



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, February 18, 2021

'Get Hooked'

Sixth-annual ice fishing derby set for Saturday at lake in Luverne

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne's sixth annual Get Hooked Ice Fishing Derby is from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at The Lake in Luverne with over \$6,000 worth of prizes on deck for winners.

According to Luverne Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere, the 2020 tournament drew 161 adults and 129 youth who caught over 185 pounds of fish.

Registrations last year represented 36 zip codes from the tri-state area.

With so many local celebrations altered or canceled over the past year, Lanphere said she's looking forward to the fishing derby carrying on in a mostly normal fashion.

"The Get Hooked Team is excited to host the tournament, one of the only ones scheduled in the area," she said. "The Committee has put in a lot of work making sure that safety and social distancing protocols are in place to keep people safe."

To keep participants socially distanced, all contestants must pre-register. Adults cost \$25 and youth are \$15. Registrations on the day of the event cost \$5 more.

The winner of the Ice Castle raffle will be drawn at noon on tournament day, and random prize drawings and announcements will occur throughout the tournament via Facebook and on FM 89.9.

People can follow online or listen from their vehicles or ice houses. When names are called, they can come to the tournament building to collect prizes.

Also for safety, registration and badge pickup are drive-through only, and concessions are takeout.

Free rods and reels are offered to youth (until they're gone), and cash prizes are awarded in youth and adult categories, including \$500 for largest fish caught by an adult and \$500 for largest fish caught by a kid.

Each carp turned in is worth \$2.

New this year, the city and Get Hooked Derby added a ramp to get ice houses safely on the ice.

To register and for more information, visit www.luvernechamber.com or call 507-283-4061.



Lori Sorenson photo/0218 Mosaic HBC 2021

Steam escapes from the radiator at Luverne's back-up generator at the power plant on East Main Street Monday evening after it got called into service to support outages down south.

Luverne generator supplies power for failing grid in southern winter storm

By Lori Sorenson

The city of Luverne's standby generator in the power plant was called into service Monday to help support a regional power grid under pressure from a record cold snap in the south.

Winter storm "Uri" with frigid temperatures is moving slowly eastward across the southern part of the states dropping snow - and temperatures — as far south as the Gulf of Mexico.

Millions of homes and businesses in 10 states were without power Monday evening and the Southwestern Power Pool, which manages electricity transmission across parts of 14 states, warned that demand had exceeded its electric supply.

It told its members to begin controlled outages and reached out to member utilities for helping to generate power for the grid.

Missouri River Energy Services, which provides power for the city of Luverne, has been asked to help supply power.

SPP also asked MRES to prepare for unannounced rolling outages in order to manage electrical transmission across the grid.

As of Tuesday, city leaders weren't sure that would happen in Luverne, residents and businesses were made aware of the possibility, and emergency management officials were on notice as well.

MRES pays the city \$75,000 per year to keep its generators in working condition for backup power in peak usage times.

The standby generator at the power plant on East Main Street began supplying power Monday afternoon and will continue running around the

Luverne provides power generation/see page 2

City to fix building after fire damage and plans for new hangar

By Lori Sorenson

Plans are in place for a new arrival and departure building at the Luverne municipal airport after the current structure was damaged in a fire last fall.

At their Feb. 9 meeting, Luverne City Council members approved plans and specification for the project and set a bid letting date of March 11.

Structural engineers determined that the building could be rebuilt using most of the steel girders of the present structure, which includes the fixed base operation shop.

The majority of the cost of the new building will be covered by the city's insurance company, which concurs with the new plans and specifications.

Because of the building's age (nearly 30 years) much of the electrical wiring and utilities need to be updated to current code.

Also, a floor drain is required as well as a water and oil separator.

The council approved some upgrades not required by code in order to update the building's efficiency and aesthetics.

For example, McClure said higher-efficiency windows will replace older, drafty ones, and a larger door on the east side will allow the FBO to work on helicopters.

"That will be at the city's expense, but these are things we've always wanted but never had opportunity to do," said City Administrator John Call.

"We're going to get a nicer building in the end."

Councilman Kevin Aaker, who serves on the city's Airport Commission, said the building will have a new appearance but the footprint is the same.

"It's going to be a nice, clean, new place for visitors," Aaker said. "It was just a rough way to get there."

Work on the fire-damaged structure will start around April 1, and construction is estimated to last about five months.

Airport construction/see page 2

'Hope' returns to H-BC with art mosaic

By Mavis Fodness

For the past month, Hills-Beaver Creek High School art students have been talking about "hope" as they complete an art mosaic with second-year instructor Tyler Johnson.

"This is my first year that I decided to have the kids make one," he said "Last year I had considered it for the spring but then COVID hit. I wanted to make sure we got the project done and on the wall while students were still in-person."

In March 2020, students across Minnesota finished the 2019-20 school year via computers, as the coronavirus pandemic closed all school buildings.

H-BC School District returned to in-person instruction through social distancing, a stringent cleaning routines and wearing of masks.

The 45 ninth- through 12th-grade students working on the mosaic added elements that signify "hope" as the U.S. moves through the pandemic.

"Students found they found hope when they could stay connected to each other," Johnson

Mosaic for hope/see page 14



Mavis Fodness photo/0218 Mosaic HBC 2021

Second-year Hills-Beaver Creek art instructor Tyler Johnson and students are working on a mosaic featuring elements of "hope" amid the pandemic..

City sells Lopau property, moves lot border for trees

By Lori Sorenson

The city of Luverne is selling the former Lynn Lopau house to Greg and Janet Burger, according to action at the Feb. 9 council meeting.

Last fall the city purchased 10 acres of land from Lopau for \$661,500 to develop for future housing.

The city paid \$475,000 for the house, garage and two acres, and \$186,500 for the rest of the eight acres, including two out-buildings.

However, since last fall the city invested \$25,000 in remodeling and updates to the home and in January listed it for sale at \$529,900.

The Burgers, however, are paying \$498,000 and also negotiated an extra 10 feet along the north property border to include a line of evergreen trees.

At Tuesday's meeting, city building inspector Chad McClure said the 10-foot concession won't affect platting of the future housing development.

"I'm happy to see that it's sold. It's a beautiful property and I hope the Burgers are happy there."

— Caroline Thorson, city council member

"Those lots were exceptionally deep, so what we're losing isn't anything significant," he said.

Mayor Pat Baustian thanked McClure and city finance director Barb Berghorst for their work preparing the house for sale.

"They got everything tidied and dressed up," Baustian said. "And public works put in hours ...

Lopau property sold/see page 5



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County	Total Cases	DAILY average in last 7 days	Percent Change
Rock	1,148	1	+0.3%
Pipestone	999	1	+0.4%
Nobles	3,815	4	+0.8%
Minnehaha (SD)	27,518	36	+0.5%
Lyon (IA)	1,428	2	+1%

14-day case rate in Rock County per 10,000 people:

Date Range	12/27-1/9	1/3-1/16	1/10-1/23	1/17-1/30
Rate	65.09	66.93	49.93	25.50

Vaccine Dashboard: ROCK COUNTY



- People with at least one dose: 1,223
- People with completed series: 577

Data as of 02-14-2021

For more Covid-19 vaccine information, please visit:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine.html>

School Status

LUVERNE - Elementary: In-person | Middle/High School: In-person
HBC - Elementary: In-person | Secondary: In-person/HYBRID

Current data as of February 16, 2021. Sources: MDH & The New York Times

Sponsored by: Rock County Emergency Management

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

SW MN Compassionate Friends meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Monday of the month in the Luverne Area Community Foundation office, next to the Palace Theatre in Luverne.

The group provides support, understanding and hope to grieving parents and grandparents after a child dies — of any age and any cause. Call 605-254-2072 or email pat.saum@gmail.com.

Monthly food giveaway

New Life Celebration Church will host its monthly free food giveaway at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at the Generations building at 319 E. Lincoln Street in Luverne. Those in vehicles go to the double class doors on the west side of the building where volunteers will load groceries into vehicles. (Stay in your car). Walkers should go to the east side of the building where volunteers will have grocers pre-packed for pick-up. Call 507-283-4366 with questions.

Nutrition Assistance for seniors

Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors will be from 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at the parking lot at 319 E. Lincoln (Generations Building). The event is a drive-through distribution. Call Linda Wenzel at 283-5064 with questions. Sponsored by A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota.

Tax assistance for Rock County residents

United Community Action Partnership will be providing free online virtual tax assistance for residents living in Rock County and surrounding communities. See website for details at <https://www.unitedcapmn.org/services/community-family-services/tax-clinic/>

The number to make an appointment and to get intake forms sent via mail is 507-537-1416 ext. #2163. You can also email Courtney Newgard at Newgardcourtney.newgard@unitedcapmn.org with questions.

Rock County Library winter activities

Register now at the library to participate in the Rock County Library 2021 Winter Reading Program, which began Jan. 1. Patrons who read at least 12 books from now until March 31 will win a prize for their efforts — and enjoy some good books.

Call the library at 507-449-5040 or email the library at rocklibrarystaff@gmail.com.

Check with the library to participate in Virtual Trivia. Receive weekday trivia to break up our quarantine schedules (until Trivia Nights in person can continue again.)

Community Ed

Call the Luverne Community Education office, 507-283-4724, for registration information.

Come to **Use It or Lose It** class on Feb. 22 to learn some simple exercises using your own weight, fitness bands and YouTube videos to improve your fitness. Class will begin with Coach Wenninger giving a tour of the new weight room.

Paint a Winter Wonderland class on Feb. 23 is for students in grades 1-3. Listen to a story and enjoy snacks. Class meets at Coffey Contemporary Arts. Fee is \$33.

Struggling to pay heating bills?

Energy Assistance Program can help Minnesotans keep homes warm

With winter’s coldest temperatures arriving, the Minnesota Department of Commerce reminds Minnesotans to apply to the state’s Energy Assistance Program for help paying their heating bills.

For those who have not already applied for help this heating season, there is still time. Households with young children, people with disabilities, veterans, seniors and those experiencing unemployment or financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are especially encouraged to apply. Both renters and homeowners can qualify to get energy assistance.

“We are concerned more Minnesotans than ever are having difficulty paying heating bills because of the impacts of

the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Commerce Department Temporary Commissioner Grace Arnold. “Last year we granted an average of \$500 to eligible households to help with heating bills.”

Stimulus payments from the federal government and pandemic-related unemployment insurance payments are not counted as income when determining if a household is eligible for energy assistance.

The Energy Assistance Program serves households that earn less than \$54,357 for a household of four or \$28,266 for a household of one. It helps income-qualifying homeowners and renters with heating bills through grant money paid directly to utility companies or heating fuel vendors. The program can also help households

pay past-due bills, get reconnected, or prevent energy disconnection, get delivered fuel, learn about energy efficiency and safety, and repair or replace homeowners’ broken heating systems.

In November 2020, Minnesota received more than \$106 million in federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds for this year’s Energy Assistance Program.

Average annual grant is about \$500

Last year the Energy Assistance Program served nearly 118,000 Minnesota households, with an average grant of about \$500. These households included nearly 57,000 seniors, almost 35,000 young children, more than 57,000 people with

disabilities and roughly 7,500 veterans.

How to apply for Energy Assistance Program

New applicants have until May 31, 2021, to apply; however, funding is limited and administered on a first-come, first-served basis. The Minnesota Commerce Department administers the program in partnership with 29 local service providers throughout the state. Local service providers are situated across Minnesota and cover every corner of the state.

Households apply for assistance with the local service provider in their area. Call 800-657-3710, and press “1” or visit the Commerce Department’s Energy Assistance Program webpage: www.mn.gov/commerce



Mavis Fodness photo/Cold Morning Feb. 16

More seasonal temperatures on the way

Days of below-normal temperatures are forecast to end this week with temperatures getting back to the normal highs in the 30s and normal lows in the teens. Tuesday morning continued to have lows in the negative double digits with the negative lows stretching from Minnesota down to south Texas, according to the U.S. National Weather Service. Sunday’s Valentine’s Day became the coldest on record since 1936 for several locations. Luverne recorded a low of 26 degrees below zero Sunday night.



Take and Make bird treat kits

Stop by the Luverne Area Chamber at 213 East Luverne Street to pick up one or more Take and Make bird treat kits. Kits are free, but a \$5 to \$10 donation is welcome to benefit Project Food Forest in Rock County. (Or donate online at <https://donorbox.org/support-pff>)

Luverne generator/from page 1

clock as long as it’s needed.

Two-man crews are working alternate shifts to monitor the generator and keep it fueled. Late Monday a tanker truck carrying 7,500 gallons showed up at the power plant.

City utility supervisor Brian Remme said Luverne supplies power through the generator on a quarterly basis, per its contract with MRES, but he said this activity is unprecedented.

“I haven’t seen it in my time here,” Remme said.

MRES is paying for the fuel and other expenses related to Luverne’s generator operation.

Mayor Pat Baustian said the backup generator is started every month to make sure it will generate power when needed.

He also said he can’t remember a time when the Luverne generator was used in this capacity to support a widespread power shortage.

“This is pretty big,” Baustian said. “Because power is going to the grid to help out with the energy load under stress down south.”

Airport plans/from page 1

New hangar construction

In other airport news, the city has approved construction of a new four-unit hangar to meet demand for rental space.

The airport has had 100-percent hangar occupancy for many years.

According to airport personnel, there’s a waiting list and frequent active inquiries for hangar space.

The project is estimated to cost roughly \$649,000, and engineering is estimated at \$57,800.

Federal and state grants will also pay 95 percent of the costs.

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Hills pledges \$5,000 to local food shelf

By Mavis Fodness
The city of Hills became the first municipality outside of Luverne to pledge support to the Rock County Food Shelf’s new location and renovation project.

Hills Council members pledged \$1,000 per year over the next five years at their Feb. 9 meeting.

The Food Shelf capital campaign seeks to raise \$225,000 to complete the project.

Food shelf volunteers sent letters to each of the county’s small communities whose residents also use the food shelf to lessen food insecurity in their households each month.

The suggested contribution was \$1,000.

According to information released by the food shelf, residents with Luverne addresses more frequently take advantage of the 900 pounds of food distributed weekly each Thursday.

