



Rock County

STAR HERALD

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Thursday, February 27, 2020

‘Game Plan 4 Hope’

Hills families reach out to support others experiencing hardship

“Our common goal is that we were the recipients of hope and love, so we want to reach out and help families the same way.”

— Missy Bass

Photos and text by Mavis Fodness

Two Hills families are attempting to bring hope to people experiencing life-changing hardships.

Jeff and Missy Bass started the nonprofit, “Game Plan 4 Hope,” in September and were later joined by longtime friends Aaron and Heather Erickson.

Their sons, Trenton Bass and Ethan Erickson, both experienced life-changing hardships — a paralyzing football injury for Trenton in 2017 and a battle with cancer that took Ethan’s life in October.

Game Plan 4 Hope is using these experiences to help other families who are dealing with tragedy.

“Our common goal is that we were the recipients of hope and love, so we want to reach out and help families the same way,” Missy said.

“For me our hope came from all the prayers and our faith.”

The Bases began paperwork for the nonprofit in September, later giving it a sports-themed name in honor of Trenton’s love for football, which also fits Ethan and his love of sports.

A website, www.gameplan-4hope.org, launched in December, prominently features the boys’ health journeys.

“Our stories are so unique and different but at the core — what’s really meaningful for us — is to give the gift of hope,” Heather said.

Both families admit they felt the overwhelming support and concern from the region while they sat in the hospital.

Game Plan 4 Hope/see page 2



Mavis Fodness photo/0220 Game Plan 4 Hope

Heather Erickson (left) and Missy Bass, both of Hills, are encouraging local families with experiencing life-changing experiences to reach out to their nonprofit organization, Game Plan 4 Hope, for help. Samson, Trenton Bass’ therapy dog in training, assists in spreading the organization’s message.

Who will assess the properties?

Rock County Board considers demand for assessors as professionals depart

By Mavis Fodness

Eleven Rock County townships and the city of Beaver Creek will need to replace their property tax assessor in the next 90 days.

Previous assessor Pete Jessen announced Feb. 18 to Land Records Director Tom Houselog that he will step down from the position by the end of 2020.

Houselog met with county commissioners shortly after Jessen’s announcement.

“We were at a position where Pete would have been done in two years,” Houselog said to commissioners. “It was inevitable — just quicker than we thought.”

In 2017 the state mandated that anyone who appraises or physically inspects real estate for property tax purposes must have an Accredited Minnesota Assessor license.

The accreditation involves completing 400 hours of continuing education plus successful passing of each of the tests.

Completion time is four years and legislators set a deadline of 2022 for all current assessors to meet the new accreditations.

However, many independent assessors like Jessen are choosing to leave the profession instead of completing the new accreditation standards.

“This is the fallout of that legislative change,” said County Administrator Kyle Oldre. “It is probably impacting rural Minnesota greater than the metro just simply due to the shortage (of accredited personnel).”

If the city of Beaver Creek and the 11 townships Jessen currently serves do not hire a replacement within three months, the county assessor automatically takes over the responsibility. Townships and cities are then billed for the assessing work.

The three-person Land Records Office currently completes the assessment of farmland in the county along with the personal property assessment for the cities of Luverne, Magnolia, Steen, Hills, Hardwick and Kenneth.

Vienna Township contracts with independent assessor David Scotting of Pipestone.

According to Houselog, one employee has met the new accreditation

Ecotherapy encouraged at March 2 ‘Brain Health’ seminar

By Lori Sorenson

The fourth in a series of Brain Health seminars will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, at Luverne Community Education.

This session will focus on “Ecotherapy and Mindfulness,” led by Jessica Koch of Luverne Counseling.

She’ll talk about how practicing mindfulness to slow down and be present in daily life improves mental



“The point will be to increase a higher state of awareness. Part of that is to understand how nature affects and how nature can empower and heal us.”

— Jessica Koch, Luverne Counseling

health. She’ll also talk about ecotherapy — interacting with nature — and the major role it can play in mental health. “People tend to be distracted and busy, and the point will be to increase a

higher state of awareness,” Koch said Monday.

“Part of that is to understand how nature affects us and how nature can empower and heal us.”

Research shows suicide rates

among teens and farmers are increasing, in part, because of feelings of hopelessness for the future, especially with regard to the health of the planet.

“With ecotherapy, I feel like the best way to practice mindfulness is with nature,” Koch said.

“If we take care of the world around us, it will take care of us.”

She said practicing mindfulness and ecotherapy is something anyone

Brain Health March 2/see page 3

Property assessors/see page 3

County road improvement plan focuses on small cities

By Mavis Fodness

Summer 2020 road improvements will focus on the small cities in Rock County, according to the six-year road and bridge construction plan adopted Feb. 18 by county commissioners.

Highway engineer Mark Sehr outlined the 2020 to 2025 projects in a 27-page Powerpoint presentation and will share it at a public meeting 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, at the Rock County Library.

For 2020, road construction will focus on the county highways within cities.

Three-inch mill and overlay work is scheduled on the county highways in Hardwick, Beaver Creek, Hills, Steen and Magnolia.

Broadway Street in Magnolia will undergo a full-depth reconstruction.

“The north-south street in front of the café will be a total reconstruct,” Sehr said. “That concrete is shot.”

One block of Magnolia’s Broadway Street will be narrowed with the addition of a grass boulevard between the road and the new sidewalk.

Construction on Main Street Luverne is limited to drainage and sidewalk repairs from Highway 75 to the Rock County bridge.

Sehr is currently meeting with Luverne officials on the scope of the project.

“We are not doing everything, but it will be a \$50,000 project by the time

Roads and bridges/see page 3



Nutrien employees replaced signage Friday and set up the new ag retail business operation in Luverne.

Nutrien buys former Express Ag property

Photos and text by Lori Sorenson

Nutrien Ag Solutions has purchased the West Hattin Street property and buildings formerly owned by Express Ag, which closed its doors in Luverne last fall.

The acquisition was completed Friday when Nutrien employees were on site to replace signage and set up the new ag retail business operation.

“This is a very good agricultural market,” said Mark Pierson, Nutrien’s division manager for Minnesota and

South Dakota. He said a Luverne branch manager will soon be in place, with additional support staff to follow in time to provide services to local farmers for spring field work.

“I think it’s a great time to start the process,” Pierson said. “With the upcoming spring season, we’ll be able to provide a variety of inputs.”

Nutrien Ag Solutions/continued on page 2



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Volume 145, Number 9

Luverne, MN 56156 USPS 468-040

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Battle Plain Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the home of Lloyd Prins.

Generations members will meet at 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 2, at the Generations building.

Blue Mound Quilters will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, March 2, in the Rock County Library basement for a program on pincushions. Members are to bring what they have and a favorite quilt. Visitors are welcome. Call Mary at 605-212-3219 with questions.

Luverne Lady Red Hats will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 13, at Sterling's in Luverne. At 2:15 p.m. we will sponsor bingo at the Minnesota Veterans Home. Call Donna by Wednesday, March 11, for reservations, 507-283-8019.

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

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

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

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

School band, choir concert Feb. 27

Luverne Middle School band and choir concerts are at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, in the Luverne Middle-High School gym. The concert will feature the sixth-grade band and choir and the seventh- and eighth-grade band and choir. Directors are Seana Graber (choir) and James Jarvie (band). The concert is free and open to the public.

Free tax help at library

Free tax preparation for all low-income and the elderly will be available at the Rock County Library through April 15. Call 507-449-5040 for appointments.

Generations activities

Generations is open from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday afternoons with activities and refreshments.

Tuesday, March 3, will be shuffleboard with Greg at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 5, will be Mexican Train with Marlin at 1 p.m. Friday, March 6, will be the movie "Alaska," Part 1, with popcorn at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 (\$3 if Generations member). Call 507-283-9846 with questions. Saturday, March 7, is the puzzle tournament.

'Night of Prayer and Worship' March 1

A special faith community gathering of Christians will be at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at Grand Prairie Events in Luverne. A freewill offering will be taken with proceeds donated to a local charitable cause.

Next dental health clinic March 4

The next dental health clinic providing dental care for children and young adults from 0-26 will be Wednesday, March 4, at Rock County Health and Human Services building. To schedule an appointment, stop in or call 612-746-1530. All forms of insurance are accepted. (Organized by #Luv1LuvAll's Rock County Oral Health Task Force.) Another dental health clinic is scheduled for April 1.

Farmers: Modifying Existing Equipment workshop March 6

Farmers are invited to sign up for a free workshop at Harlan Spronk's Shop at 1445 251st Street, Edgerton, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 6, to learn how to modify existing equipment to implement strip till, no till and cover crops practices. Sign up before Feb. 28 for no cost and free lunch. Call Rock County SWCD at 507-283-8862.

World Day of Prayer March 6

The United Methodist Church of Luverne invites the public to a "World Day of Prayer" service at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 6. This year's program features the theme, "Rise! Take your mat and walk," based on John 5 and focuses on the history and rich culture of Zimbabwe.

Hospice Charity Dinner/Auction

Tickets are now on sale for the Hospice Charity Dinner and Auction set for Saturday, April 18, at Grand Prairie Events in Luverne. Individual tickets are \$55 and may be purchased at the Sanford Luverne Hospice office at 304 N. McKenzie Street, or call 507-283-1805. (Visa and MasterCard accepted).



Nutrien Ag Solutions has purchased the West Hatting Street property and buildings formerly owned by Express Ag, which closed its doors in Luverne last fall. Nutrien purchased only the real estate — not the business. (Lori Sorenson photo)

Nutrien Ag Solutions buys former Express Ag property/from page 1

He mentioned insecticides, fungicides and liquid fertilizers for starters.

Nutrien Ag Solutions, the retail division of Nutrien Ltd., also provides seed and precision agriculture, in addition to financial services, soil sampling, field scouting and more.

The company has a network of crop consultants in more than 1,700 locations.

Its current southwest Minnesota locations are in Adrian, Pipestone, Slayton and Lakefield.

Pierson said the new Luverne location is a good fit for the Nutrien network.

"It fits strategically in western Minnesota. ... We had a gap between our Lakefield, Slayton and Pipestone location," he said.

"And we have people in the area familiar with the market and the customers."

Nutrien purchased only the real estate — not the business — from former Express Ag owners, and the two have no business relationship outside of that.

Pierson recognized that the local ag economy is struggling along with the rest of the

nation's farmers, but he views it as an opportunity for Nutrien to support local farmers.

"If we do things right, we can help our customers," he said. "That's what our business is all about."

Until Nutrien's office technology and phone number are in place in Luverne, inquiries can be directed to Pierson at mark.pierson@nutrien.com.

Game Plan 4 Hope offers support for local families/from page 1

"Our stories are so unique and different but at the core — what's really meaningful for us — is to give the gift of hope,"

— Heather Erickson, mother of the late Ethan Erickson and co-founder of Game Plan 4 Hope

Referrals and donations can be made through www.gameplan4hope.org.

will be shared with each gift card, comfort kit, gift bag and special holiday delivery through Game Plan 4 Hope.

The Bass family also experienced hope and random acts of kindness after Trenton's Sept. 8, 2017, accident on the football field.

Trenton's paralysis brought donations of medical equipment to the family along with outreaches of directional, spiritual and emotional support.

"Paralysis, until they come up with a cure for it, is a lifelong thing," Missy said. "You have to think about so many different things. When it happens to you, you're so lost."

They found a path through others who shared insurance options, potential treatments and equipment that will allow Trenton to live life as independently as possible.

However, spreading their message of Game Plan 4 Hope has proven challenging.

Data privacy prevents hospitals from releasing patient names so Missy and Heather have turned to connecting with caseworkers, staff and other families they met while in the hospital.

Their efforts have prompted some referrals but they hope for more.

An 18-month-old Bernese mountain dog named Samson, Trenton's service dog in training, is helping Missy spread Game Plan 4 Hope's message.

"He's a good attention-getter and kind of a segue into talking to people," she said.

With Samson as a distraction, Missy talks to families about equipment that helped Trenton's recovery and is available through Game Plan 4 Hope.

Trenton himself is a spokesperson for the group, visiting with patients recovering from spinal cord injuries, sharing his path to independence.

Trenton, a sophomore at

South Dakota State University in Brookings, epitomizes Game Plan 4 Hope's messages of positivity and perseverance.

"Life is not easy for him," Missy said. "He has no use of his hands and that makes everything a challenge."

However, within months of his injury, Trenton returned to Hills-Beaver Creek High School to graduate with his classmates, and he spent the summer in rehabilitation in order to attend SDSU in the fall.

He continues to work toward his pre-injury goal of becoming a mechanical engineer.

"He could just say, 'I want to sit around doing nothing because I cannot do anything,' but he's never had that attitude," Missy said.

Hope is what Ethan Erickson lived with during his 18-month cancer battle, and Trenton Bass embraced the hope that positive thinking can accomplish.

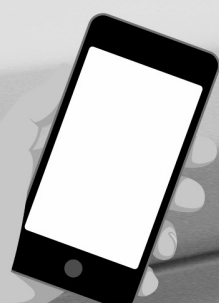
Game Plan 4 Hope bridges the gap between despair and hope.

"No matter what your journey or your outcome, there are different miracles that come so many different ways," Heather said.

Referrals and donations can be made through www.gameplan4hope.org.

The seven-member board of directors meets monthly.

In addition to Jeff and Missy Bass, Heather Erickson joins board members Tim Plimpton, Andrea Parliament, Denise Wysong and Blake Wysong.



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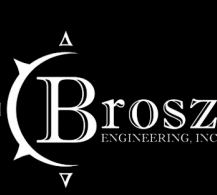
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• **Land Surveying**

County sheriff seeks members for first Citizens’ Academy

By Mavis Fodness

Twenty individuals will be selected for a unique law enforcement experience if they apply before March 6.

The first Rock County Sheriff’s Office citizens’ academy will familiarize selected members of the public with the day-to-day operations of a peace officer.

This is the first citizens’ academy organized under Rock County Sheriff Evan Verbrugge’s 13 years of leadership as part of a community outreach effort by local deputies.

“I think this will give people the opportunity to learn about what we do,” Verbrugge said.

Over a six-week period, various local deputies and dispatchers will present a variety of topics during the six two-hour-long evening classes.

Topics include patrol procedures, narcotics, search and seizure, tactical operations, investigations, firearm demonstration, emergency vehicle operations and use-of-force issues.

In return, participants bring knowledge about their own neighborhoods and problems they see in work-

ing with law enforcement to the sessions to potentially alleviate the issues, Verbrugge said.

Better understanding and lines of communication between law enforcement and citizens are key components of the academy.

There are similar academies throughout the United States, according to the National Police Association.

“I think it is a great public relations activity,” Verbrugge said about the citizens’ academy.

The academy is free to selected Rock County participants, who must be at least 18 years old, complete an application and pass a criminal background test.

The academy session is limited to 20 people.

Kick-off for the academy is Tuesday, March 17.

Applications are available at the Sheriff’s Office at 100 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne.

Completed applications are due by 4 p.m. Friday, March 6.

Participants will be notified by March 9 if they are accepted into the academy.

Another academy is planned for March 2021.

Ecotherapy encouraged at Brain Health event/from page 1

can do. “Not everyone can afford therapy,” Koch said.

“But mindfulness is something you can do by yourself every day without spending money.... Ecotherapy strengthens our connection to nature and it increases a sense of hopefulness and belonging,”

Attitude shift

The Brain Health series began last fall by advocates with the local #Luv1LuvAll to end stigma and encourage conversations about mental health — like physical health — toward improved quality of life.

The first three sessions addressed depression, brain health basics and medication.

Angela Nolz, integrated health therapist at Sanford Luverne, has helped to coordinate the sessions, which are offered through Luverne Community Education.

