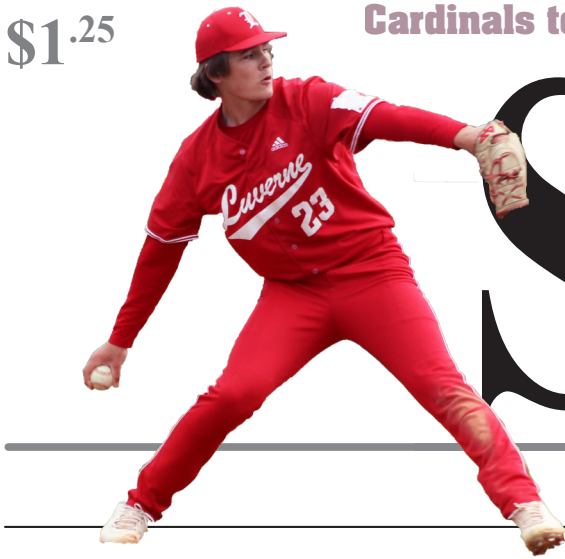




# Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, June 3, 2021

## Buffalo Days return, live and in person this weekend

*Friday Night Cruise-In meets downtown, Buffalo Days 'Expo' returns to Courthouse Square*

**By Lori Sorenson**  
Luverne Chamber staff and volunteers were finalizing posters and advertising for the 2021 Buffalo Days weekend when they learned pandemic restrictions would be lifted May 28.  
Prior to that May 21 announcement, plans were in place to have the Friday Night Cruise-In at the Luverne City Park to encourage participants to spread out more safely.  
They quickly pivoted and put the word out that the classic car event would return to its classic location downtown Luverne.

**Cruise-in returns downtown**  
Corral parking at the cruise-in will be available for over 300 cars, trucks, antique tractors, off-road vehicles, motorcycles and more. Vehicle registration is free.  
Starfire and Jorie Kosel will provide music from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. with a beer garden, food and drinks.  
Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere said she's happy about restrictions lifting, but changing directions last minute presents hurdles.  
"It sounds super simple to just move it back downtown, but we're going to inconvenience the Palace and the performance of 'Grease,'" she said of the Luverne High School musical.  
Students are performing in the Palace until the new performing arts center is completed at the school.  
"We're going to have to make accommodations and figure out parking, because that's really important."  
Cruise-in starts at 5:30, and "Grease" starts at 7:30. No-parking signs will be placed along Freeman Street near the Palace so

**Buffalo Days/see page 8**



Lori Sorenson photos/0603 maplewood memorial day  
Featured speaker Michael Welch, a retired U.S. Naval officer who grew up in Luverne, shared the microphone with 15-year-old Sahira Abraham, who moved to the United States seven years ago. Her father was Michael Welch's interpreter in Afghanistan.

## Day to remember

**By Lori Sorenson**  
Maplewood Cemetery once again hosted Luverne's annual Memorial Day ceremony with the American Legion and VFW, accompanied by the Luverne High School band.  
LHS 1980 graduate Michael Welch was the featured speaker and spoke about his 21 years in the U.S. Navy and his experiences aboard a U.S. Naval submarine.  
He also talked about what it meant to be American, and introduced 15-year-old Sahira Abraham, daughter of Welch's interpreter in Afghanistan.  
"Without our interpreters, we as American soldiers couldn't have gotten anything done," Welch said.  
When Abraham's family came to the United States seven years ago, daily living improved dramatically.  
"When they moved into an apartment, the first thing he wanted to know was how far it was to get water," Welch said.  
"Where they lived, they didn't have electricity or running water."  
As a Muslim American

**Memorial Day Luverne/p. 8**



Lori Sorenson photos  
Luminaries of solo cups, flags and battery-operated votive lights mark pavers with names of Rock County Veterans Monday night at the Rock County Veterans Memorial in Luverne.



## Hardwick remembers former Legion members



Mavis Fodness photo/0603 Memorial Day Hardwick 2021  
Don Bryan reads aloud the names of nine Arthur Moeller American Legion Post 478 members who have died since the post's last Memorial Day service in May 2019. Fellow Legion member LeRoy Schomacker (right) places nine small American flags at the podium in the "Roll Call of Honored Dead" ceremony Monday morning at the Hardwick Veterans Memorial. **Above right**, National Guardsman Matt Niessink delivers the message. **At lower right**, Julia Berg from Golden Valley plays the trumpet as her dad, Dale, holds music. Berg is the granddaughter of Arthur Moeller American Legion Post 478 member Paul Aukes from Hardwick.



**By Mavis Fodness**  
A year after Memorial Day services were canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic, local American Legion and VFW posts hosted programs Monday.  
In Hardwick the Arthur Moeller Post 478 remembered the 1.3 million U.S. men and women who died in military service as well as paying tribute to the nine former Legion members who passed away since the last Memorial Day service in 2019.  
Legion member Don Bryan led Hardwick's "Roll Call for Honored Dead" that included Herman Bos, Harold Etrheim, Henry Petersen, Keith Lemke, Larry Tweet, Dick VanHofwegen, Mel Hendriks, Harold Graphenteen and Don Etrheim.  
"Let us remember our deceased members in our prayers — today and every day," Bryan said.  
Guest speaker Matt Niessink, a recruiter with the Army National Guard, recently transferred to the

**Memorial Day Hardwick/p. 8**

## Spotlighting 'hidden profession'

Sanford Luverne and MN West host camp for medical lab technicians

**By Lori Sorenson**  
Microbiologist Rita Miller, Luverne, gets calls and emails every week from health care providers looking to hire medical lab technicians.  
"There is such a critical shortage of medical lab techs," said Miller, program director at Minnesota West Luverne Campus.