Following Luverne are residents with Magnolia, Hills, Beaver Creek, Hardwick, Steen, Kanaranzi and Kenneth addresses.

The food shelf is currently located in the basement of the United Method-

ist Church on Main Street Luverne.

In collaboration with the city of Luverne, the food shelf will move to a former dental office located at 208 West Maple Street in Luverne.

The 2,000-square-foot facility will be remodeled to increase food storage space, add refrigerator and freezer options and provide a ground floor distribution area. Renovations have already begun on the new food shelf facility.

In other business, the Hills council:

- kept the fire protection contracts for the city of Steen and Clinton Township at the same rates. Steen will pay \$5,000 and Clinton Township will pay \$500 per section.

- approved the 2022 budget for the Hills Fire Department at \$53,840, an increase of \$3,565.

- approved 2022 stipends for the fire chief and department secretary at \$800 and \$550 respectively. Currently fire chief Jared Rozeboom receives \$675 and secretary Justin Van-Maanen receives \$510.

H-BC district budget deficit projection not as large as anticipated

By Mavis Fodness
Coronavirus pandemic aid from federal, state and local sources helped Hills-Beaver Creek School District erase a portion of its deficit from seven months ago.

School Board members accepted a preliminary 2020-21 budget in June 2020 that projected a general fund deficit of \$105,922.

At the Feb. 8 School Board meeting, Superintendent Todd Holthaus said he and business manager Amanda Rozeboom went through each line item and revised the 2020-21 general budget to deficit of \$86,324.

“This is a really good snapshot of the district,” Holthaus said.

H-BC is projected to spend \$4.919 million during the current school year.

Overspending this school year was due to the purchase of a new school bus and an upgraded phone system for the district.

Holthaus anticipated increased expenditures due to added pandemic mandates involving more cleaning, personal protection equipment and distancing requirements within the bus routes.

H-BC received \$213,000 in aid to offset the added costs, which included \$26,000 in coronavirus aid from Rock County and the cities of Hills and Beaver Creek.

The district will also receive an additional \$32,000 for a higher-than-projected enrollment.

Positive balances are also projected for the food service and community education funds under the approved revised budget.

Earlier H-BC anticipated a deficit of \$14,475 in food service during the school year.

However, meals are currently free through a federal coronavirus program, and the district will receive \$65,185 more than the earlier projections for revenues of \$212,389 for this school year.

Holthaus said the federal food program is expected to continue through the end of the current school year.

In a three-year plan to spend down the food service budget to breakeven levels, H-BC will invest in upgraded food service equipment to lower the food service balance.

A positive balance was also projected for community education, although the cancellations of youth and adult enrichment classes to lessen the spread of COVID-19 reduced revenues.

Revenues for this fiscal year are \$119,765, down from projections of \$125,680.

The reduction also comes from reduced preschool tuition to allow more preparation time for its teachers.

Instead of a positive \$44,709, Community Education is projected to end the 2020-21 school year with a positive balance of \$30,875.



Lori Sorenson photos/0218 TAAR at Rock Ranch

The Tracy Area Animal Rescue “meet and greet” at Rock Ranch near Hills allowed visitors to meet adoptable pets as well as the horses of Rock Ranch. Also several families who adopted through TAAR were there with their “alumni” pets.

Pets, humans, horses meet and greet to support animal adoption

By Lori Sorenson

Dogs, cats, horses and humans were all under the same roof Saturday morning when Tracy Area Animal Rescue hosted a “meet and greet” at Rock Ranch in Hills.

Visitors met adoptable pets from the animal rescue organization as well as the horses of Rock Ranch. Also, several families who adopted through TAAR were there with their “alumni” pets.

Among them was Baxter, the mid-size dog of Rock Ranch founders Dan and Marie LaRock, who offered their indoor heated arena on the sub-zero winter day.

The 80-by-200-foot building, completed last fall, was well-suited for excited dogs who, once familiar with each other, enjoyed zooming around in the spacious arena.

The event took in more than \$700 for TAAR, which is hoping to match a \$20,000 donation from the Tufty family by March 13.

“That means any donation made will be doubled, giving us the needed funds to continue saving animals in need,” said TAAR volunteer Beth Capistran, Luverne.

She said Tracy Area Animal Rescue has saved over 3,000 animals since 2006.

“We are 100-percent volunteer and all animals are kept in volunteers’ homes,” she said. “We receive no public funding and are able to continue our work thanks to generous donations.”

She said the organization spent



Professional photographer Valerie Meinerts had her hands full Saturday.

over \$100,000 on veterinary services for animals in its care.

“We can’t do it without our amazing supporters and volunteers,” Capistran said.

Donations are accepted at tracyareanimalrescue.com/donate.

Refreshments Saturday were provided by “Oh My Cupcakes,” and professional photographer Val Meinerts captured images of pets and their companions.

Founded in 2016, Rock Ranch provides riding lessons for children, equine experiences for seniors and Eagala certified mental health care. More information is at riderockranch.org



TAAR volunteer Beth Capistran is currently fostering Melvin, who didn’t leave her side for most of the morning,



Jane Blank was one of several human companions who brought their pets to the meet and greet event for TAAR fosters and alumni, like her dog, Muffin. Above right, Stella Vanderpoel gets acquainted with the pets Saturday.



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Bids must come in written letter form.
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DENVER TOWNSHIP ROADS

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Road Grading
Accepting contracts for up to 3 years at a time.

Submit quotes by Tuesday, March 2, 2021 to Denver Township.
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REQUEST FOR QUOTES
DENVER TOWNSHIP ROADS

Mowing of Ditch Shoulders
Accepting contracts for up to 3 years at a time.

Submit quotes by Tuesday, March 2, 2021 to Denver Township.
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Older age is not required for giving back

Another birthday came and went for me this week.

While it wasn't a "significant" birthday, it provided me with a reminder that I am, indeed, getting older.

I've long passed birthdays that allowed me to drive, vote, or drink legally. I've even been eligible to run for president for a few years now.

While the number might not matter as much these days, I'm definitely noticing the years passing by. I catch myself acting in ways that I used to consider middle-aged.

One of those ways is giving back financially to my community. I have given regularly to my church since I started working, but I guess I've thought giving to other community causes was for "older" people. People with settled careers, a higher income, and their student loans paid in full.

While I'm not sure I can check all of those boxes, I'm happy to report I decided to commit to giving to the Luverne 2184 Campaign (2184 is Luverne's school district number.)

And I think you should do the same.

If you haven't heard about it, the Luverne 2184 Campaign is a fundraising campaign begun by the Luverne Education Legacy Fund (formerly the Luverne School Foundation).

In short, funds raised will be used to finish and enhance aspects of the current LHS building project that are over and above what local taxpayers are funding.

The target audience for the campaign is LHS alumni, supporters and businesses that want the finished project



IN OTHER WORDS

By Jason Berghorst, reporter

to truly be a source of pride for the whole community.

The "Wow!" factor, as Superintendent Oftedahl calls it.

Features such as digital signage, a grand piano in the new performing arts center, enhancements to athletic facilities and an outdoor classroom are all possible.

There will also be an alumni area that highlights the accomplishments of LHS graduates and recognizes all donors who give \$2,184 or more to this once-in-a-lifetime project.

While that recognition is not the reason I've committed to donating \$61 per month for three years, it will feel good to have my name forever on that donor board.

There I go again ... sounding older.

And while it has been my pleasure to serve on the campaign planning committee, even that's not the reason I've decided to commit to the cause.

It might just be because I'm getting older.

I'm now interested in giving back to a school that did so much for me as a student and continues to provide so much to me as an employee.

I'm proud to be from Luverne and to be a member of the Class of 1997, and I want to demonstrate that pride in a way that will benefit current and future students.

And I hope you do, too.

Please visit luverneeducationlegacyfund.org for more information or to sign up to join me in giving back to our community.

No matter how old you are,

Star Herald issues 'thumbs up' or 'thumbs down' to recent happenings

Thumbs up to local electric utility workers for their round-the-clock work at Luverne's powerplant to man the back-up generator that was called into service.

Thumbs up also to Luverne city leaders who had the foresight to maintain an independent power source for the community.

Thumbs down to climate change deniers. Our Arctic cap is melting, it's snowing on the beaches of the Gulf, and our entire West Coast is either on fire or in chronic drought. But OK. Climate change is a hoax.

Thumbs down to the party that called 911 as a possible joke. It's no joke that dozens of firemen, first responders and law enforcement personnel dropped everything Friday to search for snowmobile

accident victims that didn't exist. It's a crime to misuse 911 and we hope the perpetrators are prosecuted.

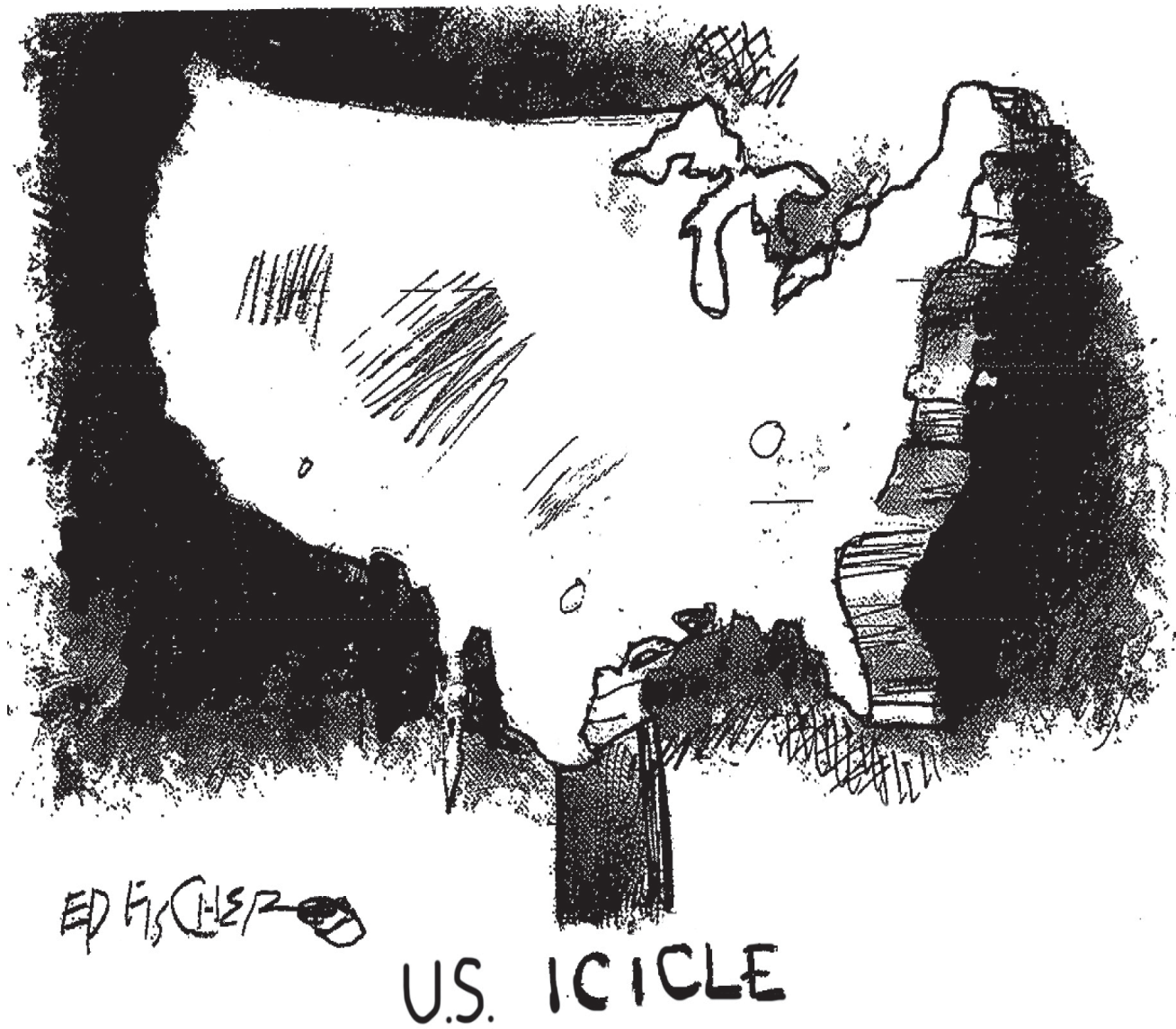
Thumbs up to the first responders and medical professionals who played a role in 3-year-old accident victim Nora Matthiesen's recovery. It's a relief to follow up this bad news story with a good news feature about a remarkable and somewhat miraculous recovery.

Thumbs down to political signage in boulevards and along highways. The election is over (for those who believe in free and fair elections)

and it's time to move on. Plus, it's the law. They were supposed to be gone Nov. 13.

Thumbs up to city staff for displaying American flags on Presidents Day. It must have been a frigid job to put them up that day, but Old Glory looked wonderful lining the street under sunshine and blue skies. It's uplifting to be part of a community that takes pride in patriotism.

Thumbs up to the water departments whose crews fixed broken water mains caused by the recent stint of high temperatures in the negatives.



Kracht: 'We need to call out our government' officials

To the Editor:

After reading our local newspaper's half page ad with our mayor praising our governor's budget proposal, I decided to look into what it all entailed.

I read through the proposed budget plan several times, only to find some things that would be horrible for our local economy.

Some of the things in this proposal are appropriating \$150 million for rebuilding Minneapolis after the riots, defunding the reinsurance program, raising taxes on corporations, and raising taxes to pay for summer school, among other things.

I am going to address the problems with these things. \$150 million for rebuilding Minneapolis. Governor Walz let Minneapolis burn for four days, and some Minnesotans will have to pay for his incompetence for the rest of their lives. He was offered assistance to stop this from

the federal government, but refused. Wouldn't 25,000 armed troops have been a good plan for that? We don't seem to have a problem with it at the capitol buildings.

Walz also says he would only raise taxes on the wealthiest Minnesotans, but in reality, it is corporations and businesses that were not affected by his Covid shutdowns. Raising taxes on corporations would be a lot of farming operations and small businesses in our area. Raising taxes on businesses deemed essential to pay for his decision to close other businesses is Governor Walz's plan to cover his rear end on another bad decision!