The overall goal of the Brain Health series is to shift attitudes about mental health to practical approaches to brain health.

“I really do think it is about increased dialogue about the fact that it’s OK to not be OK,” Nolz said about the series. “That way we can move toward treatment options to be well.”

Evidence shows that people are less likely to seek treatment for anxiety or depression than they would for asthma or some other physical ailment.

That’s what Nolz and #Luv1LuvAll are working to change.

“What I get excited about is we have community members and local professionals who see this as worth their time to share their expertise,” she said.

The monthly classes, free and open to anyone, each address different components of brain health, with different community professionals spearheading each one.

Assessors/ from page 1

standards, with the other two currently on track to complete classes and testing by the 2022 deadline.

Instead of waiting until the 90-day deadline, county officials requested township officials notify the Land Records Office as soon as possible. The Rock County Township Association met Feb. 10.

As township officials discuss options, commissioners will discuss staffing needs, how to transition paper records into digital formats and how the work will flow through the county office.

“We know there will be a lot of work that needs to be done,” House logs said. “Going forward with the 2021 assessment, we need to start early summer.”

The next Brain Health seminar will be

Substance Abuse Education with Stephanie Pierce on April 6. Then on May 4, Dr. Diane Kennedy will present **Social Media, tech time, and the impacts of sedentary life style.**

Start conversations early

Meanwhile, Luverne’s sixth-graders are tackling a parallel Brain Health series.

“The idea is that if we start educating them young enough, they can start having conversations as they get older,” Nolz said.

Working through the school guidance counselor, Nolz said she hopes to help students struggling with mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression.

“It is the hope that these sessions start the conversation and end the stigma of opening up about any struggles our youth may be having,” she said.

“It is my personal hope that the message is clear that help is out there and change is possible. We also hope that these topics can assist in keeping kids well.”

The students will learn about brain health during their flex time at school.

Free and open to the public

The public sessions at Community Education are free, but registrations are requested in order to plan adequate space and accommodations. Call 507-283-4724.

Nolz said the earlier sessions nearly overfilled a Community Education room, so she said registration is helpful. Certificates of attendance are available.

2020 Construction Year		
CSAH 28	Summit/Main/Ross (Hardwick)	Mill / Overlay (3”) / Sidewalk
CSAH 27	Broadway / State (Magnolia)	Mill / Overlay (3”) / C&G
CSAH 25	CSAH 4 to 6th Ave. (B.C.)	Mill / Overlay (3”) / Sidewalk
CSAH 23	Main/3rd St./Summit (Hills)	Mill / Overlay (3”) /
CSAH 24	21st St. / Main (Steen)	Mill / Overlay (3”) /
CSAH 11	Iowa to CSAH 24 (Steen)	Mill / Overlay (3”) /
CSAH 4	TH75 to Blue Mound (Luverne)	Sidewalk / C&G
County Wide	CSAH 6, 7, & 4	Mastic Crack Level / Sealing
2021 Construction Year		
CSAH 12	1.5 Miles W. TH75 — TH75	Mill / Overlay
CSAH 3+CSAH 7	CSAH 2 to NCL Kenneth	FDR / Bituminous Paving
CSAH 2	CSAH 7 to 231st St.	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
CSAH 5	CSAH 6 to TH75	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
CSAH 9	CSAH 3 to Nobles County	FDR / Bituminous Paving
2022 Construction Year		
CSAH 4	Rock River to Nobles Cnty.	Mill / Bituminous Overlay / ED
CSAH 18 (Blue Mound Ave.)	CSAH 4 (Main) to Fairview	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
CSAH 34 (Warren St.)	Cedar to Blue Mound	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
CSAH 36 (Blue Mound Ave.)	Warren to Main St.	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
CSAH 4 (Main St.)	TH75 to Blue Mound	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
2023 Construction Year		
CSAH 1	TH 75 to Nobles County	FDR / Bituminous Overlay
2024 Construction Year		
CSAH 6	TH 270 to CSAH 4	Mill / Bituminous Overlay
CSAH 6	Bridge L2035	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 6	Bridge L2043	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 6	Bridge L2097	Bridge Replacement
County Wide	Various	Mastic Crack Leveling / Filling
CSAH 18 (Blue Mound Ave.)	Fairview to Christensen (200’ N.)	Stm. Sew / C&G / Pvmnt.
2025 Construction Year		
CSAH 15	CSAH 6 to CSAH 9	FDR / 4” Class 5
CSAH 11	CSAH 4 to Pipestone Cnty.	FDR / 4” Class 5
CSAH 19	CSAH 8 to Pipestone Cnty.	FDR / 4” Class 5
CSAH 16	CSAH 9 to CSAH 3	FDR / 4” Class 5
CSAH 5/ TH75	Intersection	Widen Intersection
2020 – 2025 Bridge Replacements		
CSAH 8	Bridge 92759	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 11	Bridge 92583	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 11	Bridge L2129	Bridge Replacement
River Road	Bridge L2256	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 19	Bridge L2150	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 20	Bridge L2152	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 1	Bridge 67501	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 9	Bridge 92429	Bridge Replacement
CSAH 7	Bridge 92762	Bridge Replacement
221st St.	No Bridge #	Bridge Replacement
120th Ave.	No Bridge #	Bridge Replacement
120th Ave.	No Bridge #	Bridge Replacement

Rock County Highway engineer Mark Sehr outlined the 2020 to 2025 road and bridge construction projects in a 27-page Powerpoint presentation and will share it at a public meeting 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, at the Rock County Library.

County road and bridge 6-year plan/continued from page 1

we are done,” Sehr said.

A full depth reconstruction of Luverne’s Main Street is planned for 2022 along with a mill and overlay of County Road 4 from the Rock River bridge in Luverne through Magnolia to the Nobles County line.

Finishing out projects for 2020 is a three-inch mill and overlay on County Road 11 from Steen to the Iowa state line.

Also in 2020, Sehr plans to invest

\$500,000 in sealing road cracks with a mastic product on county roads 4, 6 and 7 through a private contractor.

“It (mastic) is a cement, rubber, hot sealant that levels as it fills the cracks,” Sehr said. “We (county crews) can do 10 to 12 miles a year but we are not keeping up.”

State-aid funds will pay for the private contractor.

A sixth-year was added to the normal five-year road construction plan

and focuses on full-depth reconstruction of the county gravel roads.

Sehr said the 2025 construction plan focuses on strengthening the state-aid gravel roadbeds with a cement base and covered with four-inches of gravel on county roads 15, 11, 19 and 16.

In 2025, plans also call for the widening of the intersection at County Road 5 (Dodge Street in Luverne) and Highway 75.



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Kathryn Erickson turns

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on February 27

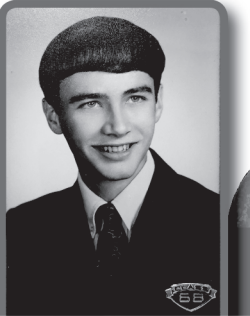
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Notice of Annual Township Meetings & Elections

Notice is hereby given that the following townships will hold their annual meeting and elections on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. In case of inclement weather, they will be held one week later on March 17, 2020.

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 and one Clerk

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

Martin Township
New Township Building 598 51st St Hills. Meeting at 8 pm

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
New Town Hall 594 141st Beaver Creek. Business meeting 3:00 pm and Election 5-8 pm to elect one Supervisor 3-year term and one Clerk/Treasurer 2 year term

Vienna township
Kenneth Community Hall. Business Meeting 7 pm

Rock County Township Association
Teresa Kramer, Secretary/Treasurer

No place like home

‘Was the suspect wearing camo?’

“Sir?” a voice asked from the golf course. “Sir?”

My husband and I were sitting with two friends under a canopy by a pool near a palm tree next to a fairway in Arizona.

We all turned toward the voice, expecting to see a golfer asking if we’d seen where a ball landed.

Instead, we saw five or six SWAT team members, ARs and handguns drawn, being dragged down the fairway by an enthusiastic German shepherd.

“Sir, have you seen anyone walking this way? How long have you been outside?” the officer asked.

We had seen no one walking and we’d been outside all afternoon — except when we went for a short walk around the neighborhood.

The gaggle of black-clad law enforcement officers continued down the fairway.

It was one of those “Did that just happen?” moments. Followed by “Should we still be sitting out here?” The canvas canopy didn’t feel very bulletproof.

We went inside as our host spoke with neighbors in the front yard where he learned there had been a carjacking.

They were looking for the guy near the house in which we were staying. They had



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

searched the box of the Ford F150 we had rented — guns drawn — and found nothing.

We began to experience that odd tension between wanting to go outside to see what was happening versus feeling compelled to lie flat on the living room floor in case gunfire erupted.

It didn’t.

My husband and I reflected on our walk around the neighborhood.

We actually had encountered one person who seemed “not to fit.” A short, stocky guy with a full beard wearing camo was walking down the middle of the street. All the other people we met were on the sidewalk walking normally.

We checked the local crime news to see if there was a description of the suspect.

There was not.

Our hostess said, “Around here you have to kill somebody to make the news.”

That’s when I decided Arizona is a wonderful place to visit in the middle of a Minnesota winter, but I like our crime better.

“Complainant reported round bale fell off trailer on 141st Street.”

There’s no place like home.

The 2020 Census is coming soon; get involved to ensure a complete count

The 2020 Census is coming in fewer than four weeks. As mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the census is a once-every-decade count of everyone living in the country.

You can shape your community’s future by getting involved and helping the 2020 Census count everyone.

Here are three ways you can get involved:

•**Apply to work for the 2020 Census** online at www.2020Census.gov/jobs. The Census Bureau is still recruiting Rock County residents for Census Taker positions which pay \$16.50 per hour and offer paid training, flexible hours and an opportunity to work from home between 5 and 40 hours per week during May, June and July.

If you’ve already applied, you can check the status of your application by calling 1-855-JOB-2020 (1-855-562-2020) and press 3 to reach the Rochester area census office.

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

•**Volunteer to join a local Complete Count Committee** like the one in the city of Luverne. More information is available at 2020Census.gov/partners.

•**Respond to the 2020 Census** and encourage others to do so too.

In mid-March, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin sending every household in Rock County — and across Minnesota and the United States — an invitation to complete a simple questionnaire about who lives at your address on April 1.

You will have the opportunity to respond online, by phone, or by

mail, and federal law keeps those responses safe and secure. For more information, go to 2020Census.gov.

By being counted in the 2020 Census, you will help in the distribution of more than \$675 billion in annual federal funds for local school programs, emergency services, and roads in Rock County. The census also determines how seats in Congress are distributed among the 50 states.

Adding your voice will help accomplish the Census Bureau’s goal of counting everyone Rock County resident once, *only once, and in the right place.*



Swanson: Respond to online census, worker visit

Census never asks for bank info, donations or political affiliations

To the Editor

Beginning in 1790, and every year ending in zero since, the United States Census Bureau has undertaken the decennial census.

This year, the 2020 Census is going to be a little different. Although very few homes will receive paper questionnaires when the self-response phase begins next month, every home across Minnesota and the U.S. will receive an invitation to respond online or by phone.

Those who do not do so will receive two more mailings (the first *will have* a paper questionnaire) to encourage them to self-respond by the end of April. Those who do not respond can expect to be visited by census takers beginning in May to have their questions answered at that time.

One of the most challenging groups of people to count are older adults who live in rural communities. Here are a few helpful hints to ensure their participation:

• Those who are uncomfortable using a computer should be encouraged to utilize the option to do so by phone where they will

speak with a live operator.

• Those who may need assistance completing their questionnaire electronically should be directed to their nearest library or community center. Many will be equipped with public computers (and other smart devices) and staffed with volunteers who can assist them.

To avoid being scammed, ask questions.

Every census worker will have a picture ID with a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date that anyone can ask to see.

Census takers will also be willing to give their name(s) and the phone number of the Chicago Regional Office.

If you still have questions about their identity, you can call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census Bureau representative.

And during the 2020 Census, you will not be asked for:

• Your Social Security numbers.

• Your bank account or credit card numbers.

• Money or donations.

• In addition, the Census Bureau will not contact you on behalf of a political party.

Finally, the census not only relates to how many representatives we can have in the United States Congress, but it is also tied to the annual distribution of at least \$675 billion in federal funds.

Roughly \$2,800 per person per year is tied to funding for programs within our state. Every person we do not count equates to a loss of \$28,000 in the upcoming decade. The census is critical to state and federally funded programs and services.

Shape your future; make sure you are counted. More information can be found at www.2020census.gov.

**Jason W. Swanson, HSE
Executive Director
Minnesota River Area Agency
on Aging, Mankato**

Progression slow on bucket list

So February is about in the books for another year. Even with an extra day it seemed to blow by.

So to keep you up to speed on my 2020 bucket list accomplishments, here’s where I’m at after two months.

First, just to refresh your memory, the list includes wash a load of clothes at the Laundry Room Laundromat; get at least one haircut at five different salons in Luverne; swim in The Lake; attend a school board meeting; go to one of the following: a Cardinal girls’ basketball game, Cardinals wrestling meet or Cardinals gymnastics meet. Just a few left, take in a movie at the Palace Theatre, drink a clean glass of water from the Blue Mounds State Park, and finally, attend at least one service at each of 12 different churches in Luverne.

So far, I’ve checked a couple of items off my list. First, I watched the Cardinal girls’ basketball team whoop up on the Jackson girls in January. Just a week or so ago I got a haircut by Kate Maus at the Hair LTD salon, so that’s a start on the haircut at five different salons.

Can’t really swim in The Lake just yet, and drinking the water at Blue Mounds is going to wait for warmer weather as well. Truth be told, I forgot that attending a school board meeting was even on the list. I am thinking about washing all of our winter coats at The Laundry Room, but that, too, is weather-dependent.



FOR WHAT IT’S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, General Manager

That brings us to attending a church service at 12 different churches throughout the year. I am still in the starting blocks on that one, but I have to tell you, I had no idea how many of you would be keeping tabs on me about that one.

I have had good intentions to get started twice, but bad weather once and a good book fouled my plans.

And no, the good book wasn’t the one I probably should be reading on Sundays, but I promise — and considering the peer pressure I have already experienced — I’ll check that one off the list by year’s end.

E-mail: editor@star-herald.com Web site: star-herald.com
Phone: 507-283-2333 Fax: 507-283-2335

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

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

(ISSN 0889-888X)
SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Entire contents copyrighted by
Tollefson Publishing Roger Tollefson, publisher

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Feb. 14
•Complainant on W. 1st Street, Hills, reported speeding.
•Complainant reported identity theft.
•Complainant at W. Dodge Street and N. Kniss Avenue reported an accident.
•ComplainantonN.Kniss Avenue requested a deputy.
•Complainant reported a rollover on County Road 6 just south of Beaver Creek.
•Complainant reported a rollover accident on Interstate 90, mile marker 8-9 near Luverne.
Feb. 15
•Complainant on W. Lincoln Street requested to speak with a deputy.
•Deputies assisted Pipestone County Sheriff's Department at Jasper Mini-mall.
•Complainant on N. Spring Street reported a smell of smoke.
Feb. 16
•Deputy out with pedestrians at location on E. Main Street.
•Complainant on W. Hatt-ing Street requested a deputy.
•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.
Feb. 17
•Subject with a warrant on S. Kniss Avenue.
•Complainant reported concerns for property.
•Complainant on County Road 6 and 71st Street, Beaver Creek, reported a strong gas smell near hog barn.
•Complainant on W. Luverne Street reported car was gone through overnight.

