



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, April 2, 2020

Luverne hospital prepares for surge of coronavirus patients

By Lori Sorenson

Confirmed cases of coronavirus are showing up in communities closer and closer to Rock County, the latest in Lyon County Tuesday and increasing numbers (31) in Minnehaha County just 30 miles to the west. Testing is limited, so numbers aren't telling the whole story, so public health officials tell communities to assume the virus is circulating and to continue social distancing.

However, Sanford Health Laboratories in Sioux Falls announced over the weekend that it has received FDA approval for coronavirus testing, which will aid local tracking. "The really cool thing is we can test in house and it takes only 24 to 48 hours for results," said Tammy Loosbrock, Sanford Luverne CEO. "It's a lot better system, since the state labs have been overwhelmed, and commercial labs were taking several

days for results." However, she said Sanford is still using CDC and Minnesota Department of Health guidelines for deciding when to administer tests. So far 44 people were tested in Luverne and so far none have been positive for coronavirus. "But that doesn't mean it's not here," Loosbrock said. "People can be asymptomatic and still be spreading the virus."

She emphasized that the most important way to combat the virus is to prevent it. "We need to continue sheltering in place and continue washing our hands — for at least 20 seconds," she said. She also said Sanford has been working for the past three weeks to prepare for an onslaught of coronavirus patients. This means taking stock of equipment, cross-training employees, collaborating with public

health and emergency management officials and planning for crisis management with all 46 hospitals in the Sanford regional health system. "We know it's going to get bad; we just don't want it to get really bad," Loosbrock said. "We drill for pandemics and train for what to do if a pandemic hits, so the good news is there's a protocol in place."

Hospital prepares/see page 5

Gevo Inc. succumbs to pandemic economy

By Mavis Fodness

Gevo Inc., which operates Agri-Energy in Luverne, announced Friday it will cease operations at the biofuel production plant. The close was effective Friday and terminates the employment of 27 workers. "We will resume production once the economy is up and running again," said Gevo spokesperson Heather Manuel. "This virus is just detrimental to business." Gevo officials are currently working with lawmakers to have biofuel manufacturers included in upcoming government economy stimulus plans. Earlier this month, Gevo officials celebrated the completion of two wind turbines to provide green energy to the production plant located west of Luverne. The planned start-up of the turbines is still expected this month. The green electrical energy production was expected to lower the plant's dependence on coal-generated electricity. With the plant closed, the green energy will be sold. "As part of the contract, that power will flow to the city of Luverne and Missouri River Energy," Manuel said. A small number of engineers will continue working on the plant's expansion plans and the move forward with the company's green energy plans. "Gevo will continue engineering efforts for the expansion of isobutanol production, the construction of the commercial renewable hydrocarbon production facility, as well as additional decarbonization projects at the Luverne facility," Manuel said. Terminating local workers allows them to qualify for unemployment income.

Worldwide, countries are closing businesses and encouraging people to shelter in place in order to slow the spread of the deadly COVID-19 virus. The uncertainty has negatively affected global markets and has lowered demand for biofuels. No date has been determined as to when the Agri-Energy plant would resume production. "Gevo will monitor developments in the industry and determine when to resume production operations at the Luverne facility as economic conditions become more favorable for production operations," Manual said.



Sunshine store manager Jason Oye stocks shelves in Luverne on March 26. At left, Todd Mulvihill delivers more product to Blue Mound Liquor in Luverne. (Lori Sorenson photos)

Grocery, liquor business booms amid coronavirus economy

By Lori Sorenson

While most local businesses are losing revenue due to coronavirus measures, Sunshine Foods and Blue Mound Liquor are struggling to keep up with demand. "It's been busier than ever," said liquor store cashier Christi Wilson. "I haven't seen a madness like this since the holidays. People are just afraid the liquor store might close." Liquor store manager Kenny Rolling compared sales receipts from the second week of March to the week following Minnesota's first orders to shelter in place. "The number of customers is up 19 percent," he said. "But sales are up 59 percent." This, he said, suggests people are

feeling inclined to stock up. Beer sales saw a steady increase, but there was a sharper uptick in liquor sales. At the same time, he said liquor store employees are spending more time on the phone answering calls about the coronavirus effect on the liquor store. "People thought we were going to close," Rolling said. Liquor stores are deemed essential to remain open for business because alcohol withdrawal for some people could lead to hospitalization. At a time when hospitals are gearing up for coronavirus cases, the idea is to keep as many patients away from

Grocery and liquor/see page 5

Construction accelerates at school, workers sought for hire

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne's seven School Board members gathered via videoconference for their regular March 26 meeting using the Zoom application. Superintendent Craig Oftedahl and board chairperson Jody Bosch originated the meeting at the district office with the other six board members at remote locations. Nineteen staff members joined the online meeting. The district closed March 16 per

state executive orders in an effort to slow the coronavirus pandemic and meetings have turned to technology to ensure people keep a safe distance from one another. Oftedahl said good news is emerging from the district closure as construction workers are moving forward with the middle-high school building/remodeling project. "Out of the chaos, there may be some positives," he said. The distance learning plan began

Monday with students completing lessons and communicating with teachers electronically or over the phone from home. With the middle-high school building predominately unoccupied, school officials and project managers are proposing an accelerated plan to the general contractor over the next six weeks. Students are not scheduled to return to the building until Tuesday, May 5.

"It's critical if we can get an answer if they are respective to that idea," Oftedahl said. "It will move the timeline up in the fall." For the past two weeks, the number of workers and subcontractors has increased and significant progress has been made. Project manager Dave Mulert said several of the companies are looking for general workers, aged 18

School construction/see page 3

Grieving families part with loved ones amid coronavirus distancing

By Lori Sorenson

The coronavirus pandemic and its social distancing measures have made the grief process more painful for those who have lost loved ones, according to local funeral home directors. "It's preventing friends and family from grieving properly because of the lack of fellowship and support from the community," said Dan Dingmann. "It limits the effectiveness of the positive social benefit of a public

visitation and funeral service." In the past few weeks funeral homes have conducted private or smaller public visitations and committal services, but more stringent social distancing mandates on Friday have meant even fewer people can be together at one time. Jeff Hartquist, Luverne, said the coronavirus constraints have been difficult for his operation and the families he works with. "This has been extremely chal-

lenging — logistically and more so emotionally," he said. "The families are doing well so far, but reminding them to maintain their social distance goes against our nature of expressing emotions through hugs, tears and touch." New guidelines mandate no more than 10 in a gathering and fewer if any are at high risk of contracting the disease. That is what they're trying to follow. "We all have different filters

when dealing with death and what helps us to move forward in our grief journey," Hartquist said. "We feel that at this point, allowing people an opportunity to be with families and community is important, so long as CDC guidelines are followed." He said it's particularly hard to accommodate large families who want to view the body for final good-byes in shifts, rather than in the embrace of their entire group. "For many in their grief, seeing is

believing, so we are hoping that this, though very limited, provides them with that opportunity," Hartquist said. Dingmann said generally the community understands reasons for precautions. "Families are adjusting to the new protocols because of the virus and are respecting our policies," he said. Staff at the funeral homes are careful to wipe down doors and fur-

Funeral homes/see page 5



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

A note about community events:

The Announcer and Star Herald will not list the activities and events that are canceled; it assumed that most planned gatherings are canceled, per CDC mandates for safe social distancing. However individual inquiries should be directed toward appropriate planners. See www.star-herald.com, for the latest coronavirus coverage.

Community Blood drive April 1

Community Blood Bank will accept donations in Luverne from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, under the canopy at Luverne High School. Call for an appointment at 507-283-4491. As an incentive a \$5 gift card for McDonald's will be available. Setup will be right inside the front entrance of the school.

American Red Cross blood drive for Luverne April 7

American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Luverne from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, at Grand Prairie Events on North Estey Street. Call A.C.E. at (507) 283-5064 for details. Make an appointment at 1-800-RED CROSS or RedCrossBlood.org and enter LuverneMN. A \$5 Amazon gift card is offered as an incentive.

Kindergarten Round-Up canceled, but paperwork due

Luverne Kindergarten Round-Up in-person meeting has been canceled, but Luverne Elementary School personnel still needs the registration paperwork by April 10. The paperwork can be sent electrically to s.bundesen@isd2184.net or placed in the drop box at Community Education door. Call 507-283-4497 for more information.

Spring weight restrictions in place

Spring weight road restrictions are in place on Rock County roadways. Ending dates are variable, and drivers must check for updates throughout the spring. Call Rock County Highway Engineer Mark Sehr at 507-283-5010 with questions and updates.

Help others struggling with coronavirus challenges

In response to residents and organizations overwhelmed by challenges related to the coronavirus, the Luverne Area Chamber is lining up volunteers to shop and/or deliver for those individuals who are unable to leave their homes.

The intent is to coordinate this as a service to residents supporting our local businesses. A protocol will minimize contact between volunteers and people requesting services. To join the list of volunteers, call the Chamber at (507)-283-4061.

Free food April 16

New Life Celebration Church will offer free food at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the Generations building at 319 E. Lincoln, Luverne.

Because of the coronavirus, a few changes need to be followed:

Those in vehicles are to drive to the double glass doors on the WEST SIDE of the building. Volunteers will load your groceries. STAY IN YOUR CARS.

Those who are walking are to go to the EAST SIDE of the building. Volunteers will have your groceries pre-packed for you to pick up.

Call 507-283-4366 with questions.



Providing some respite from shelter in place

Firefighters and first responders from the Luverne Volunteer Fire Department and Rock County Ambulance formed an eight-vehicle "parade" Sunday afternoon as they drove through each neighborhood with sirens, lights and smiles during the 90-minute ride. The event was intended to brighten everyone's day, according to fire chief Dave Van Batavia. Sunday marked Day 2 of Minnesota's 14-day shelter-in-place order to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Hardwick Fire Department drove the streets of Hardwick Wednesday night, March 24, as a sign of strength for those providing medical care during the pandemic and hope to all emergency personnel to be ready when needed. **Above:** Parade watchers on Estey Street cheer as the trucks roll by with lights flashing, and spectators signal for the sirens to blare. Mavis Fodness photos/0402 Fire Department Parade



Left: Fireman Aaron Altman waves to drivers stopped to watch the passing fire trucks and an ambulance. **Right:** Josh Hayden holds daughter Halle while mom, Allyssa, records the last vehicle, Rock County Ambulance first responders Jill Johnson and Tricia Huiskes, in the end of the eight-vehicle parade down Elmhurst Avenue.



Left: Mia and Millie Lanoue enjoy fire trucks passing by their house on Cedar Street. **Right:** Sunday's "parade" featured eight fire trucks, department vehicles and an ambulance. The parade took 90 minutes to travel through each block of town.

24/7 ... Rain or Shine ...

Your local, independent agent will be there.

Working for you-meeting your needs.

Buffalo Ridge INSURANCE

South Hwy. 75, Luverne, MN • Ph. 507-283-2381

Auto-Owners INSURANCE

LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Marlyn Bloomendal, CPCU

Cory Bloomendal, CIC

Steve Stenderud, CIC

Foundation accepts donations for coronavirus crisis

By Lori Sorenson

Area residents are looking for ways to help friends and neighbors who are affected by coronavirus hardships, and the Luverne Area Community Foundation is matching dollars to causes.

"COVID-19 will affect our community in more ways than we realize, and this will act as disaster relief funding to allow us to step in and fill a need," said LACF director Emily Crabtree.

Specifically, LACF set up a "COVID-19 Help Fund" that is designed to support organizations that are helping residents affected by losses associated with the virus.

"Each of us has a differing burden to bear during this uncertain time," Crabtree said. "We are blessed with organizations that have resources to help our friends and neighbors in need."

Many local nonprofits help people with food, lost wages, mental health, mentoring, child care and more.

The new LACF fund is ready to accept donations from the public to support the organizations on the front lines of a coronavirus-ravaged economy. "Every dollar will help us do more in our community," Crabtree said.

To make an online donation to the Covid-19 Help Fund, visit www.luvacf.org or mail a check to LACF at PO Box 623, Luverne, MN 56156. All donations are tax-deductible.

"It's times like these that community matters most," Crabtree said.

She said LACF applied for help through the Minnesota Council of Foundations Greater Minnesota Disaster Relief Fund. "If these dollars come through, that will be a huge help," Crabtree said.

Dial-A-Specialist

Your One Stop Guide to Local Businesses

DR. MICHAEL SMITH
Most Insurance Accepted
• Chiropractic

ROCK COUNTY CHIROPRACTIC
• Men, Women & Children's Health
• Custom Orthotics • Kinesiotape • Athletic Care • Massage Therapy • Work & Auto Injuries • Postural Restoration
WWW.ROCKCOUNTYCHIROPRACTIC.COM
283-2561 • 103 E. MAIN, LUVERNE
Monday 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Tuesday 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Chantel Connell
Sales Representative
117 W. Main, Luverne, MN
507-283-2333
• Advertising

Rick Peterson
General Manager

LUVERNE HEALTH & WELLNESS
Codie Zeutenhorst, DC
LuverneChiro.com
☑ Chiropractic ☑ Acupuncture ☑ Massage
☑ Auto, Work, and Sports Injuries
109 S Freeman Ave Luverne, MN
507.449.4400
• Chiropractic

Rock County EYE CLINIC
507-283-2345
104 N. Freeman Ave.
Luverne, Minnesota
• Eye

Viking Electric LLC
Tim Gangestad
Owner
(507) 290-2595
Conquering all of your electrical needs!
Residential • Commercial • Agricultural
• Electrician

Luverne MINNESOTA
Love the life!
City Offices
PO Box 659, Luverne, MN 56156
507-449-2388 (24 hour voice mail)
www.cityofluverne.org
• City

Brosz ENGINEERING, INC.
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING SERVICES
2309 W 50TH STREET
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57105
P (605) 334-4882
F (605) 334-5745
W www.broszengineering.com
FOR OVER 35 YEARS, PROVIDING QUALITY ENGINEERING, SURVEYING & ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES
• Land Surveying

Shelter in place leaves this reporter craving the ‘old times’

Last week, with Gov. Walz’s order to shelter in place for two weeks, we at the Star Herald newsroom did some of our work from home to distance ourselves from others in the office while continuing the delivery of the community news.