Raising taxes to pay for summer school. The closing of school was probably the dumbest decision I have ever heard of! The children didn't learn a thing doing distance learning. It was the most disorganized mess I have ever seen. Then they went to school two or

three partial days per week. Now they go to school until 2:30. Does Covid start at 2:30 or on certain days in the week?

Governor Walz and the teachers union made the decision to shut down our schools. The people had no say in this. They didn't shut down our taxes. We had to pay during that time. Now they are asking us to bail them out.

This budget proposal will raise Minnesotans' taxes on most of the families in our area. It makes MN the third highest tax rate and the second highest business tax rate in the nation. No wonder businesses are moving out of state to our neighbors to the west! We need to call out our government from the federal to the local level on all of this wasteful spending and taxing the people to pay for it!

Marlin (Mert) Kracht
Luverne

VOICE OF OUR READERS

Meinerts: 'We need to unite'

To the Editor:

In response to Mr. Green's letter to the editor in the Jan. 28 edition of The Star Herald: I wholeheartedly agree that we need to unite. Unite against abortion, foreign interference in our government, dependency on foreign oil, the assault on the First and Second Amendments, the tyrannical government lockdowns that have stranglehold on small businesses, the huge injustice against our kids with distance/hybrid learning, and the assault on

the gathering to worship.

We need to unite against the fear that is perpetrated by the media and our government, and be allowed to live free like our constitution says. The disregard of our flag and nation as a whole is disgraceful and embarrassing.

As far as "uniting with the powers that be," I think we will follow the example set by the last four years and a month.

God bless America!

Todd Meinerts
Luverne

We welcome your letters! See instructions below for submissions.

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

- Feb. 5**
- Complainant on 91st Street reported mailboxes knocked down.
 - Complainant on W. Mead Court reported theft and breach of lease.
 - Deputy conducted extra patrol in the city of Kenneth.
 - Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported a disorderly.
- Feb. 6**
- Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported a disturbance.
 - Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported property damage.
 - Complainant requested to speak to a deputy concerning a prior incident.
 - Complainant reported dangerous snowmobile activity at the school softball diamonds.
- Feb. 7**
- Complainant on W. Warren Street reported a found item at location.
 - Complainant on E. Warren Street reported harassing communications from previous renters.
 - Complainant on N. Estey Street reported an issue with private sale of a vehicle.
 - Complainanteastbound on Interstate90, milemarker8, Beaver Creek, reported suspicious activity.
- Feb. 8**
- Subject in Nobles County was arrested on Rock County warrant.
 - Complainant reported a scam phone call.
 - Suspicious activity was reported at location on N. Blue Mound Avenue.
- Feb. 9**
- Complainant on W. Interstate Drive reported suspicious vehicle.
 - Complainant on S. Estey Street reported vandalism.
- Feb. 10**
- Complainant on S. Broadway Street, Magnolia, reported an attempted break-in.
 - Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a fire hazard at location.
 - Complainant at the Transfer Station reported garbage dumped in ditch.
- Feb. 11**
- Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported loud music at location.
- In addition, officers responded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 7 escorts, 11 ambulance runs, 8 parking violations, 3 paper services, 5 animal complaints, 5 fingerprint requests, 6 burn permits, 2 background checks, 3 alarms, 1 drug test, 15 purchase and carry permits, 3 stalled vehicles, 5 traffic stops, 6 abandoned 911 calls, 1 welfare check, 2 reports of cattle out, 1 OFP and 1 follow-up.



City sells Lopau property to Burgers/continued from page 1



it took a lot of hands to get the work done.”

Councilwoman Caroline Thorson said she is pleased with the process. “I’m happy to see that it’s sold,” she said. “It’s a beautiful property and I hope the Burgers are happy there.”

Closing on the sale is set for March.

The rest of the land that the city intends to develop for housing is valued at \$141,500 — or \$17,687 per acre.

There is no timeline in place for dirt work as housing needs will depend on current subdivisions under construction.

The Lopau subdivision will eventually be platted for a mix of twin homes and single-family houses, which is what Luverne most needs, according to the latest housing study.

March 15 deadline for signup for 2021 Agriculture Risk Coverage, Price Loss Coverage programs

Agricultural producers who have not yet enrolled in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2021 must do so by March 15.

Producers who have not yet signed a 2021 enrollment contract or who want to make an election change should contact their local USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) office to make an appointment.

Program enrollment for 2021 is required in order to participate in the programs, but elections for the 2021 crop year are optional and otherwise remain the same as elections made for 2020.

ARC and PLC provide income support to farmers from substantial drops in crop prices or revenues and are vital economic safety nets for most American farms.

Although 1,033,310 contracts have been completed to date, this represents less than 59 percent of the more than 1.7 million contracts anticipated

by the agency. By enrolling soon, producers can beat the rush as the deadline nears.

Producers who do not complete enrollment by close of business local time on Monday, March 15, will not be enrolled in ARC or PLC for the 2021 crop year and will be ineligible to receive a payment, should one trigger for an eligible crop.

ARC and PLC contracts can be emailed, faxed or physically signed and mailed back to FSA.

Producers with level 2 e-authentication access can electronically sign contracts. Service Center staff can also work with producers to sign and securely transmit contracts electronically through two commercially available tools: Box and OneSpan.

You can learn more about these solutions at farmers.gov/mydocs. Producers may also make arrangements to drop off signed contracts at the FSA county office. Please

call ahead for local mailing or drop-off information and options for submitting signed contracts electronically.

Producers are eligible to enroll farms with base acres for barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium- and short-grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat.

Yield data and web-based decision tools available

FSA recently updated the annual and benchmark yields for ARC/PLC program years 2019, 2020 and 2021. This data is useful to producers in choosing to participate in either ARC or PLC.

For added assistance with ARC and PLC decisions, USDA partnered with the University of Illinois and Texas A&M University to offer web-based decision tools to assist producers in making informed, educated decisions using crop data specific to their respective farming operations. Tools include:

- Gardner-farmdoc Payment Calculator, the University of Illinois tool that offers farmers the ability to run payment estimate modeling for their farms and counties for ARC-County and PLC.
- ARC and PLC Decision

Tool, the Texas A&M tool that allows producers to analyze payment yield updates and expected payments for 2019 and 2020.

Producers who have used the tool in the past should see their username, and much of their farm data will already be available in the system.

Crop insurance considerations

Producers are reminded that enrolling in ARC or PLC programs can impact eligibility for some crop insurance products. Producers who elect and enroll in PLC also have the option of purchasing Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) through their approved insurance provider. Producers of covered commodities who elect ARC are ineligible for SCO on their planted acres.

Unlike SCO, RMA’s Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO) is unaffected by participating in ARC for the same crop, on the same acres. You may elect ECO regardless of your farm program election.

More information

For more information on ARC and PLC including web-based decision tools, visit farmers.gov/arc-plc; to find location and contact information for the nearest FSA county office, visit farmers.gov/service-center-locator.

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Sanford Health – Worthington is seeking a full-time Registered Nurse.

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To apply please visit www.sanfordhealth.jobs and search “R-39255”.

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E-EDITION

BROWSER

‘Miracle girl’ returns home after rural Magnolia farm accident

By Mavis Fodness

Three-year-old Nora Matthiesen returned home to her rural Magnolia farm Feb. 10, surprising doctors and her parents, Jed and Deann Matthiesen, at the speed of her recovery.

“It is surprising on how fast she improved,” Deann said Saturday. “Her age worked in her favor — kids are so resilient.”

Nora’s skull was fractured Jan. 13 in a farm accident. She was unconscious when she was airlifted to a Sioux Falls hospital.

Last week when Nora and her mom and dad turned into their farm driveway, they were greeted with snowflake ornaments hanging in the trees along the farm’s driveway and bright pink ribbons (Nora’s favorite color).

Eagerly waiting was Nora’s 17-month-old sister, Mara.

“I truly wish each and every one of you could have been able to witness the pure joy of two little girls/sisters getting to be reunited today,” wrote Deann’s mom, Lori Popkes, in her caringbridge.com post.

“Some of the best therapy is playing with Mara,” Deann said.

The frequent movement helps Nora improve balance and increase appetite.

She now wears glasses to counter double vision that resulted from the accident.

Vision therapy, along with continued physical therapy for the next several months, may improve her sight. Surgery is also an option.

“We will see how she does. We hope her vision improves with time,” Deann said.

Currently, the Matthiesens are just happy to have Nora home.

“She is truly a miracle girl,” Deann said.

“We are so thankful for her to be home.”

Doctors kept Nora in a coma for a week to lessen the swelling in her head from the Jan. 13 accident

Sixteen days after the accident Nora was talking and recognizing visitors, but was



Contributed photos

On Feb. 9, friends of the Matthiesen family decorated the evergreens lining the family’s rural farm driveway as a welcome home gesture. Snowflakes were used as a supportive symbol in the hopeful recovery for Nora Matthiesen. The pink bows represent Nora’s favorite color.

physically weak.

She was transferred to Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals in Omaha, Nebraska, on Jan. 29, where she received twice-a-day exercises to improve balance and increase her appetite.

Her return home comes less than a month after the accident.

Nora had earlier indicated she wanted to go home to help dad with the upcoming births of calves and lambs. No lambs have arrived yet, and only a handful of calves are

on the ground as of Saturday.

Deann is nervous to allow Nora to go outside due to cold weather, so they haven’t returned to where the accident happened.

Luckily, she said, Nora doesn’t remember anything from the accident.

“That is a blessing,” Deann said.

For now both parents are focusing on Nora’s continued recovery and upcoming therapy schedule in Sioux Falls.

Deann is on a leave of absence from her position as a neonatal nurse practitioner and



Photo courtesy of Deann Matthiesen

Sisters Mara (left) and Nora Matthiesen share laughs Saturday as the two play at their rural Magnolia home. Nora returned to the farm Feb. 10, a month after she was injured in a farm accident.

Jed’s farm chores schedule is flexible.

As the Matthiesen family settles back into a routine, Popkes reflected on the accident in her Feb. 4 caringbridge.com post.

“As I look back to those first days when Nora’s little life truly ‘hung in the balance,’ there is absolutely not one shred of doubt that it was the prayers of so many that truly touched the heart of God to work a miracle in her life,” she wrote.

Snowflakes have become a symbol of hope for Nora’s recovery. A neighbor to the Matthiesens first showed her support by attaching a snowflake ornament to her mailbox.

The neighbor said that snowflakes are fragile yet are strong and resilient before forming into one of God’s beautiful masterpieces. Life is much the same.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2011)

•The Luverne Middle and High School students and staff had the goal of raising \$2,000 through the Pennies for Patients program in just one week’s time.

The incentive was to gain permission to shave the heads of Ryan Johnson, principal, and Todd Oye, activities director.

During the Friday pepfest on Feb. 11, though, students cheered as two other chairs were filled by Wade Hiller, technology coordinator, and Terry Althoff, 10th-grade math teacher. Together the schools raised \$4,700.80 from Monday to Friday. All donations benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

25 years ago (1996)

•It will take another bus, but the Luverne School Board unanimously agreed Thursday to provide transportation for children open-enrolling to Luverne for the 1996-97 school year.

Transportation director Lon Remme used a map to show board members where students currently open-enrolled in the district live and where new students who have requested transportation live.

When the district sends letters of acceptance to parents of these students, the letter will say transportation will be arranged either from students’ homes or from pick-up points.

Preliminary open-enrollment numbers as of Jan. 15 show an estimated 123 students may attend school in Luverne from outside the district.

The district is not obligated to provide transportation to students outside the district; however, with bus costs figured into the state-aid formula, and with the benefits for the district of gaining additional students, Luverne Superintendent George Maurer said it will pay off in the end.

50 years ago (1971)

•Rock County schools would stand to get a considerable increase in state support for maintenance costs according to figures released last week by Gov. Wendell Anderson’s office in a report explaining his proposed new education aid formula.

Maintenance costs do not include the capital expendi-

tures or debt costs of the school districts.

Anderson’s proposal suggests that the state’s share of maintenance costs be increased from the current 43 percent to 64 per cent next year and 70 per cent in 1972-73.

Financing for the new state aids would come with increased income and excise taxes, which, Anderson proposes, would be offset by plans being made for property tax relief.

Conservative legislators have been criticizing the proposal for tax reforms with the idea that the state should be more concerned with spending cuts and not tax adjustments.

Rep. Wendell Erickson of Hills, said “You can’t spend more money without hurting somebody, taxwise.”

75 years ago (1946)

•Jack Kent, who for 16 years has served as a bulk truck driver for the Rock County Cooperative Oil Co., has purchased the Luverne Recreational Alleys from L. A. McClure.

Mr. McClure, who has operated the alleys here since 1937, said Mr. Kent would take possession of the business March 1. At the present time, they are located in the basement of the McClure Plumbing and Electric shop, but they will be moved this summer to the building now occupied by the “Reck Club,” adjacent to the McClure building, and several more alleys added before next fall’s bowling season begins, McClure stated.

Mr. Kent has disposed of his bulk gasoline truck to Virgil Noll, who recently returned from the service. Since his discharge, Mr. Noll has been employed at the Boyer Grain and Feed Company.

100 years ago (1921)

•The comedy drama, “And Home Came Ted,” will be given tonight at the Palace Theatre by the Seniors of the Luverne high school. The first performance of the annual class play was presented last evening at the Palace to a crowded house, and was well received, the play combining humorous incidents and dramatic situations in a manner which held the interest of the audience throughout.

The drama comprises three acts of one scene each, with a cast of twelve characters, the various roles being well taken by the members of the senior class. The play is given under the direction of Miss Georgia Adams.

1890: Businesses, post office shape Manley

The following appeared in The Rose History in 1911.

Rock County Village (continued from 02-11-20 edition of the Star Herald)

At this early stage of Manley’s development an invitation was extended to both Beaver Creek and Valley Springs to join forces with the new town, before circumstances should force such a procedure.¹⁸ The boom that was expected to eventuate in 1890 did not materialize so fully as anticipated. In April an elevator was erected by C. N. Bell, of St. Paul, and F. C. Bell was placed in charge. After much bargaining, L. K. Lee was induced to build a roller mill at Manley. The enterprise was launched early in August. Late in July a postoffice was established and Miss Mary E. McCallen appointed postmistress. The office was housed in a small building erected for the purpose.