•Complainant on County Road 4 and 100th Avenue, Beaver Creek, reported a rollover vehicle accident.
•Complainant reported an accident with property damage on E. Main Street.
•Report of property exchange.
Feb. 18
•Deputy was present for court.
•Complainant on North Blue Mound Avenue reported a theft.
•Complainant reported a theft.
Feb. 19
•Trespassing issue was reported on S. Kniss Avenue.
Feb. 20
•Complainant reported a vehicle running with two flat tires on West Lincoln Street.
•Complainant on East Main Street reported three kids playing on the Rock River near open water.
•Complainant reported an accident on Dodge Street and Kniss Avenue.
•Complainant at Luverne Public Schools reported an accident.
•Complainanton S. Kniss Avenue reported objects found.

In addition, officers responded to 5 vehicles in the ditch, 1 follow-up, 1 transport, 7 escorts, 23 ambulance runs, 3 paper services, 2 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 9 burn permits, 5 logs/alarms, 13 purchase and carry permits, 1 stalled vehicle, 12 traffic stops, 2 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 1 welfare check, 1 report of cattle being out, and 1 OFP.

Library announces activities

Contact the library at rocklibrarystaff@gmail.com or call 507-449-5040 to register for events.
Book Versus Movie: A Winter Book/Film Club, "Everything Everything" 6 p.m. Thursday, March 19.
Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Take 16.
iPhone and iPad 101 Class, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 17. Call Luverne Community Ed, 507-283-4724, to register.
DIY Cassette Pencil Holder, 6 p.m. Thursday, March 26.
Adult winter reading program is underway. Read 12 books from the library from now until March 31 to earn a prize. Sign up at the registration desk.
Mah Jongg is from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursdays.
Evening Story Time 6:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays to March 31.
Winter Story Time 10:30 a.m. Fridays to April 10.
Library hours are Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Old Glory flies over the town under clear blue skies

Monday morning's clear blue skies highlighted the new American flag an employee at CHS Farmers Elevator placed on top of the grain leg at the Luverne location.

David Vander Vliet with CHS Luverne said the company's semi driver and military veteran Michaela Wendlandt climbed the estimated 100-foot-tall structure about a month ago to secure the flag to the walkway railing.

The old flag was given to the Dell Hogan American Legion Post 123 for proper disposal at the Legion's upcoming unserviceable flags ceremony.



Mavis Fodness photo/0227 New Flag Elevator

NASS and USDA release county corn and soybean yields

By David Bau, Extension Educator
The USDA released county estimated yields for corn and soybeans on Feb. 20.
These yields will provide the farmers numbers to plug in county yield estimates on various Farm Bill calculators at Illinois and NDSU.
These will not be the actual yields used to calculate Farm Bill payments, but should provide a good estimate of what RMA yields will be for each county.
Those website payment calculators can be found at: https://z.umn.edu/ARC_PLC and www.ag.ndsu.edu/farmmanagement/farm-bill.
Table 1 has listed southwest Minnesota counties' NASS/USDA yields for 2019 and 2018 rounded to the closest number.
At the Farm Bill meetings held across the state, farmers

	USDA NASS County Averages				2019 Farm Bill County Yields		Corn Soybeans	
	Corn		Soybeans				ARC CO Yield That Pays	
County	2019	2018	2019	2018	Corn	Soybeans		
Cottonwood	156	174	47	54	207	57	173	52
Jackson	157	167	47	51	201	56	168	51
Lincoln	147	NA	42	NA	182	50	152	46
Lyon	172	180	48	56	193	48	161	49
Murray	151	169	42	52	203	42	170	51
Nobles	150	169	44	49	200	44	167	51
Pipestone	135	NA	45	NA	199	45	167	551
Redwood	182	167	50	52	203	50	169	50
Rock	150	181	49	58	210	49	176	54
Southwest	159	173	46	53	159	46		
Minnesota	174	182	44	51	174	44		

Yields are listed in Columns 5 and 6 and these figures can be found for each county on the Farm Bill website: Farmbill.umn.edu. The final two columns list at what point the county yield is low enough to start an ARC County Payment.

were provided with handouts of county yields that will be used to determine the 2019

ARC County payments. Farmers should look at 2019 county corn and soybean

yields compared to the last two columns (see table) to see if county yield is low enough

to create an ARC County program payment. Remember, these are not the actual yields used but should give farmers a good estimate.
The ARC Individual also might pay and that might be more than ARC County, and PLC may pay as well, depending on what the marketing year average prices do.
I encourage farmers to use these yield estimates in the program calculators to help make the decision about which option to sign up for.
Remember, you have to sign up by March 16, 2020, in order to receive a program payment for 2019 if your choice triggers a payment.

Dave Bau, Extension Educator, Ag Business Management, U of M Extension Regional Office, Worthington, 507-372-3900 ext 3906, bauxx003@umn.edu

Interested in Advertising?

Call Rick or Chantel to advertise in the Announcer

283-2333

GRAVEL BIDS: BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP

Class 5, pit run, and screened to be spread on Beaver Creek Township roads. Bids will be expected on, before or at the monthly meeting **Tuesday, March 10th at 2:00 p.m.** at the township hall. Bids may be sent to: **Beaver Creek Township JoEllen Benson, Clerk PO Box 67 Beaver Creek MN 56156**

JoEllen Benson Township Clerk

GRAVEL BIDS: VIENNA TOWNSHIP

Class 5, pit run, and screened to be spread on Vienna Township roads. Bids will be expected by **Monday, March 9, 2020 .** Bids opened Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at the community hall in Kenneth. Bids may be sent to: **Vienna Township Brad Skattum 1397 160th Ave Luverne, MN 56156**

Brad Skattum Chairman

SPRAYING BIDS VIENNA TOWNSHIP

The Township will be accepting bids for spraying of the road ditches. Submit bids by Monday, March 9, 2020. Bids will be opened Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at the community hall in Kenneth. Bids may be sent to: **Brad Skattum 1397 160th Ave Luverne, MN 56156**

Vienna Township Board

REQUEST FOR BIDS VIENNA TOWNSHIP IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR Road Grading

Please submit bids by Monday, March 9, 2020. Bids will be opened Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at the community hall in Kenneth. Bids may be sent to: **Brad Skattum 1397 160th Ave Luverne, MN 56156**

Vienna Township Board

Notice To All Bidders

Rock County Rural Water is accepting bids for the 2020 season for mowing the well field plant and two out buildings. Bids should be per mowing. Bidder will furnish their own equipment and fuel. The Rural Water board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A certificate of insurance **MUST ACCOMPANY** all bids! Bids must be submitted before **Monday, March 16, 2020 at 10:00 am** to: **Rock County Rural Water P.O. Box 507, Luverne, MN 56156**

READ US ONLINE!
star-herald.com

Luverne Elementary celebrates ...97 ... 98 ... 99 ...

Students and staff at Luverne Elementary recognized Friday, Feb. 21, as the 100th day of school with special activities and lessons celebrating the school year milestone. This year's recognition is two weeks later than usual because the 2019-20 school year didn't start until Sept. 16 to accommodate more summer construction at the Luverne Middle-High School. As of Friday, the students have 65 days to go before classes end May 22.

At right: A banner hangs in the doorway of kindergarten teacher Liza Winkler greeting students with the message, "Happy 100th day of school."



Above: Kindergartner Ryleigh Barnett wears a "Time to celebrate 100 days of school" hat.

At right: Jessica Van Batavia's kindergartners assembled hats with the statement, "100 Days Smarter." Pictured in front from left (sitting on the floor) are Nolan Cink, Korie Schomacker, Benson LeBrun, (middle, leaning on the table) Luke Gehrke, Kyler Krzmarzick, Emilee Sandbulte, Garrett Carlson, Ezra Horsman, Nevaeh DeBoer, Axel Scarset, (back, standing) Ethan Phongphaychit, Sophia Snyder, Kinley Kurtz, Zayden Chaparro, Amelia Delowe, Norma Sofia Camarillo, Nolan Weber, Gavin Loosbrock and Ophelia Visker.



Mavis Fodness photos/0227 LES 100th Day 2020

CELEBRATIONS

Open houses
Joan Fransman will celebrate her 90th birthday with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at the Hills United Reformed Church, 412 S. Central Ave., Hills.

Card showers
Kathryn Erickson will celebrate her 90th birthday on Thursday, Feb. 27. Greetings may be sent to her at PO Box 575, Hills, MN 56188.

MENU

Monday, March 2: Pulled pork on a bun, butternut squash, lettuce salad, cookie. Program: 8:30 a.m. Quilting; 9 a.m. Bone Builders.
Tuesday, March 3: Barbecue meatballs, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, bread, choice dessert. Program: Half-Price Day sponsored by Compeer/Pat Barnett. 11:30 a.m. Blood pressure checks. 1 p.m. Shuffleboard with Greg.
Wednesday, March 4: Biscuits and sausage gravy, hash brown patty, cinnamon apples, blueberry muffin. Program: 9 a.m. Bone Builders.
Thursday, March 5: Beef tips, mashed potatoes, buttered beets, dinner roll, bar. Program: Half-Price Day sponsored by Luverne Rotary. 1 p.m. Mexican Train.
Friday, March 6: Fish, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, corn muffin, apple brown Betty. Program: 9 a.m. Bone Builders. 11:30 a.m. Donna L. shares about Iditarod Experience. 6:30 p.m. "Alaska" Part one movie with popcorn. Cost: \$5; \$3 for members.
LSS Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals in a community atmosphere.
Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.
Gift certificates are available at the meal site or online at www.lssmn.org/nutrition.

COLLEGE NEWS

Iowa Lakes releases dean's list
Sharlene Heikes, Luverne, has been named to the Fall 2019 dean's list at Iowa Lakes Community College, Emmetsburg campus, where she is part of the veterinary technician program.
To be named to the dean's list, full-time students must earn a 3.25 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale.

U of M announces honor students
The University of Minnesota Twin Cities has named several area students to the Fall 2019 dean's list. To qualify, students must complete at least 12 graded credits with a 3.66 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale. Students are listed by hometown.
Adrian: Dylan Gyberg, junior, College of Liberal Arts; Mikayla Jeffers, junior, College of Education/Human Development.
Luverne: Trenton Rops, senior, College of Continuing and Professional Studies; Sierra Schmuck, sophomore, College of Liberal Arts; Carly Serie, senior, School of Nursing.
Magnolia: Jaxon Nelson, freshman, College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences.

1871: Rock County establishes first township

Rock County will celebrate its 150th Anniversary this year. The news will be the history of Rock County, townships, and communities. The following appeared in the Rose History of Rock County, printed in 1911.

County and Township Organization — 1870-1878
(continued from 02-20 edition)

Luverne
The petition asking for the creation of Rock county's first township was dated February 15, 1871, and was presented to the county commissioners on that date. It was signed by E. N. Darling, Ed McKenzie, P. J. Kniss, William Blasdell, G. W. Daniels, Horrace Plum, L. A. Daniels, Philo Hawes, William Greer, John Jones, H. Sawyer, J.



BITS BY BETTY

**By Betty Mann, president
Rock County Historical Society**

C. Phelps, G. Webber, S. Wilcox, S. D. Gregory and C. C. Jones. The commissioners took the requested action on February 16 and created Luverne township (named after the village), embracing the present townships of Luverne and Mound and the east half of Magnolia.
Two days later the southern tier of townships was

authorized to being township government under the name of Grant. The few settlers in other parts of Rock county were then without township organization, and to bring all parts of the county under legal government the commissioners on May 27, 1871, declared Luverne township's boundaries extended to in-

clude all of the nine present day northern townships. The action taken in response to a petition to that effect signed by J. F. Shoemaker, P. J. Kniss, E. S. Gregory, H. A. Gregory, G. W. Daniels, P. F. Kelley, L. A. Daniels, L. McDermott, James Kelley, Horace Plum, Philo Hawes, John Ryan, Ed McKenzie, J. C. Gregory and Stephen Wilcox. Luverne township included all this territory until it was reduced by the various acts of creating other townships.
Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156.
Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iwn.net.

LHS speech places second in tiebreaker

By Mavis Fodness
A tiebreaker at the Saturday's Adrian Speech Invitational left Luverne in second place.
The LHS team tied with Windom High School for the first-place large school trophy, but Windom scored one more first-place finish in the meet than Luverne did to take top honors.
"Luverne had two and Windom had three (first place finishes)," said coach Caroline Thorson.
Fifteen schools competed at the annual event for a total of 226 participants.
Twenty-five LHS students competed in one or more of the 13 speech categories. Blue ribbons are awarded to students one place out of the medal rounds.
Results for the LHS team are as follows:
•Creative expression: Solveig Tofteland, first; Meagan Hansen, blue ribbon.
•Discussion: Alexa

Chesley, second; Melanie Rittenhouse, fifth; Burke Johnson, blue ribbon.
•Extemporaneous reading: Nicole Hoogland, second.
•Extemporaneous speaking: Chance Tunnissen, first; Parker Carboneau, second.
•Humorous interpretation: Gunnar Oldre, second; Luke Thorson, sixth.
•Original oratory: Sophia Lanoue, fourth; Katherine Pizel, sixth.
•Storytelling: Xavier Carboneau, fifth; Hannah Baker, sixth.
At least one Luverne student competed in each of the speech categories. In many instances, Luverne has two or more members competing in the same category and placing in competitions.
"That is a real bonus for our team — to have competitors in each category," Thorson said. "It makes us not only a well-rounded team, but also a

very competitive team."
However, Luverne has only two freshmen competing this year's.
"As all coaches do, we continue to look toward the future by encouraging young students to join the team," said Thorson, who handles the coaching responsibilities with Gavin Folkestad.
"Starting young allows you to hone your skill, learn from more veteran members, and have lots of opportunities to compete and grow," she added.
Other benefits of speech competition include building lifelong skills, being a part of a multi-age/grade team, and making friends from other schools.
"Our numbers (40 students) are high in upperclassmen and lower in younger grades," Thorson said. "We would really like to encourage others in the freshman class and middle school to give speech a try."
The team's next meet is Saturday in Redwood Falls.



Submitted photo
Luverne High School received a second-place trophy Saturday at the Adrian Speech Invitational. Earning individual medals and ribbons were (front, left) Meagan Hansen, Hannah Baker, Sophia Lanoue, Katherine Pizel, Melanie Rittenhouse, (second) Solveig Tofteland, Alexa Chesley, Nicole Hoogland, Gunnar Oldre, Parker Carboneau, (back) Burke Johnson, Luke Thorson, Chance Tunnissen and Xavier Carboneau.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2000)

•Joel Johnson and his wife, Maggie, both grew up in Watertown, S.D.
And, now, the couple is growing into business ownership together.

“Iloveit,”Joelsaid.“Ihaveyetto meet a person in Luverne that I didn’t like ... everybody’s nice.”

The Johnsons bought Wayne’s Body Shop from Wayne Walgrave at the beginning of the year.

The business is located on West Hatting Street just off South Highway 75 in Luverne.

Joel had heard about the business opportunity through a neighbor and, with 18 years of body shop experience, decided to pursue the purchase.

“I had heard Wayne was looking to retire,” he said. “We met and worked out a favorable agreement.”

On Jan. 4 the Johnsons took over and Walgrave began retirement after 45 years of running the business.

Joel said the small-town feel along with Wayne’s “good clientele and good reputation” has made for smooth sailing through the first month.

25 years ago (1995)

•Rock climbing as a sport is gaining popularity in the Blue Mounds State Park and in park systems statewide. To protect both the climbers and park resources, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has drafted a statewide rock climbing policy.

Most climbers enjoy the sport for the challenge and the beauty of nature and are careful to preserve natural rock surfaces. Others, however, may drill permanent hardware into rock surfaces for anchors, remove natural vegetation on climbing routes, mark routes with brightly colored chalk or rearrange large rocks or boulders for their own purposes.