**Lab Tech Camp/see page 5**



Lori Sorenson photos/0603 sanford mnwest lab camp  
Ashly Benson, a second-year Minnesota West lab technician, examines a blood sample with high school student Justin Mejia Wednesday morning, May 26, during the lab tech camp in Luverne.

## I-90 exit ramp closure at Luverne may wait until August

**By Lori Sorenson**  
Luverne businesses are looking forward to a normal business cycle this summer after pandemic closures squelched profits.  
However, I-90 road construction could present yet another setback, especially if plans go according to initial announcements.  
The Minnesota Department of Transportation announced on May 26 that the westbound lanes of I-90 will be resurfaced from Luverne 13 miles to the west.  
Westbound traffic will be

shifted to the eastbound lanes, reducing travel to a "head-to-head" two-way roadway between Luverne and Highway 23.  
The initial announcement stated that "Highway 75 exit and entrance ramps will be closed during construction and traffic will be detoured to Rock County Roads 3 and 4."  
This prompted a flurry of communication among local leaders about the potential of no

**I-90 construction/see page 5**







| County         | Total Cases | DAILY average in last 7 days | Percent Change |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Rock           | 1,287       | 0                            | +0.0%          |
| Pipestone      | 1,163       | 0                            | +0.0%          |
| Nobles         | 4,085       | <1                           | +0.0%          |
| Minnehaha (SD) | 31,701      | 5                            | +0.0%          |
| Lyon (IA)      | 1,586       | 0                            | +0.0%          |



**Vaccine Dashboard: ROCK COUNTY**

● People with at least one dose: 3,747

● People with completed series: 3,479

Data as of 05-29-2021

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

Current data as of June 1, 2021. Sources: MDH & The New York Times

Sponsored by: Rock County Emergency Management

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Meetings

Vienna Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, June 7, in the Kenneth Community Center. Beaver Creek Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 14, in the township hall.

### Blue Mound Quilters' show June 5

Blue Mound Quilters Show will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 5, in the Hinkly House at 217 N. Freeman in Luverne. The show will feature quilts from the Blue Mound Quilters and from the 2021 Quilter of the Year Millie Lais. Also on display will be the Hospice Cottage historical quilts and the 2021 hospice raffle quilt. Face masks are encouraged.

### Blood drive June 7 in Luverne

The Community Blood Bank will accept donations from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday, June 7, at Sanford Luverne. To schedule an appointment donors can log onto [www.cbbllifeblood.org](http://www.cbbllifeblood.org), click on "events" and select June 7 and "Sanford Luverne" from the calendar or call 507-449-1224. All who donate will receive an All American blood donor T-shirt and a McDonald's gift card. Drink plenty of fluids prior to donating blood and bring an ID.

### Rods N' Rides in Luverne June 6

Bikers, classic car owners, and fellow worshipers can join the Rods N' Rides Church for a group ride leaving Sioux Center at 8 a.m. Sunday, June 6, and stop at American Reformed Church in Luverne for 9:30 worship. See Rods N Rides on Facebook or at [www.rodsnrides.weebly.com](http://www.rodsnrides.weebly.com)

### Come explore Prairie Ally

Free guided tours at Prairie Ally Outdoor Center (308 N. Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne) are Thursdays at 6, 6:30, and 7 p.m. June through August or by appointment. Volunteers are needed Tuesdays from 10a.m. to noon and Thursdays at 5:30 June through September. Workshops are planned for June 5 (companion planting), June 10 (tree care) and Aug. 19 (edible perennials). Contact: [prairieallymn@gmail.com](mailto:prairieallymn@gmail.com), 605-951-0227. Also, visit [projectfoodforest.org/events](http://projectfoodforest.org/events).

### Hospice event date change

Sanford Luverne Hospice is changing the date of the Hospice Dinner & Auction to Thursday, Aug. 26, to better accommodate summer weekend plans. Note: Auction donations are currently being accepted thru June 21. Contact the hospice office at 283-1805 or email: [helen.saum@sanfordheath.org](mailto:helen.saum@sanfordheath.org).

### Crisis Center needs members

The Southwest Crisis Center is seeking passionate community members to serve on its Board of Directors. The group encourages applications from people of diverse backgrounds, life experiences, and professional skills to oversee the organization's general operations. For more information, visit [mnsbcc.org](http://mnsbcc.org) or email [sara@mnsbcc.org](mailto:sara@mnsbcc.org).



## Luverne schools pledge to 'move forward'

Story and photos by Mavis Fodness

Luverne School District Superintendent Craig Oftedahl encouraged the 87 graduating seniors gathered in the elementary gym Sunday afternoon not to dwell on negativity that afflicted the country for the past 15 months.

"I challenge you to persevere, to push through, to not get bogged down in the rhetoric, to not allow negative thoughts and restrictions keep you down," he said.

"Break through, rise up, move forward and keep your eyes on all that lies ahead of you."

That forward focus was how senior Jonathan Dolo Jr. described his journey toward a Minnesota high school diploma. Dolo joined classmates Cade Wenninger and Gracie Zewiske in presenting the senior address.

Dolo and two of his six siblings arrived in the United States from Liberia, West Africa, in May 2019. His parents, Natking and Ester Cole-Kraty, and three other siblings already lived in Luverne.

