requested a death notice on Warren Street.
 - Complainant reported

- flooding at lift station on I-90 and Highway 75.
- Accident reported on County Road 4, past County Road 9.
 - Complainant issued a warrant.
 - Complainant reported an abandoned vehicle in ditch near Hardwick.
 - Complainant on McKenzie Street reported his girlfriend kicked him out. She said he won’t give him his

- stuff back.
- March 15**
- Road closed on County Road 8, one mile west of County Road 3.
 - Complainant reported children on Edgehill Street and Donaldson Street are waiting for school bus. School is canceled.
 - Complainant reported road deteriorating due to flooding onto 171st Street and U.S. Highway 75.

- In addition, officers responded to 6 vehicles in the ditch, 2 transports, 10 escorts, 13 ambulance calls, 7 paper service attempts, 1 animal complaint, 1 false alarm, 3 fingerprint requests, 5 burn permits, 4 drug court tests, 5 permits to purchase/carry applications, 2 stalled vehicles, 5 traffic stops, 11 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests and 13 water being over the road reports.



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Tuesday, March 26th

9:00-11:00am - Luverne, MN Bank Location

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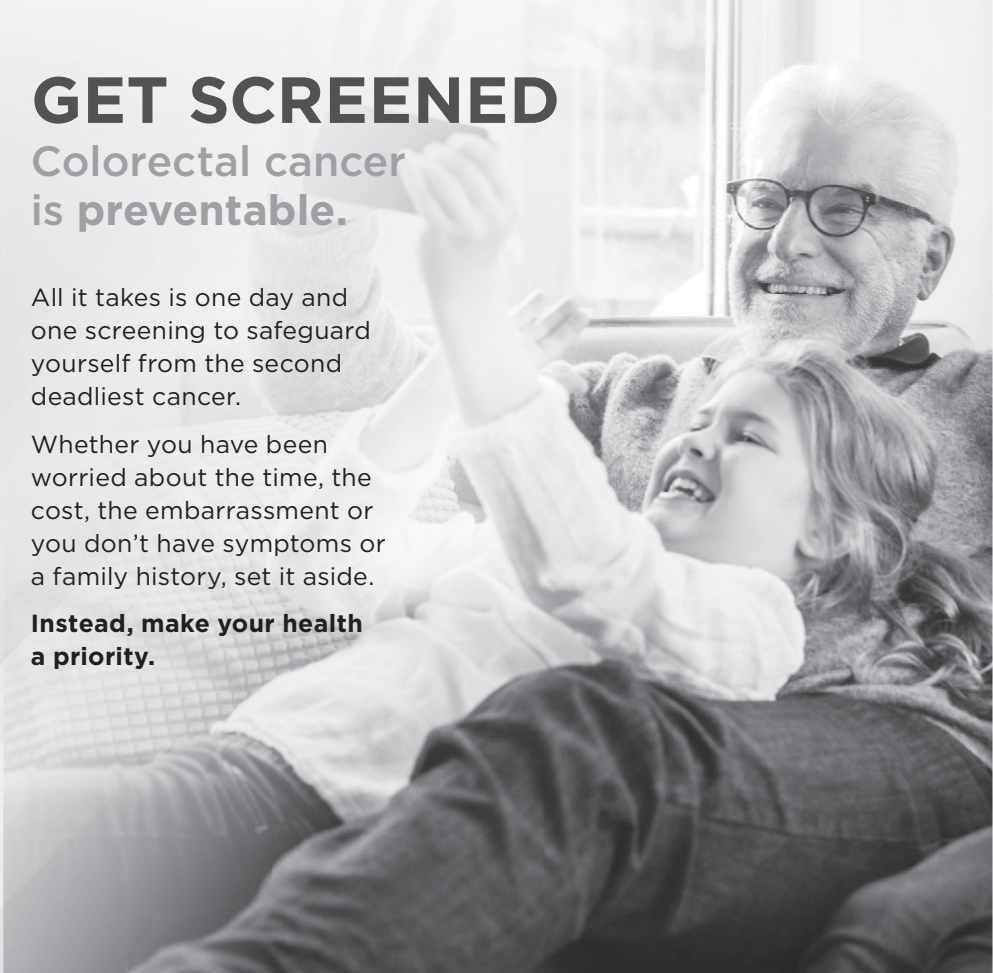
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Water over 131st Street north of the Luverne Sanford Medical Center closed the road to traffic Friday morning at Blue Mound Avenue. Mavis Fodness photo/0321 Flooding March 14

Flood threat continues in Rock County with wet forecast, rising rivers/continued from page 1

ducing blizzard conditions, heavy rainfall, and severe storms.

Snowmeltandheavyrains —nearly2inchesinmanyparts of Rock County — prompted widespread flooding.

Several county roads and an unknown number of township gravel roads in Rock County were closed Thursday due to flooding and travel wasn’t advised in most of southern Minnesota.

These included I-90 and U.S. Highway 75, which were closed for extended periods of time near Luverne. At one point Friday, there were more thanadozenimpassableroads in Rock County due to water over the roads.

Many gravel roads were rendered nearly impassable by the weekend simply because they were too soft to supportvehicles, which risked getting stuck.

Area schools canceled classes both Thursday and Friday, and familieshavebeen notified that buses will travel on hard-surface roads only until further notice.

With frozen soil under the snowpack, rain still has nowhere to be absorbed, and it simplyruns off to the nearest lower levels.

Icejams on rivers, culverts plugged with ice, ditches full of snow and plugged catch



Mavis Fodness photo/0321 Flooding March 14
Chad Ver Steeg uses an excavator to remove snow from ditches on the east side of Hardwick to prevent water from flowing over the roadways.



Lori Sorenson photo/0321 flooding railroad tracks
At right, water creeps over the railroad tracks at the Gabrielson Drive intersection near Gevo and County Road 4 in Luverne.

basins have been the primary causes of the flooding.

Tuesday’s National Weather Service flood warnings are effective through March 28 and take into consideration the possibility for rain overnight Tuesday.

“Additional future rains (beyond March 20) could affect crest forecasts,” the National Weather Service warned in its report.

TheRockRiveratLuverne was at 9.46 feet (flood stage is 10 feet) and it is forecast to rise

above flood stage by Saturday and crest near 13.2 feet.

The Rock River near Hardwick Tuesday morning was nearly 15 feet (flood stage is 14 feet). At stages near 14 feet the lower banks of the river overflow with significant amounts of agricultural land flooded.

SplitRockCreekwasnearly 95 feet (flood stage is 91 feet) and at stages near 96 feet the higher banks on this stretch of the creek are overtopped.

River levels can be monitored online at weather.gov.



Mavis Fodness photos/0321 Flooding March 15
A car rests on the side of County Road 7 just east of Hardwick.

At left, a motorist navigates U.S. Highway 75 Friday morning a mile south of Hardwick.



Lori Sorenson photos/0321 flooding county 7
County Road 7 was closed for a period of time Thursday morning due to flooding.

Below, fields along County Road 6 in Springwater Township look like lakes and fenceposts are barely visible above the surface of rising water.

WE'RE IMPROVING DOWNTOWN WITH PLANS FOR A PUBLIC PLAZA & WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

Luverne Initiatives for Tomorrow (LIFT), Luverne Area Chamber, along with other community organizations and businesses are partnering with the University of Minnesota (Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership and the Center for Sustainable Building Research) to develop a conceptual design for an outdoor public plaza in Luverne!