On Thursday, as I tested video conferencing from home (I found unmuting the keyboard is a must), I realized that I miss the “old school” philosophy of news gathering and delivery.

As a child in the ’60s and ’70s, I recall my parents tuning into the radio at noon and the television at night for national and local news (although from South Dakota). Weekly we received the local paper in the mail.

I long for the days of being blissfully ignorant of what was happening in the world until I invited the news in by turning on the radio or television or picking up the newspaper.

Today, with social media, we are constantly bombarded with information — any and all news, whether reliable or not.

With the coronavirus it appears everyone has taken to being a “mini-reporter” and sharing information as if they were professionals.

Any thought, event or opinion is now dumped unfiltered on Facebook and/or Twitter where people read, share or comment as if the post is true to both sides of the issue and everyone should take it as the truth.

I liken today’s social media consumption to self-medicating. In the end, what you took may have helped you feel better, but sometimes getting medication from the doctor is best.



RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

Getting your news from professionals who have taken time to balance and interpret what is happening is always the best source.

Knowing minute by minute exactly what is occurring with the coronavirus is leading to increased anxiety levels and is overall negatively affecting our everyday lives. Professional journalists are trained to sift through all the noise and hone in on the information that’s important to our readers on a local level in straightforward language a typical sixth-grader would understand.

When I entered the community journalism profession decades ago, businesses, organizations and people in the community would call or send in information they thought was newsworthy.

We in the newsroom would explore the tip, and the idea would (or would not) warrant a story and ultimately make it to print.

I wonder if we should return to “old time” journalism by passing on potential news stories to those who have made journalism their careers.

Social media was never meant to be a news source. It was meant for socializing between friends and family who sometimes share links to legitimate news sites.

Community newspapers are here to record the official and accurate news of their communities, as they have for the past 150 years and will continue to do long into the future.

That’s what trained journalists are for, and a reliable news source is just what the doctor ordered.

I’m scared’ Medical resident shares coronavirus observations from the front lines

I am a family medicine resident, currently working nights admitting sick patients to the hospital. Covid-19 is just starting to hit our area. I don’t know if it’s sleep deprivation or 26-week pregnancy hormones, but last night when I was getting ready for work I cried in the shower. I’m scared.

I’m scared for my homeless patients, many of whom have underlying heart and lung disease. They have no safe place to practice social distancing. If Covid-19 hits their homeless shelter, I’m worried many of them may die.

I’m scared for my elderly and nursing home patients, who are currently isolated from their family members for their own safety. I’m scared for my own grandma. I lost two grandpas last year and I don’t want to lose her too.

I’m scared for my OB patient, who is in labor without her husband because he has a cough and was forced to leave the hospital but is not “sick enough” to get tested.

I’m scared for my co-residents who will be overworked and underpaid while fighting on the front lines of this pandemic.

I’m scared for my attendings, many of whom are older than 60 and putting themselves at risk in order to protect us.

I’m scared for the nurses, respiratory therapists, PCTs, phlebotomists, emergency medical crews, etc. who have even more direct patient contact than physicians do but are brave enough to continue to do their jobs without hesitation.

GUEST OPINION

by Kat Dahl, 2010 LHS graduate and former Luverne resident

I’m scared for my mom, who is a rural family physician, which means she has to solve Covid problems in the clinic, hospital, ER, and nursing home. She is the type that will never stop caring for her patients and community - even when she runs out of PPE.

I’m scared for my sister who has asthma and might not have access to her albuterol inhaler due to an inevitable nationwide shortage.

I’m scared for my husband’s students who are no longer able to go to school, even though school might be the safest, warmest place for some of them to be.

And, although this is selfish, I’m scared for my 26-week-old unborn child. He/she is not yet ready to come into this world but may be at increased risk if I get a severe case of Covid-19.

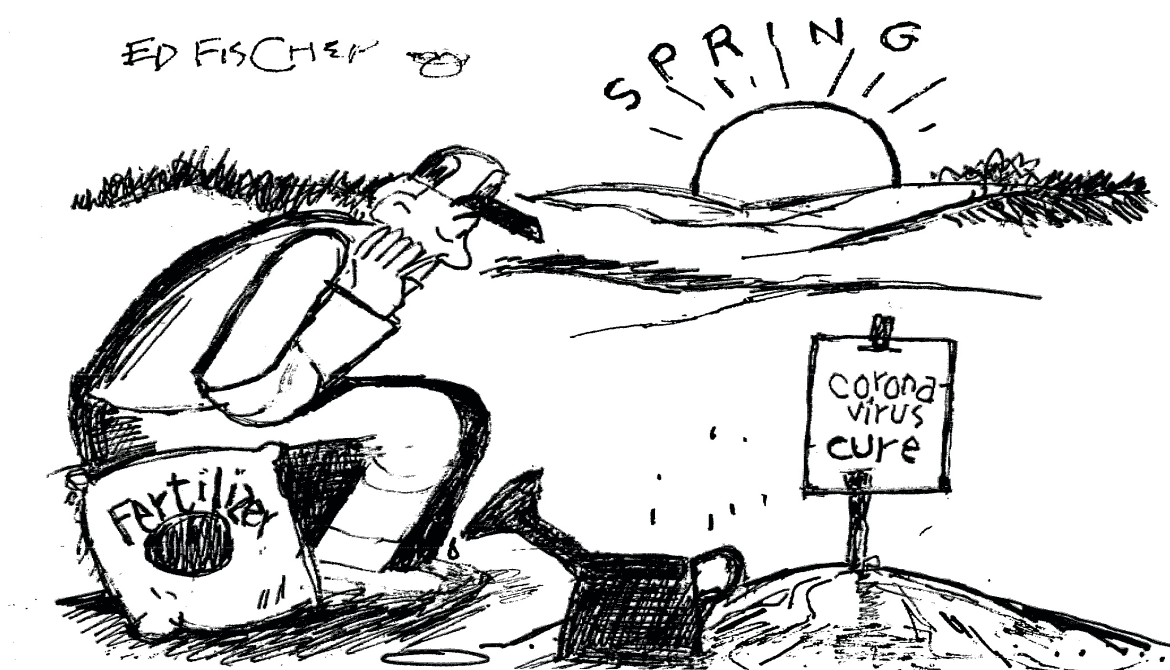
So if you don’t have a good reason to practice social distancing, please feel free to use one of mine. Stop listening to Facebook and a reality TV star who happens to be our president. Instead, listen to scientists and physicians and STAY HOME. Please understand, despite

what Trump says, things won’t magically be better by Easter and we are in this for the long haul.

I get it. It’s hard to focus on the future right now when there is so much of the future that is unknown. And yes, it sucks to not be able to leave your house to travel or shop or play sports or go to prom. But the decisions you make today will affect our entire world for years and years to come.

Also, to the anti-vaxxers, this is what disease looks like when no one has immunity. You’re welcome for protecting you from several other (scarier and deadlier) diseases via herd immunity. Please use this time to reconsider and get your immunizations updated.

Kat Dahl, daughter of Mark Dahl and Dr. Diane Kennedy, is completing her residency at the Sioux Falls Family Medicine Program, working at both Avera and Sanford hospitals. She has signed with Sanford Luverne where she’ll practice in 18 to 24 months. She lives in Brandon, South Dakota, with her husband, Brooks Maurer, who teaches in Luverne. This information appeared on her Facebook page.



Prescription for the next several weeks: Go on an outdoor shed hunt

There is no way to pretend that this CV-19 thing is not a big deal.

I started out with more than a little suspicion, as I think many of us did. But after a talk with my daughter, Brittany Remme, a certified registered nurse anesthetist, I got the clear picture. I understand all the rules and figure that working in the outdoors by myself or with one other meets the definition of social distancing.

So, if you are looking for something to do for the next few weeks, I have an idea that will get you outside, generate some good exercise and improve your mental health. And you might just learn some things along the way. That outdoor idea is to send you on a shed hunt.

These would be the shed antlers of the white-tailed deer that occupy most of Minnesota. Male deer shed their antlers every late winter/early spring. They start a new set of antler growth



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall

and each successive year the antlers generally get larger than the last.

This is true until the deer gets to a very old age, at which point antler growth will decline. The best finds include really large antlers, and an even better is if you can find the matched set of any deer. This would require you to find both the left and right antler, and they don’t often drop them anywhere near close to each

other. They might be two miles or more apart.

Shed hunters can be very intense. I have seen individuals walk 40 miles or more in a month looking for sheds.

So, what makes some deer’s antlers really big and others almost tiny?

There are many factors, but one of the most important is age. A deer can grow an impressive rack when it gets to about 4 years of age. The

problem in southwest Minnesota is that almost no deer reach this age.

I have said that there is no place in Nobles, Rock, Murray, Pipestone and other nearby counties where a deer can stand up in the open and not be seen with binoculars from the road.

Another reason some antlers are big and others are small is certainly genetics. There are deer that have the genes to grow big bodies and big horns and the opposite is also true. Many hunters who spend their time doing something called QMD which stands for Quality Deer Management will not harvest a little buck.

As part of QMD, different minerals and additives mixes are available to give the deer the necessary nutrients to grow bigger bodies and bigger antlers. Products vary and some are considered baiting and others are not. You need to know

which is which and act accordingly.

You can walk on any of the state’s citizen-owned lands like wildlife management areas. Any Federal Waterfowl Production Area can be walked on and the deer use these spots. You could find sheds on these parcels.

Take your kids and get an outdoor learning adventure started. A little time in Mother Nature might help soothe some of the day’s mental stress of coronavirus.

If for one am watching for the light at the other end of this tunnel thing called CV-19. You can see it better from outside.

Scott Rall, Worthington, is a habitat conservationist, avid hunting and fishing enthusiast and is president of Nobles County Pheasants Forever. He can be reached at scottarall@gmail.com or on Twitter @habitat champion.

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
Advertising: Chantel Connell
Production: Heather Johnson
Production: Danae Meinerts
Production: Alexis Hanson
Office manager: Deb Lusty
Office assistant: Jennifer Nelson
News staff:
Lori Sorenson, editor
Mavis Fodness, reporter
Esther Frakes, copy editor

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

March 20

•Complainant on E. 1st Street and Josephine Avenue, Hills, reported vehicles stuck in snow.

•Complainant on Golf Course Lane, Beaver Creek, reported a parked or abandoned vehicle.

•Complainant on Mead Court reported threatening communication.

March 21

•Complainant requested to speak to a deputy.

•Complainant on S. Water Avenue, Hills, reported an open door.

•Complainant on W. Meat Court reported a noise complaint.

March 22

•Complainant on W. Barck Avenue reported an open garage door.

•Complainant on 80th Avenue reported an issue with someone living in his house.

March 23

•Keys were found at location on Lincoln and Cedar streets.

March 24

•Report of road closure on 41st Street and 50th Avenue, Hills.

•Complainant on N. Jackson Street reported a broken window.

•Complainant on 161st Street reported a vehicle in park after hours.

March 25

•Complainant on E. Main Street reported a suspicious person inside at location.

•Deputy reported a civil matter on Fletcher Street.

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue requested to speak to a deputy.

March 26

•Complainant on N. McKenzie Street reported an abandoned vehicle.

March 27

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant on W. Bishop Street and N. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

In addition, officers responded to 1 vehicle in ditch, 1 follow-up, 2 transports, 8 escorts, 13 ambulance runs, 2 paper services, 4 animal complaints, 8 burn permits, 1 vehicle impound, 20 purchase and carry permits, 6 alarms, 4 traffic stops, 10 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests and 3 welfare checks.



Mavis Fodness photo/0402 standoff with officers

Rock County had 5 deputies along with 1 state patrol officer involved. Rock County Ambulance was also on scene.

Deputies diffuse standoff with local resident

By Lori Sorenson

Local law enforcement was involved in a standoff with a Luverne resident for several hours Monday night before the ordeal ended without incident.

The Rock County Sheriff's Office was called to 123 North Estey at about 5:20 p.m. for a welfare check on Douglas Randall Schmidt.

Law Enforcement was advised that Schmidt was intoxicated and that

weapons may be involved. When officers arrived, Schmidt told them he was fine and that they could leave.

Knowing of a weapon in the home and about his condition, deputies set up a perimeter around the house and attempted to communicate with Schmidt, who eventually allowed discussion and then left with officers to be brought in for evaluation.

According to Sheriff Evan Verbrugge, Schmidt's mother recently moved into a

nursing home after he had cared for her a number of years.

"This was tough for him to deal with," Verbrugge said. "He wasn't a danger to the public or himself. Law enforcement took proper procedures to making sure that both he and the public were safe."

No charges will be filed as he did not threaten the public or law enforcement.

Five deputies, one state patrol officer and the Rock County Ambulance assisted on the scene.

Hospital prepares for coronavirus/continued from page 1

But she stressed that it's up to residents in the community to do their part to lessen the impact by staying out of contact with each other.

"This isn't going to be over in a couple of weeks," Loosbrock said. "It might not peak until late May or June."

Sheltering in place remains the most effective way to stem the spread of the disease, which is why Gov. Tim Walz ordered a two-week stay-at-home order that began Friday.

Meanwhile, Sanford Luverne has stepped up measures to protect existing patients and to prepare for coronavirus hospitalizations.

For example, on March 27, Sanford Luverne implemented the policy that no visitors may enter the hospital except with minors or adult patients who require assistance. Also, one visitor is allowed per new mom and baby.

Loosbrock said the new measures are difficult for patients and families, but they're necessary to protect everyone involved.

"We would like to thank everyone for their understanding as we adapt during the coronavirus pandemic," she said. "We are making these changes for the wellbeing of the community."

Loosbrock said she's received many questions about testing or test results, which are released by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Also, local physicians are using video formats for child checkups, follow-up visits and consults for chronic conditions so patients can remain in their homes.