To encourage the development of the town the townsites owners extensively advertised and held an auction sale of town lots that resulted successfully so far as their pockets were concerned. The sale was held on July 30, 1890. For the occasion a free excursion train was run from Sioux City, which carried prospective investors, the majority of whom were laboring men. It was reported that 588 persons were entertained by the company on the day of the sale and that seventy-five lots were sold.¹⁹ The many promises of building projects that were made before the wholesale disposal of lots were not fulfilled. The activities of the year 1890 from the first of August may be summarized: A small bottling works was put in operation; several small residences, one by E. M. Percival and another by Mr. Sturtevant, were erected; the first and only store in the town was established by H. H. Loeffler in December; the firm of Rood Bros. engaged in the fuel business and stock buying; an ice house with a storage capacity of 160 tons was completed by Albert Johnson in December.

There were a few additions to Manley in 1891. John Butler erected a 24x50 feet grain warehouse in time for the fall season, and in December a blacksmith and wagon maker located in the town. The Manley mill was closed in March, 1892, and from that time the deadline of the junction city was rapid,



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president
Rock County
Historical Society

while Beaver Creek and Valley Springs continued to prosper. In the course of the next few years every industry in the town, with the exception of the grain elevators, were withdrawn.

The store building and the few residences remained unoccupied for a period and were eventually moved away.²⁰ A fire on the morning of October 8, 1901, destroyed one of the two elevators, entailing a loss of \$2500. In 1904 the station was closed but was later opened for a period. No agent is maintained at Manley at the present time.

¹⁸A representative of the Northern Land company, which owns the towns along the Sioux City & Northern railway, has been interviewing the merchants and residents of the towns of Beaver Creek and Valley Springs, with a view to induce the two towns to unite and form a thriving town and the junction of the Sioux City & Northern and Omaha railways.”—Beaver Creek News-Letter, November, 1889.

¹⁹“The sale of town lots at Manley last week is said to have been a big affair, the purchases aggregating about \$4000, at prices ranging from \$50 to \$150 a lot. The free excursion from Sioux City drew a big crowd.”—Rock Rapids Review, August, 1890.

²⁰“Manley will soon be a has-been town. One by one the buildings of that place are being taken away. The last building to be removed, and about all that remains of Manley, will be the two story building. The building was sold this week to A. N. Nerison, of Hills. The building will be removed to Hills and used as a dwelling.”—Valley Springs Vidette, March, 1900.

The story of other places will start in the Feb. 25 edition of the Star Herald.

CELEBRATIONS

Births

A son, Conner Gregory, weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces, and 21 1/4 inches long, was born on Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021, at Sanford in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to **Greg and Natalie Fick** of Beaver Creek.

Grandparents are Harlan and Sue Stueven of Hills and Al and Chris Fick of Beaver Creek. Great-grandmother is Florence Fick of Beaver Creek.

South Dakota State University names honor students

Several area students were named to the Fall 2020 dean’s list at South Dakota State University in Brookings. To be eligible, students must earn a 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Students with a 4.0 GPA are indicated with an asterisk after their names.

(Codes for abbreviations of colleges of study: SNURS – College of Nursing; SAHSS – College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; SEHS – College of Education and Human Sciences; SPAHP – College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions; SNS – College of Natural Sciences; SAFES – College of Agriculture, Foods and Environmental Sciences; SENG – College of Engineering) Adrian: Rylie Hokeness*, SEHS; McKinley

Nelson*, SNURS.

Ellsworth: Ashlyn Meester, SEHS.

Hardwick: Dalton Javner*, SPAHP.

Hills: Luke LaRock, SAHSS; Jax Wysong*, SNS.

Luverne: Mariah Aukes*, SEHS; Tacey Baustian*, SNS; Tyler Fick, SAFES; Jenae Hamann*, SEHS; Alexis Henrichs, SAFES; Jacinda Hustoft, SAHSS; Kacie Kracht, SEHS; Jonah Louwagie, SAHSS; Aric Meinerts, SENG; Allie Skattum, SNURS; McCall Stegenga, SPAHP; Melissa Teal, SNURS; Benjamin Wagner SENG; Danielle Watts-Boll, SAHSS.

Lismore: Brittney Loonan, SEHS; Paige Tweet, SAFES.

Steen: Whitney Elbers*, SNURS.

COLLEGE NEWS

OBITUARIES

Larry Rosenberg

Larry Rosenberg, 76, Slayton, died Friday, Feb. 12, 2021, surrounded by his family at his home.

A private family service will be at the Iona Presbyterian Church. Interment will be at the Grand Prairie Cemetery in Ellsworth. A public visitation was Tuesday, Feb. 16, at Christ Lutheran Church in Slayton.

Larry Rosenberg was born on April 30, 1944, to Alfred and Kathryn (Tjepkes) Rosenberg in Luverne. He grew up on a farm near Ellsworth and graduated from Ellsworth High School in 1962.

On Nov. 15, 1963, he married Betty Vogt at the Ellsworth Presbyterian Church in Ellsworth. Following their marriage, they farmed near Ellsworth until 1968. They then moved to Owatonna, and Larry worked with the Minnesota State Patrol. In 1971 they moved to Slayton. Larry retired in 1999 from the Minnesota State Patrol as station sergeant.

Larry was a member of the Iona Presbyterian Church and served as an elder. He was a member of AA for over 13 years and provided support and encouragement to many fellow AA members. He was also a member of the Slayton

Fire Department for 22 years.

He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren, watching the Minnesota Twins, riding and caring for his John Deere tractor, going to area casinos and time with his pets.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Rosenberg of Slayton; three children, Lynette (Scott) Ahlschlager of Iona, Brian (Jonelle) Rosenberg of Slayton, and Kim (Jason) Holm of Slayton; six grandchildren, Samantha Ahlschlager, Stephanie and James Buell, Sydney Ahlschlager, Jimmy and Stevie Ahlschlager, Andrew Holm and Charlie Holm; two step-grandchildren, Mitchell and Abby; two great-grandchildren, Marin Engbarth and Silas Buell; siblings Bruce (Judy) Rosenberg of Ellsworth, Gene (Karen) Rosenberg of Luverne, Joan (Larry) Wendland of Ellsworth, Mary Rust of Luverne, and Steve (Brenda) Rosenberg of Sibley, Iowa; and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a granddaughter, Nicole Ahlschlager.

Arrangements are provided by Totzke Funeral Home of Slayton, totzkefuneralhome.com.

(0218 F)

Donald Esterly

Donald R. Esterly died on Feb. 1, 2021, in Phoenix, Arizona, from the combined effects of COVID-19 and Parkinson's disease.

Donald Esterly was born to Elden and Frances Esterly in rural Rock County. He attended rural schools and graduated from Luverne High School in 1950.

Don served with the 8th U.S. Army in Korea and received a citation for meritorious service to his unit.

He attended the University of Minnesota before farming southwest of Luverne. He

moved to Arizona for health reasons and was employed in the optic industry until his retirement.

He is survived by his four children and their families, Diane of Phoenix, Stephen (Susan) of Palo Alto, California, Paul (Cindy) of Phoenix, John (Babeth) of San Diego, California; and a brother, James (Janet) Esterly of Ames, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Coletha, and brothers Robert, Stanley and Glenn.

(0218 F)

DEATH NOTICES

Pa Si Phan

Pa Si Phan, 67, Worthington, died Friday, Feb. 12, 2021, at the Sanford Luverne hospice cottage.

A private service will take place at a later date at Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (0218 DN)

Brad Weinkauf

Brad Weinkauf, 50, Jasper, died Friday, Feb. 12, 2021, at the Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. at the Hartquist Funeral Home - Pipestone Chapel. A private family funeral service will take place. Interment will be in Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Pipestone, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0218 DN)

SENIOR MENU

Monday, Feb. 22: Chicken noodle casserole, mixed vegetables, peaches, cookie.

Tuesday, Feb. 23: Baked ham, coleslaw, sliced carrots, dinner roll, brownie.

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Roasted turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, sage dressing, pumpkin bar.

Half-Price Days sponsored by Minnwest Bank.

Thursday, Feb. 25: Tator

tot casserole, green beans, dinner roll, peaches.

Friday, Feb. 26: Pork chop with sauce, diced potatoes, peas, bread, lemon bar.

LSS Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals.

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

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

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Bloemendaal of Buffalo Ridge Insurance honored by CIC

Cory Bloemendaal of Buffalo Ridge Insurance was recently honored for his ongoing pledge to education, commitment to excellence, and dedication to the insurance program.

The Society of Certified Counselors (CIC) presented Cory Bloemendaal with a formally inscribed certificate for his continued participation in the CIC program. Earning his CIC designation and maintaining all update requirements for 20 years places Cory Bloemendaal in the top one percent of all insurance professionals in the country.

"The high standards of leadership maintained by Cory Bloemendaal not only benefits Buffalo Ridge Insurance, but the insurance profession as a whole," stated William Hold, CRM, CISR, CEO and president of the Society of CIC.

The Society of CIC is an organization nationally recognized as a leading continuing education program of insurance professionals. A not-for-profit organization, the Society of CIC is the cornerstone program for the National Alliance of Insurance Education & Research, headquartered in Austin, Texas.

Three Sanford Luverne employees honored for combined 141 years of service

By Lori Sorenson

More than 140 years of experience is housed in one Sanford Luverne office separated by two office dividers in the patient appointment center.

LPN Cheryl Groen started Aug. 18, 1980, and has been with Sanford Luverne 40 years.

MA Vicki Nelson started Sept. 16, 1976, and has been with Sanford Luverne 44 years.

LPN Carol Wieneke started Nov. 23, 1963, and has been with Sanford Luverne 57 years.

The three of them work in the Sanford Luverne Clinic scheduling office, sometimes working together on cases, but always striving to help patients have the best outcomes.

Cheryl Groen, the junior staffer, started as a nurse in Luverne Community Hospital and held various office jobs.

After an accident compromised her health, she became a nurse scheduler, utilizing her nursing background to place orders for physicians.

"I get a little variety every day. I don't talk to the same people every day — except for the people I work with," Groen said. "Carol and I communicate really well over the wall. We work together all the time. ... We transfer calls to each other."

Groen said she gets the



Lori Sorenson photo/0218 Sanford Staff

Sanford Luverne recently honored longtime medical staff (from left) Vicki Nelson, Carol Wieneke and Cheryl Groen. Together the three women comprise more than 140 years of experience.

satisfaction of patient contact that she enjoys as a nurse while scheduling orders like ultrasounds, mammograms, CT scans and surgeries.

"There are some people I work with quite a bit — the ones with recurring orders, such as lab work," she said. "So I get to know them."

Every test and every procedure needs an order, and it all comes through Groen's desk.

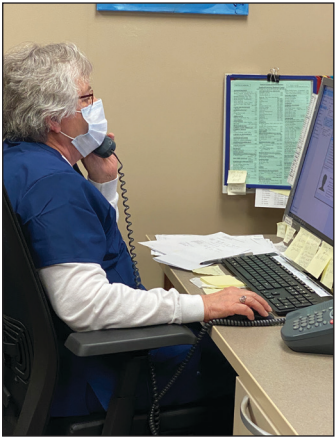
Part of the work involves "investigative work." For example, if a CT scan is ordered for a patient with a pacemaker, Groen calls it to

the doctor's attention.

She said improved technology has helped improve patient care, with doctors being able to access vital information more readily.

"It really makes you feel good when everything runs smoothly," Groen said. "Communication is the most important part of this job. ... with the doctors and with the patients. ... and I enjoy helping people come to an answer to their health problems."

Groen said she enjoys working as a team with



Carol Wieneke, 57 years

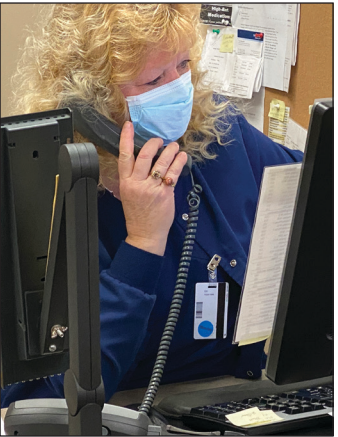
Wieneke and Nelson. "Vicki gets them lined up, and we schedule them. "So it's really a three-person effort.

Vicki Nelson works in "Care Coordination" to make sure patients get in for follow-up appointments and keep up with health maintenance such as a colonoscopy and staying current with their medicine.

While her heart will always be "on the floor" where she worked for 39 years, she said care coordination offers her the rewards of helping patients nonetheless.

"Some of them answer the phone and recognize my voice," Nelson said. "They say, 'Vicki, is that you?'"

Also rewarding, she said, is being able to assure patients they're getting the best care at Sanford Luverne.



Cheryl Groen, 40 years

"How lucky Luverne is to have the doctors we have here," Nelson said. "We have doctors that since I started passed down the tradition of really giving good care and taking care of their patients." Nelson retired on Feb. 10, just after being interviewed for this story.

She fought back tears after being asked what she'll miss about her 44 years at Sanford Luverne.

"I'm going to miss ... my



Vicki Nelson, 44 years

co-workers and the doctors and our patients," Nelson said. "I love our patients. This has been my second home for 44 years."

She worked full time for most of her career, which started at 19 years old.

As hard as it is to leave,

Sanford, continued on p. 14



WINTER PLANTER CLINIC

Open to anyone who wants to get better prepared for spring!

Topics:

We will be discussing yearly maintenance, calibrations and settings that you should be checking on your planter before spring. All brands of planters will be discussed.

Friday, February 26th 1:30PM-3:30PM

Grand Prairie Events Center
Luverne, MN

RSVP Not Required, but would be appreciated
RSVP TO: Ryan Hoff (507-227-3299)
Ryanhoff10@gmail.com





Wayne Kruger Benefit

Chili Cook Off and Silent Auction

February 27th from 3-7 pm
SpringBrooke Golf Course
Beaver Creek, MN



Pork Loin meal will also be provided & donated by the Rock County Pork Producers!

Deadline to Donate or Register is February 21st

LIVE AUCTION at 6 pm and LIVE MUSIC 4-9 pm

50/50 Tickets will be available for \$5 each

If you would like some and can not make the benefit contact those listed!