WHAT KIND OF PLAZA DO YOU WANT TO SEE IN LUVERNE?

COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION!

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A REMINDER FROM THE CITY OF Luverne STREET DEPARTMENT

It is the responsibility of all motorists to arrange for off-street parking so the Public Works Department can plow the city streets.

Please remove all vehicles from the street if it's snowing or snow is in the forecast.

Vehicles not removed from the street may be ticketed.

READ US ONLINE!
star-herald.com

Capitol rally March 12 highlights disability service ‘workforce crisis’

Nearly 1,000 attend Rotunda event followed by individual visits with lawmakers

As disability service providers in Minnesota continue to address significant challenges in staff recruitment and retention, they joined with individuals they support for a rally at the Capitol Rotunda in St. Paul March 12.

Their top concern is the push for a “competitive workforce factor” to address the shortage of direct support professionals (DSPs) serving people with disabilities.

This adds a new component to the system that generates the payments that providers receive for their services, so they are able to increase wages paid to direct support staff.

“We’re making significant progress with our efforts to address this workforce crisis, both legislatively and with the competitive workforce factor’s inclusion in the governor’s budget,” said Julie Johnson, president of the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR).

“But the fact remains that DSPs earn, on average, 17 percent less than people employed in comparable professions.”

Johnson cites a June 2018 study by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, the “Comparative wage analysis of home and community-based services direct care staff.”

The report compared care staff wages with 76 other occupations that require a similar level of education, training and job preparation.

“What is at stake is the quality of life of tens of thousands of Minnesotans with disabilities,” Johnson said.

“With assistance from service providers, these individuals have a far greater chance to reach their goals for employment, independence and full engagement with their communities,” she said.

“Direct support professionals are at the front line of support for people with disabilities, and without them, many of these individuals will lack the assistance needed to live the lives they want to live.”

MOHR has organized this Disability Services Day at the Capitol in partnership with the Association of Residential Resources of Minnesota.

Both are members of the Best Life Alliance, a statewide coalition of people with disabilities, their families and providers of home and community-based services. Attendance is expected to reach 1,000 participants.

Another element being considered by legislators is to evaluate these wages every two years to make sure they remain competitive and keep pace with the cost of living.

“Minnesota has always been a leader in providing services for people with disabilities, and we still believe that to be the case,” said Johnson, referring to a recent national disability study where the state was ranked lower than in previous years.

“There’s a significant push to share data nationally and compare us with other states, but sometimes important context is lost and the data can’t be validated, are dated, or make assumptions that place us in a negative light because we provide services differently.”

Representing more than 100 providers in the state, MOHR members provide skills training, employment services, community involvement, behavioral supports and life enrichment activities to more than 26,000 individuals with disabilities in Minnesota.

Talents on display during 4-H Communication event

Eleven Rock County 4-H’ers in grades kindergarten through high school shared their communication talents Feb. 28 at the annual 4-H Communication Arts Contest in Luverne.

Members participated in photojournalism, creative writing, interpretive reading and photojournalism.

Contest goals included developing effective skills in both written and oral communications, developing poise and self-confidence, practicing the process of inquiry and research, and encouraging creativity and self-expression through the use of visual and written media.

“It’s encouraging to see these youth step out of their comfort zones and show off their skills,” said Kelsey Maeschen, 4-H program coordinator. “It takes a lot to speak in front of a group but these kids really did a great job. I am very proud of them.”

Margie Anderson, Murray County 4-H program coordinator, judged the event.

Cloverbud members are younger than second grade. They are able to participate in the event but do not receive a ribbon placing.



Participants in the 2019 Rock County Communication Arts Contest include (front row from left) Ava Steinhoff, Gabriella Porter, Penni Moore, (back) Klarissa Burkman, Krista Burkman, Aisha Porter, Candace Porter and Mazzi Moore. Not pictured are Colton Buchholz, Caylix Buchholz and Andrea Luitjens.

Submitted photo

Category, ribbon placing, 4-H’er’s name and club from the event include:

- Photojournalism: blue, Krista Burkman, Springdell, and Gabriella Porter, County K9s; and clovebud Caylix Buchholz, Springdell.
- Creative writing: blue,

Aisha Porter, County K9s, Candace Porter, County K9s, Krista Burkman, Springdell, Klarissa Burkman, Springdell, Gabriella Porter, County K9s, and clovebud Colton Buchholz, Springdell.

- Interpretive reading: purple, Candace Porter,

County K9s, Ava Steinhoff, Blue Ribbon, Mazzi Moore, Blue Ribbon; blue, Aisha Porter, County K9s, Andrea Luitjens, Magnolia Juniors, Gabriella Porter, County K9s; and clovebud Penni Moore, Blue Ribbon.

- Public Speaking: blue, Mazzi Moore, Blue Ribbon.

Three local youth attend 4-H leadership retreat

Three Rock County 4-H’ers were among 52 youth across the region who attended the day-long Southwest BLU leadership retreat March 2 at Southwest State University in Marshall.

Janica Oechsle and Emma Deutsch attended as participants while Josie Scholten, a Minnesota State 4-H Ambassador, assisted with leading the retreat.

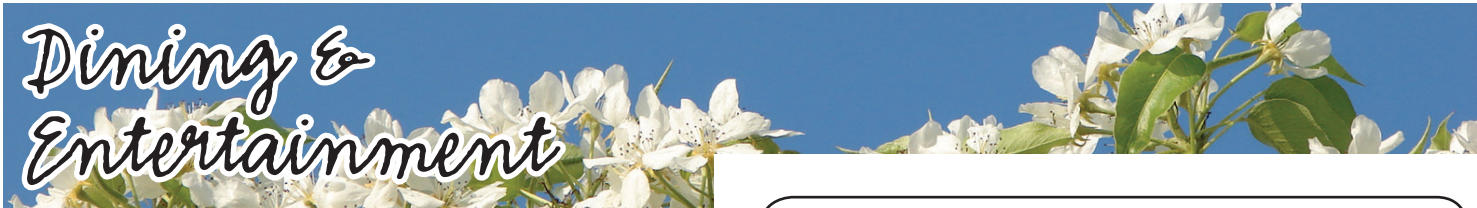
BLU — Building Leadership and Understanding — encouraged youth to make and strengthen relationships, expand communication skills, learn how to engage in civil discourse, and reflect on the people with whom they are already connected.

“4-H uses these retreats to help youth learn valuable leadership skills they can apply in their communities and make connections with people from other parts of the state,” said Extension educator Jacquie Lonning.



Submitted photo

“Connecting the Stars” was the theme of a daylong Southwest BLU leadership retreat March 2 in Marshall. Attending from Rock County were (from left) Emma Deutsch, state 4-H ambassador Josie Scholten and Janica Oechsle.



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Mar. 22-23 7 p.m. Mar. 24 2 p.m.		Movie “How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World”
Fri. & Sat. Mar. 29-30 7 p.m.		LHS Spring Play “Larceny & Old Lace”
Apr. 5-7 & Apr. 11-14		Green Earth Players present “Drinking Habits”

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By Tom Smith

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Mavis Fodness photo/0321 Socks for Souls

Three Luverne High School seniors, Mikayla Wiederhoeft (left), Adriana Gonzalez and Courtney Wendland, are collecting new and gently worn socks for their FCCLA project, “DeFEET Poverty.”