"When patients call the clinic to schedule, the phone staff will help set up these visits," Loosbrock said.

"Staff has to ensure that the patient gets the visit with their primary care provider."

Dr. Diane Kennedy said remote visits make sense.

"Patients are being told to shelter in place and they can avoid going out with the video visit," she said. "I can spend time with them and discuss medications or new symptoms, whatever we would

cover in person."

She said the checkup depends on the reliability of patient resources, such as home blood pressure machines, but most of the visits can be covered remotely.

"I am thrilled to do this," Kennedy said. "People would be surprised how much these work like in-person visits and they have the benefit of reducing exposure."

Loosbrock said Sanford staff takes extra precautions to accommodate patients who do need to enter the facility, by cleaning public areas thoroughly and isolating patients with coronavirus symptoms or history.

"Patients who exhibit respiratory symptoms of any kind will be taken to a separate area for check-in and waiting," Loosbrock said.

She said it's very important that people call ahead before coming to the hospital or clinic with coronavirus symptoms. The clinic phone number is 507-283-4476.

Funeral homes/from page 1

niture after human contact and a staff person records guests at the register so a pen isn't passed from one hand to another.

"I do also hope that the public can be thoughtful of our staff and their families as they're put at risk of exposure to the virus," Hartquist said.

While the pandemic has made difficult times more difficult for families he works with, he said most people have understood the precautions.

"I'm sure that they wish they could share their grief with the community, as in our area very much community is extended family," Hartquist said.

"For many families under these circumstances, they also understand the importance to follow the CDC guidelines so that we can also be a good citizen to our neighbors, community and country and stop the spread of this dangerous virus."

He said he's doing what he can to maintain important rituals and ceremonies with limited in-person gatherings and with technology to connect everyone else.

Some families are choosing an initial ceremony with the potential of a larger ceremony after the pandemic threat has passed.

Hartquist said the coronavirus has presented the biggest challenge in his 19 years of funeral service, particularly in his concern for the grieving.

"I have worried deeply for the families that have had a loved one die. I have worried that not only has their loved one been taken from their lives, but so too have the proven rituals that we have come to rely on for us to move forward in our grief journey," he said.

"By removing visitation and religious ceremonies, I worry that the community lost a platform to be supportive to grieving families, to share in a hug or a meaningful story and to express to the family how important their loved one was to the makeup of our community."

On the other hand, necessary social distancing has created opportunities for more

"I have worried deeply for the families that have had a loved one die. I have worried that not only has their loved one been taken from their lives, but so too have the proven rituals that we have come to rely on for us to move forward in our grief journey."

— Jeff Hartquist

meaningful conversations with clergy and more intimate private goodbyes that a public venue may not have allowed.

"I had a family be able to experience every little step of the funeral for what it was and at their own pace because we didn't have to follow a set schedule. I think that it is important to know that ceremony under these circumstances can still give us the healthy experience we need."

Both funeral homes are leaning more on technology by recording funerals for families and livestreaming services that are available online.

In addition to a webcasting service, Hartquist Funeral home has an online "collaboration center" for arrangement planning and aftercare through its free [Domaniforgrief.com](https://www.domaniforgrief.com).

"As a funeral home, this pandemic has tested us, but I would like to think we are better today than we were yesterday," Hartquist said.

"Our staff has done a wonderful job of coming together and communicating, and we will continue to push ourselves to serve our community in any way possible during this time."

Dingmann echoed this sentiment. "We would just like people to know that we will always do anything we can do to guide people through the grieving process whatever challenges may arise."

Grocery, liquor booming business/from page 1

emergency rooms as possible.

Incidentally, smoke shops like Herb 'N' Legend in Luverne remain open for similar reasons.

Store owner Terry Gray said he's taking health precautions by limiting the number of customers in the store, offering curbside pickup and using medical grade cleaners to prevent spread of germs.

"We are unique in that the majority of our products are behind counters and in cases so people can't touch things besides cases," Gray said. "Those are easy to sterilize after each customer."

While many people have continued working, either from home or from protected work areas, grocery stores are among the most visible places of business still operating at full capacity.

At Sunshine Foods in Luverne, store manager Jason Oye said he and store workers are scrambling to stay ahead of product demand.

"I wish people understood that we're not closing," Oye said while stocking shelves March 26. "Grocery supply chains are open; you don't need to stock up."

In particular, Sunshine — and many other businesses across the Midwest — couldn't stay ahead of toilet paper demand. Many shoppers arrived in those aisles to find empty shelves that would be restocked the following day only to be depleted again by hoarding shoppers.

Similar shortages later happened with bread and potatoes, as those items became the focus of irrational concern.

With Minnesota schools dismissed through May, Oye has managed to keep enough employees on hand to keep up with stocking shelves and carrying out groceries.

Background

Area businesses have been affected by the coronavirus since March 13 when Gov. Tim Walz first declared a peacetime emergency due to the pandemic threat.

On March 15 he ordered the temporary closure of public schools. On March 16 he ordered the closure of bars, restaurants and other places of public accommodation.

On March 24 state government and public health directives closed non-essential businesses and limited residents from participating in non-essential activities to mitigate the community spread of coronavirus in Minnesota and nationwide.

On Friday, March 27, all Minnesotans were ordered to stay at home or in their place of residence except to engage in the activities and critical sector work through April 10.

As of Monday, March 30, there were 576 lab-confirmed cases in Minnesota, up 73 from Sunday to Monday, and so far 10 reported deaths.

Worldwide there are 737,000 cases and 35,000 deaths as of Monday afternoon, and in the United States 143,000 cases and over 2,500 deaths (776 in New York).

County/from 3

•Veteran Services Officer is working in a separate office in the courthouse. Phone 507-283-5061.

•County attorney is working with the court's system coronavirus procedures for additional videoconferencing or the rescheduling of court dates. 507-283-

•Administration/emergency management is participating in local and state videoconferencing to stay at least a week ahead of personal protection supplies especially masks for the hospital and area nursing home personnel. Phone 507-283-5065.

The county's closure of offices to the public is in effect until April 10, the last day of the state's shelter-in-place directive.

The directive instructs residents to stay home and limit their movements. The effort is to slow the spread of the coronavirus to give communities more time to prepare for a potential surge of affected people in the next couple of weeks.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION ZONING VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held before the HARDWICK BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. to consider an application for a Zoning Variance from Chandler Feed Company. Consistent with Covid-19 CDC Guidelines and pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.021 the hearing will be conducted via teleconference. People wishing to participate can join the conference by calling 1-877-549-5018 and enter conference ID "41237".

The request seeks a height variance to all the construction of a grain bin reaching a height of 114' at 107 1st Street West, Hardwick, MN being described as County Auditor's Plat of Outlots 35-104-45 and indemnified as Tax Parcel #14-0013-000, Rock County, Minnesota.

All persons desiring to be heard should call the above phone number. Any person desiring to submit written statements or other documents may mail them to City Clerk's Office, PO 31, Hardwick, MN 56134 or call 507-669-6635 to arrange for the delivery of the documents.

Dated: March 26, 2020
Tammy J. Johnson
Hardwick City Clerk

Design Homes, Inc.

**Energy-Efficient
For A Lifetime Of Savings!**

Our **HUGE** Cost Savings
Can Make Your NEW Home
Affordable!

**We Deliver
Statewide To
IA, WI, MN, IL**

**100% Custom
Built &
ALL Homes
Follow State
Code**

Our New "Classic Series" 3-Bedroom
Home Starts at Around **\$95,000!**
(Shown with a few options)

**All Brand
Names...Like
Kohler, Pella
& Mohawk**

www.DesignHomes.com
507-451-2888
Medford, MN

Luverne

Blue Mound Liquor

**We are offering delivery
to your home!**

\$50.00 minimum

**City limits of Luverne only
Order over phone
Pay with credit card
Valid ID at the time of delivery**

Curbside pick up also available

Gift Cards
available

319 W Main St, Luverne
507-449-5052

Follow Us On
f i t

Celebrating a birthday curbside

Story and photos
by Mavis Fodness

Luverne Elementary second-grader Isley Smith celebrated her eighth birthday with an unusual party Wednesday, March 25, by receiving birthday wishes curbside at her home on West Dodge Street.

Parents Andrea and Michael Smith originally planned to take Isley and her friends to a bowling alley for a birthday party. But these plans were canceled by shelter-in-place orders to slow the

spread of the coronavirus, so Andrea got creative.

“When we told her there would be no school on her birthday and no bowling party, she was very understanding,” Andrea said. “So I thought it would be a fun surprise to let her see her friends, if only for a few minutes, on her actual birthday.”

Seven of Isley’s friends extended curbside birthday greetings.



Above left: Isley Smith waves a distant thank you to Janae Zeutenhorst for the birthday card. **Middle:** Stacey Thone (far right) finishes singing “Happy Birthday to You” to Isley Smith as she and her daughter, Marris, pull to the curb outside the Smith home. **Above right:** A large grin appears on Isley Smith’s face as she takes party favors to classmates waiting at the curb.

MENU

Monday, April 6: Pulled pork on a bun, squash, lettuce salad, cookie.

Tuesday, April 7: Egg bake with ham, tri-taters, cinnamon apples, coffee cake.

Wednesday, April 8: Meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, corn, mandarin oranges.

Thursday, April 9: Beef tips, mashed potatoes, buttered beets, dinner roll, bar.

Friday, April 10: Fish, pasta salad, green beans, corn muffin, choice dessert.

LSS Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals in a community atmosphere.

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

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

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2010)

•Duane and Mary Pike don’t have business degrees, but they’ve more than paid their dues for college tuition.

After 40 years of buying and selling new and used furniture, they’ve learned what sells and what doesn’t.

For example, they once found an overstuffed couch on a rummage sale that they assumed would turn a profit.

“It was beautiful, with a wingback and oversized arms,” Mary said. “It was only \$5, but it was huge. It took up all that space on the floor for a year, and we ended up selling it for \$5.”

That, they said, was a tuition payment. ...

Duane’s Furniture, now known as Brown Church Antiques, is going out of business and the Pikes are retiring. ...

With both of them 77 years old, this time they mean it when they say they’re retiring.

25 years ago (1995)

•Fraser Norton, Hills, began duties Monday as Rock County’s new Extension educator after University of Minnesota hiring staff gave him the official nod last week.

According to the statement on the back of his new business cards, Fraser’s mission as the new Extension agent is “to involve people in improving the quality of life and enhancing the economy and the environment through education, applied

research and through the resources of the University of Minnesota.”

While this is all well and good, Norton said he intends to serve Rock County from the bottom up with his first hurdle being to familiarize himself with the community and the people he will serve. “I really want to get out there and find out what farmers are having problems with and work with them to resolve those problems,” he said Monday.

Norton said he plans to familiarize himself with the area and its issues by attending as many meetings as possible to meet people. He will arrange to meet farmers at their home when possible.

50 years ago (1970)

•It was love at first sight at the South Dakota State Fair last fall when 13-year-old Brad Beers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Beers, Route 2, Luverne, first met “Misty.” Misty was different from the others Brad had met and he vowed she would be his. Mr. Beers sensed his son’s attraction and made the proper arrangements. And now, Brad and the object of his affection live happily together at the Beers’ farm.

Misty is a Queensland Blue Heeler, more commonly known as an Australian Cattle Dog. “Both names are correct,” says Mrs. Beers, “they’re both on the pedigree.”

The breed is very rare in the United States, let alone being non-existent in Rock County, so Brad along with his 15-year-old brother, Scott, kept their eyes and ears open in a search for a male of the species thinking of the future financial advantages of having a bunch of

little heelers. Eventually, a lead came filtering in of the possibility that they might obtain a mate for Misty in Washington state. Inquiries were favorable and in February, Scott acquired “Snicker,” a four-month-old pup.

75 years ago (1945)

•Lloyd Paul, local high school instructor, this week accepted the position of superintendent of schools at Magnolia for the coming year.

Mr. Paul taught in the Magnolia high school for one year prior to his going into the army. He was granted an honorable discharge last October, and came here about December 1. F. C. Cam, present superintendent, will go to Welcome, Minn. to accept a similar position.

Mr. Paul will attend summer school at the University of Minnesota this summer.

100 years ago (1920)

•The northwest quarter of section 31, Beaver Creek township known as the C. H. Baldwin farm, was sold at auction Tuesday for \$313.50 an acre. The purchasers were Henry Rogness, N. H. and Martin A. Sundem.

This farm was owned by N. B. Kahler, who purchased it from Mr. Baldwin in November, 1916, at \$23,000, the seller taking in property at Beaver Creek, valued at \$6,000.

In connection with the sale of the farm Mr. Kahler disposed of his livestock and implements and the total receipts from the sale of the real estate and personal property was in excess of \$57,000.