Though Blue Mounds State Park officials say they have had few problems with climbers in general, they agree joining the DNR’s policy statement is a good idea for everyone involved.

50 years ago (1970)

•Two brothers, one a senior and one a sophomore in Luverne high school, were selected as the Star Chapter Farmer and the Star Green Hand members of the Luverne Future Farmers of America. Gary Overgaard, president of the Luverne chapter, was accorded the Star Chapter Farmer degree, the highest honor that can be conferred by a local chapter. Glenn Overgaard was picked for the Star Green hand award, which was presented this year for the first time to a student who has completed one year of vocational agriculture and FFA. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Overgaard, R. 2 Luverne.

The Honorary Farmer degree, presented annually to an adult who has been instrumental in furthering the causes of the FFA, was presented this year to Garland Anderson, Luverne, longtime Luverne FFA adviser who this year is in the adult phase of vocational agriculture instruction at Luverne high school.

75 years ago (1945)

•Lack of help on most farms with the result that many farmers cut down on the number of cows kept for milking purposes, was reflected in the annual manufacturing report of the Luverne Cooperative Creamery read at Tuesday’s stockholders’ meeting held here.

The creamery manufactured 883,709 pounds of butter during 1944, which is 147,001 pounds less than was manufactured in 1943. Louis Gilbertston, creamery manager, stated that none of the drop can be attributed to the fact that patrons sold whole milk instead of butterfat, as this has been true in only a few cases where the local creamery was concerned. Mainly, he said, it was due to a decrease in the amount of butterfat produced.

100 years ago (1920)

•Announcement of the sale of a controlling interest in the First National bank of Beaver Creek, was made this week by President M. O. Page.

The purchasers are A. L. Venum and C. C. Laufman, of Sioux Falls, both men of wide experience in banking, who are identified with the Security National bank of Sioux Falls.

This transfer is one of the most important made in the banking circles of the county during recent years, for the bank has a capital of \$30,000, and a surplus of \$16,000.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Register by e-mailing C.Arends@isd2184.net or calling 507-283-4724.

Indoor Play for children 0-5 with parents is from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 2. No fee, but must register.

Softball Pitchers Catchers Camp for girls in grades 3-8 will meet three Thursdays beginning March 5. Fee is \$20 paid by Feb. 26.

MahJong class will be offered March 5 and 12. Fee is \$10.

Learn the game of Pickleball will be March 7 for a fee of \$5. Play pickleball Mon/Wed/Fri mornings and/or Thursday evenings through April 10. Fee is \$20.

Yoga begins at 6 p.m. Monday, March 9, and offers eight sessions ending April 27 for a fee of \$49. Participants may also pay at the door \$8/night as drop-ins.

Maximize Your Memory on March 11 will be at 5:15 p.m. Learn some techniques to help you remember names, lists, birthdays, appointments, etc., from a speech language pathologist. Fee is \$5.

Computer breach, computer attack, phishing, online dangers, home security – learn from a bank security analyst at **Cyber Security—Educate Yourself Now!** on March 16. There are simple things you can do to protect yourself and your family. No fee (sponsored by Blandin Broadband Grant), but registrations required as class size is limited.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Class 5 crushed gravel, pit run and crushed rock to be spread on

Martin Township roads.

Submit bids on or before

Friday, March 6

to Allen Nuffer

363 60th Ave, Hills, MN 56138

605-521-6624

OBITUARIES

Wayne Panning

Dr. Wayne Paul Panning, 83, died peacefully at his Belle Plaine home on February 16, 2020. Born July 16, 1936, to Rev. Paul and Viola (Hoffman) Panning, the ministry brought their family from Nebraska to Minnesota with fond childhood memories of the Hamburg and Carver communities.

Wayne graduated from Concordia Academy High School, attended Concordia College, St. Paul, and graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, in 1958.

Waynewed Arlys Borwege, the “Love of His Life,” at Trinity Lutheran Church in Medford on August 7, 1960. They made their first home in Minneapolis as Wayne completed his medical degree at the University of Minnesota. Upon completing his internship in Duluth, Wayne joined the U.S. Navy and served as a ship doctor for two years, based in Norfolk, Virginia.

In 1970, Wayne started a radiology solo practice in Marshall, Minnesota, serving hospitals in Marshall, Pipestone, Luverne, Slayton, Adrian, Canby, Tyler, Ivanhoe, Hendricks, Sioux Falls and St. Peter until retirement in 2012. Heenjoyed driving the country roads, and as needed, braved winter weather to get to his patients. For many years, he was the only radiologist in southwest Minnesota and drove over 130,000 miles a year between hospitals. He always appreciated working alongside the dedicated rural hospital staff.



The technological advancements over 40 years in radiology were intriguing. In 1995 he alerted the CDC to the Legionella outbreak in Luverne when chest X-rays of pneumonia patients indicated the deadly infection. Each patient case was important as he applied his investigative radiology skills for diagnoses.

Wayne and Arlys raised champion Southdown Sheep and enjoyed traveling to competitions across the nation. His retirement years as a farmer working outside with animals and the land were some of the best. Wayne enjoyed traveling, duck and pheasant hunting, fishing, stock car races, county and state fairs, bingo at Andy’s and a good piece of pie.

Wayne and Arlys placed their children and grandchildren first in their lives – participating fully in their endeavors. To his granddaughters, “Papa Wayne” was the best and they loved him immensely. His family shared a life of adventure and was never dull.

Wayne is survived by his wife and best friend, Arlys (Borwege) Panning; son, Scott (Carolyn) Panning, Blaine, granddaughters Alexandria and Kayla; daughter, Christine (Kirk Hawk) Panning, Belle Plaine, granddaughter Kendra; sister Grace (Roger) Marquis, Ellicott City, Maryland; sisters-in-law Janet Borwege and Marsha Borwege, Medford, and many nieces and nephews.

Services will be held in the spring. Blessed be his memory. (0227 V)

Charlotte Korthals

Charlotte H. Korthals, 98, Hills, died Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020, at the Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

A funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the American Reformed Church in Luverne. Burial will follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery near Luverne. Visitation is from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, at the Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne.

Charlotte Smith was born Dec. 12, 1921, to Abram and Marie (Lobbess) Smith in Steen. She attended country school through the eighth grade and later earned her graduate equivalency degree.

On Jan. 8, 1942, Charlotte married Dick Korthals at her parents’ home in Steen. The couple farmed south of Luverne until 1954, when they then moved to South Dakota for a few years. They returned to Luverne in 1962 and continued to farm. After her children were grown, Charlotte worked as a clerk at George’s Bakery and later at Nelson Brothers Grocery. Dick died in May 1993 and Charlotte continued to reside in their home. In 2003 she started working at the Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne and later worked as a home aide and housekeeper. In July 2007 Charlotte became a resident at the Tuff Memorial

Home in Hills.



Charlotte was a member of the American Reformed Church in Luverne and through her life was active in the Rebecca Circle and was a member of the Friendship Club. She volunteered for a time at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne. She enjoyed crocheting and sewing.

Charlotte is survived by her four children, Richard (Velma) Korthals of Parker, South Dakota, Marlys Pietz of Sibley, Iowa, Janice Besta of Beresford, South Dakota, and Carla (Todd) Myers of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; a daughter-in-law, Jolene Korthals of Rock Rapids, Iowa; 13 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Edna Dirks, of Luverne.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Dick; two sons, Darwin and Eugene Korthals; two grandsons, Mark Besta and Jerome Korthals; two sons-in-law, Robert Pietz and Gary Besta; a brother, Marvin Smith; and a brother-in-law, Ben Dirks.

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

(0227 F)

Cecilia Galagan

Cecilia “Butch” Wilhelmina Galagan, age 95, formerly of Keneth, Minnesota, died peacefully on Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020, at the Good Samaritan Society – Luther Manor in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A prayer service will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27, at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne, with visitation to follow from 5 to 7 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be Friday, Feb. 28, at 11 a.m. at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. Interment will be in Memory Gardens near Luverne.

To sign an online registry, please visit www.hartquistfuneral.com.

Cecilia Tille was born on Jan. 17, 1925, to John and Elizabeth (Brennan) Tille in Adrian, Minnesota. She attended school in Adrian graduating in 1943. Following school she candled eggs at the local hatchery.

On Sept. 11, 1945, Cecilia was united in marriage to William “Bill” Basil Galagan at St. Adrian Catholic Church in Adrian.

The couple moved to Sioux City, Iowa, and began raising their family. In 1948 they moved to Kenneth, Minnesota, where they began renting an acreage which they later purchased in 1963. Cecilia was very active in helping on the farm by caring for the animals, which she was very knowledgeable about, and operating machinery.

In 1999 her husband Bill retired from farming and that same year passed away. Cecilia remained living on the acreage until 2012 when she moved into the Adrian Country Cottage Assisted Living Center. In May of 2014, she relocated to the Good Samaritan Society — Luther Manor in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where on Sunday, Feb.

23, 2020, she went to be with her Lord at the age of 95 years, 1 month, and 6 days.

Cecilia was a member of St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne, Minnesota, where she was involved with adoration. Cecilia always

looked her best even if just running to Kenneth to the hardware store

to get a part. She was a gracious hostess. When anyone stopped by around noon time, it was a common practice for her to set a plate for them to eat as well. Evening company always had a lunch of ice cream, cookies and coffee before the evening was over.

During times of hay baling and silo filling, she put on a huge dinner meal, and sandwiches, cookies and fresh lemonade for the mid-afternoon lunch.

Cecilia loved serving others. She was always early to the Coffee Club in Kenneth as she prepared the morning and afternoon coffee and cleaned up afterwards.

She took pride in everything she did. She was a great neighbor and friend to everyone she met. In her spare time, she enjoyed crossword puzzles, Word Find, jigsaw puzzles and the Quiddler card game.

Left to cherish her memory are her three daughters, Patricia Schaefer of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Sandra (Ron) Wood of Worthington, Minnesota, and Mary Ann Arnold, Frisco, Texas; 9 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and two siblings, Ann Lange of Adrian, Minnesota, and Joseph Tille of Rutland, Iowa.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William, and nine siblings, Margaret Prins, Frances Altman, Agnes Kemper, Katherine Tille, William Tille, Maurice Tille, Lawrence Tille, John Tille, and Peter Tille.

(0227 V)

DEATH NOTICE

Dick Visker

Dick Visker, 94, Ellsworth, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2020, at Sanford Luverne Hospital.

A funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 28, at Zion Presbyterian Church in Ellsworth with burial at Grand Prairie Cemetery near Ellsworth. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, at the church.

Arrangements are by Jurens Funeral Home, jurrensfuneralhome.com. (0227 DN)

MARTIN TOWNSHIP REQUEST FOR BIDS

Road Rebuilding

Submit bids on or before

Friday, March 6th

to Allen Nuffer

363 60th Ave, Hills, MN 56138

605-521-6624

NOTICE

Students of Luverne High School
Take Notice

**The Scholarship Committee of the
A.R. Wood Educational Trust**

is currently accepting applications for initial or renewal scholarships from seniors and previous graduates of Luverne High School.

To be eligible for consideration candidates must:

1. Be graduates of Luverne High School
2. Rank in the upper fifteenth percent (15%) of his/her graduating class; and
3. Have maintained a 3.0 GPA or better grade point average.

Requests for applications should be directed to:

First Bank & Trust

Wealth Management Services

Attn: A.R. Wood Educational Trust

P.O. Box 1347

Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1347

All requests for applications must be received by First Bank & Trust no later than May 1, 2020. All completed applications must be postmarked and submitted to First Bank & Trust by June 1, 2020.

In accordance with the A.R. Wood Educational Trust, decisions regarding recipients, amounts and number of awards will be made at the sole discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

LACF announces 2019 grant awards

The Luverne Area Community Foundation recently announced its year-end 2019 grant awards in the amount of \$24,850.

Community health care grants included:

- Rock County Ag Society \$300 for first aid stations.
- Luverne Backpack Program \$5,000 for weekend nutrition needs for students.
- Good Samaritan Mary Jane Brown Home \$2,015 for Nurse Kelly Simulation Trainer.
- #Luv1LuvAll \$3,000 for mobile dental clinic.
- #Luv1LuvAll \$500 for community brain health seminars.
- Beaver Creek Elementary School \$1,500 for indoor

- play equipment.
- Luverne Public School \$775 for alternative classroom curriculum support.
- Luverne Fire Department \$1,180 for first assist equipment in lead truck.
- Sanford Luverne Medical Center \$6,500 for chemotherapy hood update.
- SW Mental Health Center \$500 children's mental health fundraiser.

Community Fund grants included:

- Blue Mound Area Theater \$500 for community concert.
- City of Luverne \$1,300 for 2020 Census support.
- City of Hills \$1,000 for updated scoreboard at ball

- fields.
- Luverne Street Music \$500 for music and production of community Christmas cantata.
- 4-H Federation of Rock County \$1,000 for updated horse arena bleachers.
- Atlas of Rock County \$1,880 for updates at Redeemed Remnants.
- Hardwick American Legion Auxiliary \$2,400 for new chairs.
- Twice yearly the Luverne Area Community Foundation invites applications that will enhance the quality of life in the areas of arts and humanities, community and civic affairs, social and economic growth, environment, health and wellness and support programs for people of all ages.
- Not-for-profit organizations (either singly or as a consortium), government agencies, academic and research institutions located within the Luverne Area (Rock County) are among the organizations eligible to request support from the Luverne Area Community Foundation.
- The deadline for 2020 spring cycle is March 31. Only online applications will be considered at www.luvacf.org, under the "grants" tab and "apply now."
- Call LACF director Emily Crabtree, 507-220-2424, or stop at the office at 102 East Main Street in Luverne.



Michael Halsne is the 2020 Geography Bee winner at Luverne Middle School.



Josh Lohr is the 2020 Geography Bee winner at Hills-Beaver Creek Schools.

Luverne, H-BC schools name local geography bee winners

Two eighth-graders rose to the top during local geography bees conducted recently for middle-schoolers in Luverne and Hills-Beaver Creek school districts. Michael Halsne, Luverne, and Josh Lohr, H-BC, beat out fellow schoolmates for the title of 2020 Geography Bee champion in their respective schools. Two rounds were con-

ducted with the first round being a multiple-choice quiz. The finalists answered more open-ended questions in the process to select each of the schools' champions. As school geography bee champions, Halsne and Lohr completed an online test. The top 100 finishers qualify for the state geography bee. The state bee takes place in March in St. Paul.

BUSINESS NEWS

Conspiracy Tattoo brings home awards

Tony Perez with Conspiracy Tattoo in Luverne received four awards at the Council Bluffs Tattoo Arts Convention Feb. 14-16 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Perez received first place in cover-up, second in XL color and two third-place awards in female XL color and large color. This is the convention's second year for tattoo industry professionals and the general public.

MN West ranked No. 1 vocational school

Real Work Matters ranked Minnesota West Community & Technical College as the No. 1 vocational school in Minnesota. The resource hub for students interested in vocational, trade or technical training began in 1998. Information can be found at rwm.org. MN West was ranked according to class size, education program offerings and tuition rates, among other factors. MN West operates learning centers in Luverne and Marshall and campuses in Canby, Granite Falls, Jackson, Pipestone and Worthington.

Buffalo Ridge makes President's Club

Buffalo Ridge Insurance Agency, Luverne, earned its 12th consecutive President's Club distinction from the Midwest Family Mutual Insurance Company in Des Moines, Iowa. The award recognizes outstanding continued service to customers and community as well as superior performance. Buffalo Ridge Insurance employees named in the distinction include Marilyn Bloemendaal, Cory Bloemendaal, Dawn Trendt, Steve Smedsrud, Lorie Gruis, Pam Haakenson and Katelyn Bouw.