‘DeFEET Poverty’ organizers seek socks

By Mavis Fodness

Three Luverne High School seniors continue to shine the spotlight on local poverty issues. Mikayla Wiederhoeft, Courtney Wendland and Adriana Gonzalez are collecting good clean socks for distribution locally. “Socks for Souls” aims to collect 100 pairs. “We found out that socks are the most demanded thing for the homeless,” Gonzalez said. “Even if the people who need socks aren’t homeless, we are still taking a step to help people in need.” The students may partner with the local Sharing Hearts Are Reaching Everyone (SHARE) this fall to distribute the socks. The students are Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) members through the school. They selected “DeFEET Poverty” as their leadership in action project, which challenges members to stretch their service learning skills into an activity that helps their communities. “With this whole project it has truly opened my eyes and my mind to the many different ways our world is affected by poverty,” Wendland said. “Poverty is more than just the materialistic side, it’s emotional and it’s eating away at the world.”

‘Most of us don’t need to worry about having socks to wear, but it’s important to understand that others do. The greatest thing we can give people in poverty is not always money or clothing, but time and understanding as we place ourselves in their shoes.’
— Adriana Gonzalez

Collecting socks is one more step the students are taking to help people in need and promote their poverty message. They organized a “DeFEET Poverty” walk last fall to bring attention to the various aspects of poverty and built a “Box City” for students to experience homelessness. They plan to repeat both of these activities this spring. Collection of “Socks for Souls” continues through March 27. Any new or slightly used sock pairs are accepted along with single socks that have lost their matches. “A lot of people have stray socks that they have lying around, so they might as well give them a purpose,”

Wiederhoeft said. “In the type of winter weather we are having, it’s always helpful to have a pair of socks, whether they match or not,” added Wendland. Collection stations are located at the community library in downtown Luverne and at Teal’s Market. The public could also drop socks at the middle-high school office. “Most of us don’t need to worry about having socks to wear, but it’s important to understand that others do,” Gonzalez said. “The greatest thing we can give people in poverty is not always money or clothing, but time and understanding as we place ourselves in their shoes.”

1958: Easter Bunny Day Saturday, sponsored by civic leaders

The following appeared in the Rock County Star Herald on March 27, 1958.

Merchants To Hold Annual Easter Bunny Day Saturday

Free Candy For Children Ages 5 Through 12

Luverne’s second annual “Easter Bunny Day” will be held here Saturday, under the auspices of the Luverne Civic and Commerce Association promotion committee. Free bags of Easter candy will be provided for youngsters ages 5 to 12, inclusive, and plans have been made to make the candy available to about 1,000 children from the Luverne trade area. Two life-size Easter Bunnies will be on hand to help with the distribution of the candy, and to visit with the small fry, according to Stan Remme, promotion committee chairman. In each bag of candy will be a slip of paper, or coupon, bearing the name of a Luverne business firm. These coupons should be signed by the child and brought to the business firm whose name is printed on it. In return for the coupon, the child will receive a ticket good for the Saturday afternoon matinee at the Palace Theatre the following Saturday. **Special Prizes** There will be special prizes too – about 75 of them in all – which will be given by the participating business firms to the children who get the special coupons in their bags of candy. In addition, all the coupons will be collected and a drawing will be



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

made between the afternoon shows on April 5, and the person whose name is drawn will receive a new bicycle. “Last year, when we tried this for the first time, everybody had a lot of fun,” said Mr. Remme, “and we hope to have the same kind of good time this year. We expect to have plenty of help so that children won’t have to wait in line too long for their bags of candy, and we’re planning on having some real good children’s movies the following week for those who come to get their free candy this week. Details as to the time of the movies will be announced next week.” *Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156. Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iuv.net.*

CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

John and Mary Brands will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on Monday, March 25. Greetings may be sent to them at 514 4th Avenue North, Edgerton, MN 56128.

SENIOR MENU

Monday, March 25: Sloppy Joe on bun, tri taters, corn, cookie.
Program: 9 a.m. Quilting; Bone Builders. Pinochle.

Tuesday, March 26: Italian meat sauce over spaghetti, lettuce with dressing, cauliflower, garlic bread, peaches.
Program: 9 a.m. Board meeting. Half-Price Days sponsored by Security State Bank.

Wednesday, March 27: Roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, bread, pumpkin dessert.
Thursday, March 28:

Country steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, fruit cobbler.
Friday, March 29: Salmon loaf, mashed potatoes, creamed peas, dinner roll, slice pie.
Program: Half-Price Day. Senior Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals in a community atmosphere. Gift certificates are available at the meal site or online at www.lssmn.org/nutrition. Call Lauree Teunissen at 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.

BUSINESS IN THE NEWS

Local Buffalo Ridge Insurance agency named to ‘Presidents Club’

Buffalo Ridge Insurance, Luverne, has been named to the Midwest Family Mutual Insurance Company, Des Moines, Iowa, President’s Club for the 11th consecutive year. The award recognizes superior performance and

outstanding continued service to customers and the community. Employees of the company are Cory Bloemendaal, Marilyn Bloemendaal, Steve Smedsrud, Pam Haakenson, Lori Gruis and Katelyn Thor-nock.

Good Samaritan Society – Luverne honored for deficiency-free survey in 2018

Good Samaritan Society Luverne was deficiency free in 2018, according to Providigm, a company that specializes in quality assurance and performance improvement (QAPI) in health care. It recently recognized the Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne with its Embracing Quality Award, which is given to facilities with deficiency-free state surveys for the entire calendar year. State health departments conduct surveys and submit that information to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). “Our employees work very hard to achieve deficiency-free

surveys. They work diligently every day to meet residents’ needs and provide quality care,” Administrator Beth Callahan said. “I’m very proud of our employees and how much they love and care for those we serve.” Good Samaritan Society — Luverne opened in 1959 as the Mary Jane Brown Nursing Home. It offers rehab/skilled care, post-acute rehabilitation services, outpatient therapy and hospice services. The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society is the nation’s largest not-for-profit, faith-based organization providing senior housing and services.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2009)

•City officials learned this week that Luverne’s drinking water is safe, despite the fact that it was exposed to a material that’s now considered hazardous. For the past several weeks, health officials have been investigating whether drinking water in 15 Minnesota cities is contaminated with chemicals used in fire fighting foam. Luverne is on that list of fire departments that used the foam, formerly manufactured by 3M Co. In many cities, fire departments used the foam in training exercises and then flushed it into storm sewers or left it to seep into the ground. The possible contaminants, a family of compounds known as perfluorochemicals, do not break down in the environment and accumulate in humans and wildlife. 3M stopped making two of the compounds, known as PFOS and PFOA, in 2002, but they remain in foam stockpiled by fire departments. Luverne was placed on the list of cities most likely to have been affected by the contaminants based on the depth of its wells, proximity to the training area and other factors. Luverne’s water was tested, and city officials learned last week that its waters are safe.

25 years ago (1994)

•The Luverne and Magnolia school districts have worked together for many years, but they have maintained separate school boards with independent philosophies. How independent is evident as two schools try to iron out their differences and work together. It’s probably safe to say Magnolia Board members and voters would rather keep the school open as it is now. But times and the economy of scale seem stacked against them. In the words of demographer who described the gloomy future of rural Minnesota, “Tomorrow will not be like yesterday.” If the two districts are going to combine, they are going to need more discussions, and they are going to need direction from parents and taxpayers. Last week’s meeting, with the two boards openly airing their differences should have happened earlier so they could get past the hard feelings and work toward

positive solutions.