1873: Martin Township garners name from precinct’s first settler

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 03-26 edition)

Martin

The southwestern corner township had only one and one-half sections of railway lands within its borders and its settlement in the early days was quite rapid, most of the first settlers being Norwegians. It remained a part of Clinton township until March 12, 1873, when, upon the petition of Hans Jensen and others, it was erected into a separate political division. At this time only township 104, range 46, was organized as Martin township, the fractional part of range 47, although a long distance from the mother township, continu-



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president
Rock County Historical Society

ing to be a part of Clinton. Not until July 24, 1876, was the fractional strip given to Martin. The township was named in honor of John Martin, the first settler in the precinct. He located on section 13 in 1869 and built the first house in the township. The records show the following to have received patents to government land: Goodman Anderson (26-27), Asle Skattum (33), Frederick Baugert (29), August Winter (32), Osmund Berkland (21-23), Elbridge D. Hadley (12r47), Frederick Finke (26-28), Gordon R. Badgeson (28), William H. Glass (12r47), Paul Olsen (22-23), William Gyke (30), Thomas B. Taylor

(11r47), Calvin Denney (14), Charles J. Hadley (12r47), Haaver A. Tvanger (28), Sylvia Herrick (12r47), Erick Colby (10), Martin Benteeliet (12), Abraham Halvorson (24r47), George W. Hayes (2), Milo A. Bacon (2r47), Fred Nuffer (11), Robert Lucas (26r47), Nils Iverson (27), Charles C. Cox (8), Neils Arildson (30), John Miller (12), Christian Borchers (11), Walter M. Lee (28), Daniel R. Bowen (35), James Erikson (32), Hector V. Hamlin (5), Charles O. Hartson (2), Gerd L. Thaden (2), Hans J. Hage (6), Hells O. Sjursen (31), Elwood M. Percival (2r47), William A. Johnson (25r47), Hans Z. Hvid (24), Joseph Jacobson

(24), Amund Haaverson (17), Knut O. Egge (29), Mahlon South (24r47), Julia Amson (19), Liberty Price (1r47), Hans Nireson (31), Anders Julson (9), William O. Crawford (4), C. E. Halls (18), Nels Jacobson (20), Even Finkelson (9), Hans Jensen (30), William H. Doran (8), Ole Sevatsen (8), Ole Olson (23), Endre Haaverson (21), Ole Olsen Blagen (35), Julius Thiel (12), Charles B. Trowbridge (18), Casper Taubert (4), Minerth Lukensmeyer (11), Lewis S. Sayre (34r47-35r47), Torgus O. Strandness (20), Ole H. Schien (14r47), E. B. Trowbridge (17), James Bedgood (2r47), Erick E. Sevatsen (8), Nels Johanson (22), Nels Gullickson (17), Gustav Pederson (24r47), Anna M. Aanenson (26r47), Ira H. Bowen (26), Andrew Andrewson (24), Sever Sjursen (24r47), Heirs of Gunder Sjuresen (25r47), Julia Munger (1r47), Gilbert Thompson (19), Peter H. Tveten (13), Haagen Tuff (32), Henry Olsen (23), Louis Pederson (23r47), Os-

mund Berkland (20), Peder G. Tuff (33), Nelson Anderson (24), Mary Nielson (21), Anne P. Somdrol (34), Henrich F. Kothe (11), Haldor Knudsen (35), Christian C. Moe (22), James Oleson (14r47), Heirs of Knut Gilbertson (19), Peder O. Skyberg (15), Ole O. Skyberg (10), John O. Strand (26r47), John O. Tyler (17), William O. Ellingbee (29), John O. Goldberg (15), Andreas Gunderson (21), Gyri Magnuson (25r47), Isabell Peterson (32), Lars O. Thoreson (9), Barnheart Jensen (2), Hans G. Hoff (31), Cynthia Cox (5), Lars Engebretson (35r47), Engbret Larson (35r47), Maggie Peck (23r47), Bent Enderson (10), Knut H. Helgeson (31), Tollef Gilbertson (18), James Eschels (11-10r47), Hiram Heath (5), Daniel T. Scofield (6-7), Hugh Stall (6), Augustus Robideau (34-30), Marit Kjos (34), Alonson C. Scofield (7), Jacob Jorgenson (3), Orlando S. Hathaway (14), Annie Johnson (11r47), Lars O. Kolstrud (26), William Jacobsen

(7), Samuel H. Schoemaker (11r47), Ole M. Rudd (30), William Larson (15), Torgus O. Strandness (29), Bahne Bahnson (5), Aanen Gahrson (13r47), Olivia O. Skyberg (33), Larine Evenson (26r47), Ole Thompson (13r47), Herman Lukensmeyer (14), Frances B. Myrick (9), Gilbert Georgeson (4), Lewis Pederson (23r47), Lars T. Viste (35r47), Knud K. Dakken (26r47), Gustav Pederson (23r47), Amund T. Sexe (13r47), Ole Sandbo (22r47), Harrison White (3), DeWitt C. Prentice (3r47), Gullik G. Sundem (7), Henry F. Loeffler (1r47), Andrew Anderson (18), Heirs of Pedar Evenson (14r47), Alden O. Mudge (22r47), Ole A. Helgeson (25r47), Erik O. Loberg (15r47), Joseph Hathaway (3r47).

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@iu.net.

‘Lunch Ladies’ send out personal message

Luverne school staff assembled 500 sack breakfasts and lunches for students who have been sheltering at home since March 16 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Last week the “lunch ladies” posted a social media message to students reaching out to them with a greeting that read, “Hi, kids, from the Lunch Ladies.” Pictured from left are Cathy Mulder, Holly Barber, Laurie Hunter, Donna Vahey, Pat Heinrichs, Tonya Honermann, Gladys Hemme, Bev Hoover and district food service director Ann Rigney.



OBITUARIES

Linda Jordan

Linda Jordan, 67, Luverne, died Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at the Select Specialty Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A memorial gathering of family and friends is tentatively planned for 1-4 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at the Masonic Temple, 123 North Freeman Street in Luverne.



Linda Greve was born on April 29, 1952, to Fred and Olive (Fremstad) Greve in Luverne. She was baptized and confirmed at the United Methodist Church in Luverne. Linda graduated from Luverne High School in 1970. She lived her entire life in Luverne, living in several different residences until she bought her house on McKenzie Street in 1998.

Linda worked at QSP from the late 1970s through the mid 1990s as a product assembler. She then worked at Luverne Truck in Brandon, South Dakota, as a mirror assembly line leader until her retirement in April 2014. After retiring, she worked at McDonald's as a food prep employee until two

months before her death.

Linda belonged to a group called “The Honyokers.” She enjoyed time with her grandchildren in their various activities, going for car rides, taking walks with her family and her dog Buddy, daily calls with her good friend Laurie Hunter, and staying in touch with her siblings. She was known for her wonderful sense of humor.

Linda is survived by her daughter, Lisa (Bryce) Stoltenberg of Luverne; two grandchildren, Cole and Elliot Stoltenberg; her siblings Curtis “Fred” (Georgia) Greve of Luverne, Marlene Nytes of New Prague, and Wesley (Nancy) Greve of Hutchinson; and several nieces, nephew, grandnieces and grandnephews; and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Sharon Greve; a brother-in-law, Charles Nytes; and a nephew, Chris Greve.

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

(0402 F)

Marvin Kindt

Marvin Henry Kindt, 91, Jasper, died Friday, March 27, 2020, at the Pipestone County Medical Center in Pipestone.

A public service will not take place at this time.

Marvin Kindt was born on Nov. 27, 1928, to Henry and Viola (Lorenzen) Kindt in Luverne. He attended school in Luverne, graduating in 1946.

Marvin married Beverly Lauck on Jan. 20, 1951, in Luverne. That year, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served as a medical equipment specialist stationed in Yokohama, Japan, during the Korean Conflict. He earned the rank of corporal. He was honorably discharged in 1953 and went on to become a member of the Oscar Iverson American Legion.

Marvin and Beverly made their home on a farm near Hardwick. In 1968 the couple sold the farm and moved to Jasper. Marvin retired in 1998.

Marvin was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. He was a frequent blood donor, having received many “gallon pins” from the Red Cross. He loved golf and participated in league play.

He enjoyed doing puzzles and playing cards. He was a member of a couples pinocle club for over 65 years. He was also an avid gardener and had a special affinity for jelly donuts, pie and ice cream. Spending time with his family was very important to him.



Marvin is survived by his wife, Beverly, of Jasper; his children Dennis (Rosie) Kindt of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Sandra (Roger) Wittrock of Savage, and Garry Kindt of Maple Grove; seven grandchildren, Justin Kindt, Jason Mydland, Aaron Wittrock, Rebecca (Wittrock) Beskar, Tara Kindt, Stephen Kindt and Rachel Kindt; seven great-grandchildren; and siblings Elaine Hamann and Marlene (Gary) Mann.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother-in-law, Merle Hamann.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Pipestone. Condolences may be shared directly with the family or on Marvin's Tribute Wall at www.hartquistfuneral.com

(0402 F)

Ronald Niessink

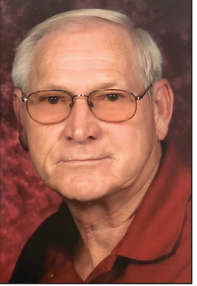
Ronald Allen Niessink, 77, Luverne, died Wednesday, March 25, 2020, in his Green Valley, Arizona, home following nine months of illness.

Ron was a long-time member of the American Reformed Church in Luverne where a Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

Ronald Niessink was born on July 29, 1942, to Gerrit and Rena (Boone) Niessink in Rock Rapids, Iowa. He was raised in Steen and graduated from Hills High School. He worked at the Blue Ribbon Hatchery while in high school and later owned his own trucking business, Farm Egg Route Services. He worked many years for Land O' Lakes until his retirement in 2004.

Ron's children, stepchildren, grandchildren and great-grandchildren consider him to be the most amazing father and grandfather. This will be

his legacy. He was also a loyal friend to many.



He will be remembered for his upbeat attitude, quick and witty humor and love for his family. He loved spending time at the lake, fishing, grilling, playing cards, and traveling with his wife, Mary.

Ron is survived by his wife, Mary, of 29 years; four children, Michelle (Charles) Tonneta, David (Cindy) Niessink, Daniel (Tina) Niessink, and Deb (Jeff) Tatom; four stepchildren, Debra Top, Lisa (Verlyn) Nykamp, Charles Top Jr., and Amy (Tom) Otten; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; his brother, Hyman (Mary) Niessink; and his sister, Marlene Aukes.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, Gerrit Niessink and Rena Boone Niessink, and his stepmother, Irene Wilke Niessink.

(0402 F)

Warming temperatures brings growth to ornamental reed grass

A couple of days of 60-plus weather has certainly inspired me to get to work cleaning up my flower beds.

While working, I noticed the daffodils are already poking through ... that was encouraging but also a reminder to get the work done before I would be damaging them by my cleanup activity.

Every year I remind you that the first plant on the cutback list should be the tall ornamental grass.

Karl Foerster, or feather reed grass, is a cool-season grass, meaning that it begins growing while the weather is still cool.

I did cut several back last Friday, and true to form, the new green growth was already there.

Cut them back as close to the ground as you can or you will have a collar of dead stems circling the base for the rest of the season.

If that grass seems to have a “dead” space in the center, giving the new growth the look of a donut, it is time to lift the clump and divide it.

This grass grows from the center outward, which isn't a big deal unless it is planted in a landscape with mulch of plastic or fabric and rock. In that case, it reaches the edge of the opening of the mulch and can't really grow any further so the clump starts a rapid decline instead of the vigorous column you started with.

That dividing process should be done as soon as possible to give the grass opportunity to reestablish while



KNOW IT AND GROW IT

By George Bonnema, Luverne Horticulturalist

the new growth is still small.

When you get to pruning shrubs, always prune back far enough to give the shrub room to grow.

So often I see people cut a plant back to the size they want it to be. Consequently, they cut it over and over and over through the summer, trying to keep to the size they want, literally destroying the natural form of the shrub and eliminating the chance of any renewal growth to materialize.

Also, always prune out the oldest stems to encourage new growth from the base. Those new stems replacing the old stems are what keep the shrub growing and looking its best.

Bonnema is a gardening enthusiast and former greenhouse owner. He can be reached at flowergh@iuv.net.

CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

Loren and Shirley Fick will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, April 4. Greetings may be sent to them at 989 124th Avenue, Luverne, MN 56156.

WE'RE OPEN, BUT OUR DOORS ARE CLOSED

Star Herald Newsstand \$1.25

Please place your money in the cup

Although we have locked our office doors to community members until further notice, we are still here to serve you. Our entryway is open to anyone who would like an issue of the Star Herald. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

507-283-2333 | editor@star-herald.com

Gregg Nath

Gregg Mark Nath, 61, Luverne, died Saturday, March 28, 2020, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

A memorial Mass will take place at St. Catherine Church in Luverne at a later date.



Gregg Nath was born on Nov. 16, 1958, to Orlen and Corinne (Ruddy) Nath in Luverne. He was the fourth of seven children. Gregg received all of his sacraments at and was a lifelong member of St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. He graduated from Luverne High School in 1977.

He farmed for seven years with his father and brothers. Gregg moved to South Carolina and worked at Wal-Mart until 1989 when he moved back to the Midwest. He worked at Sam's Club until he was no longer healthy enough to work.

Gregg was an avid Minnesota Twins fan and saw them play at the Metropolitan Stadium, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome and Target Field. Gregg also enjoyed watching

the Minnesota Vikings and the Luverne Cardinals. He loved music and collected many albums over the years. He was a quiet, kind man who enjoyed the simple things in life, like reading books, playing cards and spending time with his family.

Gregg is survived by his mother, Corinne Nath, Luverne; his stepmother, Mary Jo Nath, Luverne; three brothers, Michael (Janet) Nath, Luverne, Steve (Wendy) Nath, Luverne, and Thomas (Lisa) Nath, Luverne; two sisters, Pamela (Michael) Welch, Yankton, South Dakota, and Joni (Kraig) Keck, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; a stepbrother, Kevin (Karen) Brandenburg, Burnsville; a stepsister, Susan (Randy) Schneekloth, Luverne; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Orlen Nath, and his brother, Joel Nath.

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

(0402 F)

DEATH NOTICE

Alice Severtson

Alice L. Severtson, 93, Pipestone, died Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at the Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

Burial will be in the Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery in Hills. A funeral service will be at a later date.

Condolences may be shared directly with the family or on Alice's Tribute Wall at www.hartquistfuneral.com. Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Pipestone.

(0402 DN)

LUVERNE'S CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE

RESCHEDULED

JUNE 11 12 & 13

Due to COVID19... RUMMAGE SALE RESCHEDULED Registration Deadline June 1

Luverne Area Chamber & CVB

We're here to help.

Simply put, our customers are our first priority. For more than 30 years, we've been committed to you and the communities in which you live, work, and play. It's a pursuit that's never changed, and one that never will. Through the good times and the tough, one truth remains —

Together, we are stronger.