Let us share the news

The Star Herald strives to recognize all accomplishments of local businesses from its coverage areas. Send business news items to editor@star-herald.com or call 507-283-2333.



Beaver Creek pool tourney supports hospice

The 27th Annual Helgeson Father-Son Pool Tournament on Feb. 14 and 15 at the Up the Dam Creek Bar in Beaver Creek raised \$2,600 for Sanford Luverne Hospice. The 2020 winning team was Keith and Brian Morford from Valley Springs. "I want to thank everyone who donated and helped with the tournament," said Gary Helgeson, organizer. He said total donations to various charities over the years now total over \$36,000.

USDA launches new conservation pilot program for prairie pothole producers to plant cover crops

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) today announced a new pilot program that enables farmers in the Prairie Pothole region to receive payments for planting cover crops on their land for three to five years. The new Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Soil Health and Income Protection Program (SHIPP) pilot is available to producers in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. The sign up for this pilot starts March 30, 2020, and ends Aug. 21.

"We are excited to provide a short-term Conservation Reserve Program option tailored to the unique soil health needs of producers in the Prairie Pothole region," said FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce. "The number of acres that can be enrolled in the program are limited, and participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested landowners should act now by contacting their FSA county office for an appointment to apply."

Through SHIPP, producers have the option of three-, four- or five-year CRP contracts to establish cover crops on less productive cropland in exchange for payments. This pilot enables producers to plant cover crops that, among other benefits, will improve soil health and water quality while having the option to

FSA NEWS

harvest, hay and graze during certain times of the year. Up to 50,000 acres can be enrolled. Cover crops, whether used in a single crop rotation or over multiple years, can improve the productivity of soils and soil health on a farm for generations and increase the bottom line for the farmer. Soil health, or soil quality, by definition, is the capacity of soil to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals and humans. The SHIPP pilot is the latest option in a full suite of opportunities available to producers through CRP and other conservation programs offered by USDA. Farmers and ranchers are encouraged to talk to their FSA county office soon about whether this pilot fits their operation or consider another longer-term option such as the CRP general sign up that ends Feb. 28 or CRP continuous sign up that is ongoing. For more information, see the fact sheet or visit www.fsa.usda.gov/crp and contact your local office. To find your local USDA Service Center office, visit <https://www.farmers.gov/service-locator>.

Help Us Build Strong Communities.

As a family owned company, Duinick, Inc. understands that people come first. We hire the best in the field and we are committed to providing our employees with opportunities to grow in their jobs. We believe in supporting the communities we serve, investing in people, and living our values every day.

If you're ready to help us build stronger communities and join a world-class company that feels like family, apply today.

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- Crew Lead
- Plant Oiler
- Plant Technician
- Loader / Dozer Operator
- Screed Operator
- Utility Operator
- Laborer

UNDERGROUND:

- Crew Lead
- Pipelayer
- Topman

GRADING:

- Crew Lead
- Excavator Operator
- Utility Operator

BRIDGE:

- Crew Lead
- Carpenter/Laborer/Welder

AGGREGATES:

- Quality Control Manager
- Crusher Operator
- Loader / Dozer Operator
- Wash Plant Operator
- Laborer

TRUCKING:

- Semi/Tri-Dump/Tandem/Lowboy & Side Dump Drivers

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St. Catherine Catholic Church
203 E. Brown St., Luverne
St. Catherine Ph. 283-8502; www.stscl.org
Gerald Kosse, Monsignor
Thursday, Feb. 27: Head Start. Sunday, March 1: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine; Children's Liturgy. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Leo. 1 p.m. Bilingual Mass at St. Leo.

Luverne Christian Reformed Church
605 N. Estey St., Luverne
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982
www.luverncrc.com — office@luvernecrc.com
Roger Sparks, Pastor
Sunday, March 1: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 11 a.m. Sunday School and Catechism. 6:30 p.m. Worship Service. Monday, March 2: 9 a.m. Perk-up at Lyon Care Center in Rock Rapids. Tuesday, March 3: 9:30 a.m. Coffee Break/Story Hour. Wednesday, March 4: 7 p.m. GEMS/Cadets.

First Baptist Church
1033 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne
Ph. 283-4091; email: fbcluv@iw.net — www.fbcluverne.org
Walt Moser, Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Roll bandages for hospital in Zambia. 8 p.m. Worship Service on Channel 3. Sunday, March 1: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School with Ted and Dawn Siemens. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion. Noon at Pizza Ranch with Ted and Dawn Siemens. 6 p.m. Evening service. Tuesday, March 3: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. Wednesday, March 4: 6:30 p.m. Awana — Store / Sparky Parents Night. Thursday, March 5: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 1 p.m. Roll bandages for hospital in Zambia. 8 p.m. Worship Service on Channel 3.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Ron Nichols, Pastor / Ann Zastrow, Associate Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 9:30 a.m. Rachel Circle at Mary Jane Brown Home. Noon Naomi Circle at Poplar Creek. 1:30 p.m. Lydia Circle at Grace Lutheran. 2 p.m. Sarah Circle at Camelot. 7 p.m. Priscilla/Elizabeth Circle at Dianna Spath's. Friday, Feb. 28: 6:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Saturday, Feb. 29: 8:30 a.m. Equipping Congregations Day in Willmar. 5:30 p.m. Worship Service with Communion. Sunday, March 1: 8:15 a.m. KQAD Radio Broadcast. 9 a.m. Worship Service with Communion. 10 a.m. Fellowship coffee. 10:10 a.m. First Communion Class. 10:15 a.m. Adult Study and Sunday School. 1:30 p.m. Shetek Conference Assembly in Slayton. Monday, March 2: 4:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Tuesday, March 3: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, March 4: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 10 a.m. Worship at Tuff Home. 3:30 p.m. Faithweavers. 5:30 p.m. Lenten meal. 6:45 p.m. Lenten service. 7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal. Thursday, March 5: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 507-449-0291 or 505-215-9834
pastorapalmquist67@yahoo.com
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor
Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 9:15 a.m. Bible Class. 10:15 a.m. Worship Service. Wednesday, March 4: 9:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle. 3:30 p.m. Catechism class. 6 p.m. Soup supper. 7 p.m. Lenten Vespers.

American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne
Ph. 283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org
Mike Altina, Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes. Friday, Feb. 28: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. 8 a.m. Justice for All. 4:30 p.m. REFIT Fitness. Saturday, Feb. 29: 10 a.m. Zoe Brown/Zach Singer bridal shower. Sunday, March 1: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion with Guest Pastor Witherington. 10:50 a.m. Family Education. Tuesday, March 3: Noon Staff meeting. 1:30 p.m. Rebecca Circle. 5:30 p.m. Bible Study Fellowship. 6:30 p.m. Praise Team. Wednesday, March 4: 4:30 p.m. Multipurpose room reserved; REFIT Fitness. 5:30 p.m. Midweek meal; Ladies Night Out. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs; Youth groups. 7 p.m. Rachel Circle. Thursday, March 5: 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes.

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

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luverneumc@iw.net
Thursday, Feb. 27: 9:30 a.m. RCMA Meeting — PD. 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf. Saturday, Feb. 29: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Coffee Hour and Adult Sunday School. 10 a.m. Worship Service. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible Study. 6 p.m. ALIVE Youth Group. Monday, March 2: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Tuesday, March 3: 8 a.m. Priscilla Circle. Wednesday, March 4: 6 p.m. Wednesday Education classes. 7 p.m. Lenten service at UMC. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, March 5: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf. Friday, March 6: 1:30 p.m. World Day of Prayer at UMC.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net — www.fpcluverne.com
Jason Cunningham, Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 10 a.m. Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation Class. 10:15 a.m. Worship Service. 11:15 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship. Tuesday, March 3: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Wednesday, March 4: Youth Club; Bells; Choir. 7 p.m. Service at Methodist Church. Committee meetings. Thursday, March 5: 10 a.m. Worship on Channel 3.

St. John Lutheran Church
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316; email: stjoh@iw.net
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org
Gary Klatt, Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 9:30 a.m. Rock County Ministerial Association at LHS. 11:30 a.m. DCE Jessica Devotions at Mary Jane Brown Home. Saturday, Feb. 29: 5:30 p.m. Worship Service. Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Worship Service; Sunday School sings. 10:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour. 10:20 a.m. Bible Study. 11:15 a.m. Junior Choir. 1 p.m. High School Youth tubing. Monday, March 2: 1 p.m. Quilting. 7 p.m. Elders meeting. Tuesday, March 3: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. 6:30 p.m. Mom's Night Out; Quilting. Wednesday, March 4: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 6 p.m. Worship. 6:40 p.m. Supper (Mom's Night Out). 7 p.m. Catechism; KFC; HS Youth Group; Senior Choir. 8 p.m. Kingdom Builders. Thursday, March 5: 2 p.m. Women's Society. Youth trip registration deadline.

Living Rock Church
500 E. Main St., Luverne
Ph. 449-0057; www.livingrockswmn.org
Billy Skaggs, Pastor
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship; Kids Rock Children's Ministry. 6 p.m. Youth Ministry. Life groups meet throughout the week.

New Life Celebration Church
110 N. Oakley, Luverne
Ph. 449-6522; email: newlifecel@iw.net
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at 110 N. Oakley. Every third Thursday: 4:30 p.m. Food give-away at Generations Building. Bible Study groups meet at various times and days.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. (507) 669-2855; zionoffice@alliancecom.net
Jesse Baker, Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 3:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Worship Service with Communion. 10:10 a.m. Mentor program. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School; Adult Bible Study. 11:30 a.m. Potluck lunch. Tuesday, March 3: 6:30 p.m. Elders meeting. 7:30 p.m. Council meeting. Wednesday, March 4: 6 p.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Lenten Service with bars and coffee to follow. Thursday, March 5: Worship on Channel 3.

Ben Clare United Methodist Church
26762 Ben Clare Ave., Valley Springs, S.D.
igtwb@WOW.net
Bill Bates, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Laura Phillips, Pastor
Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Worship at First Lutheran with Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Sunday School at First Lutheran. Wednesday, March 4: 7 p.m. Lenten service at First Lutheran.

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Laura Phillips, Pastor
Sunday, March 1: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at Palisade Lutheran. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Palisade Lutheran with Holy Communion. Wednesday, March 4: Lenten service at First Lutheran.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Ph. 605-215-3429
email: magnoliannumc@gmail.com
Nancy Manning, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Magnolia Worship Service. 10:30 a.m. Bible study.

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270
Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Pastor
Thursday, Feb. 27: 7 p.m. Game Night in church basement. Sunday, March 1: 9 a.m. Communion at Tuff Chapel. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion at Bethlehem. 6:30 p.m. Grades 9-12 Youth Night. Tuesday, March 3: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 3:15 p.m. Bible Study at Village. Wednesday, March 4: 9 a.m. Quilting. 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Lenten dinner and service.

How do we talk to God?

World Day of Prayer will be observed this year at the Luverne United Methodist Church on Friday, March 6, starting at 1:30 p.m. The event is ecumenical in nature and all people are invited and encouraged to attend.

So, consider Jesus' parables about prayer in Luke 18. These two parables are sometimes examined separately but are intended to go together. They both deal with questions of "How do we talk to God?"

These parables offer some help by looking at a couple of challenges. One is losing heart ... giving up ... lowering both hopes for and commitments to God.

The other parable speaks of the danger of putting too much trust in ourselves, of becoming arrogant, or of resting on one's laurels when we should be proceeding further in the life of faith. There are two dangers here, very different, but both to be avoided.

The first parable is about a woman who asked a judge to hear her case. But the judge ignored her and figured she would go away. Perhaps you've had this kind of experience where you just couldn't get another person to listen and respond. In the parable, the woman is persistent; she keeps trying. Finally the judge gives in and hears her case.

Jesus makes clear that God is much different than this judge. Jesus says that if a stubborn judge will finally act in mercy, don't you *know* that God, who is overflowing with mercy and is the giver of abundant grace will listen to you. So, have faith in God. And keep praying! Jesus told this parable, Luke says, so that we might pray constantly and not lose heart. The message before us is that God, the good judge, desires our earnest and consistent prayer; our ongoing approach to God. The widow's approach

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Jason Cunningham, First Presbyterian Church, Luverne

was to be persistent, passionate, and patient. Those are three good words for us about how to talk to God: be persistent, passionate, and patient.

And Jesus also wants to make sure that we don't get too full of ourselves. That's the other, opposite danger addressed in the second parable. It's about making sure our faith is in God rather than self!

Two men go up to the temple to pray. One listed his many virtues. He also gave thanks, but not the kind of thanks we really want to give to God. He didn't give thanks for blessings received; he thanked God that he wasn't like other no-good, rotten people that he knew about. He thought he was so good he could hardly stand it.

The second man came to pray seeking God's help. He offers a one-sentence prayer: "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" Jesus says that this second man is the one who went home justified, not on his own power, but because of God's powerful grace.

The second man knew how to talk to God: He came seeking God not reciting self-congratulation.

These are two great parables from Jesus' teaching. I hope we will be people who pray always and do not lose heart, and I hope we be people who find ourselves justified by God's great grace.

(Reprinted from the March 1, 2018, edition of the Star Herald with permission from Pastor Cunningham.)

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John Rittenhouse photo/0227 gym

Luverne seventh-graders Ella Reisdorfer (left) and Amira Cowell (right) participated at the Minnesota State Class A Gymnastics Championships Saturday.

Cowell, Reisdorfer wrap up gym season

By John Rittenhouse

A pair of Luverne seventh-graders wrapped up the 2019-20 season at the Minnesota State Class A Gymnastics Championships staged at the Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul Saturday.

Luverne's Amira Cowell and Ella Reisdorfer became the first Cardinals to qualify for the state event since 2004 during the Section 3A event in Worthington Feb. 15.

Along with ending a run of 16 years without having a state qualifier for LHS, Cowell and Reisdorfer gave the program multiple state-qualifiers for the first time since 1989.

Neither LHS state entry was able to duplicate the efforts they registered during the sec-

tion event in St. Paul, but they managed to best some of the scores produced by athletes in their events at the state classic.

Cowell earned her trip to state by recording a score of 8.95 on the vault in Worthington.

She placed 38th in a field of 47 entries at the state meet with an 8.9375 effort.

Jada Olson, a junior from Perham, won the vault title with a 9.8125 tally.

Reisdorfer advanced to state by producing a score of 8.1 on the bars at the section meet.

She placed 39th in a field of 48 entries at the state meet with a 7.8375 score.

Annandale senior Becca Green claimed the state title on the bars with a score of 9.8125.

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne girls' basketball team posted its first postseason win in 13 years when the Cardinals opened the South Section 3AA Tournament Saturday.

Luverne, the tournament's No. 1 seed, entertained No. 8 St. James to open the event.

The Cards overcame a sluggish start early in the game to register a 61-38 victory, which was the program's first tournament conquest since 2007.

The win sends 18-9 LHS to Worthington Thursday, where it plays Jackson County Central in a semifinal-round game at 6 p.m.

St. James looked ready to play early in Saturday's contest.

The Saints sported a 6-2 lead early in the game and sported a 17-11 advantage with 8:25 remaining in the first half.

LHS turned things around by going on a 12-0 run ending with Brooklynn Ver Steeg sinking one free throw at the 4:52 mark of the stanza to give the hosts a 23-17 lead.

One charity shot from Elizabeth Wagner gave the Cards a 27-19 lead with 3:12 left, and LHS still led by eight (30-22) when the first half was complete.

Luverne's Mallory Thorson canned a three-point shot 43 seconds into the second half to increase the lead to 13 points (35-22).

The Saints closed the gap to nine points (37-28) as the half progressed, but that proved to be as close as they would come to catching LHS.