To enter your Chili (\$20 entry fee) or have any items you would like to donate to the silent auction please contact: Kellie Herman 507-227-5743, Trisha Goebel 507-227-4005, Becky Gonnerman 507-227-0334, Kim Arends 507-920-6621 or Sherri Kitchenmaster 507-227-0564

Will be following Covid-19 regulations



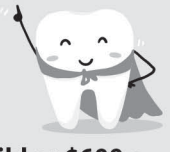
February is NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

In honor of National Children's Dental Health Month, the Rock County Oral Health Task Force, an issue team of **#Luv1LuvAll**, would like to thank those that have made the monthly dental clinics in Luverne possible since September 2019.

Families and children, who were traveling as far as Minneapolis, can now access dental care provided by Children's Dental Services right here in Rock County.

The next dental clinic in Luverne is scheduled for **Thursday, February 25th**. To schedule an appointment, call **612.746.1530**.

Funding provided by: Luverne Area Community Foundation, Sanford Luverne Physician's Group, Sanford Luverne Hospital, Sioux Valley Energy, Blandin Foundation, Early Childhood Dental Network, Annabelle Frakes, Kevin Thelen, and Minnesota Special Liquids.



For \$40 per child or \$600 a month, you can partner with us in providing this essential service.

For more information, call 507.227.1978.

 **#Luv1LuvAll**

Cardinals outscore opponents 24-0, improve to 6-2

By Brennan Rupp

The Luverne Cardinals girls' hockey team hasn't given up a goal in eight straight periods. After giving up four goals in the first period against Dodge County, the Cardinals have kept their opponents off the scoreboard. This past week Luverne outscored two opponents 24-0. They opened the week with a 13-0 home victory over Worthington on Thursday, Feb. 11. On Saturday, Feb. 13, the Cardinals defeated Morris/Benson 11-0 in Benson.

LHS 13, Worthington 0

It was all Luverne, all the time at Blue Mound Ice Arena on Thursday, Feb. 11. The Cardinals scored nine first-period goals to blow out the Trojans 13-0. It took the Cardinals less than a minute to score the first goal of the game. Peyton Behr got the Cardinals off and rolling with a goal 56 seconds into the game. Kamryn Van Batavia and Reghan Bork recorded assists on the goal. Van Batavia scored



Brennan Rupp photo/0218LHS G Hockey photo
Luverne senior Brynn Thier handles the puck as she looks for a teammate in front of the net during during the Cardinals 13-0 victory over Worthington on Thursday, Feb. 11

the next two goals for the Cardinals to give the home team a 3-0 lead. Brynn Thier scored the fourth goal of the period for the Cardinals. Rylee Gee put the Cardinals up 5-0. Anika Boll and Roz Oye both recorded

assists on the goal. Regan Bork scored the next two goals for the Cardinals to put Luverne up 7-0. Behr scored her second goal of the period to put the Cardinals up 8-0. Bork scored her third

goal of the period to put the Cardinals up 9-0. Shelby Kracht and Thier both recorded assists on the goal. Boll opened the

Girls Hockey/page 9

LHS's Cowell sets record on the vault

By Brennan Rupp

The Luverne Cardinals gymnasts finished second in a triangular on Friday, Feb. 13, in Worthington where the Trojans finished first with a score of 142.075. The Cardinals took second with a score of 126.375. The Windom Eagles finished third with a score of 118.550. On Monday, Feb. 15, the Cardinals defeated Pipestone Area in Pipestone, 126.400-124.150. Triangular Amira Cowell set a new school record on the vault with a score of 9.3. The previous school record was 9.25 and was held by Callen Bosshart, who set the record in 2004. "The girls had a good meet," Luverne head coach, Phoebe Flom said. "We struggled to stay on the beam. We are continuing to improve and add new skills with each meet." Cowell set the program record with a score of 9.3 and finished third. Cowell finished fifth on the balance beam with a score of 8.325. All-around, Cowell finished

fifth with a final score of 33.200. Ella Reisdorfer finished third in the floor routine with a score of 8.850. She finished fourth in the vault with a score of 9.200. In the bars, Reisdorfer finished fourth with a score of 8.475. All-around, Reisdorfer finished third with a score of 34.550.

LHS 126.400 - Pipestone 124.150

Reisdorfer finished first or tied for first in all four events. In the vault she took home first with a score of 8.800. She finished first on the beam with a score of 8.950. In the floor routine she finished first with a score of 9.050. She tied for first on the bars with Kendra Doutry with a score of 8.100. Cowell finished second on the beam with a score of 7.775. She finished third in the bars with a score of 7.150. The gymnastics team will be back in action on Thursday, Feb. 18, when they hit the road to take on Windom.

H-BC Patriots suffer first loss of season against RRC

By Brennan Rupp

The Hills-Beaver Creek girls' basketball team picked up its sixth win of the season with a convincing 87-45 victory over Murray County Central on Tuesday, Feb. 9. The Patriots suffered their first setback of the season on Friday, Feb. 12, when they lost a home game to Red Rock Central 60-57.

H-BC 87, MCC 45

The Patriots' offense was firing on all cylinders in Slayton on Tuesday, Feb. 9. The Patriots had four players score 18 or more points en route to an 87-45 victory over the Rebels. The Patriots scored 47 points in the first half and took a 47-30 victory into the locker room. In the second half, the Patriots outscored the Rebels 40-15 to run away from MCC. Kenadie Fick scored 20 points to lead the Patriots. The junior guard also



Brennan Rupp photo/0218 HBC GBB photo
Layla Deelstra drives to the basket during H-BC's home game against Red Rock Central on Friday, Feb. 12.

H-BC GBB/page 9

Luverne tops Trojans, drops road game to Morris/Benson

By Brennan Rupp

The Luverne boys' hockey team opened this past week by snapping a four-game losing streak with a 4-1 home victory over Worthington on Thursday, Feb. 11. On Saturday, Feb. 13, they lost a road contest to Morris/Benson, 7-2.

LHS 4, Worthington 1

The Cardinals and Trojans both entered Thursday night's contest inside Blue Mound Ice Arena on four-game losing streaks. It was the Cardinals that came out on top to get back into the win column with a 4-1 victory. Brock Behrend opened the scoring for the Cardinals in the first period. The sophomore skater was assisted by Cade Wenninger and Will Serie. Wenninger scored the second goal of the opening period for the Cardinals to put them up 2-0. Carlton Oftedahl recorded the assist



Brennan Rupp photo/0218 LHS Hockey photo
Zach Kruse handles the puck during Luverne's 4-1 victory over Worthington on Thursday, Feb. 11.

on the goal. The Trojans scored the lone goal of the second period to cut into Luverne's two-goal lead.

Wenninger scored his second goal of the game in

Boys Hockey/page 10

LHS boys' basketball split pair of Big South tilts

By Brennan Rupp

The Luverne boys' basketball split a pair of Big South Conference games this past week. The Cardinals opened the week with a 64-51 home loss to Pipestone Area on Tuesday, Feb. 9. Luverne bounced back on Friday, Feb. 12, with a 86-65 road victory against Windom.

Pipestone 64, LHS 51

The Cardinals scored the first five points of the game on Tuesday, Feb. 9, but they could not sustain that early momentum as they ultimately lost to the Arrows, 64-51. Gannon Ahrendt opened the scoring by knocking down a three-pointer. Ahrendt scored the next bucket for the Cardinals to quickly give them a 5-0 lead. A Bailey Cowell basket gave the Cardinals a 7-2 lead. The Arrows then went on a 7-1 run to take a 9-8 lead with 14 minutes left in the first half.

A Cowell basket put the Cardinals back on top 10-9 with 12:30 left in the first half. Following Cowell's basket the Arrows scored the next six points to build a 15-10 lead. The Cardinals answered back by scoring the next five points to tie the game at 15-15. With the two teams deadlocked at 17-17, the Arrows went on a 16-2 run to close out the first half to take a 33-19 lead into the locker room. Ahrendt opened the scoring in the second half off an assist from Cowell. With 4:59 left in the game the Cardinals were able to make it a single-digit game at 49-41. Unfortunately for the Cardinals, they were unable to get any closer as they could not overcome the 14-point halftime deficit. Ahrendt finished the game with 15 points and six rebounds.

LHS BB/page 9

LHS Cardinal wrestling team competes in two triangulars, record sits at 1-3

By Brennan Rupp

The Luverne wrestling team took part in two triangular meets this week, going 1-3. The Cardinals opened the week with a triangular in Adrian on Tuesday, Feb. 9. The Cardinals defeated Chester 38-21 and lost to Adrian 60-18. Luverne then hosted Waseca and Pipestone Area on Thursday, Feb. 11, falling to Waseca 54-21 and the Arrows 51-24.

LHS 38, Chester 21

Rayden Boyenga won by fall over Jacob Foster in the 113-pound division for the Cardinals. In the 126-pound class it was Riley Cowell winning by fall over Jessy Stalford. Braydon Ripka won by technical fall (16-10) over Jacob Shaw in the 145-pound division. Hunter Baker won by fall over Aidan Shaw in the 160-pound weight class. Jacob Madison won by decision (9-7) over Layne Hess in the 170-pound division.



Brennan Rupp photo/0218 Wrestling photo
Luverne's Riley Cowell grapples with a Waseca wrestler during the team's home match on Thursday, Feb. 11. The Cardinals finished the week by going 1-3.

Adrian 60, LHS 18 The Cardinals won three matches over the Dragons, with all three wins coming by fall.

Cowell won by fall over Bruce Farinella in the 120-pound division. Ripka won by fall over Reese Morrison in the 145-pound division.

In the 152-weight class, Baker won by fall over Isaac Bullerman.

Wrestling/page 9

Luverne girls display balanced attack during win over Pipestone Area

By Brennen Rupp

The Luverne Cardinals girls' basketball team went 1-1 this week to bring their overall record to 4-5.

The Cardinals opened the week with a 68-59 road victory against Pipestone Area on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

On Friday, Feb. 13, the Cardinals dropped a close Big South Conference contest to Windom 57-52.

LHS 68, Pipestone 59

The Cardinals used a balanced attack to trip up the Arrows in Pipestone on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

With five players reaching double figures, the Cardinals defeated the Arrows 68-59.

The Cardinals jumped out to a 15-5 lead and never

looked back. At the half the Cardinals held a 36-32 lead.

In the second half the Cardinals outscored the Arrows 32-29 to pick up the 68-59 road victory.

Averill Sehr scored 16 points to lead the way for the Cardinals. Sehr dished out six assists and grabbed five rebounds.

Kira John scored 12 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Elizabeth Wagner scored 11 points, dished out six assists and grabbed five rebounds.

Elise Ferrell scored 11 points and dished out five assists.

Christina Wagner scored 11 points.

Windom 57, LHS 52

The Cardinals battled Windom on Friday, Feb. 13, but ultimately fell to the Eagles 57-52.

The Eagles outscored the Cardinals 35-31 in the first half. In the second half neither Big South foe could separate themselves, with the Eagles outscoring the Cardinals 22-21 to hold on for the five-point victory.

Christina Wagner led the Cardinals with 14 points.

Elizabeth Wagner recorded a double-double, scoring 12 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

Sehr chipped in with 12 points.

The Cardinals will look to get back to .500 on Friday, Feb. 19, when they hit the road to take on Worthington.



Brennen Rupp photo/0218 HBC GBB photo
Taryn Rauk looks for a teammate after stealing an inbounds pass against RRC on Friday, Feb.12. The Falcons defeated the Patriots 60-57.

Hills-Beaver Creek Girls/from page 8

grabbed eight rebounds.

Taryn Rauk scored 19 points and recorded six steals.

Abby Knobloch scored 19 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Layla Deelstra scored 18 points. The freshman guard recorded eight steals and grabbed five rebounds.

RRC 60, H-BC 57

The Patriots looked to be on their way to another double-digit victory on Friday, Feb. 12, when they jumped out to a 7-0 lead over the visiting Falcons.

Rauk and Annie Bos opened the scoring for the Patriots to take a 4-0 lead. A Fick three-pointer gave the Patriots a 7-0 lead.

The Falcons stormed back by going on a 12-4 run to claim a 12-11 lead with 11:30 left in the first half.

A pair of Bos free throws put the Patriots back up 13-12, but the Falcons responded with a 10-2 run to build a 22-15 lead.

A Rauk three-pointer cut the Falcons lead to 21-26.

On the next possession, Rauk scored on a fast-break layup to trim RRC's lead to 31-28 with less than two minutes to play in the first half.

At the half, the Falcons held a slim 33-30 lead.

Fick opened the second half by knocking down a three-pointer to tie the game at 33-33.

Unfortunately for the Patriots and Fick, that would be the final points the junior guard would score as she left the game with a leg injury.

A Knobloch basket put the Patriots up 39-37.

With the Patriots trailing 49-48, Rauk scored a basket to put H-BC back on top 50-49.

An Allie LaRock basket with 3:26 left to play put the Patriots up 52-51.

That would be the last lead the Patriots would hold as the Falcons closed out the game by outscoring H-BC 9-5 to secure the 60-57 victory.

Rauk finished the game with 18 points. The senior also recorded nine steals.

Knobloch chipped in with nine points and also grabbed six rebounds.

Bos scored seven points, grabbed five rebounds, and recorded six steals.

Sam Moser scored six points and grabbed eight rebounds.

The Patriots will be back in action on Thursday, Feb. 18, when they hit the road to take on Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda.

H-BC will wrap up the week on the road against Adrian/Ellsworth on Saturday, Feb. 20.

LHS Girls Hockey/continued from page 8

scoring in the second period to put the Cardinals up 10-0. Zariah Holmgren and Bork both recorded assists on the goal.

Bork scored her fourth goal of the game to put Luverne up 11-0. Boll recorded the assist on Bork's fourth goal.

Mallory Nelson wrapped up the scoring in the second period to put Luverne up 12-0. Sophie Holmberg and Oye both recorded an assist on Nelson's goal.

It was Gee scoring the team's final goal in the third period to put Luverne up 13-0. Holmberg and Kracht both recorded an assist on the final goal of the game.

Mallory Von Tersch recorded 14 saves for the Cardinals.

LHS 11, Morris/Benson 0

The Cardinals used a seven-goal second period to pull away from the Storm on Saturday, Feb. 13. The strong second period helped the Cardinals pick up an 11-0 road victory.