Doers Welcome™

MINNWEST BANK MEMBER FDIC

» minnwestbank.com | 1-844-MINNWEST

Star Herald CHURCH

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

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

Services are live-streamed through the St. Catherine Facebook page at 9 a.m. Sundays. Cable channel 3 will air the service at 3 p.m. Wednesdays.

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

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

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

Sunday 10:30 a.m. worship service can be viewed live on Facebook through a link on the website: www.fbcluverne.org or directly on our Facebook page: First Baptist Church of Luverne MN. Services are posted to the website on Tuesday and are available to view, along with past sermons. Vast Channel 3 will also air our service Thursdays at 8 p.m.

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

Online, TV and Radio Worship. Pr. Ann, Pr. Ron and organist Beryl Haugen will be recording worship services until we can meet together as a group. Each week we will update our recorded1 worship. On-line: Sundays at 9 a.m., our worship service can be viewed live from our website at www.graceluverne.org on the Facebook insert, or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 PM and Fridays at 6:30 PM. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 AM.

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

Online worship and devotions at home. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne). Also visit els.org for online worship opportunities with our sister churches.

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

Join us for live online worship Sundays at 9:30 AM at www.arcluverne.org/watch-live/ or on our Facebook page @arcluverne. Services can also be viewed at a later time through these same avenues. Worship services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 PM and Wednesdays at 4 PM. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

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

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luverneumc@iw.net
Thursday, March 26: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf — drive up.
Sunday, March 29: 9 a.m. 10 a.m. Worship Service — live streamed.
Monday, March 30: 9:30 a.m. Folding team. Wednesday, March 25: 5:30 p.m. Community Meal by delivery or take out only; call or email

church office, 283-4529 or secretary@umcluverne.com. Thursday, April 2: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf. — drive up.

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

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

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

Sunday Morning Service will be recorded at 5:30 p.m. with necessary personnel and will be available on the Vast channel 3 Tuesday at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and online at the chamber website. Pastor Klatt is available for family visits in their homes by invitation or at church for groups of less than 10 for the purpose of worship and prayer.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Pastor
Worship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills will be online only through the end of March. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills MN Sunday morning at 10:30AM. You can find more info on our website blchills.org.

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

Where is God in suffering?

How long, O Lord? Psalm 13 opens with this question which I find fitting for our current situation.

How long is this going to last? How long are we going to be asked to neglect our need to socialize?

How long until we can visit our loved ones who live in care facilities?

How long until we can assemble in person for worship?

How long, O Lord? The trouble is, we don't know. The strain of coronavirus that is tearing through the world right now is completely new to human beings, meaning no one is immune, and there is currently no cure.

The only tool we have to slow the spread is washing our hands thoroughly and often, staying home as much as we possibly can, and keeping our distance if we must go somewhere.

So where is God in all of this? This is the question on many faithful people's minds.

It's an age-old question in the face of suffering. If God is all-powerful, why does God let something like this happen?

Unfortunately, we don't have an answer to this question, though as Christians, the closest we come to one is to look to Jesus. The person of Jesus Christ is where God is most fully revealed to us. So what do we see? In Christ, we see how God responds to suffering. God doesn't provide us with some magic potion or secret code that allows us to avoid suffering or an answer key to rationalize why it exists. Rather, God enters into our suffering as Jesus goes to the cross.

But the story doesn't end there. Three days later, Christ is risen. The tomb is empty on Easter morning. These truths stand even if our

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Rev. Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hills

This pandemic is not God's doing. We are not being punished ...

churches are also empty on Easter morning this year as we stay safe in our homes.

Through Christ's death and resurrection, we see what God does with pain, suffering, and tragedy; it is transformed.

Nothing stops new life from bursting forth from the tomb. God redeems our suffering. God takes it to the cross and transforms it into something life-giving, into balm for our brokenness.

This pandemic is not God's doing. We are not being punished or given a collective test of faith. We are experiencing a public health crisis. These things happen sometimes.

No one is exempt from suffering. The suffering that comes with this current pandemic looks different for each of us, but God enters into all of it. God is present with us, sustaining the healers caring for the sick and vulnerable, weeping with those who grieve, calming our fears and showing up in our lives in quiet ways and obvious ones.

In whatever place you shelter, may God bring joy, laughter and peace to you during this time of great uncertainty.

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

Call Rick or Chantel to place your ad!

283-2333

Read us online!

Rock County STAR HERALD
www.Star-Herald.com

Trust in Him



Papik MOTORS
283-9171
PAPIK.COM
Luverne, MN
Rock Rapids, IA

HILLS STAINLESS STEEL & EQUIPMENT CO., INC.
506 W. Koehn, P.O. Box 987, Luverne, MN
PHONE 507-283-4405
Church is Important - Please Attend!

Buffalo Ridge INSURANCE
507-283-2381 www.buffaloridgeins.com E-mail: info@buffaloridgeins.com

McClure Electric
Alan M. Aanenson, owner
Farm, Home & Commercial Wiring
Luverne, MN Phone 507-283-4716

TUFF MEMORIAL HOME
A HOME WITH A HEART!
Hills, MN • 507-962-3275

MINNWEST BANK
116 East Main Street • Luverne • 507-283-2366
Hwy. 75 • 800 South Kniss • Luverne • 507-283-9131
www.minnwestbank.com • Member FDIC • MoneyLine 888-616 BANK

Advertise Here

SECURITY SAVINGS BANK
bankwithssb.com 507.449.6000
Member FDIC Luverne, MN

HARTQUIST
Funeral and Cremation Services
Pipestone • Luverne • Lake Benton • Jasper • Tyler
www.HartquistFuneral.com

Pizza Ranch
110 E Main, Luverne 507-283-2379

CWG Business Insurance.
Tri-State Region *Period!*

MANLEY
Manley Minnesota
1-800-615-3704
Open six days a week - Closed on Sundays
To God be the Glory.

Luverne ANNOUNCER

First Farmers & Merchants
303 E. Main, Luverne, MN
507-283-4463
www.ffmbank.com
We believe in you.™
Member FDIC. And the community.

City of Luverne declares local emergency

RESOLUTION NO. 9-20
RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019, commonly known as "COVID-19," which is a respiratory disease that can result in serious injury or death, is spreading globally and has been identified by the World Health Organization ("WHO") as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a National Emergency; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has been confirmed to exist and be spreading within the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz declared a Peacetime State of Emergency to authorize any and all necessary resources to be used in support of the COVID-19 response; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Tim Walz issued an executive order - Providing for Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 12.29 authorizes the Mayor of the City of Luverne to declare a local emergency, and further provides that the state of local emergency may not be continued for a period in excess of three days except by or with the consent of the City Council of the City of Luverne; and

WHEREAS, the United States Center for Disease Control ("CDC") and Minnesota Department of Health ("MDH") have advised that aggressive community mitigation strategies are necessary to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and deaths, and limit the economic impacts of the outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is an unforeseen, present, sudden, and unexpected situation, which requires immediate action to be taken to prevent damage to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Luverne; and

WHEREAS, the necessary resources to respond to and recover from this pandemic will likely exceed those resources available within the City, and additional resources may be needed from Rock County, state and federal sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Luverne, Minnesota, that:

1. By signing this Resolution, Mayor Patrick Baustian declares that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a local emergency within the City of Luverne, effective March 24, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided in Minn. Stat. Ch. 12, and as otherwise provided for in the City of Luverne's Charter, City Code and Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
2. The City Council, by adopting this Resolution, agrees with the Mayor's declaration of a local emergency within the City of Luverne and hereby extends such state of local emergency until such time as this resolution is rescinded by the City Council.
3. The Mayor and City Council hereby support City staff in their ongoing review of City ordinances, regulatory requirements, operations, practices, events, and resources to determine whether the foregoing should be adjusted or suspended, and to make recommendations regarding additional emergency regulations to support the employees and residents of the City of Luverne.
4. The Mayor and City Council hereby support City staff in their ongoing operations and support the response to this incident, under the direction and coordination of the City Administrator, including implementing new employee protocols, strategies, and processes to ensure that public services are maintained while best protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public and the City's employees.
5. The Mayor and City Council hereby support the City's City Administrator and other appropriate City staff to request and coordinate appropriate aid and resources from surrounding jurisdictions, Rock County, the State of Minnesota, and the Federal government, as needed.

6. The Mayor and City Council hereby declares, under Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, that in-person meetings of the City Council and its subcommittees, Planning Commission, and other advisory boards and commissions of the City of Luverne may not be practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and the peacetime emergency declared by Governor Walz pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12, and hereby directs that meetings of the City Council and its subcommittees, Planning Commission, and other advisory boards and commissions of the City may be conducted by telephone or other electronic means, and hereby authorizes the City Administrator to take such action as may be necessary to enable such meetings to occur via telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, until such time as it is no longer impractical or imprudent for the City Council, Planning Commission, and other advisory board or commission to resume in-person meetings. In person meetings for the period specified herein shall be limited to meetings that are required by state law, Charter, or City Code or are otherwise determined necessary and prudent by the City Administrator in consultation with the Mayor.

7. The Mayor and City Council hereby orders that this declaration be given prompt and general publicity and that it be filed promptly by the City Clerk.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUVERNE, MINNESOTA, this 24th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Patrick T. Baustian, Mayor
/s/ John M. Call, City Administrator
(04-02)

Van Westen probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

In Re: Albertus Van Westen
Deceased

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on April 27, 2020, at 8:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 204 E. Brown Street, Luverne, MN 56156, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent, dated May 2, 2017, and codicil(s) to the Will dated _____, and separate writing(s) under Minn. Stat. 524.2-513 ("Will"), and for the appointment of Keith Van Westen, whose address is 114 W. Dodge Street, Luverne, MN 56156, and, of Kevin Van Westen, whose address is 2600 S. Grinnel Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57106, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration.

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

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minn. Stat. 501B.41, subd. 5.

Attorney for Petitioners
Benjamin Vander Kooi, Jr.
Vander Kooi Law Offices, P.A.
127 E. Main, PO Box 746
Luverne, MN 56156
Attorney License No.: 112124
FAX: 507-283-9629
Email: lawkooi@gmail.com

BY THE COURT
/s/ Terry S. Vajgert
District Court Judge
/s/ Denise Brandel
Court Administrator

(04-02, 04-09)

NOTICE OF DELINQUENT TAXES

State of Minnesota

County of Rock

TO: ALL PERSONS WITH A LEGAL INTEREST IN THE PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE FOLLOWING DELINQUENT TAX LIST

A list of real property in Rock County on which delinquent property taxes and penalties are due has been filed with the District Court Administrator of Rock County. This list is published to inform all persons that the listed property is subject to forfeiture because of delinquent taxes.

The property owner, taxpayer, or other interested person must either pay the tax and penalty, plus interest and costs, or file a written objection with the district court administrator. The objection must be filed by April 22, 2020, stating the reason why the tax or penalty is not due on the property. If no objection is filed, a court judgment will be entered against the property for the unpaid tax, penalty, interest and costs.

For property under court judgment, the period of redemption begins on May 11, 2020. The period of redemption means the time within which taxes must be paid to avoid losing the property through forfeiture. The period of redemption is three years, with a handful of exceptions. The redemption period is one year for most properties located in a targeted neighborhood, as defined in the Minnesota laws, and for municipal solid waste disposal facilities. The redemption period is five weeks for certain abandoned or vacant properties.

You may also enter into a confession of judgment as an alternative method to paying off the delinquent tax amount and avoiding forfeiture. This allows you to pay the delinquent balance in equal annual installments with a down payment due at the time you confess judgment. The length of the installment plan varies: 5 years for commercial-industrial/public utility property; 10 years for all other properties.

If you have homesteaded property, you may be eligible for a Senior Citizen's Property Tax Deferral, which enables seniors to pay just 3% of their total household income and allow remaining amounts to become a lien on the property that may be deferred for later payment (perhaps upon eventual sale of the property).

It should also be noted by property homesteaders that you are ineligible to receive the Property Tax Refund while you owe delinquent property tax.

To determine how much interest and costs must be added to pay the tax in full, contact the Rock County Auditor-Treasurer's Office, Rock County Courthouse, 204 East Brown St, PO Box 509, Luverne, Minnesota 56156-0509. You may also contact the Auditor-Treasurer at (507) 283-5060 or ashley.kurtz@co.rock.mn.us.