Luverne assumed control of the contest by putting together a 16-3 run capped by Thorson sinking one charity shot to give the Cards a 53-31 cushion with 4:13 remaining.

Thorson upped the lead to



John Rittenhouse photo/0227 lgb 8

Brooklynn Ver Steeg tossed in a team-high 24 points to lead the Cardinals to a 61-38 win over the St. James Saints Saturday in Luverne. It was Luverne's first postseason win since 2007.

23 points (59-36) with a layup at the 1:22 mark and the Cards went on to win the game by 23.

Ver Steeg (24 points) and Thorson (21 points and seven steals) played key roles in the win.

Christina Wagner added 10 rebounds and three steals to the winning effort.

Box score
C. Wagner 2 0 3-5 7, Beyer 1 0 1-2 3, Ver Steeg 4 3 7-10 24, E. Wagner 1 0 2-5 4, Thorson 7 1 4-6 21, Hart 0 0 0-0

Team statistics
Luverne: 20 of 49 field goals (41 percent), 17 of 28 free throws (61 percent), 34 rebounds, 12 turnovers.
St. James: 13 of 43 field goals (30 percent), six of nine free throws (67 percent), 28 rebounds, 27 turnovers.

Breck sends Cards to consolation bracket

By John Rittenhouse

Luverne hockey coach Tony Sandbulte knew his team would face a stiff challenge when the Cardinal girls squared off against the Breck School in the quarterfinal round of the Minnesota State Class A Hockey Tournament in St. Paul Feb. 19.

After all, the Mustangs entered the game as two-time defending state champions and the No. 1 seed for the 2020 Tournament.

Sandbulte acknowledged the clash resembled a modern-day David-versus-Goliath showdown, but the LHS mentor did not anticipate the ambush staged by the Mustangs on his Cardinals early in the game at the Xcel Energy Center.

Led by senior captains Olivia Mobley and Ally Qualley, Breck erupted for eight goals in the game's first period to give the Mustangs a commanding 8-0 lead.

Luverne couldn't climb back into contention the rest of the night as Breck cruised to an 8-1 victory.

When asked what surprised



John Rittenhouse photo/0220 breck 20

Luverne junior defenseman Regan Feit impedes the path to the goal for Breck eighth-grader Hannah Halverson during a quarterfinal-round game of the Minnesota State Class A Girls' Hockey Tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul Feb. 19.

him about the Breck squad, Sandbulte's response came instantly.

"I was surprised they scored eight goals in the first period," he offered.

"They have some outstanding players and if you give them open looks, they will put the puck in the net. I just thought it would be closer than an 8-0 game in the first period."

It was Mobley and Qualley that led the early assault by registering first-period hat tricks for the Mustangs.

Cards/continued on page 11

Luverne boys bow out of Section 3A event

By John Rittenhouse

The 2019-20 boys' hockey season came to an end for the Luverne Cardinals during Section 3A Tournament play last week.

The fifth-seeded Cardinals upset No. 4 Marshall during a quarterfinal-round game played in Marshall Thursday.

Top-seeded Hutchinson eliminated LHS from further competition by saddling the Cards with a five-goal setback during Saturday's semifinals in St. Peter.

Luverne ends the season with a 16-11 record.

Hutchinson 6, LHS 1

Luverne played with the top-seeded Tigers for one period Saturday in St. Peter before coming up on the short end of a five-goal decision.

The score was tied at one after 17 minutes of play, but Hutchinson scored five unanswered goals in the final two periods to earn the right to play for the section championship.

Riley Anderson gave the Tigers a 1-0 lead 9:37 into the game, but Luverne's Austin Watts-Boll knotted the score with a power-play goal that was set up by Colby Crabtree with 10 seconds remaining in the opening stanza.

The rest of the game belonged to Hutchinson, which outshot LHS 63-17 in the contest.

Brady Knorr snapped the deadlock for the Tigers 4:59 into the second period, and Joey Croatt scored with 9:05 remaining in the stanza to make it a 3-1 game.

Hutchinson iced the win by scoring three goals in the first 11 minutes of the third period.

Austin Jozwick scored twice in the first 8:34 of the period to up

Bow/continued on page 11

Adrian-Ellsworth's Anaya, Edwards earn return trips to St. Paul

By John Rittenhouse

Two members of the Adrian-Ellsworth wrestling program became repeat qualifiers for state competition during the Section 3A Individual Wrestling Tournament in Canby Friday and Saturday.

A-E senior Scot Edwards and sophomore Brayan Anaya both advanced to the state tournament last winter and earned the right to compete in St. Paul again over the weekend.

Anaya advances to the Minnesota State Class A Wrestling championships as the Section 3A champion at

106 pounds, while Edwards moves on after placing second at heavyweight.

The Minnesota State Class A Wrestling Championships are set for Thursday through Saturday at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

The opening round for Class A Individual competition starts at 9 a.m. Friday.

Anaya, who went 2-2 at state last year after placing second at 106 pounds during the section tournament, won three consecutive matches to claim the title.

Anaya posted wins over Jackson County Central's Nolan Ambrose (6-3) and

Tracy-Milroy-Balaton's Devin Carter (11-4) to reach the finals, where he rolled to a 17-6 victory over Canby's Lane Fink.

Anaya takes a 22-2 record into the state tournament.

Edwards, who won section titles at heavyweight in 2018 and 2019, placed second in his weight class in Canby.

Edwards registered pins against Pipestone's Caden Miller (22 seconds) and



Anaya



Edwards

Windom-Mountain Lake Area's Eli Mutz (55 seconds) to reach the finals, where he came up on the short end of an 8-5 decision against Canby's Denver Noyes.

Edwards, who placed second at last year's state classic, takes a 31-3 record into this year's event.

The season came to an end for the other 12 Dragons who mixed it up in Canby

over the weekend.

Nine of those entries placed in their respective weight classes.

Senior Logan Taylor wrapped up a 37-7 season by going 3-1 to place third at 145, while junior Preston Nelson (34-9) went 3-1 to place second at 170.

A-E junior Logan Sherer (24-13), sophomore Isaac Bullerman (16-14) and freshman Cameron Wienieke (15-17) placed fourth at the section event.

Sherer went 2-2 at 138, Bullerman 3-2 at 152 and Wienieke 2-2 at 182.

A-E freshmen Breyer

Hieronimus (24-17) and Quentin Wolf (23-16) and eighth-grader Reese Morrison (14-15) turned in fifth-place showings in Canby.

Morrison went 2-2 at 120, Hieronimus 2-2 at 126 and Wolf 4-2 at 160.

A-E eighth-grader Rilee Heidebrink (10-17) placed sixth at 132 with a 0-3 record.

A-E eighth-graders Jaren Winselman (13-17) and David Anaya (6-15) and seventh-grader Roberto Hernandez (4-8) competed in Canby without placing.

Winselman went 2-2 at 220, Hernandez 0-2 at 195 and David Anaya 0-2 at 113.

South St. Paul eliminates Luverne from field

By John Rittenhouse
Luverne's magical 2019-20 girls' hockey season came to an end Thursday at the TRIA Rink in St. Paul.

Luverne squared off against the South St. Paul Packers during the consolation semifinals at a venue that is a short walk away from the Xcel Energy Center.

The Cardinals set a program record by scoring four goals in the game, but the Packers put together a run of five goals during the game to help register an 8-4 victory.

The loss ends Luverne's 22-6-1 season.

SSP entered the game as the tournament's fourth seed and was the state's fifth-ranked Class A team at the end of the regular season.

Luverne played with the Packers in the game's first period, but SSP scored five consecutive goals in the second and third periods to open a commanding 7-1 lead.

The Cards rallied to score three of the game's final four goals to make the final tally more respectable.

"We did have a strong finish to the game," said Cardinal coach Tony Sandbulte.

"We wanted to win the third period because it was the last period of the season, and we did that."

SSP's Ella Reynolds, who recorded a hat trick during the game, scored her second goal of the contest 3:22 into the final period to give the Packers a 7-1 advantage.

Luverne responded by scoring three goals in a span of 5:56 to close the gap to three



John Rittenhouse photo/0227 ssp 9

Luverne sophomore goalie Cheyenne Schutz rejects a shot by South St. Paul junior Justice Rambaum during a semifinal-round game in the consolation bracket at the TRIA Rink in St. Paul Thursday. The Packers ended Luverne's 22-6-1 season by posting an 8-4 win.

(7-4) before Reynolds scored the final goal of the game with 2:36 left to play.

Rylee Gee registered an unassisted tally 8:54 into the second period to start Luverne's three-goal run, and Kamryn Van Batavia found the net 46 seconds later.

Rozilyn Oye registered what proved to be Luverne's final goal of the season with 3:10 remaining in the game.

The game's first period was a tightly contested battle.

Gabby Madison and Lillie Ramirez scored goals 2:04 apart to give the Packers a 2-0 lead with 6:56 remaining in the stanza.

Luverne climbed back into contention when Billi Connell

scored with 39 seconds left in the period.

"I was really pleased with the way we played in the first period," Sandbulte said.

"It was fun to compete with and play a good game against a very good opponent."

The Packers gained control of the game by scoring four goals in the first 4:53 of the second period.

Ramirez ignited the surge by scoring 49 seconds into the stanza, and Brynn Sexauer found the net twice in a span of 41 seconds to make it 5-1.

Reynolds scored her first goal of the game with 12:07 remaining in the second period, which gave the Packers a 6-1 cushion they would take into

the third period.

"That run they had in the second period shows how good of a team South St. Paul really is. When you give a team like that openings, they will make you pay for it," Sandbulte said.

SSP ended up sporting a 60-19 advantage in shots on goal during the contest.

Cheyenne Schutz started the game in goal for the Cards and saved 19 of the 25 shots she faced.

Mallory Von Tersch replaced Schutz during the second period and made 33 saves in 35 attempts.

Regan Feit led the Cards with two assists, while Connell and Reghan Bork charted one assist each.

A-E girls complete winning regular season Feb. 18

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian girls' basketball team finished the regular season by defeating Westbrook-Walnut Grove 64-34 in Adrian Feb. 18.

The Dragons put the game away early by rolling to a 43-16 lead in the first half.

A-E used a 21-18 scoring edge in the second half to secure a 30-point victory and complete a 13-11 regular season.

Kallie Chapa (13 points and nine rebounds) and Bailey Lonneman (12 points and eight rebounds) played key

roles in the win.

Moriah Bullerman charted four steals and three assists for the Dragons, while Kasie Tweet added four assists.

Box score
Zebe 11 1-16, Tweet 2 10-07, Dreesen 11 0-5, Chapa 2 16-8 13, Meester 20 5-89, Rogers 0 0-0-0, M. Bullerman 0 0

1-21, J. Bullerman 0 0-0-0, Lonneman 4 0 4-12, Cauwels 3 0 0-6, Lehnhoff 0 1 0-3.

Team statistics
A-E: 21 of 65 field goals (32 percent), 17 of 23 free throws (74 percent), 32 rebounds, 13 turnovers.
W-WG: eight of 37 field goals (22 percent), 17 of 24 free throws (71 percent), 22 rebounds, 21 turnovers.

Cards/continued from page 10

Freshman Ava Lindsay chipped in two goals for Breck.

The Mustangs scored their first five goals in the game's first 8:06, but that didn't come as a surprise to Breck coach Steve Persian.

"Our team has got off to quick starts in a lot of games this year, so that really didn't surprise me," Persian said.

"One of our goals for this game was to get off to a good start, and we did that by scoring eight times in the first period."

Qualley, who led the state with 44 assists during the regu-

lar season, ignited the fire for Breck by scoring 55 seconds into the game.

Mobley, who produced 52 goals during the regular season (the state's second-highest total), upped the lead to 3-0 by netting goals at the 3:40 and 7:21 marks before Qualley found the net 27 seconds later to make it a 4-0 game.

Lindsay joined the scoring spree with 9:54 remaining in the first period to cap Breck's five-goal run in a span of 8:06.

Qualley completed her hat trick with a power-play goal that came with 6:49 left in

the period, while Lindsay and Mobley added one goal each in the final 5:47 to complete the eight-goal stanza.

After producing eight goals and 25 shots on net in the first period, the Breck coaches and players made the decision to stop shooting the puck in the final two periods.

"There was no need to. There comes a time when enough is enough, and we don't want to show up any of our opponents," Persian said.

Sandbulte viewed the move by Breck as being a gracious act that was well received by

the coaches, but he said his Cardinals needed something to happen to give his team a jolt of confidence leading into the consolation semifinals the next day.

Billi Connell provided that spark when she scored 2:45 into the third period after being set up by Reghan Bork and Rozilyn Oye.

"We told our girls that they have to keep on playing (at the second intermission) and said, 'Let's go out and win the third period,' and that's what we did," Sandbulte said.

Bow/continued from page 10

the lead to 5-1.

Hayden Jensen added a power-play tally with 6:02 remaining in the game.

Shaid Shearer made 48 saves in 54 attempts during a two-plus period stint in goal for the Cards.

Colton Schutz stopped all six shots he faced in the final five minutes of the game.

LHS 4, Marshall 3

The Cardinals pulled off a mild upset to open the tournament Thursday in Marshall.

Fifth-seeded LHS dropped a pair of games to the Tigers during the regular season, but the Cardinals never trailed in what ended up as a one-goal victory

over fourth-seeded Marshall.

Senior Tyler Roberts netted a pair of goals and Shearer turned in a strong performance in goal to highlight the win.

The score was knotted at one when Roberts scored his first goal of the game with 6:16 left in the first period to give the Cards a 2-1 edge they would take into the second period.

Brock Behrend increased the lead to 3-1 when he scored the lone goal of the second period 9:04 into the stanza.

Marshall climbed back into contention when Bryson Whyte scored 48 seconds into the third period, but Roberts countered for LHS with 5:41

left to regain a two-goal (4-2) advantage for the Cards.

Marshall's Jackson Bladholm did trim the difference to one goal (4-3) with 2:45 left in the game, but Shearer blanked the Tigers the rest of the night to seal the victory.

Shearer made 43 saves for an LHS squad that was outshot 46-15 by the Tigers.

Crabtree gave the Cards a 1-0 lead 29 seconds into the game before Marshall's Landon Frost tied the score with 11:11 left in the opening period.

Easton Braun recorded two assists for the winners, while Watts-Boll, Cooper Arends, Cade Wenninger, Jacob Von

Tersch, Crabtree and Roberts kicked in one assist each.

Breck coaches restore my faith in humanity with gracious act

I've never been a guy that would be described as a bandwagon-jumper.



In fact, I normally favor the underdogs when it comes to viewing athletic contests because it's much more satisfying to see a team buck the odds and pull off an upset.

With that being made public, I now have to come clean about something.

After taking in the Luverne-Breck girls' hockey game at the Xcel Energy Center Feb. 19, I became a fan of the Mustangs and their coaching staff.

It was a strange position to find myself in, considering Breck captured its third consecutive Class A title before the weekend was complete.

The Mustangs were the tournament's No. 1 seed and proved why they were worthy of that status by winning three consecutive games by a combined score of 23-2.

As leaders of the team, Mustangs' head coach Steve Persian and assistant coach Mike Umland were committed to the cause of capturing a championship.

That became evident after sharing a brief conversation with them that started with me asking if they were going to take it easy on the Cardinals.

"Not in the first period," was the reply I received from Persian.

That became clear during the first 17 minutes of play, when the talented Mustangs scored eight goals in a span of 13:44 to seize control of the contest.

I was a shell-shocked spectator at that point, but what happened next is something that probably will stick with me

FROM THE SIDELINES

By John Rittenhouse,
sports editor

for the rest of my life.

As I was waiting for the second period in the photographer's box between the team benches, the Breck coaches approached me to deliver a message.