50 years ago (1969)

•Luverne’s Rural Fire Department and City Fire Department are now one unit offering more equipment and knowledge to all Rock County citizens. The department will be known as the Luverne Fire Department. “One of the biggest reasons for the change was insurance,” Chief Curt Maxwell said. “Now on a rural fire, we’re covered with the same protection as in town.” The rural association sold all fire fighting equipment and vehicles to the city recently for the sum of \$1,001. The rural department owed \$1,000 on a new rural truck and this has been paid off.

75 years ago (1944)

•Gasoline “T” coupons must be called for in person between April 1 and April 5, at the local ration board, it was announced this week. Formerly these coupons were mailed to the consumer, but under a new regulation, this method of distribution is no longer permitted. New “T” rations are based on previous allotments the board said, and all who apply for new rations must furnish their 1944 license number and must also turn in their unused ration stamps, for the first quarter. Renewals uncalled for after the last of the month in which coupons are issued will be cancelled.

100 years ago (1919)

•Christ Lunzmann, of Denver township, a subject of the Imperial German government, was taken in custody Wednesday evening by Sheriff Frank Wiggins to answer to the charge of having firearms in his possession while his country was at war with the United States. The indictment against Lunzmann has been returned earlier in the day by the grand jury, and upon being brought before the court the defendant gave a cash bond of \$500 for his appearance, and was ordered to report to the court yesterday morning. He appeared in court at the time stipulated, with M.W. Chunn as his counsel, and entered a plea of not guilty to the indictment.



Lori Sorenson photos/0321 concert

Band, choir perform in concert

Luverne High School band and choirs presented their March concert Saturday, March 16, in the high school gym following their work with expert clinicians. The band (above) worked under the direction of John Aboud, Algona, Iowa, and the choirs were scheduled to perform with Dr. Michael Culloton from Concordia College, Moorhead. Culloton, however, was unable to travel to Luverne for the event, so Luverne choral director Seana Graber led the student vocalists with their performance Saturday night.



Above: Seana Graber leads the ninth- and 10th-grade girls' choir with their opening number, "Caverns in the Clouds," Saturday night.

Top, right: Heidi Sehr accompanies the choir in "I'll Be on My Way," with her mom, Janine Papik, accompanying on piano and her son Casey Sehr in the choir.



Left: Clinician John Aboud directs the high school band in playing "Cruel Moon."

OBITUARIES

Adele Oien

Adele Oien, 93, Luverne, died Friday, March 8, 2019, at Sanford USD Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 23, at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. Burial will follow at East Nidaros Cemetery in rural Baltic, South Dakota. Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. Friday, March 22, with a prayer service at 6:30 p.m., at the Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne.

Dorothy Maxine Adele Sckerl was born to Max and Marie (Fromberg) Sckerl on May 29, 1925, on the family farm near Lake City, South Dakota. She attended country school through the eighth grade and continued with high school in Lake City. Her father died when she was 10 and in March of her junior year in high school her mother also passed away. An older brother, Alfred and Lorraine Sckerl, lived in Rapid City at that time and she began her senior year in Rapid City. During that year Alfred obtained a new job and moved with his family to Cincinnati, Ohio. Adele finished her senior year at Webster High School in Webster, South Dakota, and lived with an older sister, Alice and Cornelius Wells.

After graduation Adele moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, worked in the payroll department at Wright Aeronautical, an airplane engine factory, during World War II and then returned to South Dakota. Adele enrolled in a book-keeping program at Nettleton Business College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Following graduation, she worked in the accounting departments of Tuthill Lumber Company and the Sioux Empire Equipment Company.

Adele married Ordell Oien on Oct. 1, 1949, at East Nidaros Lutheran Church near Baltic, South Dakota. The couple lived on the farm near Baltic where Ordell grew up and farmed with his aunt and uncle, Adolph and Carrie Moen. The Oiens moved to Luverne in 1960, and Adele later took a job at Culligan Water in the office where she worked for 28

years before retiring.

Adele was a member of Grace Lutheran Church where she served as financial secretary for a number of years in the 1960s. She and Ordell enjoyed visiting people, polka music, fishing, playing cards and spending time at their cabin on Lake Sarah. After retiring she participated in quilting and Bible study at Grace and rediscovered a love and enjoyment of reading. She also learned to crochet, and especially enjoyed crocheting afghans for each of her grandchildren. Adele enjoyed baking chocolate chip cookies for her grandchildren.

Adele lived the last five years at The Oaks apartments in Luverne, where she enjoyed spending time with new and old friends and going out for coffee and breakfast at various restaurants.

She is survived by her daughter, Gloria (Tom) Wesely of Plymouth and their children, Julie (Kevin) Cody and their children Hannah and Micah of Bloomington, Indiana, and Kyle Wesely of Edina; her son-in-law Bob (Julie) Hermann of Buffalo City, Wisconsin; Bob and Danita's children, Rob (Cari) Hermann and their sons, Will and Lex of Riverside, Illinois; Chris Hermann of Winona; Mark (Andrea) Hermann and their son, Evan and daughter, Camille of Woodbury; Joel (Michelle) Hermann of Kellogg; Tim (Jada) Hermann and their daughter, Harper of Kellogg; special friends, Sharon and Glen Hoekman of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and many nieces and nephews.

Adele was preceded in death by her husband, Ordell, in November of 2009; a daughter, Danita "Dani" Hermann in August of 1986; six brothers, Rudolf, Alfred, Bernard, Herbert, Otto, and Walter Sckerl; and six sisters, Magda Unger, Alice Wells, Adeline Daker, Margaret Rovn, Connie Hammond, and Irene Larson.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com.

(0321 F)

Dorothy Klosterbuer

Dorothy Gail Klosterbuer, 71, Luverne, died Monday, March 11, 2019, at the Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

No services are planned. Memorials are preferred to Luverne Special Olympics and the American Parkinson's Association.

Dorothy Gail Schleiden was born on Oct. 10, 1947, to Charles and Alice (Hixenbaugh) Schleiden in Lynwood, California. She grew up in the Los Angeles suburb of Maywood, California, graduating from Huntington High School. She received her BA and MA degrees in political science from California State University in Los Angeles. She completed requirements for a PhD in political science at the University of Illinois where she met her future husband, Jim Klosterbuer. She attended the Paralegal Institute in Philadelphia to become a paralegal in 1975.

Dorothy married Jim Klosterbuer on July 31, 1975, at the State Line Presbyterian Church near Ellsworth. After their marriage, they moved to the Washington, D.C., area where Dorothy worked as a paralegal with the Steptoe and Johnson law firm. In 1979 Dorothy and Jim moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Dorothy worked as a paralegal with Iowa Electric Light & Power Company. She attended the University of Iowa and earned her JD in 1982. She worked for a year as an attorney with the Internal Revenue Service in

Kansas City. She next became a Johnson County, Iowa, Assistant Attorney. She finished her career working as a law clerk for the Iowa Sixth District county judges from 1989 until her retirement in 2005.

Their son, David, was born in December 1985. One of the favorite family activities was packing a picnic lunch and taking a hike. Saturday nights were always pizza and a movie. Dorothy was an avid reader, especially mystery novels. She had a sharp wit and always had an appropriate comment on the current political situation. She loved thoroughbred horse racing, especially the Triple Crown races.

Dorothy moved to skilled nursing care in August 2016.