"Coming from Africa, I was behind in credits and needed to make up a lot in two years' time," Dolo told his classmates. "We really didn't think it was going to



**Above:** The 87 Luverne High School graduating seniors wait patiently as diplomas are distributed and each student receives a congratulatory handshake from school officials. **At top:** Graduates of Luverne High School Class of 2021 celebrate by throwing their mortarboards. **Center:** Russell Aanenson receives his diploma from school board chairman Eric Hartman Sunday during the LHS commencement.

happen, but with hard work and the grace of God I was able to get everything completed. And now I stand here today proudly with the Class of 2021 to say, 'We did it.'"

Sunday's graduation was the first in the school's history to be livestreamed.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, last year's Class of 2020 graduation was a compilation of video recordings of each student receiving their diplomas from their parents.

State officials lifted mask and social distancing requirements Friday, allowing for a large crowd at the in-person ceremony.

To reduce the number of people in the gym, the high school band, directed by James Jarvie, recorded the traditional graduation march, "Pomp and Circumstance," and their musical selection, "Star Wars," prior to the Sunday ceremony.

Videos of the band playing were shown on a screen above the stage.

The choir, directed by Seana Graber, also completed a videorecording of "In Meeting We are Blessed" that was also shown on the screen.

Motto for the LHS Class of 2021 comes from a line in the Disney movie, "Ratatouille" uttered by Chef Gusteau: "If you focus on what you left behind, you will never be able to see what lies ahead."



Jonathan Dolo (above, left) recounts his journey for a Luverne High School diploma Sunday afternoon in his senior address. Arekel McLaughlin (above, right) receives his high school diploma from School Board Chairman Eric Hartman.



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General Manager

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# Library kicks off summer activities including story times at parks

The Rock County Library is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. For additional questions, contact library personnel at 507-449-5040 or rocklibrarystaff@gmail.com.

Monthly **trivia nights** resume beginning Thursday, June 3, at Take 16 on East Main Street in Luverne. The event is open the public for teams of one or more individuals. No pre-registration is necessary. A series of locally written trivia questions are read with participants providing written answers. The team(s) with the most correct answers are eligible to win prizes. Library personnel conduct the event. More trivia nights will take place the first Thursday of the month.

Excitement and fun await those who journey to the Rock County Library and participate in the **summer reading program**, "Reading Colors Your World!" Registration began June 1. Stop in and register and pick up reading logs. The summer reading program is open to all ages.

Join us at Poplar Creek Estates, 201 Oak Dr., for **Pint Size Polkas** with award-winning Mike Schneider on Thursday, June 10. The free intergenerational program begins at 2 p.m. and is open to everyone and is sponsored by the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

**Story Time at the Park** will feature songs and stories with children's librarian Bronwyn Wenzel each Tuesday through June and July at a different park in Luverne. The events begin at 10:30 a.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. The schedule will be:

- June 8, Evergreen Park, North Blue Mound Avenue.
- June 15, Kolbert Park, 801 W. Warren St.
- June 22, Veterans Park, 1211 N. Elm St.
- June 29, Hawkinson Park, East Adams Avenue.
- July 6, Evergreen Park, North Blue Mound Avenue.
- July 13, Kolbert Park, 801 W. Warren St.
- July 20, Veterans Park, 1211 N. Elm St.
- July 27, Hawkinson Park, East Adams Avenue.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Luverne Community Education will offer the following activities and classes in coming weeks. Call 507-283-4724 to sign up. See [comed.isd2184.net](http://comed.isd2184.net) to view the brochure and list of offerings.

Take the **Beginner 8 Hour Defensive Driving Classes** (for adults 55 years of age and older) in order to save a significant amount on your car insurance. This class (offered only twice a year) will be held 4 hours on June 10 & 17 at 5:30 pm.

**Distance Learning with Clay** open to all ages. Fee is \$20. Register by June 1.

Friday morning **Hands on Science Adventure Day Camp** will meet on June 4 — for grades 1-4 as attended during 20-21 school year. Fee is \$15.

Professional fisherman Mike Frisch returns to Luverne on June 7 to share his fishing knowledge with students grades 3 -12 (as attended during 20-21 school year) at **School of Fish**. After a classroom portion, students will actually fish at The Lake with their new fishing rod and tackle (over \$50 of gear goes along with class registration). An adult fishing buddy is welcome to come to class, too. Fee is \$30/child. Luverne Optimist Club provided a donation to help lower class fee.

Saturday, June 12, kids ages 3 through grade 3 (as attended 20-21 school year) and adults will enjoy **Nature Crafts** at Blue Mound State Park. Fee is \$17 per child.

Kids currently in grades 1-3 can sign up for **Paint and Snack** Classes on May 27, June 24 and July 22. Sign up for one class or for all 3. Fee is \$33 per class.

**Defensive Driving Classes** allows adults 55 years of age and older to save on insurance premiums. The Beginning Class — June 10 and 17 (4 hours each evening). Refresher 4-Hour Classes are May 27, Aug. 19.

Sign up for **Get Fit, Stay Fit** on May 26 with tips and advice from Physical Therapist, Michelle Schuman. Fee is \$5.



Mavis Fodness photo/0603 HBC TOY Friend 2021

### Stiefvater, Opheim honored Friday night

The Hills-Beaver Creek Education Association named special education teacher Jill Stiefvater (right) the 2020-21 H-BC Teacher of the Year Friday night. The announcement was a part of the H-BC commencement exercises in Hills. Emily Opheim was named the 2020-21 H-BC Friend of Education. Both work at the elementary school in Beaver Creek.