/s/ Natalie Reisch

Deputy District Court Administrator

Fifth Judicial District

Date: February 5, 2020

District Court Seal

DELINQUENT TAX LIST				
The following table contains a list of real property located in Rock County on which taxes and penalties became delinquent on January 2, 2020. Interest calculated from January 1, 2020, and county costs must be paid along with the total tax and penalties in order for a parcel of real property to be removed from the delinquent tax list.				
NAME OF OWNERS, TAXPAYERS & INTERESTED PARTIES	PARCEL NUMBER & DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	YEAR	TOTAL TAX AND PENALTY	
TOWN OF BATTLE PLAIN				
KARI M LEWIS-MATHEWS & CHRISTOPHER W MATHEWS	01-0093-000 SECT-22 TWP-104 RNG-44 5.76 A TR IN N 760' OF W 330' OF NW 1/4 EXC 0.29 A TR #75 & EXC 0.11 A CSAH #2	2019	557.69	
TOWN OF CLINTON				
DAVID EEKHOF	03-0130-000 SECT-07 TWP-101 RNG-45 0.87 A TR IN SW 1/4 DESC AS: COM AT SW COR OF SD SW 1/4; N ON W LN OF SEC 7 10 RDS; E = S LN OF SD SEC 14 RDS; S 10 RDS; W ON S LN OF SD SEC 14 RDS TO POB	2019	288.61	
MARILYN LOUISE SHEEHAN	03-0216-000 VILLAGE OF ASHCREEK LOTS 5 & 6 BLOCK 4	2019	222.75	
TOWN OF DENVER				
DOUGLAS DEAN LAFRENZ	04-0052-000 SECT-04 TWP-104 RNG-45 A 4.44 A TR IN S 1/2 OF SE 1/4 COM AT + OF C L OF US HWY 75 WITH S LN OF SEC 3, NWLY ON C L 1236.6', WLY 75' TO POB, WLY 15', NWLY 123.24', WLY 467.38', SLY 190.20', SELY 199.17', SLY 170.63', SELY 504.27', NWLY 389.87' TO POB	2019	704.25	
CRAIG MULDER & KEITH MULDER	04-0176-000 SEC-14 TWP-104 RNG-45 E 400' OF N 1100' OF SE 1/4 LESS 0.36 A CSAH #19 10.10 ACRES	2019	760.50	
TOWN OF MARTIN				
SHERI ROZEBOOM	08-0269-000 SEC-26 TWP-101 RNG-47 W 462.80' OF FOLLOWING DESC TR: TR IN SW 1/4 DESC AS: COM AT SW COR OF SEC 26; ELY ALG S LN OF SD 1/4 353' TO POB; NLY 33'; CONTN NLY 459.09'; ELY 622.36'; SLY 459.73'; CONTN SLY 33' TO SD S LN; WLY ALG S LN 636.98' TO POB 5.22 ACRES	2019	1,571.08	
TOWN OF ROSE DELL				
WAYNE C KISLOWSKI	10-0036-000 SEC-07 TWP-104 RNG-46 4.47 A TR IN NW 1/4 DESC AS: COM AT C OF MN HWY 23 AT N SIDE OF SEC 7; WLY 7.5' ON N SIDE OF SD SEC TO POB; WLY ON N SIDE OF SD SEC 572.5'; SLY 340' = W SIDE OF SD SEC; ELY 572.5' = N SIDE OF SD SEC; NLY 340' TO POB LESS 0.30 A HWY #23	2019	128.25	
AARON J OLUND & ASHLEY D FACILE	10-0191-000 SEC-11 TWP-104 RNG-47 20.05 A TR IN E 1/2 OF NW 1/4 BEG AT NE COR OF NW 1/4; SLY 632' TO PT 6.06' WLY OF E LN OF SD NW 1/4; WLY 457'; SWLY 84.24'; WLY 141.4'; NLY 35.51'; WLY 715.93'; NLY 664.5' TO NW COR OF SD E 1/2 OF NW 1/4; ELY 1325.22' TO POB	2019	1,067.64	
TOWN OF SPRINGWATER				
DAVID & LISA M DE BOER	11-0176-000 SECT-25 TWP-103 RNG-46 S 570' OF W 710' OF W 1/2 OF SW 1/4 LESS 0.28 A CSAH #8 9.29 ACRES	2019	2,710.80	
DAVID J & LISA M DE BOER	11-0176-300 SECT-25 TWP-103 RNG-46 A 7.84 A TRACT IN S 570.02'; OF E 596.61' OF W 1306.61' OF W 1/2 OF SW 1/4 LESS 0.10 A CSAH #8	2019	997.92	
TOWN OF VIENNA				
DWIGHT W & MARCIA L GANGESTAD	12-0159-000 SECT-20 TWP-103 RNG-44 12.93 A TR IN E 1/2 DESC AS: COM AT NE COR OF SD E 1/2; SLY ON E SIDE OF SD E 1/2 2052' TO POB; WLY = N SIDE OF SD E 1/2 917.4'; SLY = E SIDE OF SD E 1/2 613.8'; ELY = N SIDE OF SD E 1/2 917.4'; NLY 613.8' TO POB LESS 0.24 A HWY #9	2019	1,101.60	
CITY OF BEAVER CREEK				
THOMAS B & LINDA SWANSON	13-0058-000 ORIGINAL PLAT LOTS 9 & 10 BLOCK 11	2019	839.79	
CITY OF HARDWICK				
FERLIN & KIM VANDER POEL O - PETER G AREND III & BONNIE ANN AREND	14-0017-000 AUDITOR'S OUTLOTS 26-104-45 OUTLOT 8	2019	38.25	
DARRIN PRINS & DARCY ROGERS	14-0028-000 AUDITOR'S OUTLOTS 26-104-45 OUTLOTS 22 & 23	2019	329.84	
TRAVIS SCHOOLMEESTER	14-0099-000 ROSS'S SECOND ADDITION LOTS 9 & 10 & E 1/2 OF LOT 11 BLOCK 1	2019	324.00	
TRAVIS SCHOOLMEESTER	14-0100-000 ROSS'S SECOND ADDITION W 1/2 OF LOT 11 & ALL OF LOTS 12 THRU 14 BLOCK 1	2019	128.03	
JAMES PETERSEN	14-0110-100 ROSS'S SECOND ADDITION S 40' OF LOT 17 & ALL OF LOT 18 BLK 2	2019	6,043.50	
DANIEL SPRIK	14-0127-000 HALVERSON'S ADDITION LOTS 6 THRU 8 BLOCK 1	2019	693.00	
CITY OF HILLS				
MILDRED KESTERSON	15-0047-000 ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 5 & N 1/2 OF LOT 6 BLOCK 2	2019	56.25	
WENDELL W & WILMA L BENGSTON	15-0118-000 F.C. FINKE'S ADDITION S 32' OF LOT 8 BLOCK 8	2019	1,755.00	
ROGER C RUSSELL & CHARLOTTE R RUSSELL	15-0201-000 HELGESON'S & QUALLEY'S ADDITION S 32' OF LOT 4 & S 56' OF LOTS 5 & 6 BLOCK 25	2019	683.46	
JUD DUNN	15-0234-000 QUALLEY ADDITION N 34' OF LOT 11 & S 38' OF LOT 12 BLOCK 2	2019	1,205.46	
CITY OF JASPER				
DENNIS & RHONDA GALLOP O - BERNICE HONKEN ET AL	16-0047-000 ROSE DELL ADDTION LOT 4 BLOCK 17	2019	349.37	
MARTINEZ CONCRETE LLC	16-0051-000 ROSE DELL ADDITION COM AT PT 155' N OF NE COR OF BLK 14 IN ROSE DELL ADDITION & BNG POB; N 75'; W 150'; S 75'; E 150' TO POB	2019	331.89	
MAURICIO MARTINEZ	16-0053-000 ROSE DELL ADDITION W 75' OF E 225' OF LOWER PARK	2019	1,053.39	
CITY OF MAGNOLIA				
NATHAN & DARLENE RUST	18-0069-000 ORIGINAL PLAT LOTS 7 THRU 11 BLOCK 5	2019	209.79	
LAURENCE J STOCK & SAMANTHA AUCH	18-0075-000 ORIGINAL PLAT LOT 1 & E 1/2 OF LOT 2 BLOCK 7	2019	139.50	
CITY OF STEEN				
TANNER SCHOLTEN	19-0007-701 SEC-32 TWP-101 RNG-45 COMM AT NW COR OF SEC 32; ELY ALG N LN OF NW 1/4 1116.38'; SLY 164.97' TO POB; SLY 120'; ELY 149.16'; NLY 118.61'; WLY 150' TO POB	2019	66.34	
TANNER SCHOLTEN	19-0007-702 SEC-32 TWP-101 RNG-45 COMM AT NW COR OF SEC 32; ELY ALG N LN OF NW 1/4 1116.38'; SLY 164.97'; SLY 120' TO POB; CONT SLY 120'; ELY 148.33'; NLY 120'; WLY 149.16' TO POB	2019	66.34	
CODY SCHOLTEN	19-0007-704 SEC-32 TWP-101 RNG-45 COMM AT THE NW COR OF SEC 32; ELY ALG N LN OF NW 1/4 1055.22 TO POB; SLY 208.08'; WLY 92.48'; NLY 206.31'; TO N LN OF NW 1/4; ELY ALG N 92.45' TO POB	2019	71.69	
CODY SCHOLTEN	19-0007-705 SEC-32 TWP-101 RNG-45 COMM AT THE NW COR OF SEC 32; ELY ALG N LN OF NW 1/4 1055.22'; SLY 208.08' TO POB; SLY 124.22'; WLY 152.12'; NLY 128.24'; ELY 152.17' TO POB	2019	71.69	
ANNA KERNER	19-0019-100 SEC-29 TWP-101 RNG-45 TR IN SW 1/4 DESC AS: BEG AT PT 48 RDS W OF C OF S LN OF SEC 29; N 20 RDS; W 12 RDS; S 20 RDS; E 12 RDS ON SEC LN TO POB EXC TR DESC AS: BEG AT PT 60 RDS W OF S QTR COR OF SEC 29; N 119'; E 93.41'; S 119' & W 93.41' TO POB & EXC THAT PART OF SW 1/4 DESC AS: COM AT S QTR COR OF SEC 29; WLG ALG S LN OF SW 1/4 792' TO POB; CONTN WLY ALG S LN OF SW 1/4 104.59'; NLY 152'; WLY 45.82'; NLY 177.50; ELY 150.41'; SLY 330' TO POB 0.26 ACRES	2019	112.50	
ANNA KERNER	19-0020-000 SEC-29 TWP-101 RNG-45 0.26 A TR IN SW 1/4 DESC AS: BEG AT PT 60 RDS W OF S QTR COR OF SEC 29; NLY 119'; ELY 93.41'; SLY 119'; WLY 93.41' TO POB	2019	391.50	
REMINGTON CAIN	19-0031-000 SEC-29 TWP-101 RNG-45 THAT PORTION OF UNPLATTED PORTION OF CITY OF STEEN IN NE 1/4 OF NW 1/4 32-101-45 DESC AS: COMM AT NE COR OF LOT 6 BLK 1 OF ORIG PLAT; N ALG W LN OF MAIN ST 77.50' TO POB; CONTN N ALG SD W LN	2019	481.74	

continued on page 10...

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

...continued from page 9

	97.22'; CONTN N 33' TO N SEC LN OF NW 1/4; WLY 80.34'; S 33'; CONTN S 97.77'; ELY 80.34' TO POB		
REMINGTON CAIN	19-0059-000 ORIGINAL LOTS 4 & 5 BLOCK 7	2019	22.50
RANDY & KATHY MARSHALL	19-0073-000 ORIGINAL LOT BLOCK 10	2019	128.40
TOBY NELSON & KAJIA KAUPINS	19-0090-000 UNRECORDED DRIES BOSCH ADDITION TR IN NE 1/4 OF 32-101-45 DESC AS: COM AT NW COR OF QTR SEC LN OF W 1/2 NE 1/4 OF SD SEC 32; S ON QTR SEC LN 666.5'; E 192' ALG N EDGE OF MINNESOTA AVENUE TO POB; N 119' ALG W LN OF WINTERDYKE STREET; W 76'; S 119'; E 76' TO POB SAID TR ALSO DESC AS LOT 10 & E 28' OF LOT 11 BLOCK 4 UNRECORDED DRIES BOSCH ADDITION	2019	1,440.00
RANDY & KATHRYN MARSHALL	19-0103-000 UNRECORDED DRIES BOSCH ADDITION TR IN NE1/4 OF 32-101-45 DESC AS: COM AT NW COR OF SD NE 1/4; S 1036.5'; E 96' TO POB; S 134.25'; E 48'; N 134.25'; W 48' TO POB SAID TR ALSO DESC AS LOT 3 BLOCK 10	2019	6.51
RANDY & KATHRYN MARSHALL	19-0104-100 UNRECORDED DRIES BOSCH ADDITION 2 PRCLS IN NE 1/4 OF 32-101-45 DESC AS: ALL THAT PART OF FORMER RR R/W LNG IN SD NE 1/4 DESC AS: COM AT SW COR OF N 1/2 OF SD NE 1/4 AS POB; ELY ALG S LN OF SD N 1/2 OF NE 1/4 96' TO POB; CONTN E ALG SD S LN 26.5'; NLY = W LN OF SD NE 1/4 44'; WLY = S LN OF SD N 1/2 26.5'; SLY = W LN OF SD NE 1/4 44' TO POB & COM AT NW COR OF SD NE 1/4; S 1182.75'; E 96' TO POB; S 90.25'; E 26.5'; S 44'; E 21.5' N 134.25'; W 48' TO POB SAID TR ALSO DESC AS LOT 6 BLOCK 10	2019	6.51
CITY OF LUVERNE			
DEANNA DYBEDOCK FULLER	20-0148-000 CO AUD PLAT LUVERNE OUTLOTS 11-102-45 N 95' OF W 137.5' OF OUTLOT 13	2019	159.75
DEANNA DYBEDOCK FULLER	20-0149-000 CO AUD PLAT LUVERNE OUTLOTS 11-102-45 OUTLOT 13 EXC 137.5' & EXC E 161' OF N 95' OF W 492.5'	2019	28.21
DEANNA DYBEDOCK FULLER	20-0150-000 CO AUD PLAT LUVERNE OUTLOTS 11-102-45 TR IN OUTLOT 14 DESC AS: COM AT SW COR OF OUTLOT 13; SELY ALG S LN OF SD O L 13 80' TO POB; CONTN SELY ALG SD S LN 422.50'; SWLY 240.90'; NWLY 422.50'; NELY 240.90' TO POB	2019	32.55
DEANNA DYBEDOCK FULLER	20-0151-000 CO AUD PLAT LUVERNE OUTLOTS 11-102-45 TR IN OUTLOT 13 DESC AS: COM AT PT ON W LN OF SD O L 13 95' S FROM NW COR; E = N LN OF SD O L 137.5'; S = CEDAR ST 145.89' TO S LN OF SD O L; W ON S LN OF SD O L 137.5'; N ON W LN OF SD O L 145.89' TO POB	2019	69.44
DEANNA DYBEDOCK FULLER	20-0152-000 CO AUD PLAT LUVERNE OUTLOTS 11-102-45 TR IN OUTLOT 13 DESC AS: COM AT PT ON N LN OF SD O L 13 331.5' E OF NW COR; S = CEDAR ST 95'; E = N LN OF SD O L 161'; N = CEDAR ST 95'; W ON N LN OF SD O L 161' TO POB	2019	34.72
BRIDGET L CONNELL	20-0304-000 BARCK, ADAMS & HOWE'S ADDITION S 63' OF LOT 2 BLOCK 8	2019	481.74
MANDY LEE KOENG	20-0514-000 BLUE MOUND SECOND ADDTION LOT 3 BLOCK 4	2019	756.49
ERIC J FOUNTAIN & GAYLE C FOUNTAIN	20-0540-000 CRAWFORD'S ADDITION LOT 8	2019	752.99
DOUGLAS DEAN LAFRENZ	20-0722-000 CHARLES O HAWES' ADDITION LOT 5 BLOCK 3	2019	747.00
DUSTAN PICK	20-0895-000 KNISS PARK ADDITION LOT 8 BLOCK 6	2019	378.51
O - EDWARD E STEANRS			
CORRINE COLVIN	20-0979-000 P J KNISS ADDITION S 152' OF LOT 4 BLOCK 4	2019	2,471.63
SARA MISTEREK	20-1000-000 P J KNISS ADDITION S 93' OF W 1/2 OF 9 & W 74' OF LOT 14 BLOCK 5	2019	1,594.95
JENNIFER M OAKES	20-1179-000 ORIGINAL PLAT S 45' OF LOTS 1 & 2 BLOCK 15	2019	81.00
JENNIFER M OAKES	20-1180-000 ORIGINAL PLAT N 38' OF S 83' OF LOTS 1 & 2 BLOCK 15	2019	391.50
ELVIRA HUMANZOR MEJIA & EULISES HUMANZOR MEJIA	20-1261-000 RANDALL & HOLBERT'S ADDITION LOT 10 BLOCK 1	2019	349.37
O - HARLAN R SIPMA			
ROSALIA BAUMGARD	20-1611-000 WARREN AND KNISS' ADDITION LOT 5 BLOCK 10	2019	582.75
DEVIN D MC GUIRE	20-1663-000 WARREN AND KNISS' ADDITION N 86' OF LOT 6 BLOCK 13	2019	345.03
SARP LLC	20-1852-000 TR IN NW 1/4 OF NW 1/4 DESC AS: BEG AT NW COR OF SEC 14; S ALG W LN OF SD SEC 322.63'; SELY 357.47' TO ELY R/W LN OF CSTPM&O R/W; NWLY ALG SD WLY R/W LN 317.39' TO N LN OF SD SEC; NWLY ON SD N LN 322.43' TO POB EXC A 0.56 A TR DESC AS: COM AT NW COR OF SECT 16; SELY ALG N LN OF NW 1/4 263' TO POB; CONT SELY 59.12' TO E R/W LN OF ABND RR; SELY ON SD E R/W LN 317.69'; WLY 94.41'; NWLY 316.97'; TO POB 1.35 ACRES	2019	30,597.75
PATRICK L & ANGELA J SWYTER	20-1884-100 GABRIELSON INDUSTRIAL SUBDIVISION N 219.5' OF LOT 3	2019	6,900.87
SARP LLC	20-1941-000 SATER'S CREEK ADDITION BLOCK 6	2019	14,523.75