She is survived by her husband, Jim, and their son David of Luverne; her sister Anne Norman of Grand Junction, Colorado; her sisters-in-law Janice Schleiden of Yucaipa, California, Shirley Klosterbuer of Luverne, Mary Klosterbuer of Windom; and brother-in-law Don (Lona) Klosterbuer of Luverne; cousin Gaynell Lapinski of Ocala, Florida; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers Robert and Charles Schleiden, brother-in-law Harry Norman, and sister-in-law Marlene Schleiden.

Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, www.dingmannandsons.com.

(0321 F)

Michael Voetberg

Michael Dale Voetberg, 34, Leota, formerly of Magnolia, died Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

Visitation was Tuesday, March 19, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne.

Michael Voetberg was born Feb. 22, 1985, to Bryan and Donna (Boon) Voetberg. He was baptized in the Methodist Church of Rock Valley, Iowa, and professed his faith initially with his Grandpa Boon at a Christian Motorcycle Rally and later in the Methodist Church of Magnolia. Michael attended the Luverne Public School. He left in his senior year and obtained his GED from the Alternative School in Luverne. His testing scores were utilized to obtain further funding for future students. His next adventure in life was touring New Zealand for approximately six weeks. He worked at Glen's Food Center in Luverne stocking the produce department. He then worked as a steel fabricator at Sudenga Industries in George, Iowa, for 12 years.

Michael's love was music. He bought his first guitar and amp when he was 15 years old. He played electric guitar in the Youth Promise Band (YPB) during his high school years. He loved jamming with friends. He was a self-taught musician and played guitar,

drums, and keyboards. He spent many hours recording music at his home in Leota.

Michael was a free spirit and never dwelled on earthly possessions. He found peace in nature and spent many weekends around the Twin Harbors or at Touch the Sky Prairie, a wildlife refuge north of Luverne. He advocated for saving the planet and feeding the hungry by taking the steps to make his footprint greener and sponsored a child in Africa.

Michael was a lifelong learner. He enjoyed reading books, writing short stories, and publishing several poems. He was considerate, complex, passionate, brilliant and quirky.

Michael is survived by his parents, Bryan and Donna Voetberg, Magnolia; three brothers, Matthew Voetberg, Luverne, Joshua Voetberg, Magnolia, and Jeremiah Voetberg, Magnolia; grandparents Arie and Marge (Niemeyer) Boon, Rock Valley; and many uncles, aunts, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Ben and Jess Voetberg and an uncle, Harv Voetberg.

Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com

(0321 F)

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John Rittenhouse photo/0321 hoops 12
Luverne Fire Department member Eric Woodley puts up a shot in traffic during a charity basketball game Monday.

Charity games pull in cash for Angel Fund

By John Rittenhouse

March Mayhem was on display in full force at Luverne High School Monday.

The fourth annual LHS Charity Basketball Games attracted four teams for a hoops doubleheader.

The evening started with a game between the LHS senior basketball players and a team representing the LHS teaching staff.

Game 2 pitted the members of the LHS boys' hockey program against members of the Luverne Fire Department.

The teachers stole the show during the opening game of the set.

A competitive first half ended with the faculty members sporting a 24-19 lead.

The teachers went on to outscore the high school players

23-15 in the second half to complete a 47-34 victory.

Game 2 of the twin bill was much more competitive.

A surge late in the first half lifted the LFD to a 16-10 lead at the intermission.

The hockey players fought back to take a pair of leads during the game's second half, but LFD registered the final four points of the night to secure a 23-20 win.

Ultimately, the Luverne School's Angel Fund was the big winner Monday.

All proceeds of the event (admission and the shoot-outs at halftime) went to the Angel Fund, which helps pay the lunch accounts for families in need.

More than \$1,500 was raised during the evening.

Figure skaters to present 28th shows at Blue Mound Ice Arena over weekend

By John Rittenhouse

As spring ritual returns to the Blue Mound Ice Arena this weekend.

The Blue Mound Figure Skating Club is slated to present its 28th annual ice show at the local venue Friday and Saturday nights.

Both presentations begin at 7 p.m.

Minnesota On'ice is the name of the 2019 version of the show.

"It's a play on the phrase Minnesota Nice," said Katie Kopp, one of the skating instructors preparing the skaters for the two-night stint.

"It will be all about Minnesota and the popular things about the state."

According to Kopp, a total of 85 skaters will be on the ice for the show.

A total of 69 members of the BMFSC and 16 fathers of some of the participants are slated to perform during the shows.

Along with group numbers, duets and trio presentations, the nightly lineup includes eight solo numbers.

Riley Severtson, Breanna Richters and MacKenzie Engwicht, the three senior members of the BMFSC, will skate solo numbers during the shows.

Severtson and Richters are from Luverne, while Engwicht comes from Elkton, South Dakota.

The shows consist of 30



Submitted photo
Three senior members of the Blue Mound Figure Skating Club are slated to perform solo numbers at the ice shows this weekend. They are (from left) Riley Severtson, Breanna Richters and McKenzie Engwicht. The shows begin at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights.

numbers each night, with an intermission after 15 numbers.

Skating fans are invited to participate in a chuck a duck competition during the intermission.

Ducks will be on sale in the lobby (one duck for \$2 and three ducks for \$5) with numbers listed on them. The duck that comes the closest to a target on the ice wins 50

percent of the money taken in for the contest.

Admission for the ice shows is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children.



John Rittenhouse photo/0321 bsc gb
Luverne's Mallory Thorson (left) and Brooklynn Ver Steeg (right) drew postseason honors from BSC officials this week.

Ver Steeg, Thorson make honorary squad for accomplishments on basketball court

By John Rittenhouse

Two Luverne High School athletes drew postseason awards for their prowess on area basketball courts over the winter.

One Cardinal player was selected to the 2018-19 All-Big South Conference Western Division Basketball Team.

Another LHS athlete drew honorable mention from the league's coaches.

Making the 10-player All-BSC squad for Luverne is freshman guard Brooklynn Ver Steeg.

Junior Mallory Thorson, a forward, is one of five players to receive honorable mention from the league.

Jackson County Central, Pipestone and Redwood Valley led the league by securing

two roster spots each on the All-BSC squad.

Senior Alicia Brandt and junior Alaina Woff represent JCC on the squad, while juniors Haley Garman and Sydney Sommers made the list from RWV.

Senior Miranda Hulstein and junior Zoe Velde grace the list for Pipestone.

Other players making the All-BSC squad include Marshall sophomore Jordyn Hilgemann, Windom sophomore Allison Letcher and Worthington senior Evelyn Othow.

Other girls drawing honorable mention from the league's coaches include Marshall senior Kaia Sueker, junior Lenei Estrada and sophomore Emily Meier and Pipestone senior Mandi Miller.

Selection committee spoils what was an exciting Sunday

It didn't take for a long for what was a pleasant Sunday afternoon to turn sour for me.



To the best of my recollection, it all unraveled in less than five minutes.

Like a lot of people throughout the country, I was eagerly anticipating the selection show for the upcoming NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

If possible, I never miss the one-hour show that reveals the brackets for the two-plus week, 68-team event known as March Madness.

When the Minnesota Golden Gophers have a chance to make the field, it creates even more of an interest for me.

I assumed the Gophers were a lock to make the cut this year, so the 5 p.m.

telecast of the brackets unveiling couldn't come soon enough for me.

I absolutely couldn't wait to find out which team Minnesota would face and what day it would open the tournament, which begins in full force on Thursday.

The tournament's selection committee didn't disappoint me in terms of entering Minnesota in the field, but the group spoiled my experience before 5:05 p.m. in a couple of ways.