Van Batavia opened the scoring for the Cardinals in the first period to put Luverne up 1-0.

Roz Oye followed up Van Batavia's goal with a goal of her own to put the Cardinals up 2-0.

Van Batavia scored



Brennen Rupp photo/0218LHS Hockey photo
Reghan Bork looks to split two Worthington defenders during Luverne's home game against the Trojans on Thursday, Feb. 12.

her second goal of the first period to put Luverne up 3-0.

Kracht scored the final goal of the first period to give the Cardinals a 4-0 lead.

Von Tersch opened the scoring in the second period to give the Cardinals a 5-0 lead.

Nelson scored an even-strength goal to give Luverne a 6-0 lead.

It was Behr scoring a power-play goal to put the Cardinals up 7-0.

Van Batavia scored her third goal of the game to put the Cardinals up 8-0.

Thier scored her first

goal of the game to get in on the scoring parade to put Luverne up 9-0.

Oye scored her second goal of the game to give the Cardinals a 10-0 lead.

Von Tersch wrapped up the scoring with her second goal of the game to put Luverne up 11-0.

Cheyenne Schutz recorded 18 saves for the Cardinals.

With the two shutout victories the Cardinals improved to 6-2. They'll be back in action on Tuesday, Feb. 16, when they hit the road to take on Worthington.

Wrestling/ from page 8

Waseca 54, LHS 21

The Cardinals picked up four victories on Thursday, Feb. 11, at home against the Blue Jays.

Ripka won by fall in the 145-pound division over Brandon Lopez-Huerta.

Jaden Reisch won by fall over Brooklynn Hicks in the 160-pound division.

Maysn Smith won by decision (17-10) over Carter Ellis.

In the 195-pound division, it was Chris Rosin winning by fall over River Schmidt.

Pipestone 51, LHS 24

Rayden Boyenga won by decision (10-8) over Haden Mulvihill in the 113-pound class.

Cowell won by decision (10-6) over JJ Mertens in the 120-pound division.

Cowell wrapped up the week by losing 3-1, with his lone goal coming against Waseca.

Reisch won by fall over Gavin Olson in the 152-pound division.

Rosin picked up the pinfall victory over Allen Tubbs in the 182-pound division.

Luverne will be back on the road on Tuesday, Feb. 16, against Murray County Central.

The Cardinals will be back home on Thursday, Feb. 18. Luverne will be hosting the Worthington Trojans.

Luverne's Buss commits to playing softball at SCSU

By Brennen Rupp

Kendall Buss has been playing softball since she was in third grade. It's a sport that she fell in love with the moment she picked up the bat for the first time.

"There isn't one thing I don't like about it. I just love playing," she said. "I just love everything about the game."

Buss, a junior at Luverne, will get to continue playing the game that she loves after high school as she recently committed to St. Cloud State University.

"I'm so excited," Buss said. "I know that I could not stop playing after high school. I love it too much."

At SCSU, Buss will be a business major in the classroom and play outfield on the diamond. She said that SCSU had everything that she was looking for in her college search.

"Everything I wanted was there," she said. "The business school is something I really liked. The



Star Herald file photo/0218 Softball photo
Luverne's Kendall Buss (21) recently committed to play softball at St. Cloud State University.

campus was a perfect size. It wasn't too big, but it wasn't too small either. They just got a new weight room. I really like lifting so I'm really excited about that."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Buss and her LHS teammates were robbed of the 2020 spring season, but she still played for her

club team, the Sioux Falls Renegades.

When Buss and her teammates take the field this spring, they won't take anything for granted.

"I'm very excited to get back on the field," Buss said. "We will have a younger team and I'm excited to start playing."

Notice of Annual Township Meetings & Elections

Notice is hereby given that the following townships will hold their annual meeting and elections on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. COVID-19 precautions will be in place. In case of inclement weather, they will be held one week later on March 16, 2021.

Battle Plain Township

Justin Prins' farm - 1941 231st St., Edgerton. Meeting at 7 pm

Beaver Creek Township

Beaver Creek Township Hall. Meeting 4-5 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term. COVID-19 precautions will be in place. Anyone interested in attending the meeting via zoom can contact the clerk at 507-227-2061.

Clinton Township

Business meeting at the Township Hall. 4-5pm Voting from 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term and one Treasurer 2-year term

Denver Township

Hardwick City Hall. Meeting 7 pm

Kanaranzi Township

Kanaranzi Elevator. 4-5 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term

Luverne Township

Luverne Pizza Ranch. Business Meeting 4-5 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term and one Treasurer 2-year term

Magnolia Township

Arends Farm 1581 121st Luverne. Meeting 4-5 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term and one Treasurer 2-year term

Martin Township

Township Building 598 51st St Hills. Meeting at 8 pm. Important- Purchase of a new Fire Truck will be discussed and voted on.

Mound Township

Rock County Highway Building. Meeting 4-5 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term

Rosedell Township

Township Hall. 4-5 pm Business Meeting

Springwater Township

Town Hall 594 141st Luverne. Business meeting 3:00 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term

Vienna Township

Kenneth Community Hall. Business Meeting 7 pm

Rock County Township Association
Teresa Kramer, Secretary/Treasurer

Rock County

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Luverne youth hockey team captures 1st place in Cloquet

The Luverne girls’ 12U team went 4-0 in Cloquet during a weekend tournament on Feb. 6 to take home first place. Pictured are back row (from left) Kassidy Saarloos, Isabella Steensma, Greta McClure, Hannah Woodley, Tenley Behr, Macie Edstrom, (second row, left) Marlee Nelson, Ellie Van Batavia, Ella Apel, Trinley Vanderburg, Rylee Kurts, and (front), Emma Saarloos.

Luverne boys hockey/continued from page 8

the third period to put the Cardinals up 3-1. Ethan Langseth wrapped up the scoring on an empty-net goal to secure the 4-1 victory for the Cardinals. Shaïd Shearer recorded 37 saves for the Cardinals.

Morris/Benson 7, LHS 2
The Storm scored five unanswered goals to break a 2-2 tie to pick up the 7-2 victory over the Cardinals on Saturday, Feb. 13. Morris-Benson scored the first two goals of the game in the opening period to take a 2-0 lead into the locker room. The Cardinals answered by scoring the first two goals in the second period to even the contest at 2-2. Wenninger got the Cardinals on the board first to make it a 2-1 contest. Behrend and Oftedahl both recorded assists on the goal. Then it was Kaleb Hein scoring a short-handed goal to even the game at 2-2. Zach Kruse recorded the assist on Hein’s goal.



Brennen Rupp photo/0218 LHS Hockey photo
Cade Wenninger fires a shot on net against the Worthington Trojans on Thursday, Feb. 11.

That’s when things hit the proverbial fan for the Cardinals. The Storm scored five unanswered goals to pick up the 7-2 victory. Shearer recorded 45 saves for the Cardinals.

As it stands right now the Cardinals own a 2-6 record. They’ll look to pick up their third win of the season on Tuesday, Feb. 16, when they hit the road to take on Worthington.

They’ll then return home on Friday, Feb. 19, to take on Waseca. At press time Waseca owned a 7-2 record.

Patriots slay Dragons 69-54, pick up third win of season

By Brennen Rupp
The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots picked up their third win of the season in Adrian on Thursday, Feb. 11, by defeating the Adrian-Ellsworth Dragons 69-54. H-BC used a strong first half to open up a 36-20 lead after the first 18 minutes. The Patriots were outscored 34-33 in the second half but still won by double digits, 69-54. Cole Baker led the Patriots with 24 points.

Baker also grabbed seven rebounds, dished out four assists, and recorded four steals. Ty Bundesesn reached double figures with 17 points. Zander Wysonng nearly recorded a triple-double. The senior post player scored eight points, grabbed 10 rebounds, and dished out nine assists. Troy Durst scored seven points and grabbed nine rebounds. Drew Leenderts and

Andrew Harris both scored three points and grabbed five rebounds. With the win, the Patriots improved to 3-4 on the young season. The Patriots will look to get back to the .500 mark on Tuesday when they hit the road for a Rock County showdown against the Luverne Cardinals. Luverne won last season’s Rock County showdown, 76-65. The Cardinals have won the last three meetings between the two Rock County rivals. The last time the Patriots won was the 2016-2017 season when H-BC bested

Luverne 63-53. The Cardinals will enter the contest on Tuesday with a 6-2 record. H-BC will wrap up its week with a road game against Red Rock Central. At press time, the Falcons owned a 3-6 record and have won two straight games. The Patriots swept the Falcons last season. The Patriots won the first meeting against RRC 60-43. H-BC then completed the sweep over their Red Rock Conference rival by edging them 64-63.

Decisions are made by people who show up, pay attention to what’s going on in St. Paul

By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

It seems outdoors types tend to be pretty non-engaged in most conservation issues in our state’s capital — until a regulation change hits close to home. I used to be one of those types, but not anymore. By the time most of these issues get enough press to make the average outdoor person aware — or outraged by them — they are all but a foregone conclusion. By then most of the public comment periods have come and gone and all that is left to do is lament. My dad taught me that decisions are made by the people who show up. This in reality means that those who engage can make a difference in how the end result comes out. There are bills in the works at the capital that I think you should know about, and if you feel strongly about any one of them, now is the time for you to make your opinions known.



were far below the desired numbers, and by limiting hunters to the use of a shot gun, it effectively limited the hunter to shots on deer that were about 100 yards distance or less. With a centerfire rifle a deer hunter could easily kill deer out to 400 yards, and in some cases a savvy hunter with the right equipment even further. As a result of the shotgun zone implementation, the number of deer harvested declined and populations grew as expected. Some believe the shotgun zone was introduced decades ago as a safety issue, but research shows this isn’t the case. So, with the elimination of the shotgun zone, the deer herd will be under more pressure, and the number of deer harvested is very likely to increase. Biologists counter the increased harvest position with the argument that by limiting the number of doe permits (the number of female deer that can be killed in any certain area) populations can be managed to satisfactory levels.

Walleye limit
The first of those is a change in the limit of walleyes a person can catch and keep in any one day. There are certain lakes that have for years had special regulations, but for the vast majority of the state, the daily limit of walleyes is six with only one of those fish longer than 20 inches. This has been the norm for all the years I can remember. There is a proposed change to lower this limit to four fish per day in order to reduce the fishing pressure on the state’s lakes and rivers. I like to eat fish but wouldn’t really mind reining in those anglers that fish every day and kill a limit of fish most of those days. The possession limit, the number of fish you can have in your freezer, is also six walleyes. This means that if you have three fish in the freezer, then you can only catch and kill three more, even if the daily limit is six walleyes. The possession limit is rarely used to punish anglers for its violation unless they are caught doing something else illegal. I really don’t have a burning opinion on this regulation change one way or the other, but you might.

I read in depth a report done in the state of Pennsylvania that concluded that the number of hunting accidents or deaths as a result of eliminating their shotgun zone was statically insignificant. Interestingly, ricochet distances are longer with a shotgun slug than a rifle bullet when shots are taken parallel to the ground. In the case where a rifle bullet is launched over the top of a hill, the distances traveled were much further. Many of the folks I visited with do have huge and fierce opinions on this matter. If you are one of them, now is the time to tell your state representative. Next week we’ll talk about one of the largest pieces of legislative shenanigans I have seen in a long time. It has to do with those beautiful conservation license plates you might have on your car or truck.

Scott Rall, Worthington, is a habitat conservationist, avid hunting and fishing enthusiast and is president of Nobles County Pheasants Forever.

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The Star Herald reached out to hurches for their worship information in the absence of in-person worship services, due to coronavirus social distancing. Those that responded are listed here. Those that would like to have information posted here should call the Star Herald or email editor@star-herald.com.

St. Catherine Catholic Church
203 E. Brown St., Luverne
St. Catherine Ph. 283-8502; www.stscl.org
Monsignor Gerald Kosse, Pastor

Public mass will be celebrated with a limit of 50 percent capacity of the church. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. Friday and 8:30 a.m. Sunday. No mass, communion service or rosary at care centers at this time. 5 p.m. Saturdays and 8:30 a.m. mass will be live streamed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stccluverne/videos/>. Visit www.stscl.org for more information.

Luverne Christian Reformed Church
605 N. Estey St., Luverne
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982
www.luvnecrc.com — office@luvernecrc.com
Roger Sparks, Pastor

We are streaming Sunday services live on Roger Sparks' Facebook page at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Send him a friend request if you're not connected. You may also visit our website for delayed broadcasts. Also our services are on local cable TV at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays. In all circumstances, may we joyfully declare: "Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." Psalm 124:8.

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

Sundays, 10:30 a.m. In-person worship service. Service is also on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m.

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

Thursday, Feb. 18: Missions in Action. Saturday, Feb. 20: 5:30 p.m. Worship service with Communion. In-person worship service in Sanctuary. Sunday, Feb. 21: 9 a.m. Worship service with Communion. 9:15 a.m. Drive-thru Communion. 10-10:45 a.m. Sunday school. 10 a.m. First Communion class. 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom. 1-5 p.m. Grace Day at Great Bear. 2 p.m. Shetek Conference assembly. Tuesday, Feb. 23: 8:30 a.m. Grace Notes assembly. 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Feb. 24: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 6:45 p.m. Lenten Service. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are still available. Online Sundays 9 a.m. on the church website www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. — NEW TIME! Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 p.m.

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

Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well. Monday, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne). Also visit els.org with our sister churches for online worship opportunities.

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

Friday, Feb. 19: 6:30 p.m. Community Men's Bible study. Sunday, Feb. 21: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 10:50-11:50 a.m. Sunday school. Tuesday, Feb. 23: 12 Noon staff meeting. 7 p.m. Consistory meeting. Wednesday, Feb. 24: 5:30 p.m. Midweek meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs; Youth groups. Worship services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

First Assembly of God Church
1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4

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

Thursday, Feb. 18: 1-3 p.m. and 5-6:30 p.m. Food Shelf curbside. Saturday, Feb. 20: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday Feb. 21: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Worship service — SD In-house worship service — Services held on radio and live on Facebook. YouTube will also have services posted. 4:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible Study with safe distancing. 6 p.m. ALIVE youth group. Monday, Feb. 22: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Messenger deadline. Tuesday, Feb. 23: 6 p.m. Teacher's meeting. Wednesday, Feb. 24: 5:30 p.m. Community meal. 6:15 p.m. FUEL. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Thursday, Feb. 25: 1-3 p.m. Food Shelf curbside.