"That's it. We're done shooting the puck," Umland announced.

With that brief statement, some of my faith in humanity was restored.

It became clear to me the Mustangs could have scored as many goals as they wanted to, but the coaches and captains of the team decided eight was enough.

"We have faced some overmatched teams during the season, but there is no point in running up the score against them," Persian said after the game.

In hindsight, that may have been one of the greatest examples of sportsmanship I've ever witnessed.

The Mustangs accomplished what they needed to in the first 17 minutes of play, and they had no reason to pile on the Cardinals and their fans by senselessly trying to score more goals.

I appreciated their integrity and told them that probably was the classiest thing I've witnessed in 30-plus years of being a sports editor.

What I learned from the Breck coaches is that nothing good comes from shredding the opponents' dignity, and I hope our coaches, both boys and girls, keep that in mind when their teams are in control of a game in the future.

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Cardinals wrestlers complete season

By John Rittenhouse
The Luverne Cardinal wrestlers completed the 2019-20 season by hosting the Section 3AA Individual Tournament Saturday.
Seven Cardinals wrestled in the event, but no LHS athletes earned the right to advance to the state tournament by placing first or second in their respective weight classes.
Junior Riley Cowell turned in Luverne's top effort by placing third at 113 pounds with a 3-2 record.
Cowell pinned Worthington's Oscar Galvez in 3:48 during the quarterfinals before taking an 18-4 setback from New London-Spicer eventual champion Ty Bisek in the semifinals.
Cowell bounced back in the consolation bracket to defeat Dawson-Boyd-Lac qui Parle Valley's Zander Clausen (5-2) and Worthington's Galvez (7-5), which gave him an opportunity to compete in a true second-place match against Marshall's Dylan Louwagie.
Louwagie posted a 5-0 win



John Rittenhouse photo/0227 lw cowell 3

Luverne junior Riley Cowell went 3-2 and placed third at 113 pounds during the Section 3AA Individual Wrestling Tournament in Luverne Saturday. Cowell won 37 matches this winter.

against Cowell, ending his 37-12 campaign.
LHS sophomores Noah Mehlhaff (120), Zach Bradley (152) and Chris Rosin (160) and seventh-grader Jaden Reisch (145) placed sixth in their weight classes.
Rosin (8-26) and Bradley (7-10) both went 1-3 for the tournament, while Mehlhaff (17-25) went 1-2.
Reisch went 0-3 to wrap up his 18-23 season.

LHS sophomore Braydon Ripka (30-18) went 0-2 without placing at 132, and freshman Camden Janiszski (15-25) went 0-2 without placing at 138.

Boys gain momentum heading into tourney

By John Rittenhouse
The Luverne boys' basketball team gained some momentum heading into postseason play by reeling off a pair of home wins last week.
The Cardinals beat Pipestone by seven points Feb. 18 before besting Minneota by 11 points Friday.
Luverne, 11-13 overall, opens the Section 3A Tournament Saturday by hosting St. James at 7 p.m. Saturday.

LHS 75, Minneota 64
The Cardinals notched their third consecutive victory when they bested the Vikings in a hard-fought game Friday in Luverne.

Minneota sported leads in both halves of the contest, but LHS used a strong second half to secure an 11-point conquest.
The Vikings led 6-2 early in the game before LHS went on a 19-9 run ending with a three-point shot from Isaiah Bartels to open a 21-15 advantage.
Minneota battled back to regain the lead at 30-27 with 2:14 remaining in the opening stanza, but the Cards closed the half with a 7-2 surge ending with Bailey Cowell canning a field goal with one second left to sport a 34-32 edge at the intermission.
LHS led by three points early in the second half before the Vikings moved in front 43-41 with 13:30 remaining.
The Cards responded by mounting a 10-3 surge to open a 54-46 lead when Cowell converted a field goal at the 8:35 mark.
Minneota closed the gap to five points at two different occasions as the second half

progressed, but LHS thwarted the challenge by increasing the lead to 12 points (73-61) when Cowell sank one free throw with 48 seconds remaining, and the Cards prevailed by 11 at game's end.
Bartels (21 points, Nick Feit (18 points), Cowell (17 points) and Gannon Ahrendt (13 points and seven rebounds) led the Cards to victory.

Box score
Cowell 5 1 4-8 17, Sehr 0 0 0-0, Bartels 5 2 5-7 21, Ahrendt 2 3 0-2 13, Feit 6 0 6-6 18, DeSollar 0 0 0-0 0, Beyer 0 0 0-0 0, Smith 0 0 0-0 0, Rops 3 0 0-1 6.

Team statistics
Luverne: 27 of 46 field goals (59 percent), 15 of 22 free throws (68 percent), 23 rebounds.
Minneota: 24 field goals made, eight of 12 free throws (67 percent).

LHS 54, Pipestone 47
The Cardinals completed a 4-8 Big South Conference slate by besting the Arrows in a seven-point game played in Luverne Feb. 18.

LHS gained the upper hand by outscoring the Arrows 29-21 in the first half.
Pipestone sported a 26-25 scoring edge in the second half, but it wasn't enough to overcome Luverne's early advantage.
Bartels led the Cardinals with 19 points, while Feit and Cowell added 11 and 10 points respectively.
Ahrendt grabbed five rebounds for LHS.

Box score
Cowell 22 0-10, Sehr 1 0 0-3, Bartels 7 0 5-6 19, Ahrendt 2 1 2-2 9, Feit 4 1 0-0 11, Rops 1 0 1-2 3.

Team statistics
Luverne: 21 of 47 field goals (45 percent), eight of 13 free throws (62 percent), 20 rebounds.
Pipestone: 15 field goals made, 10 of 10 free throws (100 percent).

Patriots drop two of three in final week

By John Rittenhouse
The Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball team wrapped up an 8-15 regular season by dropping two of three games in a four-day span.
The Patriots lost a seven-point home game to Edgerton Feb. 18 before posting a one-point win in overtime against Red Rock Central Thursday in Hills.
H-BC lost a 17-point game to Heron Lake-Okabena-Fulda to cap the regular season Friday in Okabena.
H-BC meets HL-O-F again in the quarterfinal round of the South Section 3A Tournament at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in Worthington.

HL-O-F 78, H-BC 61
The Patriots were unable to string together wins on consecutive nights when they took on the Coyotes Friday in Okabena.
HL-O-F got off to a strong start by opening a 47-34 lead in the first half.
The Coyotes used a 31-27 scoring cushion in the second half to complete their 17-point win.

Jax Wysong (15 points), Kyle Kueter (14 points and 11 rebounds), Gavin Wysong (12 points) and Oliver Deelstra (11 points and seven rebounds) played solid games for the Patriots.

Box score
G. Wysong 5 0 2-2 12, Harnack 0 1 0-0 3, Deelstra 2 1 4-7 11, Baker 0 1 1-2 4, Z. Wysong 1 0 0-0 2, J. Wysong 5 0 5-6 15, Kueter 7 0 0-0 14.

Team statistics
H-BC: 23 of 60 field goals (38 percent), 12 of 17 free throws (71 percent), 29 rebounds, nine turnovers.
HL-O-F: 27 of 50 field goals (54 percent), 14 of 21 free throws (67 percent), 25 rebounds, 13 turnovers.

H-BC 64, RRC 63
The Patriots snapped a five-game losing skid by nip-



John Rittenhouse photo/0227 hbb 7

H-BC junior guard Gavin Wysong tossed in 17 points and collected eight rebounds during a home loss to Edgerton Feb. 18.

ping the Falcons in overtime Thursday in Hills.
H-BC faced a 29-23 deficit after 18 minutes of play before rallying to outscore RRC 30-24 in the second half to knot the score at 53 and force overtime.
The Patriots used an 11-10 scoring edge in the extra session to complete a one-point win.
Jax and Gavin Wysong led the Patriots by netting 25 and 10 points respectively.
Kueter grabbed 11 rebounds, blocked six shots and charted four assists for the winners, while Deelstra

added four assists.

Box score
G. Wysong 1 1 5-8 10, Harnack 0 0 1-2 1, Gehrke 0 0 0-0 0, Deelstra 3 0 3-6 9, Baker 1 0 0-1 2, Z. Wysong 1 2 1-2 9, J. Wysong 8 1 6-8 25, Kueter 4 0 0-3 8.

Team statistics
H-BC: 22 of 58 field goals (38 percent), 16 of 30 free throws (53 percent), 31 rebounds, nine turnovers.
RRC: 21 of 46 field goals (46 percent), eight of 14 free throws (57 percent), 27 rebounds, nine turnovers.

Edgerton 62, H-BC 55
The Patriots came up on the wrong side of an upset when they entertained the Flying Dutchmen in Hills Feb. 18.

Edgerton entered the contest as a winless team, but that changed when the Flying Dutchmen outscored H-BC in both halves of a seven-point victory.
EHS set the tone early in the first half by scoring the first 11 points of the game on the way to building an 18-2 advantage 8:03 into the contest.
H-BC climbed back into contention by closing the first half with a 17-4 run capped by a three-point shot from Deelstra with 36 seconds left in the stanza to trim the difference to three points (22-19).
H-BC's Easton Harnack capped a 6-0 run to start the second half by converting a layup that gave the Patriots a 25-22 lead three minutes into the half.

H-BC, however, couldn't protect its advantage.
A 21-10 run by EHS gave the Dutchmen a 43-35 cushion with 6:58 remaining.
H-BC's Gavin Wysong closed the gap to one point (45-44) when he buried a three-point shot with 4:35 left to play, but EHS scored the next nine points to gain a nine-point (53-44) advantage before winning by seven at game's end.
Gavin Wysong netted 17 points and grabbed eight rebounds for H-BC, while Jax Wysong chipped in 17 points.
Kueter led the Patriots with nine rebounds and four blocked shots, while Zander Wysong registered three steals.

Box score
G. Wysong 6 1 2-2 17, Harnack 1 0 0-0 2, Gehrke 0 0 0-0 0, Deelstra 0 2 2-2 8, Baker 0 0 0-0 0, Z. Wysong 0 1 0-0 3, J. Wysong 5 1 4-4 17, Kueter 4 0 0-1 8.

Team statistics
H-BC: 21 of 55 field goals (38 percent), eight of nine free throws (89 percent), 27 rebounds, five turnovers.
Edgerton: 18 of 38 field goals (47 percent), 18 of 23 free throws (78 percent), 23 rebounds, two turnovers.



John Rittenhouse photo/0227 lib 4

Luverne senior Nick Feit turned in an 18-point effort during Friday's 75-64 win over the Minneota Vikings.



Papik picks of the week...



2017 GMC Acadia Denali
95K • Stock #140851N **save \$3,000**
Was \$23,990 Now \$20,990



2013 Chevrolet Traverse LTZ
71K • Stock #187564U **save \$2,000**
Was \$15,990 Now \$13,990



2019 Chevrolet Suburban LT
35K • Stock #202674Z **save \$3,000**
Was \$47,990 Now \$44,990



2014 Chevrolet 1500 LTZ
87K • Stock #299424U **save \$4,000**
Was \$26,990 Now \$22,990

283-9171

PAPIK.COM

I-90 Luverne, MN 56156



Fodness descent of property petition

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK

DISTRICT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE COURT DIVISION

In Re: Estate of
Milo S. Fodness, a/k/a Milo Stanley Fodness,
Decedent

Court File No. 67-PR-20-56

ORDER FOR HEARING
PETITION FOR DESCENT
OF PROPERTY

The Petition of Audrey Anne Fodness, dated the 10th day of February, 2020, having been filed in this Court representing that the above named decedent has been dead for more than three years leaving certain property therein described, and requesting that the descent of said property be determined and assigned by the Court to the persons entitled thereto. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That said Petition be heard on Monday, the 16th day of March, 2020, at 8:30 o'clock a.m. by the above named Court at Luverne, State of Minnesota.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That the petitioner give notice of said hearing in the manner prescribed by M.S.A. 524.1-401 to all persons entitled to notice pursuant to M.S.A. 524.3-403 and to all persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to M.S.A. 524.3-204. Dated: February 21, 2020

/s/ Terry S. Vajgrt, District Court Judge

COURT SEAL

/s/ Denise Brandel, Court Administrator

PAUL A. VIS
Attorney for Petitioner
EISMA & EISMA
130 East Main Street
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828
I.D. #297550

(02-27, 03-05)

Rock County Commissioners meet Jan. 7

Herreid Board Room 9:00 A.M.
Rock County Courthouse January 7, 2020

The meeting was called order by Administrator Oldre with Commissioners Gary Overgaard (District 1), Stan Williamson (District 2), Greg Burger (District 3), and Jody Reisch (District 5) present; Sherri Thompson (District 4) was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Also in attendance were County Attorney Jeff Haubrich and Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum.

The Administrator requested nominations for the County Board Chair; motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch to nominate Commissioner Overgaard. The Administrator called three times for nominations for County Board Chair; motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch to have nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Overgaard, declared carried on a voice vote.

The meeting was turned over to Chair Overgaard.

The Chair requested nominations for Vice Chair of the County Board; motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch to nominate Commissioner Williamson. The Chair called three times for nominations for Vice Chair; motion by Reisch, seconded by Burger to have nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Williamson, declared carried on a voice vote.

Chair Overgaard expressed his thanks to Commissioner Burger for his leadership as the 2019 Chair and to the rest of the County Board and Administration staff for a their efforts in 2019 as well.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Burger, to approve the January 07, 2020 County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the consent agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

1. Housekeeping Resolution No. 01-20

By order of the Chair, the regular County Board meeting recessed for the purpose to conduct a Public Hearing for a Rock Home Incentive (RHI) Tax Abatement request for Jason Steinhoff, the annual abatement amount is \$193.71 for term of 5-years for a total abatement of \$968.55. There was no attendees for the Public Hearing.

By order of the Chair, the regular County Board meeting re-convened; motion by Reisch, seconded by Williamson, to approve the RHI Tax Abatement request for Jason Steinhoff, declared carried on a voice vote.

Neil Breitbarth, Deputy District Director for US Representative Jim Hagedorn attended the County Board meeting and presented an update from Hagedorn's office. Currently US Representative Hagedorn is on the Agriculture and Small Business Committees and is hopeful that with the USMC Trade Agreement passed, it will initiate other agreements to move forward. Local issues discussed with Breitbarth was the status of the BRRRA short line rail, the compliance of federal regulations and the federal grant (CRISI) application submitted by Elis & Eastern Railroad for \$14.5 million for track improvements ; total project is \$30 million with private funds of \$16 million being invested as well. The rail currently supports the transport of ethanol, dry cement and liquid fertilizer; track improvements are critical for the expansion of these industries and future economic development. The County Board thanked Mr. Breitbarth for his attendance and for updating the US Representative on currently activities in Rock County.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims that were paid on December 31, 2019 and claims that need approval as of January 7, 2020 to include annual mileage reimbursements for the County Board; motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to approve the claims, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

DECEMBER 31, 2019 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000	
BEAVER CREEK/CITY OF	11,431.55
EMERGENCY AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	3,484.58
FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-ADMIN FMR	5,743.70
HARDWICK/CITY OF	6,400.00
HILLS/CITY OF	6,260.00
JOHNSON CONTROLS FIRE PROTECTION LP	7,216.22
MAGNOLIA/CITY OF	3,430.00
NEOFUNDS BY NEOPOST	4,158.20
SANDERS INC	2,121.35
56 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	21,142.54
TOTAL	\$71,388.14

JANUARY 7, 2020 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000	
A & B BUSINESS INC	5,251.35
HEAT TACTICAL TEAM	2,260.85
LIBERTY TIRE RECYCLING LLC	3,888.90
MN COUNTIES COMPUTER COOP	2,876.00
MN COUNTY ATTORNEYS ASSN	2,798.00
MN SHERIFFS ASSN	4,715.60
SWPTSA	3,400.00
WEX BANK	4,757.31
36 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	11,188.15
TOTAL	\$41,136.16

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report as presented by the Auditor/Treasurer. She stated that a \$250,000 investment was redeemed to cover costs for Bridge 67574 over the BNSF railroad on County Highway 52; motion by Burger, seconded by Williamson, to approve the Fund Balance report, declared carried on a voice vote.