The downfall started less than 60 seconds into the show, when Duke was named the nation's No. 1 overall seed.

Anyone who knows me realizes that not only don't I care much for the

Blue Devils. I loathe Duke University.

Supporters of the Duke program say it's because I'm a hater, and they could be right.

It just seems like every time I get a chance to view a Duke game, the Blue Devils benefit from lopsided officiating that sends them to the free-throw line a lot more times than their opponents.

That may sound like sour grapes, but I really do believe it.

There are no officials on the NCAA Selection Committee, but I think the group did the entire nation a disservice by naming Duke the overall No. 1 seed.

How can a team that

placed third in its conference be given the top seed in a national tournament?

North Carolina, a team that was awarded one of the other four No. 1 seeds for the event, beat Duke twice during the regular season and nearly did it for a third time last Friday night during a conference tournament game before falling by one point.

Gonzaga, a team that received another No. 1 seed and only lost three games this season, beat the five-loss Duke squad in the only meeting between the teams back in November.

Duke may be worthy of a No. 1 seed, but I think placing them above both UNC and Gonzaga was a

mistake.

I wouldn't say finding out the Gophers would be a 10th seed in a 16-team bracket was a mistake a couple of minutes later.

I'm a realist, after all, and I know that the Gophers are a marginally talented team that lacks depth and overall talent.

Minnesota did beat some tournament-bound teams during the season and did more than I thought it would by winning twice during the Big 10 Tournament last week, but I think a 10th seed is fitting for a team that won 21 games and finished conference play with a losing record (8-10).

Regardless of that, I did think the Gophers might

have a chance to win at least one game in the big tournament.

Based on whom they drew as a first-round opponent, I don't see that happening anymore.

Some say the Louisville Cardinals are a beatable team as a seventh seed, but I'm not one of them.

The instant I learned the Cardinals would be Minnesota's first round opponent, all I could say is this is not good for the Gophers.

Although it is a different year, I do know Minnesota squared off against the Cardinals twice (1982 and 1994) in NCAA Tournament play and lost both of those games.

March Madness does include upsets every year, but I just don't believe the Gophers will register one.

All I can hope for now is to have the overall No. 1 seed becomes a victim of an upset over the next couple of weeks.

FROM THE SIDELINES

By John Rittenhouse, sports editor

St. Catherine Catholic Church
203 E. Brown St., Luverne

St. Catherine Ph.: 283-8502; email: stcatherine@iw.net
Thursday, March 21: 9 a.m. Head Start. 7 p.m. Parish Council. Friday, March 22: 10 a.m. Mass at Poplar Creek and The Oaks. 4:30-7 p.m. Knights of Columbus Fish Fry. Saturday, March 23: 5 p.m. St. Catherine Mass. Sunday, March 24: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine. 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Children's Liturgy; Walking with Purpose. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Leo. 1 p.m. Bilingual Mass at St. Leo. Tuesday, March 26: 9:30 a.m. Walking with Purpose. 1-4 p.m. Mission Sewing. 7:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus. Wednesday, March 27: 9 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine. 3:30 and 7 p.m. Faith Formation. 7 p.m. Walking with Purpose. Thursday, March 28: 9 a.m. Head Start. 1-4 p.m. Fun Day.

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www.luvernecrc.com — office@luvernecrc.com
Roger Sparks, Pastor

Sunday, March 24: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 10:50 a.m. Church Education Classes. 6:30 p.m. Worship Service. Monday, March 25: 9 a.m. Perk Up in Edgerton. 7 p.m. Friendship. Tuesday, March 26: 9:30 a.m. Coffee Break/Story Hour. Wednesday, March 27: 2 p.m. Faith Builders Bible Study. 7 p.m. Youth Group.

First Baptist Church
1033 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne
Ph. 283-4091; email: fbcluv@iw.net — www.fbcluverne.org
Walt Moser, Pastor

Thursday, March 21: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 11:45 a.m. Pastor Appreciation at Senior Dining Center. 8 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Sunday, March 24: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Morning Service. 6 p.m. Election of Officers and Business Meeting. Tuesday, March 26: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 2 p.m. Ladies Bible Study. 7 p.m. Ladies Bible Study. Wednesday, March 27: 6:30 p.m. Awana. Thursday, March 28: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 8 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Ron Nichols, Pastor

Thursday, March 21: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Friday, March 22: 6:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Saturday, March 23: 5:30 p.m. Worship. Sunday, March 24: 8:15 a.m. Radio Broadcast. 9 a.m. Worship. 10 a.m. Fellowship coffee. 10:10 a.m. Fifth Grade First Communion Class. 10:15 a.m. Adult Study and Sunday School. Monday, March 25: Order deadline for Easter lilies and mums. 4:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Tuesday, March 26: 7 a.m. Dorcas Circle at The Bean. 9 a.m. Staff meeting; Grace Notes Assembly. 1:30 p.m. Worship at Mary Jane Brown Home. 2:30 p.m. Worship at Poplar Creek. 4 p.m. Worship at Veterans Home. 7 p.m. Mary/Martha Circle. Wednesday, March 27: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 3:30-5 p.m. Faithweavers. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Lenten Meal. 6:45 p.m. Lenten Service. Thursday, March 28: 9:30 a.m. Naomi Circle; Rachel Circle at The Centennial. 1:30 p.m. Lydia Circle. 2 p.m. Sarah Circle at The Camelot. 7 p.m. Priscilla/Elizabeth Circle.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 507-449-0291 or 605-215-9834
pastorapalmquist67@yahoo.com
Mike Altena, Pastor

Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 9:15 a.m. Bible Class. 10:15 a.m. Worship with Communion. Wednesday, March 27: 3:45 p.m. Catechism classes. 6 p.m. Soup supper. 7 p.m. Lenten Vespers.

American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne
Ph. 283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org
Mike Altena, Pastor

Friday, March 22: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. 4:30 p.m. REFIT Fitness. Sunday, March 24: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:50-11:50 a.m. Family Education. Monday, March 25: 9 a.m. Playtime at ARC. 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes. Tuesday, March 26: Noon Staff Meeting. 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Bible Study Fellowship. Wednesday, March 27: 4:30 p.m. REFIT Fitness. 5:30 p.m. Midweek Meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs; Jr. and Sr. Youth Groups. 7 p.m. Rachel Circle; Praise Team.

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

St. John Lutheran Church
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316; email: stjoh@iw.net
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org
Gary Klatt, Pastor

Thursday, March 21: 12:30 p.m. Rock the Edge at Luverne High School. DCE Meeting at Burnsville. 1:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support Group. Saturday, March 23: 5:30 p.m. Worship with Communion. 7 p.m. High School Lock-In. Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Worship with Communion. 10:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour. 11:15 Junior Choir. Tuesday, March 26: 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Wednesday, March 27: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 10:30 p.m. Assemble newsletter. 6 p.m. Lenten worship service. 6:40 p.m. Supper by Guild. 7 p.m. KFC/Catechism/HS Youth Group; Senior Choir. Thursday, March 28: 11:30 a.m. DCE Jess Devotions at Mary Jane Brown Home.