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

Jason Cunningham, Pastor

Worship services in-person and through Facebook Live Sunday 10:15 a.m.* Our Facebook page can be found under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne. We are also on the local Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays.

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

Rev. Dr. Phil Booe, Pastor
Saturday, Feb. 20: 5:30 p.m. Worship service. Sunday, Feb. 21: 9 a.m. Worship. 10:15 a.m. Sunday school; Bible study. 11 a.m. Junior choir rehearsal. 7 p.m. Online Bible study. Worship service is 75 people. Services will be available on the Vast channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website, cityofluverne.org. Monday, Feb. 22: 3:15 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Feb. 24: 6 p.m. Lenten Midweek Service. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation class. 6:30 p.m. Kids for Christ. 7:30 p.m. Youth Group.

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

New Life Celebration Church
110 N. Oakley, Luverne
Ph. 449-6522; email: newlifecelebration@gmail.com

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. (507) 669-2855; zionoffice@alliancecom.net
Jesse Baker, Pastor

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

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Mark Eliason, Pastor
10 a.m. worship service; Facebook live. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

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

Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

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

Thursday 10 a.m. worship service on VAST and Mediacom. 7 p.m. Sunday 10:15 a.m. worship service viewed live on First Presbyterian Church Facebook page. Tuesday 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship service on VAST and Mediacom.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Ph. 605-215-3429
email: magnoliamumc@gmail.com
Nancy Manning, Pastor

Sunday, 9 a.m., in-person with livestream available on the church's Facebook site.

Steen Reformed Church
112 W. Church Ave., Steen
Ph. 855-2336

Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship service in-person with livestream available on Facebook and YouTube. Radio worship on KQAD Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270

Sunday, Feb. 21: 10 a.m. Worship service at Bethlehem. 10 a.m. Sunday school. 6 p.m. 8th-9th grade Confirmation. 7-8:30 p.m. Youth Night at Bethlehem. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org. Tuesday, Feb 23: 2 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 2:45 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. Wednesday, Feb. 24: 9 a.m. Quilting. 7 p.m. Lenten service.

Hills United Reformed Church
410 S. Central Ave., Hills
Office Ph. 962-3254
hillsurc@alliancecom.net
Alan Camarigg, Pastor

Understanding what love is

Love is in the air due to Valentine's Day.

Forty-seven years ago, a young lady walked into Calvary Baptist Church in Silver City, New Mexico, and I was awestruck with her beauty. As a 17-year-old boy I was convinced she was a girl I needed to know. We became great friends and soon were madly in love with each other, if puppy love is what you call true love. Now, after being married to this same lady for 43 years, our love is different. Not in a negative way but in a great way.

In those 43 years we have both learned a lot about each other. We learned what brings laughter to the other person, what makes the other person feels helped, as well as what sparks a flame of anger.

Even after 43 years of marriage, we both keep learning things about the other. A few years ago we discovered that what one thought was romantic was not considered romantic by the other. Maybe we are slow learners, but our love keeps developing.

Consider your love relationship with God. One day you read in your Bible that God is love, which is amazing. If you start reading His love letter to you, the Bible, you really start to understand what love is and how much he loves you. You start to understand what actions you take that offend him, or actions you take that hurt your love relationship with Him.

You may know God loves you, but when you read that God demonstrated His love for you in that, while you were still a sinner, Christ died for your sins (Rom. 5:8), you start to understand His love better. To say you love God and do nothing to get to know him is like the factory worker who told his wife on their wedding day that he loved her and

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Walt Moser
First Baptist Church,
Luverne

*Even after 43
years of
marriage, we
both keep
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things about
the other.
A few years
ago we
discovered
that what one
thought was
romantic
was not
considered
romantic by
the other.
Maybe we are
slow learners,
but our
love keeps
developing.*

for 25 years had not told her again that he loved her. When asked why he never told her again that he loved her, he said, "When we got married, I told her I loved her and if it changes, I will let her know."

Yes, God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so you may have everlasting life with God. God has shown us what love is. Get to know the God who loves you with such love.

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Mortgage foreclosure sale set for March 10

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 11, 2018
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$145,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Traci Ann Scholl, a single woman
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 101040121113923470
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Flanagan State Bank
SERVICER: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 18, 2018, Rock County Recorder, as Document Number 193663
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC;
Dated: December 9, 2020, filed: December 22, 2020, recorded as document number 198798

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
A tract in the W1/2 of Section 24, Township 104 North, Range 47 West of the 5th P.M., Rock County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the North west corner of the NW1/4 of Section 24, in said Township and Range aforesaid as the place of beginning, thence East 1320 feet to the Northeast corner of the W1/2 of the NW1/4; thence South 1100 feet; thence Northwesterly 720 feet to a point which is 1060 feet South of the North line of the NW1/4; thence South 200 feet; thence West 200 feet; thence South 260 feet; thence West 400 feet; thence North along the West side of the NW1/4 1520 feet to the point of beginning; excepting there from a strip or piece of land 200 feet wide extending across the Northwest corner of the described parcel granted by right of way deed dated April 23, 1888 to the Willmar and Sioux Falls Railway Company
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2178 20th Ave, Jasper, MN 56144
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 10-0215-000
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$152,964.32

THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 10, 2021, 10:00 A.M.
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, West Side Sheriff Dept, Front Step, Luverne, MN 56156

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 12 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on March 10, 2022, or the next business day if March 10, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
Dated: January 4, 2021

Specialized Loan Servicing LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP
BY _____
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Joseph M. Rossman - 0397070
Attorneys for Mortgagee
LOGS Legal Group LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
(01-14, 01-21, 01-28, 02-04, 02-11, 02-18)

WebFrog Services assumes name

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

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

ASSUMED NAME: **WebFrog Services**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
405 S. Josephine Ave., Hills, MN 56138 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name: **Tiara Stoltzenberg**
Address: **405 S. Josephine Ave., Hills, MN 56138 USA**

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

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

Signature : /s/ Tiara Stoltzenberg
CONTACT PERSON: Tiara Stoltzenberg
PHONE NUMBER: 507-920-0485
MAILING ADDRESS: 405 S. Josephine Ave., Hills, MN 56138
EMAIL ADDRESS: webfrogservices@gmail.com

(02-11, 02-18)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for February 18, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to April 15, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota in said County and State.

DATED: February 08, 2021
ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation
Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.
Attorneys for Assignee Of Mortgagee
7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200
Woodbury, MN 55125-2296
(651) 209-3300
File Number: 037264F02

(02-18)

Rock County Highway Department seeks bids by March 1

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
S.A.P. 067-602-009; S.A.P. 067-603-032; S.A.P.067-605-013; S.A.P. 067-607-019; S.A.P. 067-609-023

Sealed proposals will be received by the Rock County Highway Department at Luverne, Minnesota, until **11:00 A.M. on Monday March 1st, 2021.**

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** 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, March 2nd, 2021, at the regular Rock County Board of Commissioners Meeting held in the Law Library at the Rock County Courthouse.

The Major Quantities of Work are: 51,282 Sq. Yds. Stabilized Full Depth Reclamation; 146,698 Gallons Bituminous Material for Mixture; 194,373 Sq. Yds. Mill Bituminous Pavement; 35,304 Tons Type SP 12.5 Bituminous Wear Course Mix; 8,989 Tons Aggregate Shouldering Class 1; 6,561 Gallons Bituminous Material for Fog Seal. 58 Ft. of 16"x7' PCST. Box Culvert + 2 End Sections; 54 Ft. of 12"x6' PCST. Box Culvert + 2 End Sections; 54 Ft. of 12"x5' PCST. Box Culvert + 2 End Sections.

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 067-602-009; 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
(02-04, 02-11, 02-18)

Luverne School District seeks repair bids by March 4

REQUEST FOR BIDS
LUVERNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Luverne School District is requesting bids for the Repair of Existing EIFS on the Elementary School area as described in the construction documents. Bids will be received by Independent School District No. 2184 until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 4, 2021 at the School's District Office located at 709 North Kniss, Luverne, Minnesota.

Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the above time and place. Bids received after 2:00pm will be returned unopened.

Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, marked on the lower left hand corner "Sealed Bid Enclosed - EIFS Repair" with the name and address of the bidder, addressed to: Craig Oftedahl, Superintendent of Schools
Independent School District No. 2184
709 North Kniss
Luverne, MN 56156

Each bidder must accompany his bid with a Cashier's Check, Bid Bond or Certified Check equal to 5 percent of the amount of the bid payable to the Owner as a guarantee of prompt execution of the Contract in accordance with the Proposal and Contract Documents and that he will furnish bond acceptable to the Owner covering performance of the Contract.

Copies of the construction documents are on file in the District Office.
The on-site work of the Project may begin as soon as weather permits after contract has been signed, with the work fully completed on or before August 1, 2021. Independent School District No. 2184, Luverne, Minnesota, reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in bids.

Reva Sehr,
Clerk
(02-11, 02-18)

The Sewing Basket assumes name

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

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

ASSUMED NAME: **The Sewing Basket**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
204 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name: **Schomackers Office Cleaning, LLC**
Address: **202 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156 USA**

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

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

Signature : /s/ **Joe Schomacker, Chief Finance Officer**
CONTACT PERSON: Sharon Schomacker
PHONE NUMBER: 507-227-2183
MAILING ADDRESS: 204 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156
EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: schomackerclean@gmail.com
(02-18, 02-25)

Rock County Highway Department seeks bids by March 8

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
C.P. 067-401-022

Sealed proposals will be received by the Rock County Highway Department at Luverne, Minnesota until 10:00 A.M. on Monday, March 8th, 2021.

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** 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, March 16th, 2021, at the regular Rock County Board of Commissioners Meeting held in the Law Library at the Rock County Courthouse.

The Quantities of Work are: 3,159 gals of 4" ReflectORIZED Edgeline Pavement Marking Paint--White & 1,792 gals of 4" ReflectORIZED Centerline Pavement Marking Paint--Yellow. Plans, specifications, and proposals may be viewed, and downloaded at www.questcdn.com and at the Rock County Highway Department website, https://www.co.rock.mn.us/departement_directory/highway_department/index.php.

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 067-401-022"**.

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
(02-11, 02-18, 02-25)

H-BC School Board meets Jan. 25

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Minutes
January 25, 2021

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Media Center/via Zoom Mtg for Guest attendees – based on MN Statute 13D.021.

Board members present were Bosch, Gehrke, Harnack, LaRock, Rauk, and Rozeboom. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Kellenberger, and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Knobloch was absent. Motion by LaRock, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve the agenda. Proposed Addition: 6.6

Visitor to the meeting was Mavis Fodness of the Star Herald.
PATRIOT PRIDE:

-Paraprofessional Recognition Week January 25 - January 29
-Mock Trial Win

BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:

-none
Motion by LaRock, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Consent Agenda:

6.1. Minutes—1/11/2021
6.2. Bills
6.3. Student Accounts Report
6.4. Pay Equity Report
6.5. Purchase of Tommy Lift for Building and Grounds Pickup
6.6. Leave of Absence for Sherry Paulsen beginning on February 17, 2021, for a duration of four to six weeks.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:
•Secondary Principal Report
•Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report

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

-Regular Board Meeting, Monday, February 8, 2021
-Regular Board Meeting, Monday February 22, 2021
Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(02-18)

City of Luverne seeks airport FBO and hangar bids by March 11

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

BIDDING
Sealed bids for the repair and renovation of the Luverne Fixed Based Operations (FBO) and hangar at the Luverne, MN airport will be received by the City of Luverne no later than 3:00 p.m. CDT on March 11, 2021. The bid letting will be held in the City of Luverne Council Chambers, 305 E Luverne St, Luverne, MN 56156.

The project consists of the repair and renovation of the current FBO and Hangar which will include general construction, interior finishes, mechanical, plumbing and electrical work with additional related work as shown and described on the bid documents. Refer to the documents for details related to the project.

The Contractor and all subcontractors shall submit to the Owner a signed statement verifying compliance with each of the criteria described in the State of Minnesota "Responsible Contractor" law as codified in Minnesota Statute section 16C.285. See the Instructions to Bidders for more details.

The work will be completed per the "Summary of the Work," as is listed in the project specifications. It is suggested that the bidder review the "Contract Documents" consisting of the project specifications and contract drawings in addition to visiting the actual site. Bids will be received for a single prime contract on a lump sum basis for all the required work. All construction will conform to the latest Standards of the International Building Code and Minnesota State Building Codes.

INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

All bids shall be in accordance with forms and specifications attached to and made a part of the contract documents. Contract documents including plans and specifications may be examined at the following locations:

City of Luverne, MN offices
Falls Architecture Studio, Sioux Falls, SD
Sioux Falls Builders Exchange
Plains Builders Exchange
Mankato Builders Exchange

COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS

Bidders may obtain electronic copies of the contract documents at the office of the Architect – Falls Architecture Studio, LLC, 4300 S. Louise Avenue, Suite 103, Sioux Falls, SD 57106, 605-334-0402, in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS

This Advertisement for Bids does not commit the Owner to award a contract, nor to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of bid(s) or to procure supplies. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities or irregularities and to re-advertise when it is in the best interest of the City of Luverne, Minnesota.

BID SECURITY

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or draft in the amount of 5% of the base bid and all add alternates and drawn on a State or National Bank or a 10% bid bond issued by a Surety authorized to do business in the State of Minnesota and made payable to the City of Luverne, Minnesota.

PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT SECURITY

The successful bidder will be required to furnish and pay for satisfactory performance and payment bonds in the amount of 100% of the amount of the Contract Award.

Bids received which do not fully comply with the above provisions and any deficient bids submitted may be resealed and returned to the bidder. No bids shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of the bids without the consent of the Owner.