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK

Ashley Kurtz, being duly sworn, deposes, and says that she is the Auditor-Treasurer of the county of Rock; that she has examined the foregoing list, and knows the contents thereof; and that the same is true and correct.

(Official Seal)

/s/ Ashley Kurtz, Auditor-Treasurer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of February, 2020.

(Notary Seal)

Notary Public, Nobles County, Minnesota

ISD #2184 School Board meets Feb. 27

MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2184, ROCK COUNTY, LUVERNE, MINNESOTA.

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, ISD #2184, was held in the District Office on February 27, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Katie Baustian, Jodi Bosch, Colleen Deutsch, Eric Hartman, Tim Jarchow, and Shelley Sandbulte. Absent: Reva Sehr. Also present: Craig Oftedahl, Marlene Mann, Jason Phelps, Stacy Gillette, Jordan Winter, Dave Muler – ICS Construction, Jennifer Engesser, Marie Atkinson-Smeins, Peter Janiszkeski, Beth Capistran, Susan Beers, Morgan, Smith, Pam Christensen, Jason Berghorst, Katie Mostad, Dennis Moritz, Angie Swenson, Amy Sahly, Courtney Graanstra, Ann Robinson, Caroline Thorson, Jennifer Radtke, Becky Rahm, Deb Hoogendoorn, and Sue Hup.

Chairperson Bosch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. It was noted there is an addendum to the agenda. Motion made by Deutsch, second by Hartman, to approve the agenda with the addendum. Motion unanimously carried.

School Board members had a tour of the construction areas prior to the meeting. Administrative reports were given.

Motion made by Hartman, second by Baustian, to approve the January 23, 2020, School Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Dave Muler with ICS gave a construction update.

Business Manager Marlene Mann reviewed the school district bills. The Student Activity check register and the Construction Account check registers were presented. Motion made by Baustian, second by Jarchow, to approve payment of the bills as presented in the amount of \$1,330,795.44. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Deutsch, second by Hartman, to receive the Student Activity report showing the balances as of January 31, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl shared three different scenarios for the 2020-2021 school calendar. Discussion was held. Motion made by Deutsch, second by Hartman, to accept the "hybrid" calendar with school beginning September 8, graduation set for May 30, the student day will be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. and all snow days will be added to the end of the school year. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Deutsch, second by Baustian, to accept the resignation of Bonnie Behr, paraprofessional, effective February 28, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hartman, second by Baustian, to accept the resignation of Angela Sneller, paraprofessional, effective March 6, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Deutsch, second by Jarchow, to approve the hiring of Rudi Vennard as Speech/Language teacher beginning with the 2020-2021 school year for a salary of \$58,029. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Hartman, second by Jarchow, to accept the retirement of Karen Willers, Community Education and Early Childhood Director, effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Deutsch, second by Sandbulte, to approve the change of Avery VanRoekel to B-squad softball coach from MS softball coach. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made by Sandbulte, second by Jarchow, to approve the hiring of Danielle Kneip as MS softball coach. Motion unanimously carried.

No committee reports were given.

The upcoming meeting dates were reviewed. Motion made by Deutsch, second by Jarchow, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Dated: February 27, 2020

Tim Jarchow, Clerk
(04-02)

H-BC School Board meets March 11

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671 Minutes March 11, 2020

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:06 p.m. in the District Board Room (301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN).

Board members present were Bosch, Gehrke, Knobloch, LaRock, Rauk and Rozeboom. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Schilling, and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Wysong was absent.

Motion by Bosch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve the agenda. Visitor to the meeting was Mavis Fodness (Rock County Star Herald).

Public Hearing for Steinhoff District Tax Abatement Request – no comments. PATRIOT PRIDE:

•H-BC Choir singing with Band Foreigner on March 19

•Ali LaRock, CNC/ACDA Honor Choir Milwaukee

•Garrett Blank, ACDA Elementary Honor Choir

•FFA State Entrants, Hannah Fick and Carter Hartz

•Frank Brogan, Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Education visit 3/18 - postponed

•Frank Boon Trust Grant award to H-BC Community Education for Lego League

•Girls Basketball Great Season

•Boys Basketball Great Season

•Kale Wiertzema, Coach of the Year for Section 3A South

Motion by LaRock, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve minutes 2/25/2020.

Motion by Bosch, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve bills. Motion by Rozeboom, second by Bosch, and carried to approve Steinhoff Tax Abatement Request.

PERSONNEL:

Motion by Knobloch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve assigning Donna Burgers as full time head cook for the district.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Bosch, and carried to approve adding 27 days to Alison Ceynowa-Breuer's time for the 2020-2021 School year. A 15% increase in time.

Motion by Rauk, second by LaRock, and carried to approve accepting Ed Gehrke's resignation as Cook's Assistant at the end of the 2019-2020 School Year. Motion by Bosch, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve assigning Lisa Durst to after school van route effective 3/11/2020.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

•Secondary Principal Report

•Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report

•Legislative Update

•Committee Reports:

•Staff Development: 3/4/2020

Agenda Items for next regular scheduled meeting:

•SWWC 2020/2021 Contracts

•2020/2021 School Calendar

DATES TO REMEMBER:

•Regular Board Meeting, Monday, March 23

•Regular Board Meeting, Monday, April 13

•Regular Board Meeting, Monday, April 27

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk
(04-02)

Rock County Commissioners meet Feb. 18

Herreid Board Room

9:00 A.M.

Rock County Courthouse

Feb. 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chair Overgaard with Commissioners Williamson, Burger and Thompson present and Commissioner Reisch absent. Also in attendance were Administrator Kyle Oldre, County Attorney Jeff Haubrich and Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and guests.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Burger, to approve the February 18, 2020, County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Thompson, to approve the February 04, 2020, County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

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

1. CAD Maintenance contract - \$24,918.70 (\$17,210.55 E911 eligible)

2. Planning & Zoning and Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustments appointments – Kurt Wenzel and David DeBoer

NextEra representative Tom Von Bische, Senior Project Manager and Mike Weich, Project Director Development presented a Walleye Wind project update stating that currently they have met all state requirements and are currently working on a draft application to the Department of Commerce with the final application to be submitted in May of 2020; Public Hearing to comment on the application will be scheduled in late fall of 2020 and if all is successful, construction is scheduled to begin in 2021. Also stated that they have met with all townships with the exception of Rose Dell and that they are a drafting road use and maintenance contract with the County Engineer; will also be inspecting all roads and culverts within the project footprint.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer presented the claims; motion by Thompson, seconded by Williamson, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

FEBRUARY 18, 2020 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000

CHS	\$8,066.33
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	6,464.00
GRAHAM TIRE-WORTHINGTON	3,138.62
KETTERLING SERVICES INC	9,385.16
LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC	3,151.79
LYON COUNTY LANDFILL	13,466.02
MARTIN/GREGORY E	2,560.40
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	9,523.26
NATIONAL BUSINESS FURNITURE LLC	3,941.28
NOBLES COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	36,720.00
PLUM CREEK LIBRARY SYSTEM	17,571.98
ROCK COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES	3,398.74
SEACHANGE	4,838.77
SGI	2,920.29
STAPLES ENTERPRISES INC	3,069.86
84 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	40,837.39
TOTAL	\$169,053.89

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

The Auditor/Treasurer presented a 2019 Gravel Tax report; no action required.

	2019
ROAD & BRIDGE	\$59,098.19
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND	20,858.20
TOWNSHIPS	59,098.19
ADMIN FEES	7,318.65
TOTAL	\$146,373.23
GRAVEL TAX RECEIVED BY OPERATOR:	
BREMIX MATERIALS INC	\$35,584.13
BUFFALO RIDGE CONCRETE	17,659.38
CENTRAL SPECIALITES	3,016.80
DUININCK BROTHERS INC	-
HENNING CONSTRUCTION	14,676.76
JEFF PRONK	-
NORTHERN CON-AGG LLP	45,302.90
PRONK READY MIX	-
REKER CONSTRUCTION	9,249.78
SCHUUR CONCRETE	-
SPRING LAKE CONSTRUCTION	-
W & N CONSTRUCTION	20,883.48
TOTAL	\$146,373.23

GRAVEL TAX PAID TO TOWNSHIPS:	2019
BATTLE PLAIN TOWNSHIP	\$7,129.97
BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP	500
CLINTON TOWNSHIP	1,404.01
DENVER TOWNSHIP	14,367.09
KANARANZI TOWNSHIP	500
LUVERNE TOWNSHIP	8,431.71
MAGNOLIA TOWNSHIP	500
MARTIN TOWNSHIP	500
MOUND TOWNSHIP	20,260.69
ROSE DELL TOWNSHIP	500
SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP	500
VIENNA TOWNSHIP	7,504.72
TOTAL	\$62,098.19

Southwest Health & Human Services Public Health Nurse Ann Orin and Jen Nelson, SHIP Coordinator reviewed a timeline of changes regarding tobacco regulations and how those impact the Tobacco Ordinance and the need to update ordinance. Orin and Nelson shared a display of vaping materials and statistical data resulting from a survey given to high school students within the region.

Tom Houselog, Land Records Director discussed assessing services that will need to be completed due to the retirement announcement from Peter Jesson; it was determined that Houselog would develop a plan and report back.

Mark Sehr, Engineer, requested to replace the department's power washer with a 2014 Landa Power Washer for \$6,113.99; the price includes a \$950 trade in credit from the older unit. Motion by Burger, seconded by Thompson, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Engineer presented a draft of the 2020-2025 Road & Bridge Construction Plan; motion by Burger, seconded by Williamson, to schedule an informational meeting to review the 2020-2025 Construction Plan for March 17 at 1:30 PM at the Rock County Community Library, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator presented an update of the Emergency Management Conference of which he had attended; conference topics included Cyber Security, Community Awareness approach and a legislative request for \$3 million to be divided up evenly between all 87 counties and tribes.

The County Board briefly discussed details for attending the AMC Legislative Conference February 26-27; no action was taken.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he had attended the following meetings:

Next Era and Annual Township meeting

Commissioner Thompson stated that she had attended the following meetings: Annual Township meeting.

Commissioner Burger stated that he had attended the following meetings: Annual Township meeting.

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he had attended the following meetings: City/County Liaison meeting with Windchill and Premium Minnesota Pork representatives, Annual Township meeting, Magnolia City Council and Vienna Township.

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

(04-02)

Notice of cancellation

The Rock County Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, March 30, at 7 p.m., has been canceled at this time, but will be rescheduled at a later date.

(04-02)

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

RECYCLE

Mortgage foreclosure sale set for April 30

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: August 02, 2007
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$31,500.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Neale G. Hamann, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Peoples Bank
DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: August 14, 2007 Rock County Recorder
Document Number: 167229

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

•And assigned to: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Dated: August 02, 2007

Recorded: August 14, 2007 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 167230

•And assigned to: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Dated: March 06, 2017

Recorded: March 14, 2017 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 190262

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 1003445-0001089259-6

Lender or Broker: Peoples Bank

Residential Mortgage Servicer: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corp.