Mark Sehr, Engineer, requested approval for final contract payment of \$33,558.33 to R & G Construction Company, Inc.for SAP 067-612-009, SAP 067-615-010, and SAP 067598-020, Box Culvert Projects. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was informed of a recent donation of \$400 to the Rock County Veterans Memorial from the Luverne Presbyterian Church; motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, acknowledging the donation and thank you, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was in receipt of a Notice of Public Information and Environmental Assessment Scoping Meeting from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission regarding the Elk Creek Solar Project in Rock County scheduled for January 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Grand Prairie Event Center.

The County Board briefly reviewed the Boards and Committee appointments for 2020; no action was taken at this time.

The County Board also discussed attendance at the AMC Legislative Conference; no action was taken.

The County Board was in receipt of a copy of correspondence from SWHHS Public Health addressed to tobacco retailers informing them of the federal legislation amending the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, and raising the federal minimum age of sale of tobacco project from 18 to 21 years.

The County Board was in receipt of a report drafted by the University of Minnesota Extension the SW Minnesota County Farmland Prices (bare land only) from 2009-2019; presented as information.

The Administrator led a discussion regarding Windows 10 software upgrades for county owned computers; (25) computers are identified as non-upgradable and will not support the new software so new hardware will be required to be purchased as well; the estimated cost for computer replacement is \$760/computer; for the remaining computers, only the Windows 10 software licensure is required. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to authorize the Administrator to move forward with the Windows 10 software and computer upgrades, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was informed of the 2020 Pork Producers Banquet scheduled for January 20, 2020 at the Grand Prairie Event Center at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he attended the following meetings: nothing Commissioner Williamson stated that he attended the following meetings: Meals on Wheels delivery event.

Commissioner Burger stated that he attended the following meetings: Meals on Wheels delivery event.

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he attended the following meetings: Meals on Wheels delivery event.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to adjourn the meeting, declared carried on a voice vote.

(02-27)

Rock County Commissioners meet Jan. 21

Herreid Board Room 9:00 A.M.
Rock County Courthouse January 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair Williamson with Commissioners Thompson, Williamson and Reisch present and Commissioner Overgaard absent; also in attendance were Administrator Kyle Oldre, and Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and guests.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to approve the January 21, 2020 County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the December 23, 2019, and January 07, 2020, County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

Mark Sehr, Engineer, presented a status on the (3) CAT motor graders stating that they are 8-yr's old and are no longer under warranty; they are not scheduled for replacement until 2025, 2026 and 2027. The Engineer requested to purchase 4-yr warranties on each machine, the warranty will cover issues with the power train only:

Serial #M9J00480	\$14,110.50
Serial #M9J00481	\$14,110.50
Serial #M9J00482	\$12,881.00
Total	\$41,032.00

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the 4-yr's warranties for the (3) CAT motor graders for \$41,032.00, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Engineer requested authorization to replace Unit #244, a 2003 Sterling Tandem Axle Dump truck as follows:

2019 MACK AF Granite 64FR Cab and Chassis	\$130,714.00
Dump Box w/all other attachments	\$135,712.00
	\$266,426.00

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Reisch, to approve the purchase/replace-ment of a tandem axle dump truck for \$266,426.00 using allocated funds (wind revenue), declared carried on a voice vote.

Evan Verbrugge, Sheriff, introduced new Deputy Jeff Stratton and conducted a "swearing in" ceremony. Deputy Stratton was welcomed by the County Board.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims and per diems of \$2,200.00; motion by Burger, seconded by Thompson to pay the claims, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

JANUARY 21, 2020 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000	
A.C.E. OF SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA	4,662.00
ASSN OF MN COUNTIES	9,269.00
CHS	7,021.97
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	7,495.77
ERICKSON ENGINEERING	2,442.50
FIDLAR TECHNOLOGIES INC	2,166.50
KETTERLING SERVICES INC	12,507.74
LUVERNE/CITY OF	39,115.53
LYON COUNTY LANDFILL	14,174.44
MN COUNTIES INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRUST	160,797.78
NORTHLAND TRUST SERVICES INC	460,802.50
REVIZE LLC	2,200.00
ROCK COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES	2,354.59
RURAL MN ENERGY BOARD	2,500.00
SOUTHWEST HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	33,368.79
STAPLES ENTERPRISES INC	2,975.03
ZUERCHER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC	9,400.00
94 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	38,155.05
TOTAL	\$811,409.19

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report; motion by Reisch, seconded by Burger, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Auditor/Treasurer informed the County Board that she was in receipt of the audit engagement letter from Clifton Larson Allen to conduct the 2019 audit; motion by Thompson, seconded by Reisch, to accept, declared carried on a voice vote. Kurtz stated that Rock County is in year number two of the three year contract with Clifton Larson Allen.

The County Board was in receipt of the 2019 year end budget report; the Auditor/Treasurer and Administrator highlighted a few areas, but over everything looked good.

Eric Hartman, Land Management Office Director, requested authorization for out of state travel for Doug Bos, Assistant Land Management Director to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts in Las Vegas, NV on February 7-13, 2020. Bos will be a speaker at the conference; therefore, travel, lodging and conference expenses will be covered through a NRCS grant for the National Conservation Planning Partnership. Motion by Burgers, seconded by Williamson, to authorize the out of state travel, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was in receipt of the Governor's 2020 Bonding Projects; presented as information.

The Administrator presented an update regarding negotiations of (3) Union contracts; Highway and Dispatch have agreed to a 3-year contract 2020-2022 that include the following: COLA's 2020 – 2%, 2021 3.25% and 20222% and a \$25 per year increase for Cafeteria Plan contributions. Motion by Thompson, seconded by Reisch, to approve the 2020-2022 Union contracts for Highway and Dispatch, declared carried on a voice vote. The Union Contract for Deputies remains in negotiation and mediation is scheduled for February 6, 2020.

The County Board was in receipt of a meeting notice from U.S. Representative Hagedorn's office of a Town Hall Meeting scheduled for January 21, 2020 at the Grand Prairie Events Center, Luverne, MN.

The County Board was in receipt of an invitation to the Rock Nobles Cattlemen Association Annual Banquet scheduled for February 3, 2020 at the Grand Prairie Events Center, Luverne, MN.

The County Board was informed of the Annual Township Association Meeting scheduled for February 10, 2020 at 1:00PM at the Rock County Community Library; Commissioners and Department Heads are invited to attend.

There was additional discussion regarding the attendance of the NACO Conference and it conflicting with the March 3rd County Board meeting; motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson to move the March 3rd meeting to March 10th, declared carried on a voice vote.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he attended the following meetings: (2) Union negotiations, SW EMS, Southwest MN Opportunity Council, Community Library, CEO Event.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he attended the following meetings: Pork Producers Banquet, CEO Event, Southwestern Mental Health, Buffalo Ridge Regional Rail Authority, Public Meeting regarding permitting of the Solar project, Rural Water; also informed the County Board that Scott Johnson, Southwestern Mental Health Director has submitted his resignation.

Commissioner Burger stated that he attended the following meetings: (2) Union negotiations, Southwestern MN Mental Health, Community Corrections and Southwest Health & Human Services.

Commissioner Thompson stated that she attended the following meetings: Pork Producers Banquet and CEO Event.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to adjourn the meeting, declared carried on a voice vote.

(02-27)

Mortgage foreclosure sale set for April 2

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: June 11, 2015

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$102,116.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Michelle Ann Pick, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Plaza Home Mortgage Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on June 15, 2015, as Document Number 186378; as modified of record by Loan Modification Agreement recorded on July 20, 2017, as Document Number 191063 in the Office of the County Recorder of Rock County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on October 24, 2016, as Document Number 189365 in the Office of the County Recorder of Rock County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: A tract of land located in the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 AND in the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 10, Township 103 North, Range 44 West of the 5th P.M., Rock County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 10, thence going East along the North line of said Section 10 a distance of 2391 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing East along the North line of said Section 10 a distance of 190 feet; thence going South and parallel with the West line of said Section 10 a distance of 384 feet; thence East and parallel with the North line of said Section 10 a distance of 136 feet; thence South 60 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West a distance of 275.8 feet; thence South and parallel with the West line of said Section 10 a distance of 136 feet; thence West and parallel with the North line of said Section 10 a distance of 190 feet; thence North and parallel with the West line of said Section 10 a distance of 760 feet to the point of Beginning.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1850 181ST STREET, KENNETH, MN 56147

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$107,990.89

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Plaza Home Mortgage Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: LoanCare, LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 12-0013-000

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100109800002953967

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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: April 2, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

PLACE OF SALE: Rock County Sheriff's Office, in the Lobby of the Rock County Law Enforcement Center, 213 East Luverne, Luverne, MN 56156.

To pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on October 2, 2020.

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 FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:

None

Dated: February 3, 2020

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.

Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.

Michael van Muelken, Esq.

Attorneys for Mortgagee

25 Dale Street North

St. Paul, MN 55102

(651) 209-9760

(19-1680-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

(02-13, 02-20, 02-27, 03-05, 03-12, 03-19)

Boler Agency 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: **Boler Agency**

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:

1021 160th Ave Luverne, MN 56156 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):

Name: **Glen Lee Boler**

Address: **1021 160th Ave Luverne, MN 56156**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in the 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/ **Glen L Boler**

MAILING ADDRESS: 1021 160th Ave, Luverne, MN 56156

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: glenbolers4@gmail.com

(02-20, 02-27)

CARDS OF THANKS

On Behalf of our family, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the relatives, friends, church family, and community for visiting, supporting and loving our dear mother Bernice Aukes over the years. We are grateful for all who have provided food, memorials, flowers, and have shared beautiful memories of our beloved mother with us. Words cannot express our gratitude for the great care and compassion she received at the Tuff Home and Hospice Cottage. Thank you to Jeff Hartquist and the funeral home staff for fulfilling every request in perfect detail. Special thank you to Pastor Dorie for her many visits to our mother over the years and especially for the beautiful service and capturing our mother's true essence. We appreciate everyone's love and kindness during this difficult time, our mother will be greatly missed but remembered by many.

Bonnie & Fred Weninger and family
Orlie & Linda Aukes and Family
Nancy & Steve Willers and Family
Clair and Mary Crawford and family
Jeff & Sheila Aukes
 (2.22-2.27)

Thank you to Julie and Teresa for putting on our birthday Party. Also Bruce Dysthe for the music and all to all of our friends and relatives that came.

Fabian and Sue Deutsch
 (2.22-2.27)

Thank you to my family, friends and everyone who has helped in anyway during my hospitalization and since my arrival home. All of your prayers, food, phone calls, cards, household tasks and words of encouragement are greatly appreciated. God is good.

Avis Fick
 (2.22-2.27)

Many thanks to all of my friends, relatives and family who remembered me on my 90th Birthday!

God Bless you all,
Bud Clark
 (2.22-2.27)

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of James Kitchenmaster would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the many kindnesses of food, flowers, calls and company we received after Jim went to be with our Lord and Savior. This time of sorrow was more bearable for us because of family and friends like you. A special thanks to the first responders, Jeff Hartquist and staff, Pastor Klatt, Janet Marshall and the St. John funeral committee. We truly have been blessed by each one of you.

Carolyn Kitchenmaster
Paul, Sherri Kitchenmaster and family,
Kristi Matus and family
 (2.22-2.27)

Thanks to our family and friends for our 50th Anniversary surprise party that you threw for us at Take 16 Brewery. It was a wonderful night and thanks for all the cards and gifts.

Dave and Bev Wessels
 (2.27-2.29)

Sending a sincere thank you to all who sent good wishes for our 60th anniversary. We are blessed and overwhelmed!

Art and Carol Hooegeven
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H-BC Elementary School fundraiser mixes pledges with exercise

By Mavis Fodness
Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary School was full of laughter, music and the patter of young feet as students participated in the first H-BC Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization Walk-a-thon fundraiser. Students in kindergarten through sixth grade participated in the Walk-a-thon. While total money raised is yet to be computed, organizers consider the first-time event successful. “The Walk-a-thon was a great success,” said PTO representative Lexi Moore. “The success comes with the increased understanding from our students as to what the PTO does.”

Previously the PTO group sold items to raise money to support various school activities. “We’ve been very happy with the support we received on those fundraisers, but we saw an opportunity to keep more of the donations with us, instead of the company running the fundraiser,” Moore said. Proceeds from Friday’s



Hills-Beaver Creek kindergartners (from left) Alyssa Krull, Andrey Stefanyuk, Maddox Baker, Titus Susie, Elise Anderson, and Ben Fick react to the playing of the “Baby Shark Dance” Friday afternoon by physical education teacher Darin DeBoer (far left) during the school’s fundraising walkathon. The event was organized by the H-BC parent-teacher organization and is the first year pledges were paired with physical exercise.

Walk-a-thon stays with the local PTO. The group will know later this month how close the group got to reaching its

\$10,000 goal. The Walk-a-thon also allowed out-of-town relatives and supporters to give to the school.

A gofundme.com site is open for donations through Feb. 29. Search Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary Walk-a-thon to make a donation.

In the past, the PTO financially supported activities not included in the district budget. The activities included

learning incentives for students along with the Blue Ribbon School Celebration this fall, Fall Festival inflatables, Art Night, sixth-grade field trip, and \$100 classroom stipends for each teacher. Students collected pledges from Feb. 12-20 and completed the Walk-a-thon during their Friday physical education classes. Sixth-graders participated in the morning at H-BC High School in Hills while the afternoon was dedicated to the elementary. As students circled the gym, physical education teacher Darin DeBoer played various genres of music to keep the Walk-a-thon festive during their 25-minute sessions by grade level. Students responded enthusiastically to completing their pledged time to walk. “They probably ran more doing this than in phy ed this week,” DeBoer noted. Students, as well as classrooms, earned Patriot Pride points based on their participation.



In the photograph at left, Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary School second-graders (from left) Odynn Kobernick-Pasch, Athena Kobernick-Pasch, Naomi Harsma, Eva Hubbard, Penni Moore (in back), Quinn Bork, Cheyelen Kraayenhof, Emileigh Koller and Lily Fick take a group approach to the Hills-Beaver Creek PTO walkathon fundraiser Friday in the elementary gym in Beaver Creek. In the photo at right, fifth-graders making laps around the Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary gymnasium Friday afternoon in Beaver Creek include (from left) Olivia Deelstra, Hailey Moser, Makynzie Hellerud, Karlee Olson, teacher Darin DeBoer, Brooklynne Hubbard, Karl Hartz, Katelyn Chesley, Tatyana Williams and AJ Foote.



At left, kindergartner Brittany Kittelson enjoys making laps around the Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary gymnasium during Friday’s school-wide walkathon. Below, teacher Darin DeBoer reads pedometers that were clipped to students to record the number of steps walked. Watching him enter the number of steps into the computer is fifth-grader Tatyana Williams.



Second-graders (from left) Adley Rheault, Samantha Van Maanen, Lulu Susie, Lily Fick (in background), Noah Engelkes and Makaylie Voss complete their 25-minute Walk-a-thon around the H-BC Elementary School gym in Beaver Creek on Friday.

Star Herald
photos by
Mavis Fodness

Below, one student’s pedometer registered 1,261 steps after the Walk-a-thon.



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