Jessica Mead
City Clerk
City of Luverne
(02-18)

Read the
Public Notices online
www.star-herald.com

Notice of lien and intent to sell set for April 5

CLAIM OF LIEN NOTICE

Owner: Cornelius Perkins
Address: 10113 N. Lantana Ave., Tampa, FL 33612
Invoice Number: 0230219
Vehicle Make: Toyota
Model: Solara
LICENSE TAG: NTP521
Vehicle Year: 2004
VIN: 4T1FA38P444026699

You and each of you are hereby notified that the above vehicle was dropped off for repair on July 21, 2020, and that said vehicle is in the undersigned's possession at the address noted below: that the undersigned claims a lien for repairs, storage and costs. The vehicle may be sold after 45 days from the date of notice. Pursuant to Minnesota statute 514.18 payment of \$5,300 plus \$0 inductive of legal notice fees will be sufficient to redeem the vehicle from the lien of the lienor. That said lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law and that you and each of you have the right to redeem said vehicle pursuant to MN statute 514.18.

And

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF LIEN AND OF INTENT TO SELL VEHICLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF MN STATUTE 514.18

You and each of you are hereby notified that on April 5, 2021, at 10 a.m. the vehicle described above may be sold at auction or sale located at Manley Tire and Oil Service. From the proceeds will be paid for repairs and legal notification expenses included in the cost of the sale.

You and each of you are urged to make satisfactory arrangements to pay all charges and take possession of the said vehicle. In order to obtain release of this vehicle you must present personal identification, drivers license and PROOF OF INSURANCE, (title registration, etc.) at the address below and pay all said charges against said vehicle. Manley Tire and Oil Service
746 20th Ave.
Valley Springs, SD 57068

(02-18, 02-25, 03-04)

Notice of lien and intent to sell set for April 5

CLAIM OF LIEN NOTICE

Owner: Stewart Mousseaux
Address: 129 S. Elmwood Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Invoice Number: 0230883
Vehicle Make: Chrysler
Model: Pacifica
LICENSE TAG: 1AN911
Vehicle Year: 2004
VIN: 2C8GF68454R563319

You and each of you are hereby notified that the above vehicle was dropped off for repair on July 7, 2020, and that said vehicle is in the undersigned's possession at the address noted below: that the undersigned claims a lien for repairs, storage and costs. The vehicle may be sold after 45 days from the date of notice. Pursuant to Minnesota statute 514.18 payment of \$5,650 plus \$0 inductive of legal notice fees will be sufficient to redeem the vehicle from the lien of the lienor. That said lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law and that you and each of you have the right to redeem said vehicle pursuant to MN statute 514.18.

And

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF LIEN AND OF INTENT TO SELL VEHICLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF MN STATUTE 514.18

You and each of you are hereby notified that on April 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. the vehicle described above may be sold at auction or sale located at Manley Tire and Oil Service. From the proceeds will be paid for repairs and legal notification expenses included in the cost of the sale.

You and each of you are urged to make satisfactory arrangements to pay all charges and take possession of the said vehicle. In order to obtain release of this vehicle you must present personal identification, drivers license and PROOF OF INSURANCE, (title registration, etc.) at the address below and pay all said charges against said vehicle. Manley Tire and Oil Service
746 20th Ave.
Valley Springs, SD 57068

(02-18, 02-25, 03-04)

Notice of lien and intent to sell set for April 5

CLAIM OF LIEN NOTICE

Owner: Rick Babcock
Address: 108 S. Main St., Apt. 4, Saint Leo, MN 56264
Invoice Number: 0230884
Vehicle Make: Oldsmobile
Model: Eighty-Eight
LICENSE TAG: 614PUJ
Vehicle Year: 1998
VIN: 1G3HN52K1W4813574

You and each of you are hereby notified that the above vehicle was dropped off for repair on August 16, 2020, and that said vehicle is in the undersigned's possession at the address noted below: that the undersigned claims a lien for repairs, storage and costs. The vehicle may be sold after 45 days from the date of notice. Pursuant to Minnesota statute 514.18 payment of \$4,675 plus \$0 inductive of legal notice fees will be sufficient to redeem the vehicle from the lien of the lienor. That said lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to law and that you and each of you have the right to redeem said vehicle pursuant to MN statute 514.18.

And

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF LIEN AND OF INTENT TO SELL VEHICLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF MN STATUTE 514.18

You and each of you are hereby notified that on April 5, 2021 at 10 a.m. the vehicle described above may be sold at auction or sale located at Manley Tire and Oil Service. From the proceeds will be paid for repairs and legal notification expenses included in the cost of the sale.

You and each of you are urged to make satisfactory arrangements to pay all charges and take possession of the said vehicle. In order to obtain release of this vehicle you must present personal identification, drivers license and PROOF OF INSURANCE, (title registration, etc.) at the address below and pay all said charges against said vehicle. Manley Tire and Oil Service
746 20th Ave.
Valley Springs, SD 57068

(02-18, 02-25, 03-04)

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

For Sale: 4x8 suitcase style fish house - \$150; two small snow throwers - \$50 each; one large 26" snow blower - \$200. Phone 507-215-2619. (2.6-2.25)

MISCELLANEOUS

HAVE A UNIQUE SERVICE OR BUSINESS? Get the word out to over 1.4 million households. Call WIDE AREA CLASSIFIEDS today, 507-359-7326. (tc)

RENTALS

Apartment for rent: One-bedroom, ground floor apartment with garage. No pets; no smoking. 507-283-9720. (tc)

For Rent: Two-bedroom house now available for rent with single garage; stove and refrigerated furnished. No smoking; no pets. Call 507-283-4095 or 507-290-1948. (tc)

EMPLOYMENT

New Prairie Insulation of Beaver Creek has full time insulation installer positions available. Monday-Friday; Health insurance, vacation pay, holiday pay, retirement plan, bonus, opportunities; will train. Call 605-376-3006. (tc)

Luverne Public Schools is seeking applications for a transportation aide. This position involves assisting a student on school transportation traveling to and from school. This is a shared position and work days are flexible. Medical certification is required. Send a letter of application and a completed district application (found at www.isd2184.net) to Craig Oftedahl, Supt. of Schools (c.oftedahl@isd2184.net), 709 North Kniss, Luverne, MN 56156. EOE. (2.13-3.4)

EMPLOYMENT

Habilitative Services, Inc. is hiring **DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS (FT & PT)** FT benefits eligible. Apply online at jobs.thementornetwork.com

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: Public Health Nurse – 2 positions; Registered Nurse – 1 position; Nobles County Community Services. If you have a passion for public health and serving the community this could be the career for you! Join our public health service unit and you'll be part of a skilled, caring, and knowledgeable professional team whose talents and contributions promote, strengthen and protect the health of individuals, families, and communities in Nobles County every single day! Check out the full job descriptions on our website www.co.nobles.mn.us and click on Jobs & Careers. Weekends and Holidays off! Public Health Nurse: provides direct care needs assessment, education, and recommendations for services based upon the needs identified when working with individuals and families in the community. Registered Nurse: under general supervision performs professional nursing duties to ensure proper administration and coordination of established public health programs. APPLY TO: Merit application required, visit: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem/default.cfm>. Closing Date for Merit Applications: March 3, 2021, 4:30 p.m. (2.18-2.27)

Place a classified!
Call
283-2333

CARDS OF THANKS

Thanks to everyone at the Mary Jane Brown Home for their wonderful care. They helped me recover enough to move to assistant living. Thanks to the doctors for their concerns and care. I am very grateful. We are fortunate to have such kind employees at Mary Jane.

Judy Herman

(2.18-2.20)

Thanks to my family, relatives and friends for the cards and phone calls I received for my 80th birthday. It was really great and appreciated.

Karen Donth

(2.18-2.20)



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The **Rock County Historical Society** is accepting applications for the **Full-time position of Executive Director**

The job description is at our webpage at www.rockcountyhistorical.com.

Please submit a resume, cover letter, and three references by March 31, 2021 to: Betty Mann (Board President), Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main St., Luverne, MN 56156 or to RCHS's email to rcmuseum@gmail.com with the subject line of Executive Director Position. Any questions about the position can be referred to Betty Mann (507-220-1070).

HELP WANTED

RETIREMENT CREATES OPPORTUNITY

Delivery Driver needed for spring

Class B temp license required

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507-442-6991



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Please send resume to tricia@a1jet.com or mail to 401 W Edgehill, Luverne, MN 56156



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MISCELLANEOUS

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Sanford honors dedicated staff/from page 7

Nelson said retirement has a better offer in the near term. “I’m retiring so my new baby grandson doesn’t have to go to a big day care right away,” she said.

Carol Wieneke, with her 57-year career, is legendary in the Sanford Health System and Good Samaritan as the longest-running employee on record. Still, she has no intention of retiring soon. Wieneke is known for her able hands and gentle demeanor, and her work as an LPN has been celebrated

at milestone parties marking 40 years, 50 years and even 55. “I am very thankful for my family’s support throughout all of the 57 years. My husband and children always knew about my dedication,” she said. “There were times when I came home late and they were still patiently waiting with supper for me.” Wieneke lost her husband in September and said she’s getting through the tough time with support of her colleagues. She said the Sanford

family is her family, and her accolades are her co-workers’ accolades. “I didn’t do this by myself,” she said at her 50th anniversary party in 2013. “I’ve worked with wonderful co-workers and physicians through the years.” She said the reason she’s been a nurse for so long is that she finds her work helping patients rewarding. “I’ve always enjoyed coming to work. I’ve never had a day when I didn’t want to come to work,” Wieneke said. “And my patients have always come first.”

Mosaic of ‘hope’ at H-BC/continued from page 1

said. “They really wanted to showcase the apps they used that helped them stay connected.” Students constructed symbols representing Twitter, Instagram and incorporated clouds into the design to signify the importance of cloud-based information when at home for e-learning. They added their graduation years – ‘21, ‘22, ‘23 and ‘24 – to the clouds. “They felt very fortunate and hopeful that they could continue school in some fashion because of tech companies like Google and Zoom making it possible for use to continue on despite the pandemic,” Johnson said. Each day in class students were encouraged to talk about what it means to have “hope.” Some students included references to music, which has become a place of refuge for some, as well as athletics, education and agriculture. “I got more familiar with the classmates — more bonding time with them,” said Emma Kodet. “It was fun to see their creative sides.” Kodet was one of the seniors in charge of planning and design. “She has done a lot of glass cutting, placing and gluing,” Johnson said. Students finished the mosaic last week when Johnson grouted the glass pieces and the student-made objects permanently to the



Photo courtesy of H-BC Secondary Hills-Beaver Creek secondary art students work on cutting, fitting and gluing hundreds of glass pieces onto a board in a mosaic project called “Hope” amid the pandemic.



Students said sports gave them hope during the pandemic. At right, music and art provided stress releasers during the pandemic as well as highlighted the importance of agriculture in the Hills-Beaver Creek communities.



medium density fiberboard. The finished mosaic will join four other mosaics in the school’s commons area. “We are hoping the public can see that there were a lot of extenuating circumstances to this year, yet the students put their heads down, persevered, and got done what needs to be done,” Johnson said. “We hope that in the mirrored glass in the background of the piece viewers will be able to ‘see themselves’ and reflect on what they also experienced in this past year.”

New year. New job.

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Marilyn Blomendaal, CPCU

Cory Blomendaal, CIC

Steve Smadenski, CIC

A note from Mayor Patrick T. Baustian

We're All in This Together

Each day more progress is being made in the fight against COVID-19. Last week according to the Minnesota Department of Health 12% of Rock County residents have been vaccinated. That's a great start and just because the vaccination process has started doesn't mean the pandemic is over. It's important to get your name on the COVID-19 vaccine list. To do so, go to swmhs.com and click on the COVID-19 Vaccine List Form link. Let's continue to fight the good fight against COVID-19 by getting your name on the vaccine list, masking up, social distancing and washing your hands.

MN COVID-19 Dashboard Snapshot: Rock County

ROCK COUNTY

Click on a county to narrow results. Data reported as of 2/8/2021.

People with at least one vaccine dose

1,140

People with completed vaccine series

457

Vaccine Doses Administered

Weekly

Daily

Date	Daily	Weekly
Dec 13	59	
Dec 20	24	
Dec 27	51	
Jan 03	308	
Jan 10	120	
Jan 17	283	
Jan 24	171	
Jan 31	579	
Feb 07	6	

The graphic above is a small sample of the data available on the state's COVID-19 dashboard.

New COVID-19 cases in MN by date reported

Based solely on cases confirmed by the MN Department of Health. Line represents 7-day rolling average. Light blue bars are Mondays.

We are headed the right direction!

Source: Minnesota Department of Health. Graphic by David H. Montgomery | MPR News

MPRnews

Data as of February 9, 2021

Minnesota Improves Vaccine Data Transparency

February 9, 2021 – The State of Minnesota today expanded the level of detail available on its COVID-19 vaccine data dashboard to provide more granular information on doses shipped to and administered by each of the state's vaccine providers. The new dashboard elements detail the number of doses each provider has received and show each provider's progress toward the efficiency goals recently established by Governor Tim Walz. .

The dashboard reflects the state's commitment to transparency and is an effective tool for holding the state and providers accountable on progress toward the efficient and effective distribution of vaccines. More detailed data can also highlight opportunities to better focus resources in the state's vaccination efforts.

"What gets measured gets done. Minnesotans deserve to know where vaccine is in Minnesota, and how efficiently and effectively providers are getting those shots to the people who need them," Governor Walz said. "The goals we have set are ambitious, but reasonable – and now Minnesotans can track when our providers achieve them."

The new dashboard provides clarity on the categories of Minnesota's vaccine providers; more clearly reflects the number of doses held by each provider, and for how long; and uses more recent American Community Survey population estimates to track the state's progress toward vaccinating 80% of the state's vaccine-eligible residents.

"This newly improved tool will help Minnesotans track progress toward our goal of building an efficient distribution system that makes vaccines accessible to all Minnesotans across the state," said Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. "Right now, we don't have enough doses for everyone who wants one. Until the federal government steps up and provides them, our providers need to quickly use the precious supply we have on hand. It is vital that these doses get out to more Minnesotans, right now."

"Minnesota's providers are working hard to get shots to people who need them. Now, it's time for the federal government to step up and provide more vaccine," continued Governor Walz. "Even as we administer more doses, we risk falling behind if we don't get the volume of vaccine we require. We need the federal government to step up distribution so we can crush COVID once and for all."

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

Luverne
MINNESOTA
Love the life!

Sincerely,

Mayor Patrick T. Baustian