[www.star-herald.com](http://www.star-herald.com)



Mavis Fodness photos/0603 HBC Class 2021

The 32 graduates in the Hills-Beaver Creek High School Class of 2021 toss their mortarboards in the air after receiving their diplomas Friday night at the gymnasium in Hills. **Below:** The 2021 graduates exit the gym.

# Public ceremonies resume as pandemic restrictions lift

*H-BC High School graduates 32 students during first in-person ceremony since 2019*

**By Mavis Fodness**

Friday's lifting of all coronavirus-related capacity limits in Minnesota meant high school graduations could have in-person ceremonies.

A collective sigh was audible as Hills-Beaver Creek High School honored 32 seniors Friday night.

"Ahhh — it is good to be together," said Superintendent Todd Holthaus.

Last year the H-BC Class of 2020 commencement was conducted in the school's parking lot. The graduates and their parents sat in vehicles and

drove up to the school for Holthaus and school board chairman Arlyn Gehrke to hand diplomas through open car windows.

In his address to students, parents and family members Friday night, Holthaus painted the 2020-21 school year filled with wearing face masks, social distancing, hand sanitizer, washing hands and — more importantly — perseverance.

"I am convinced that our future is going to go well as the graduates integrate into society as our next

movers and shakers," he said.

Twenty of the 32 H-BC seniors were recognized as honor and high honor students.

Valedictorian Lauren Tatge and salutatorian Allison LaRock shared the student address in which they thanked parents, school staff and the community for the roles they played in bringing the Class of 2021 to this moment.

The two top academic seniors assured audience members the time invested in them won't be wasted.

"We will strive to show the light you kindled in us and work hard to bring that light into every situation we encounter," LaRock said.

LaRock wrote a song, "21," and performed it on a portable keyboard Friday night.

*As we move on to the rest of our lives*

*I know each and every one of you will thrive*

*I'll remember our red, white and blue*

*And how I thank God for each and every one of you.*

She started a song-writing business through the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities program in which H-BC is one of five school partners.



Valedictorian Lauren Tatje (right) and salutatorian Allison LaRock deliver the student address Friday night.

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## Grateful to be here

It's been five years.

Five years ago, I completed treatment for anal cancer and was told the cancer was gone.

I was also told, in so many words, "If you make it five years, you'll be considered cancer-free." (They don't say "cured" anymore.)

So here I am five years later.

I made it.

A friend once told me, "A day will come when you don't even think about cancer."

I'm still waiting.

It seems ungrateful to complain. To God be the glory that I'm not dead.

I celebrated the sixth birthday of my oldest granddaughter this week. Lots of little girls didn't have a grandma at their birthday because their grandmas didn't "make it."

Maybe it's all the attention that COVID has gotten in the past year that's bothering me. They say 600,000 Americans died of COVID in the past year. Well, 600,000 Americans died of cancer last year, too. (And millions in the years before that.)

COVID has created "long haulers." They are people who suffer symptoms long after the disease should have disappeared. Ongoing suffering is terrible, and I wish them all a rapid return to complete health.

But cancer survivors are long haulers, too.

Others don't see the scars and missing body parts reflected in our bathroom mir-



### THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

*A friend once told me, "A day will come when you don't even think about cancer."*

rors. Arms and legs swollen from radiation damage are hidden under long sleeves and compression stockings. Quick trips to the bathroom and the humiliation of not quite making it are hidden, too.

We don't talk about post-cancer "romance" in polite company, or any company really. Sometimes the grief is overwhelming.

We "survivors" (oh, how I hate the term) find encouragement when we catch up in the grocery store.

"How ya doin'?" Sucks, huh?" "Yah. You?"

"Same."

"But hey, we're not dead, right?" "Gotta be thankful for that."

And so we are.

We are a little bit mad about the compression stockings, the bathroom trips, the missing body parts, the brain fog and all the other life-altering impacts of cancer and its treatment.

But mostly we are grateful that we are still here and can say things like, "Happy sixth birthday, Sweet Tenley Louise. Grandma loves you."

## Congratulations, Class of 2021. You're ready for life's challenges

A year ago at this time, we lamented Rock County's students in the Class of 2020 who were robbed of their graduation ceremony by the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent state guidelines barring in-person ceremonies.

For the Class of 2020, it was the year that ended in sudden, unprecedented fashion. The dates clicked by on the calendar without spring sports, year-end academic challenges, prom and, yes, graduation.

For the Class of 2021, the year started and ended in what could only be described as a challenge.

The pandemic school year was challenging for students, teachers and families who yo-yoed between distance learning, in-person learning and variations of hybrid models.

Having to learn a new way of doing things, whether that was getting used to masks all day in school and in sporting events, taking classes online or adapting to wholesale changes in their social and learning environment on the fly. It involved long stretches of not seeing friends in school or being able to talk one-on-one with

teachers.

It also meant sudden cancellations and changes in schedules and a general acceptance that no plans could be certain.

Except that graduation would come in the spring — regardless of the path taken to get there and regardless of the means taken to celebrate it.

It wasn't easy for the Class of 2021. Nor was it easy for the pandemic-robbed Class of 2020.

But then, life isn't easy.

And under the best of circumstances we celebrate high school — and college — graduations because they signify a challenge met. A goal reached. A task accomplished.

The 2020-21 school year is ending on a high note, especially compared with last spring.

We had a mostly normal spring sports and activities season.

We enjoyed a junior-senior prom. And we received our diplomas on a stage with our loved ones cheering in the audience. In person.

And we took a spin through a celebratory parade, because the pandemic produced a few ideas worth repeating.

So, dear graduates, we congratulate you on reaching this stage of life. For surviving the pandemic-altered world and coming through on the other side with a diploma.