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luverneumc@iw.net

Thursday, March 21: 1-3 p.m. and 5-6:30 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf. Saturday, March 23: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Coffee Hour and Adult Sunday School. 10 a.m. Worship Service. CMA Pancake Breakfast following service. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible Study. 6 p.m. ALIVE Youth Group — Working on video and service. Monday, March 25: 6:30 p.m. Movie Night. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Tuesday, March 26: 9:30 a.m. Folding Team. 1-4 p.m. Homeschoolers. Wednesday, March 27: 5:30 p.m. Community Meal. 6 p.m. FUEL and Confirmation. 7 p.m. Lenten service at First Presbyterian Church. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Thursday, March 28: 10 a.m. RCMA Meeting. 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net — www.fpcluverne.com

Thursday, March 21: 10 a.m. Worship Service on Channel 3. Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 10:15 a.m. Worship Service. 11:15 a.m. Coffee and fellowship. 1:30 p.m. Worship service at Mary Jane Brown Home. 2:15 p.m. Worship service at Poplar Creek. Monday, March 25: 9 a.m. Quilting group. Tuesday, March 26: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Noon Over 60's Herreid Military Museum. Wednesday, March 27: 3:30 p.m. Youth Club. 5:30 p.m. Feast and Fellowship. 6 p.m. Choir. 7 p.m. Lenten service. 7:45 p.m. Deacons. Thursday, March 28: 10 a.m. Worship on Channel 3.

Living Rock Church
500 E. Main St., Luverne
Ph. 449-0057; www.livingrockswmn.org
Billy Skaggs, Pastor

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship; Kids Rock Children's Ministry. 6 p.m. Youth Ministry. Life groups meet throughout the week.

Ben Clare United Methodist Church
26762 Ben Clare Ave., Valley Springs, S.D.
igtwlb@WOW.net
Bill Bates, Pastor

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Laura Phillips, Pastor

Thursday, March 21: 5-7 p.m. First Lutheran Preschool Open House. Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 10 a.m. Sunday School.

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st St., Garrettsen, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Laura Phillips, Pastor

Thursday, March 21: 7 p.m. Palisade Council Meeting (rescheduled). Sunday, March 24: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. Wednesday, March 27: 7 p.m. Lenten service and Bible Study at Palisade. Thursday, March 28: 1:30 p.m. WELCA Meeting at Palisade.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
Email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Pastor Nancy Manning
Sundays: 9 a.m. Magnolia Worship Service. Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation.

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pastor Maggie Berndt-Dreyer
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270

e-mail: bethlehemiuth@alliancecom.net
Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion at Bethlehem. Tuesday, March 26: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 3:15 p.m. Bible Study at the Village. Wednesday, March 27: 9 a.m. Quilting. 6-6:45 p.m. Lent meal served by Deacons. 7-7:30 p.m. Break-out Session; First Communion during Lent Service. 7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer Service. Thursday, March 28: 7 p.m. Bunco Game Night; bring an appetizer to share.

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

God's say so

Here are some thoughts I gleaned from a devotional in Oswald Chambers' classic book, "My Utmost For His Highest." In Hebrews 13:5-6, notice what God has said and what we therefore may say.

To all who walk by faith in Jesus Christ, God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we may say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

God's "say so" comes before our "say so." Our testimony is based on God's testimony. Since God has said (with the force of an unbreakable promise), "I will never leave you ..." we may courageously say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not fear."

Often we are tempted to fear. There are many things in life that are beyond our control — things that may harm us. There are hazards on the road as we are traveling. There are diseases that may develop in our bodies. There are people who relate to us, not in love, but intending to take advantage of us.

But when we find ourselves becoming fearful, we can remember God's "say so." What a difference it makes to meditate on His promise never to leave us.

Are you afraid of anything? Is there some dread thing that holds you in its grasp? Do you ever get the feeling that no one cares, and that no one is looking out for you? In that instant you may say, "The Lord is my helper NOW ... He promised NEVER to leave me or forsake me."

When a choir prepares to sing a cappella, the director usually gives

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Roger Sparks, Luverne Christian Reformed Church

the singers a starting pitch. The director may quietly sound a note on a pitch pipe, or sound a note on a keyboard. Without the starting pitch, the choir would produce a cacophony of unpleasant sounds, not a symphony of voices. So too, it's important for us to hear God's "say so" when we face trials that test our faith.

God's promise "I will never leave you or forsake you ..." lets us sing His praises in the midst of troubles: "I will not be afraid."

That which is true of God's promise in Hebrews 13:6 applies to the other divine promises in the Bible that we rely on. What God says sets the tone for what we say if we remember that He who so promised is faithful. We think too of God's word to us in Philippians 4. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Is your life off pitch these days? If so, listen anew to God's "say so." If you need help, meet with other believers to learn more of the life-renewing teachings of the Word of God.

New Life Celebration Church
110 N. Oakley, Luverne

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

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick

Thursday, March 21: 3:30 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Friday, March 22: 3:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, March 24: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study. 10 a.m. Mentor Program. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. Monday, March 25: 1 p.m. Quilting. Tuesday, March 26: 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study. Wednesday, March 27: April Newsletter Deadline. 7 p.m. Lenten service with Rev. Grams; Confirmation at St. John. Thursday, March 28: 3:30 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3.

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

Call Rick or Chantel to place your ad!

283-2333

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Church is Important - Please Attend!

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Rock County seeks bridge replacement bids by April 1

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT & APPROACH GRADING / S.A.P. 067-598-020 ETC.
BIDS CLOSE @ 11:00 A.M. APRIL 1ST, 2019
LUVERNE, MINNESOTA

Sealed "Bid Packets" will be received by the Rock County Highway Department in Luverne, Minnesota until 11:00 A.M. on Monday April 1st, 2019.

READ CAREFULLY THE PROVISIONS FOR THE WAGE RATES AS CONTAINED IN THE SPECIAL PROVISIONS, AS THEY WILL AFFECT THIS PROJECT.

Attention is called to the fact that the Contractor must comply with the Special Equal Employment Opportunity Provisions & Wage Rates as contained in the Proposal.

Proposals will be opened and read publicly in the presence of the Rock County Highway Engineer at the Rock County Highway Building located at 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne, Minnesota immediately following the hour set for receiving bids for the following Rock County Highway work. Bids will be awarded on Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019 at the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Construction of Bridges 67K36; 67K38 & 67K45 / PCST. Box Culverts.

The Major Quantities of Work are: 96 Ft. of 12' x 5' PCST. Box Culvert + 4 End Sections; 108 Ft. of 12' x 6' PCST. Box Culvert + 4 End Sections; 108 Ft. of 14' x 5' PCST. Box Culvert + 4 End Sections; 2,257 Cu. Yds. Aggregate Backfill & Bedding; 363 Tons Rock Bedding; 317 Tons Random Riprap Class 3; 3,125 Sq. Yds. Remove Pavement; 1,730 Tons Aggregate Base Class 5 & 564 Tons Bit. Wear & Non-Wear Course Mixture.

Plans, specifications and proposals may be viewed and downloaded on Quest at www.questcdn.com and at the Rock County Highway Department website, www.co.rock.mn.us/highway. Questions may be directed to the office of the Rock County Highway Engineer, 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue, P.O. Box 808, Luverne, MN 56156-0808 / (507) 283-5010.

The non-refundable cost for Plans and one proposal will be \$50.00. Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or corporate surety bond drawn in favor of the Rock County Treasurer in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the proposal.

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked "PROJECT NO. SAP 067-598-020, Etc."

The Board of Rock County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects therein.