Mortgage Originator: Not Applicable

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock

Property Address: 819 201st St, Hardwick, MN 56134-4048

Tax Parcel ID Number: 10-0122-000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That part of the SW 1/4, Section 25, Township 104 North, Range 46 West of the 5th P.M., Rock County, State of Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest Corner of said Section 25, thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East (assumed bearing) along the South Line of the SW 1/4 of said Section 25 for a distance of 741.29 feet to the point of beginning, thence continuing North 90 degrees 00 minutes and 00 seconds East along said South Line for a distance of 746.44 feet; thence North 01 degrees 21 minutes 41 seconds East for a distance of 689.32 feet; thence North 83 degrees 17 minutes 46 seconds West for a distance of 169.66 feet; thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 02 seconds West for a distance of 184.58 feet; thence South 89 degrees 31 minutes 22 seconds West for a distance of 612.69 feet; thence South 02 degrees 03 minutes 55 seconds East for a distance of 519.59 feet to the point of beginning
AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE:

\$10,772.39

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: April 30, 2020 at 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota

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

If the Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2021, or the next business day if April 30, 2021 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

Mortgagor(s) released from financial obligation: NONE

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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.

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.

DATED: March 12, 2020

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(03-12, 03-19, 03-26, 04-02, 04-09, 04-16)

ISD #2184 School Board meets March 19

**MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2184,
ROCK COUNTY, LUVERNE, MINNESOTA.**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, ISD #2184, was held online via Zoom from the District Office on March 19, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Katie Baustian, Jodi Bosch, Colleen

Deutsch, Eric Hartman, Tim Jarchow, Shelley Sandbulte, and Reva Sehr. Also present: Craig Oftedahl, Marlene Mann, Ryan Johnson, Stacy Gillette, Marie Atkinson-Smeins, Caroline Thorson, April Wallace and Amy Sahly.

Chairperson Bosch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Technology Coordinator Wade Hiller reviewed some of the guidelines and operations of the Zoom system. Jodi Bosch informed the School Board that all motions would be acted on via a roll call vote.

Motion made by Baustian, second by Deutsch, to approve the agenda as presented. Those who voted in favor: Jarchow, Baustian, Sehr, Deutsch, Hartman, Sandbulte and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl gave an update on school related COVID-19 issues.

Motion made by Baustian, second by Jarchow, to set a bid roof date for May 28, 2020. Those who voted in favor: Jarchow, Baustian, Sehr, Deutsch, Hartman, Sandbulte and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl reviewed the agreement with the Luverne Education Association in regard to the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Master Agreement. Motion made by Sehr, second by Jarchow, to ratify the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Master Agreement with the Luverne Education Association. Those who voted in favor: Jarchow, Baustian, Sehr, Deutsch, Hartman, Sandbulte and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion unanimously carried.

The upcoming meeting dates were reviewed. It was noted that these meetings may need to be via technology.

Motion made by Hartman, second by Jarchow, to adjourn the meeting. Those who voted in favor: Jarchow, Baustian, Sehr, Deutsch, Hartman, Sandbulte and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion unanimously carried.

Dated: March 19, 2020

Tim Jarchow, Clerk

(04-02)

Hardwick Board of Appeal and Equalization to meet April 14

ASSESSMENT NOTICE

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Hardwick will meet at 7:00 P.M., on Tuesday, the 14th day of April, 2020, at the Hardwick City Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification is incorrect, please contact the assessor's office at 507-283-5022 to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board will review your assessments and may make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Given under my hand this 12th day of February, 2020.

Tammy Johnson

Hardwick City Clerk

(04-02)

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

CARDS OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone for the cards, flowers, food, phone calls, and expressions of sympathy during our time of loss. We are overwhelmed with all the love and support! We are truly blessed with so many family and friends.

Family of Dick Visker
Steve and Darcey Groen & family
Darryn and Beth Meyer-Visker
(3.28-4.2)

We would like to thank everyone who helped us during this difficult time of Don's (Baily's) passing. Thank you to the friends that stayed with us until help came. Thank you Rock County Sheriff's Department and Lismore Fire Department. Thank you Hartquist Funeral Home. Thank you Pastor Ann at Grace Lutheran Church. Thank you family and friends for all the love and support you offered. Words cannot express our gratitude.

God Bless You All,
Nora Halverson,
Derek and Pam Halverson and family,
Ryan and Kelly Halverson and family,
Nicole Halverson
(4.2-4.4)

CARDS OF THANKS

Thank you to our great community, family and friends of Landon Rogers; for your love, prayers and support in the loss of Landon. We thank you for all your calls, texts, messages, gifts, flowers, food and especially the farm help for Logan. Most of all thank you for loving Landon. He will be truly missed.

Sincerely,
Tami Rogers and Darrel Nielsen,
Lance Rogers and Tami Brink,
Madison Neuenburg
Logan and Taylor Rogers,
Shawna Rogers,
Chad Davance and family
(3.28-4.2)

FOR SALE

For Sale: Landscaping rock 1.5 and 3/4-inch rock. Also do stump grinding. Call Wayne Biever Construction at 507 227-4521 or 507-283-4614; 715 S.W. Park Street. Also have yard dirt.

(3.19-4.4)

MISCELLANEOUS

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

RENTALS

For Rent: Two-bedroom apartment with central air. Located in a quiet area. Water and heat included. No smoking and no pets. Call 507-920-0406. (3.14-4.2)

For Rent: Small house for rent in Luverne. Single stall garage; central air. No smoking, no pets. Call 507-227-4335. (3.28-4.11)

FOR RENT



2 & 3 Bedroom Townhome

* Available Immediately
* One-stall Garage
* Updated Amenities
* Quiet Neighborhood
* \$750 (2 bed)/\$825 (3 bed) /month. Utilities OYO
Call Schomacker's 507-227-2183 for showings.

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: Klarenbeek & Son Rendering, Corp. is in need of a daily route driver. Class B CDL with air brake. Clean driving record; paid holidays and vacation. Call Alan 507-220-5669. (tc)

Parkview Manor has a position available for a 32-hour per week, Business Office Manager. Duties would include responsibility for a facility accounts receivable, payable and payroll. Accounting experience and/or training is required. Health care billing experience is preferred. Benefit package includes: health insurance and PERA retirement. Send resume to: Administrator, 308 West Sherman Ave., Ellsworth, MN 56129 or email: parkviewmanor@frontiernet.net (4.2-4.18)

EMPLOYMENT

The City of Hills is taking applications for a part-time seasonal maintenance position. Must be 18 or older to apply. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Contact the Hills City Office at 301 South Main Avenue or call 962-3290 to request an application. (3.21-4.16)

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

Age 55+ workers needed for **part-time custodial work**

at the Adrian & Beaver Creek rest areas on I-90

Contact Green View 651-639-1913

ROCK COUNTY SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Rock County is accepting applications for summer help positions at the Highway Department. The positions are full-time temporary/seasonal and will work with a variety of projects in providing assistance with the following activities: general maintenance duties at the Highway Department and Transfer Station; may also provide assistance with the engineering department of the Highway Department. Applicants must be 18 years of age, possess a valid driver's license and have the ability to stand for long periods of time, along with bending, stooping and the operation light equipment; minimum pay is \$12.08 per hour.

Job applications are available at www.co.rock.mn.us/employment or by contacting the Rock County Administrator's office at the Rock County Courthouse in Luverne, Minnesota at 507-283-5065 or by email to susan.skattum@co.rock.mn.us. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

MN VETERANS HOME

STUDENT WORKER Custodial/Maintenance

Assist with the maintenance of the facility and grounds including lawn mowing, trimming, painting and other light maintenance duties. Basic knowledge of lawn care and valid drivers license required. Part-time/temporary (May-August). Applicants must be enrolled in a secondary educational program or planning to enroll within three months of initial appointment. Hourly wage: \$15.00

Apply online:

<https://mn.gov/mmb/careers/>
Application deadline: April 10, 2020. For additional information call 507-283-6262.



mcan

Minnesota Classified Advertising Network



WANTED TO BUY

WANTED:

ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES
Running or not. Titled or not. Prices will fall soon. Sell now while prices are high! Call Dan at 612/720-2142

WANTED TO BUY OR TRADE

FRIGS WANTED:

We pay CASH for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312/626-3558 or visit: RefrigerantFinders.com

MISCELLANEOUS

MOBILE HELP

America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety and peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! Call today! 855/610-5151

SEED/FEED/GRAINS

PROTECT YOUR YIELD
from soybean white mold and SDS. Ask your seed dealer for Heads Up® Seed Treatment. Cost-effective. Proven results. headsUpST.com?plan20 or 866/368-9306

AUCTIONS

HIGHWAY 59 AUCTION

Service LLC, 2525 US Hwy 59, Slayton, Monday, April 16, 10AM. Equipment & machinery consignment. Jess Donkersloot 507/370-1912
Visit website: auctionzip.com

MACHINERY

CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Jackson Livestock, 328 E Ashley St, Jackson, MN, Saturday, April 11-12:30 pm. 507/370-1912, Jess Donkersloot, www.auctionzip.com, Highway 59 Auction Service.

AT&T WIRELESS

Two great new offers! Ask how to get the new iPhone 11 or Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e on us with AT&T's Buy one, Give One offer. While supplies last! Call 855/332-0464

DISH NETWORK \$59.99

For 190 channels! Add high speed internet for only \$19.95/month. Call today for \$100 gift card! Best value & technology. Free installation. Call 855/562-4309 (some restrictions apply)

SANFORD

Luverne

877-673-0854

EE0/AA

A note from Mayor Patrick T. Baustian *We're All in This Together*

It's been a hectic and overwhelming few days. Like all of you, I have been following updates regarding the COVID-19 virus. The spread of COVID-19 has changed everything, and we are all grappling with how this rapidly evolving situation will impact the health, well-being and daily lives of our families, our communities and ourselves. I want to assure you that we are watching the situation closely and are making sure plans are in place for an outbreak locally or regionally. I appreciate the clear and decisive direction that Governor Walz and his cabinet have provided to address this pandemic and the uncertainty it brings. The city is following the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance. We have been working on the city's response and steps we can take to encourage people to stay home, reduce community exposure, and slow the spread. We are also working closely with our emergency management team, health care facilities, county public health, schools, and service providers to respond and prepare for this pandemic. We are identifying ways the city can support those that are housing and food insecure or assist with other needs that arise.

Steps we are taking immediately: JUST UPDATED

- All in-person, non-essential city meetings are canceled or moved to online/phone meetings until further notice. Please refer to the city website for meeting cancellations and updates. <https://www.cityofluverne.org>. All non-city meetings planned for city buildings are cancelled.
- Beginning Monday, March 30th through Friday, April 10th, the Luverne City Offices will be closed. This includes the Luverne Area aquatics and Fitness Center, Blue Mound Ice Arena, Carnegie Cultural Center, and Palace Theatre. Appointments can be made if necessary. Information to pay your utility bill electronically can be found at www.cityofluverne.org/payment. The payment drop box will be checked daily. Office staff will be available by calling 507-449-2388.
- Building permits will be available by calling 507-449-5031.
- Garbage/Recycling schedules will stay the same.
- Blue Mound Liquor will remain open. In order to minimize contact, we are encouraging our customers to take advantage of our delivery service (\$50 minimum, city limits of Luverne only). Or, you can call in your order and drive in for curbside pickup. Within the store, we are keeping both check outs open to help everyone maintain social distancing. Open M-T 10-9, Fri & Sat 9-10 Ph: (507) 449-5052
- For updates on what city facilities are open and closed and for information on work adjustments from individual city departments, please see the city's website <https://www.cityofluverne.org>. Updates will also be shared on Facebook pages: City of Luverne, Luverne Area Aquatics and Fitness, and Blue Mound Liquor.

This developing situation has reminded me of the importance of a few practical steps we all can take and in many ways, this is no different than getting ready for a regular flu season, or a winter storm: make sure you have some food on hand, you have plans for backup at work or for childcare for an extended period of time, and check on vulnerable neighbors. If you or a child is ill, stay home. This is particularly important in Minnesota with our strong work ethic. We all feel compelled to go to work. It is important to not go to work or school if you are sick. And remember to wash your hands. Be patient, kind, and forgiving. Please think about our fellow citizens. Our preparations need not include panic purchases (hoarding) such that our neighbors are hurt or burdened by empty shelves and shortages of basic household goods. Our grocery stores will continue to operate and stock their shelves. Be vigilant and use good judgement. It is critically important during this pandemic that we use our healthcare resources wisely. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical health-care needs. If you have symptoms like cough, fever or other respiratory problems, please contact your regular doctor first or Sanford Health directly (Clinic at 507-283-4476) before going to the emergency room unless it is an absolute health emergency.

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

Help US keep YOU informed!

The City of Luverne occasionally needs to contact customers with important notifications. Please provide contact information so you will receive notifications about City services. You may receive automated messages about changes in City Operations including the City Offices, Liquor Store, Pool & Fitness Center, Refuse and Recycling pickup, Electric, Water & Sewer services as well as temporary water shutoffs, planned electric outages and other important messages.

Please update your contact information by completing the online form at www.cityofluverne.org/info.

Sincerely,

Mayor Patrick T. Baustian


For Minnesota-specific information on the virus, along with resources about keeping yourself and those around you safe, the MDH <https://www.health.state.mn.us/> website has everything you need. Otherwise, read more from the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/> on how to stay healthy and safe.



Thank you Luverne Fire Department and Rock County Ambulance for the parade!



It's times like these that community matters most!



Each of us has a differing burden to bear during this uncertain time. We are blessed with organizations that have resources to help our friends and neighbors in need.



YOU CAN HELP!



The Luverne Area Community Foundation has created a community crisis fund to help the organizations that are helping others have what they need to meet the current unforeseen demands.



Go to www.luvacf.org and make an online donation to the Covid-19 Help Fund or you can send a check made out to LACF to PO Box 623
Write Covid - 19 in the memo
All donations are tax deductible



We will get through this together!



LUVERNE AREA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

For more information contact
Emily Crabtree, Executive Director emily@luvacf.org or 507-220-2424

Give Where You Live
today, tomorrow & beyond