We've all learned a great deal over the past two years, right along with students, teachers, staff and families. We've learned that change can and will happen, often quickly, but we know we can adapt and succeed.

With that, we wish the Class of 2021 all the best. We know that these pandemic graduates, like their 2020 predecessors, have what it takes to survive and thrive.

### Norberg: After challenging year, hope is on the horizon

To the Editor:

After a challenging year, hope is on the horizon. Independent pharmacies across the state are playing a crucial role in helping vaccinate Minnesotans and provided critical care throughout the pandemic.

For many independent pharmacies, such as the two I own, joining a Pharmacy Services Administrative Organization (PSAOs), offers independent pharmacies the administrative services needed to run a small business. PSAOs help independent pharmacies prioritize patient needs.

PSAOs also play a key role

in consulting with pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) on behalf of independent pharmacies. PBMs are organizations within the pharmaceutical supply chain that play a key role in determining drug prices — often taking in big chunks of the profits they negotiate at the expense of patients and independent pharmacies. Predatory practices by PBMs result in huge profits for them, while patients pay more for prescriptions and many small pharmacies are forced to close their doors.

Without proper government oversight, PBMs will continue to go unchecked and threaten the

vitality of Minnesota's independent pharmacies. I am hopeful that the current bipartisan legislation that will help lower drug costs and better regulate PBMs becomes law this year. SF 2178 is included in both the House and Senate State Government Finance Omnibus bills and is an important step forward — but there is definitely a lot more work to be done.

Minnesota must check these behemoth PBMs to protect patients and ensure independent pharmacists can continue to provide top quality care, vaccinations and health services in our communities.

Jay Norberg, Pipestone

## Annual fishing trip resumes; brings broken toe and shower race win

Last year COVID-19 put the kibosh on my annual three-day fishing trip.

For the past six years a couple of my buddies and I have been spending a few days fishing Lake Sharp on the Missouri River. We camp at the West Bend State Park in South Dakota.

It's not really camping when one of those buddies has a 40-foot RV. As good fortune would have it, the other buddy has a 20-foot Lund that we fish out of.

You're asking yourself, "What does Peterson bring to the party?" My contribution to the trip is that I handle all the paper work, such as campsite reservations and fees, state park parking fees, and I bring the minnows.

The first day of the trip was pretty much for travel and setting up camp. It had been two years since our last fishing outing, so we had a lot of catching up to do, and fishing would have to wait until the next day.

I have to tell you when the three of us met for the first time in



### FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, Tollefson Publishing General Manager

two years, a fist bump just wasn't going to cut it. A tight-gripped handshake led to a bear hug that only buddies can fully appreciate.

The fishing was great; 36 walleyes found themselves in the live well over the three days. All of them were 16 to 19 inches in length.

For our group the attraction to West Bend is the fishing, of course, followed closely by the accommodations. When you catch that many fish, you need a darn good fish cleaning station, and they have the best I've ever seen.

Next on the accommodations list is the bathroom and shower facility. Again first rate, very clean,

always hot water, but also busy.

As a seasoned West Bend visitor, I have figured out the earlier you get to the shower in the morning, the less likely you'll run into other showergoers.

So, early on Day 2, as I was making my way to the shower/bathroom facility, I noticed two others headed to the same place.

To give you a clear picture of the upcoming event let's say the facility is at 12 o'clock, there is a guy at 3 o'clock, I am at 6 o'clock and the third guy is at 9 o'clock.

After a quick assessment of the two other guys, I determined the 3 o'clock guy wasn't carrying a towel or bag, so he was a bathroom

kind of guy.

The 9 o'clock guy had towel and bag in tow, so he was definitely a shower guy.

There are two shower stalls and you never know until you get inside if either of them is being used, so beating 9 o'clock guy to the door was of great importance. I kind of took a quick sideways glance at 9 o'clock guy only to catch him giving me the same glance. The race was on.

This wasn't a running race, but the walking pace was kicked up a notch or two.

With only about 30 feet left to the door, I had a slight edge on 9 o'clock guy and was feeling good about my pending victory.

The victory smirk on my face was short-lived because it was about at that time I rammed my right foot big toe into an elevated crack in the sidewalk. OMG! I just broke my toe.

I stumbled forward on my left foot followed by my now broken right foot big toe, and trust me that didn't go well. Anticipating a

face plant into the sidewalk, I was able to throw myself to the left and landed with great authority on the grass.

Lying on the ground with broken toe, sore body and completely embarrassed, I noticed 9 o'clock guy hadn't even broken stride, didn't offer up any words of concern or help — he was just headed to the door.

I couldn't let 9 o'clock guy beat me to the door, so with broken toe, sore body and a deflated ego, I sprang to my feet (it was more like struggling to my feet) but continued my way to the door.

I am not sure if 9 o'clock guy was overcome by sympathy, but he seemed to let up on the gas and I was able to reach the door ahead of him.

By the time I had showered and dressed, my toe was black and blue and three times its normal size. The 9 o'clock guy was now in the shower and 3 o'clock guy was still in the bathroom.

Poor 9 o'clock guy, if you know what I mean.