Rock County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
Mark R. Sehr, P.E.
Rock County Highway Engineer
(3-07, 3-14, 3-21)

Central Specialties, Fick and Duininck Inc. apply for conditional use permits

Notice of Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permits

Pursuant to the Rock County Zoning Ordinance, notice is hereby given by the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission that a public hearing will be held at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center located at 1000 North Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 25, 2019. The purpose of this hearing is to rule on the application for Conditional Use Permit for the following:

Applicant: Central Specialties
Property Owner: Bremik Materials, Inc.
Location: E ½ of the NW ¼ of Section 23 of Denver Township, T104N, R45W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture
Applicant: Central Specialties
Property Owner: J. R. Scott
Location: NW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 28 of Battle Plain Township, T104N, R44W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Gravel mining, stockpiling, and processing
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture
Applicant: Ron Fick
Property Owner: Ron Fick
Location: SE ¼ of Section 15 of Luverne Township, T102N, R45W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Gravel mining, stockpiling, and processing
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture
Applicant: Duininck, Inc.

Property Owner: Bar S, Inc.
Location: Portions of Section 14 & 11 of Denver Township, T104N, R45W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Placement and operation of a temporary asphalt plant
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture
Applicant: Duininck, Inc.
Property Owner: Duininck, Inc.
Location: E ½ of the SE ¼ of Section 29 of Battle Plain Township, T104N, R44W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Gravel mining, stockpiling, and processing
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture
Applicant: Duininck, Inc.
Property Owner: Duininck, Inc.
Location: E ½ of the SE ¼ of Section 29 of Battle Plain Township, T104N, R44W, Rock County, Minnesota
Conditional Use: Placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture

By Order of the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission
Eric Hartman, Zoning Administrator
311 W. Gabrielson Road
Luverne, MN 56156
507-283-8862

(3/14, 3/21)

Cowell probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK

DISTRICT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
COURT FILE NO. 67-PR-19-88

In Re: Estate of
Zachery Mark Cowell, a/k/a Zachery Cowell,
Deceased
HEARING

ORDER AND NOTICE OF

ON PETITION FOR ADJUDICATION OF
INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP
AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR IN
SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of April, 2019, at 3:30 O'clock P.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship and for the appointment of Janna Klarenbeek, whose address is 877 121st Street, Luverne, Minnesota 56156 as administrator of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said administrator will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the administrator shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said administrator or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: March 12, 2019

/s/ Damon T. Eisma
Attorney for Petitioner
EISMA AND EISMA
130 East Main
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828
I.D. #249269

/s/ Terry S. Vagirt
District Court Judge
/s/ Denise Brandel
Court Administrator

(3-21, 3-28)

VandenBussche probate

DISTRICT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
COURT FILE NO. 67-PR-19-7

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK
In Re: Estate of Llyod Thomas VandenBussche,
Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING
ON PETITION OF FORMAL PROBATE
OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on April 1, 2019 at 3:30 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Luverne, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Decedent's Will dated July 16, 2012 and for the appointment of Naomi L. VandenBussche, whose address is 1308 East Keystone Drive, Apartment 3, Brandon, SD 57005 as personal representative of the estate of the Decedent's in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; sell real and personal property; and do all necessary acts for the estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.
BY THE COURT
Dated: March 11

/s/ Terry Vagirt
District Court Judge
Court Administrator
Denise Brandel/Jennifer Thode
Filed on March 11, 2019

Dated: March 11

LYNN A. JOHNSON LAW OFFICE, LLC
Lynn A. Johnson
MN #0264246
2548 Broadway Avenue
PO Box 217
Slayton, MN 56172
Telephone: (507) 836-6757
Facsimile: (507) 836-6773
e-mail: lynnj1ljaoffice@gmail.com

(3-21, 3-28)

Grace a/k/a Carlson probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK

PROBATE COURT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
COURT FILE NO. 67-PR-19-92

In Re: Estate of
Marilyn Jane Grace, a/k/a Marilyn Jane Carlson,
Deceased

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PETITION FOR ADJUDICATION OF
INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP
AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR IN
SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ANCILLARY

PROCEEDING

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of April, 2019, at 3:30 O'Clock P.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship and for the appointment of Paul Carlson, whose address is 260 Flint Court, #17, Hayward, California 94541 as administrator of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said administrator will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the administrator shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said administrator or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.
Dated: March 12, 2019

/s/ Terry S. Vagirt
District Court Judge
/s/ Denise Brandel
Court Administrator

/s/ Jennifer L. Eisma-Reinke
Attorney for Petitioner
Jennifer L. Eisma-Reinke
Attorney for Petitioner
EISMA AND EISMA
130 East Main
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828
I.D. #389457

(COURT SEAL)

(3-21, 3-28)



Papik picks of the week...



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24K • Stock #648672Z
\$20,490



2017 Chevrolet Equinox LT
24K • Stock #503229N
\$18,990



2018 Chevrolet Equinox
16K • Stock #283802Z
\$23,490

283-9171

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I-90 Luverne, MN 56156



EMPLOYMENT

Help wanted: Full-time milk hauler. Must have CDL, tanker endorsement and a clean driving record. Contact Roos & Sons, Inc at 507-993-8808 and ask for Scott. (3.3-3.28)

Local CDL Driver: Ferrellgas is looking for a full time driver in Luverne, MN. If you have a CDL with tanker and/or hazmat endorsements, and want to work where your experience and dedication make a difference, join our team! Benefits: •Local routes and territories – home every night •Medical, Dental, Vision, and Prescription Insurance Plans •401(k) plan with company match •Bonus potential and sales incentives •Paid time off (including holidays) •Paid uniforms •Paid training and tuition reimbursement •Propane discounts •Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) Apply online at www.ferrellgas.com/jobs/ EOE/AAP/M/F/D/V. (3.17-4.4)

EMPLOYMENT

Southwestern Youth Services (SYS), a nonprofit residential behavior treatment center for boys ages 10-18, is seeking applicants for a full- or part-time teacher for the 2019-2020 school year, mid-August to early June with weekends off. Full-time hours are 7:30a-3:30p w/ paid holidays. Part-time days/hours are negotiable. Teaching license required and all certifications considered. Salary based on experience. SYS is located one mile north of Interstate 90 in Magnolia, MN, 26 miles east of Brandon and 27 miles west of Worthington. For more information, please email Carole Naasz at cnaasz@southwestyouth.org (3.17-4.11)

Help Wanted: Part time, route driver / service technician needed immediately. Stop in at Culligan to pick up an application. 206 West Main, Luverne, MN. (3.10-3.21)

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Jane Baker Bosch would like to thank everyone for all their prayers, visits, cards, flowers, shared memories and memorials. Your thoughtfulness, love and support extended to us - not only at the time of her passing, but also after her fall last November has truly been overwhelming. Special thanks to the Tuff Memorial Home Staff and Administration for all their loving care; to Hartquist Funeral Home – we will be forever grateful for the compassion you showed our family and for arranging the special family service at the hospital; and to Pastor Jeremy for your visits and words of comfort. We feel God has used each of you in a special way to help us bear the tremendous loss we feel and your kindness will always be remembered.

John Bosch
Terry and Glenda Sandstede
Dave and Eunice Roozenboom

CARDS OF THANKS

Arlen and Lois Leenderts
Alan and Vonnie Baker
Brad and Laura Dykstra
Tim and Michele Baker
Kevin and Rane Hagen
Brad and Linda Bosch
Larry and Nicie Bosch
Steve and Julie Peters
Troy and Missy Bosch
Randy and Kathy Fick
and all the grandchildren
and great grandchildren
(3.17-3.21)

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SANFORD
Luverne

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EE01AA



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DUE MARCH 31, 2019

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

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