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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

**May 21**  
•Complainant on W. Edgell Street reported he lost a binder.  
•Complainant reported theft.  
•Complainant on Hampshire Circle reported a scam.  
•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, Magnolia, reported a semi-trailer went in and out of the ditch.  
•Complainant on N. Estey Street reported threats and harassment.  
•Complaining on County Road 4, east of County Road 9, Luverne, reported trash on the road.  
**May 22**  
•Complainant on W. North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Hills, reported someone banging on her windows.  
•Complainant on E. South Street, Magnolia, reported breaking glass noise.  
•Complainant on S. Blue Mound Avenue and E. Main Street reported suspicious activity.  
•A warrant was issued in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania.  
**May 23**  
•Complainant on W. Main Street reported a lost Android phone.  
•Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported strange text messages.  
•Complainant on N. Estey Street reported vandalism at location.  
•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile markers 6 and 7, Luverne, reported two bags of trash on the road.  
•Complainant on E. Main Street reported a body was found/sudden death.  
•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, from the South Dakota state line near Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.  
•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Beaver Creek, reported a bicyclist on the shoulder of the interstate.  
**May 24**  
•Complainant on W. Mead Court reported harassment.  
•Complainant on N. Summit Avenue, Hills, reported kids throwing frisbee across the railroad tracks.  
•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 10, Luverne, reported a driving complaint.  
•Complainant on N. Cedar Street reported a vehicle all over the road.  
•Complainant on Mead Court and Cedar Street reported a vehicle fire at location.  
•Complainant on Fairway and Lindale reported a downed tree limb in the roadway.  
**May 25**  
•Complainant on Highway 75, southbound from County Road 20, Luverne, reported a vehicle for a driv-

ing complaint.  
•Complainant reported his wallet was stolen.  
•Complainant on Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, reported a warrant hit.  
**May 26**  
•Complainant requested RSCO assistance with a warrant arrest.  
•Complainant requested information on subject that was arrested.  
•Complainant on 71<sup>st</sup> Street, Luverne, reported lots of smoke and a possible ditch fire.  
•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue requested extra patrol in the area.  
•Complainant requested to speak with state patrol.  
•Complainant on W. Dodge Street and N. Donaldson Street reported speeding, reckless driving and littering.  
•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported possible fraud/theft.  
•Complainant on County Road 7, Hardwick, reported a bicyclist riding on the wrong side of the road.  
•Complainant on Interstate 90, between mile markers 4 and 5, near Beaver Creek, reported a fire in the median.  
•Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 8, Beaver Creek, reported motorist assist.  
**May 27**  
•Complainant on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hills, reported road closure for repairs and maintenance.  
•Complainant on Mead Court reported a subject with a warrant.  
•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue requested a deputy for a theft report.  
•Complainant on 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported theft of catalytic converter.  
•Complainant reported harassing mail.  
•Complainant on W. Mead Court reported harassing communication.  
•Complainant requested information about a trooper.  
•Complainant on State Highway 23, mile marker 16, near Beaver Creek, reported reckless driving and littering.  
•Complainant on U.S. Highway 75, mile marker 8, Luverne, found a trailer ramp near location.

In addition, officers responded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 2 deer accidents, 7 escorts, 8 ambulance runs, 1 parking violation, 1 paper service, 7 animal complaints, 1 fingerprint request, 10 burn permits, 1 background check, 1 alarm, 4 drug court tests, 5 purchase and carry permits, 2 stalled vehicles, 11 traffic stops, 11 abandoned 911 calls, 3 tests, 1 welfare check, 1 OFP and 4 follow-ups.

### I-90 construction/from page 1

I-90 access this summer — and no tourism business entering Luverne from the interstate.  
Several hours later a corrected announcement stated that the Highway 75 **westbound** exit and entrance ramps will be closed during construction.  
While this alleviated some concern, local leaders were still concerned about the potential hit of no westbound travelers entering Luverne from I-90 this summer.  
Mayor Pat Baustian contacted the MNDOT District 7 supervisors to suggest intermittent ramp closures, rather than closing the west-bound ramps for the entire duration of the project.

Baustian said MNDOT indicated it will pursue a change order with the contractor to delay the Luverne ramp closure until August.  
This will allow work to wrap up on the Adrian exit currently underway.  
Construction will start Monday, June 7, a month earlier than originally scheduled. It will also affect the westbound ramps at Beaver Creek on County Road 6.  
Construction on the 13 miles of I-90 is expected to be complete in early September and includes resurfacing the existing west-bound pavement and bridge repairs.  
PCiRoads, LLC. was awarded the project with a bid of \$4,844,421.70.



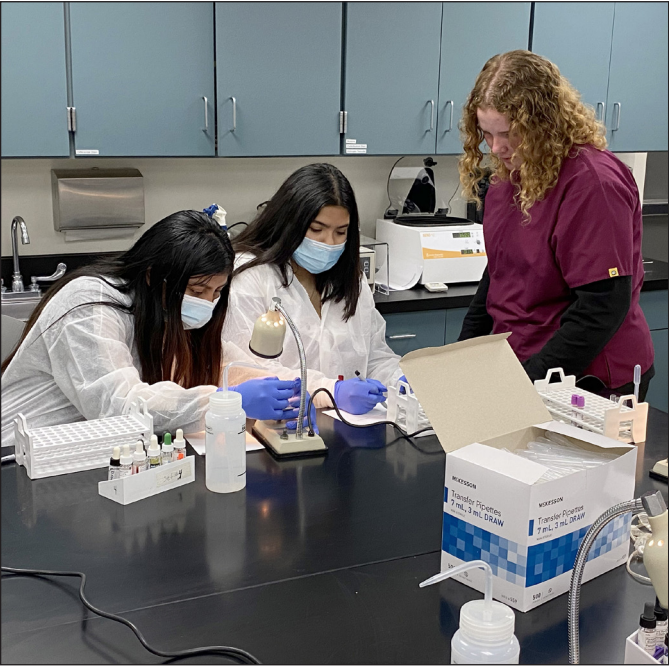
Lori Sorenson photos/0603 sanford mnwest lab camp

A group of students works with samples to determine blood types at the May 26 Medical Lab Technician Camp. Pictured are (clockwise from left) Emily Marroquin, Gianella Rodriguez, Emily Zemler, Ashly Benson, Jase Arp and Justin Mejia.

### Lab Tech Camp with Sanford Luverne, MNWest/from page 1

“They want to know, ‘Are you graduating any MLT students? We really need them.’ ... They’re giving sign-on bonuses.”  
The medical lab tech program in Luverne can accommodate 16 students, but typically there are eight to 10 students enrolled.  
This spring, only five graduated from the program.  
Miller said it’s because there’s not enough interest in the career, mostly because it’s misunderstood.  
“We always say people don’t understand what we do,” she said.  
“You don’t hear about lab professions. People think nurses or doctors do all the tests, because we’re not seen. We’re in the laboratory. We call this the hidden profession.”

The MLT shortage among Sanford Health Systems prompted its human resources staff to reach out to Minnesota West about encouraging high school students to consider being MLTs.  
On May 26 Sanford Luverne and Minnesota West hosted a lab camp for high school and non-traditional students for a behind-the-scenes glimpse at medical lab careers.  
The half-day experience included hands-on activities and tours of both Sanford Luverne and Minnesota West in an effort to recruit more students and ultimately more Sanford health workers.  
“We’re dealing with a shortage of medical lab technicians across the whole footprint of Sanford Health Systems,” said Sanford human resources adviser Jenny Andersen.



High school students Emily Marroquin and Gianella Rodriguez work with second year medical lab tech student Emily Zemler during the lab camp at Minnesota West.



Microbiologist Rita Miller (left) supervises students Jase Arp and Ashly Benson during Monday morning’s lab camp. Miller is the program director at Minnesota West Community and Technical College in Luverne.

“We feel like it’s an area people don’t think about, and we thought this would be a good way to show students what it is.”  
The lab camp attracted 23 high school students who donned lab coats, protective eyewear and latex gloves to make the rounds with Miller and second-year MLT students at Minnesota West.  
Andersen said Luverne campus is a feeder program for a good share of Sanford’s hiring among its southwest Minnesota locations. That’s why she looks forward to hosting more lab camps.  
“We hope to be able to expand it to highlight opportunities in Minnesota West,” she said. “This is amazing in here, and I bet a lot of people in the area don’t know what a little jewel the Minnesota West Luverne Campus is.”

Miller said she’ll continue visiting local high schools to encourage students to consider careers in a medical lab.  
“The pay is good, equal to a rad tech, and it’s going up,” she said. “Starting pay is now around \$19 to

\$25 per hour. And I’ve seen sign-on bonuses of \$2,000 to \$8,000 ... to attract people in that line of work.”  
Andersen said she hopes Wednesday’s lab camp sparked interest in students.  
“It’s a fascinating career with a lot of opportunities, and every day is different,” she said.  
“You get to be a vital part of patient care. It’s one of the main drivers of determining the root cause of a patient’s illness and determining the plan of care. It’s vitally important behind-the-scenes work.”

**On the job training, tuition covered**  
Minnesota West’s MLT program is also a part of the MN Pipeline Dual Training Grant Related Instruction Provider Training Agreement developed by the Minnesota State Legislature.  
Qualified students who get hired by Sanford have their tuition covered when they commit to two years of employment following graduation.  
Sanford receives 75 percent tuition reimbursement from the state and pays the remaining 25 percent to sustain their workforce.  
Students then commit to a small on-the-job training during their education so they stay engaged until full-time employment after graduation.  
Sanford Luverne is accepting applications now for fall enrollment.

### Dog Licenses Due

During Month of May

City of Beaver Creek residents are reminded that dog licenses are due during month of May. Cost is \$4 per dog, however, residents age 65 and over are exempt from the license fee. Copy of current rabies vaccination required. A \$20 late fee will be added if license not renewed by 6-1-21. Clerk office hours are Monday 7am to 11am & Tuesday 5:30pm to 9pm. You can also leave payment and vaccination certificate copy in the clerk’s drop box and license and tag will be mailed to you. If you no longer have your pet, please notify clerk’s office at 673-2266.

/s/Jane Blank  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Rock County

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## MENU

**Monday, June 7:** Salisbury steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, cake with frosting.

**Tuesday, June 8:** Fiesta chicken casserole, corn, applesauce, dessert.

**Wednesday, June 9:** Chicken Parmesan, spaghetti, broccoli, dessert.

**Thursday, June 10:** Barbecue pork rib-let on a bun, coleslaw, fresh fruit, gelatin with whipped topping.

Half-Price Day sponsored by American Reformed Church.

**Friday, June 11:** Chicken-fried steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, dessert.

*LSS Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals.*

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

*Gift certificates are available at the meal site or online at [www.lssmn.org/nutrition](http://www.lssmn.org/nutrition).*

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Luverne nurse honored with Sanford award

Danielle LaFleur, a licensed practical nurse at Sanford Luverne Clinic, received the Florence Nightingale Award earlier this month at a Sanford Health nursing recognition event conducted in Sioux Falls.



“LaFleur fills many roles in the Luverne clinic,” said clinic director Laurie Jensen. “She acts as the primary nurse for Dr. (Myles) Tieszen, our general surgeon. She also plays an important role in supporting patients with psychological needs.”

Each year Sanford Health honors nurses and other health care professionals during National Nurses Week. Awards are given in nine categories. This year 320 nominations were submitted.

The Florence Nightingale Award recognizes nurses for outstanding involvement in the practice of the art and science of nursing — as evidenced by strength of character, commitment and competence that has been recognized through their peers as an outstanding asset to the community, nursing profession and the Sanford Health organization.

LaFleur’s nomination comments included:

- Danielle exhibits strong organizational and critical thinking skills with attention to detail to avoid error and delay treatment.
- She understands the challenges of Telehealth, coordinating patient needs with a remote physician. She floats through the clinic, helping wherever she is needed.
- Danielle is an efficient, caring and compassionate nurse and deserves to be recognized as an exceptional example of an LPN working to the top of her licensure.



Mavis Fodness photo/0603 Bethlehem Lutheran Pastor Nita Parker

Pastor Nita Parker conducted her first service May 23 as the new pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills. For almost a year the church that services 150 families relied on interim and guest pastors until Pastor Nita’s arrival.

## Parker fills pastor vacancy at Bethlehem Lutheran in Hills

**By Mavis Fodness**

Pentecost Sunday on May 23 is celebrated as the birth of the Christian church, and for Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills the celebration included a new permanent pastor.

For the first time in a year, the Sunday service was delivered by a permanent church leader when Pastor Nita Parker accepted the call to oversee the church and Tuff Memorial Home.

Since May 2020, the church was served by an interim pastor and several guest pastors. The pandemic prevented outside guests from entering the nursing home until recently.

Pastor Parker comes to Hills with more than a decade of experience with rural churches. A desire to be closer to family led her to

Bethlehem Lutheran.

Parker grew up in Worthington, graduating in 1978, the same year the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America recognized women as ordained pastors.

Parker felt the pull to serve the church, but she didn’t pursue that route until three decades later when she graduated from Luther Seminary in 2009.

“It was one of those things I thought about, but women ministers weren’t common and so many people were against it,” Parker said.

For 20 years she tailored wedding dresses in Worthington after earning a commercial tailoring degree from what is now Minnesota West Community and Technical College in Pipestone.

She married and raised three children before she returned to school to be a minister.

Parker graduated from Augustana University with degrees in religion and business administration and received her seminary degree from Luther College in St. Paul in 2009.

She completed an 18-month residency with Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne, after which she accepted an interim call with the Prairie Star Ministries.

The ministries included the communities of Fulda, Dundee, Heron Lake, Storden and Windom. She was also the pastor with Lutheran Campus Ministries in Marshall.

The last 10 years Parker was pastor to multiple parishes in Wabasso, Lucan,

Springfield and Milroy.

Parker said she looks forward to focusing on one community in Hills.

“I am so excited to see how it works when I start in one place each Sunday,” Parker wrote in the Bethlehem Star, the church’s newsletter.

She now lives closer to her father, Ron Almjeld, in Worthington and daughters Christa Harberts and Andrea Kuipers in the Sioux Falls area. Her son, Nick Harberts, lives in Rushmore.

Parker has four granddaughters.

She and her husband, Larry, who is retired, live in the Hills parsonage.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church services are Sundays at 10 a.m. Sunday services at Tuff Memorial Home begin at 9 a.m.

## REMEMBER WHEN

### 10 years ago (2011)

•A Luverne High School sophomore will pull double duty at the Minnesota State Class A Tennis Championship next week.

One week after helping the Cardinals win the Section 3A Team Tournament, Joey Vajgrt qualified for the Class A Singles Tournament by placing second at the Section 3A Individual Tournament Thursday and Tuesday in Redwood Falls.

It’s the second straight season Vajgrt advances to the state classic as Section 3A’s runner-up.

### 25 years ago (1996)

•The writing’s been on the wall for several years, but this time local Land O’ Lakes employees heard the bad news for real.

On Friday, Land O’ Lakes company officials in St. Paul announced as of Aug. 1 the Luverne facility will no longer receive milk directly from member farms, and it will discontinue condensing operations.

“We’ve been expecting it for several years, really,” said plant manager Cliff Hansen. “This is the fourth time we’ve been considered for not receiving milk. Every time, at the last minute, they’ve found funding to keep it going.”

### 50 years ago (1971)

•Mike Wynia assumed duties as a Luverne Police patrolman last week as part of the summer replacement program instituted by Chief Chester Bendt. Wynia has just completed his first year at Alexandria-Area Vocational Technical School and is studying law enforcement. The program at the school aids a student in the field of law enforcement. In Luverne Wynia will be filling in for patrolmen on vacation and assisting in other areas.

Wynia is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wynia of rural Edgerton. Wynia’s wife, Sandra and their 18-month-old daughter, Michelle Lynn, will be joining him in Luverne. He is a graduate of Edgerton High School.

### 75 years ago (1946)

•The memories of many residents and former residents of Beaver Creek were turned back Thursday to the days when Civil War veterans were busy making a new town a pleasant and profitable place in which to live.

Like dozens of Memorial days in the past, Memorial day of 1946 was another homecoming day for many of the former residents of the town, but it was different in one respect. A memorial, in the form of a new 30-ft. flag pole, was dedicated at the Beaver Valley cemetery, where it had been erected in the memory of 15 Civil War veterans, one Spanish-American war veteran, and five World War I veterans, and also in the memory of the town and community’s first settlers.

### 100 years ago (1921)

•A. O. Moreaux was on Saturday appointed by Governor J. A. O. Preus as a member of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater Commission to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Michael Dowling, of Olivia. The other members of the commissions are A. H. Comstock, of Duluth, and J. L. Record, of Minneapolis. Mr. Moreaux accepted the appointment the first of this week.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Tidewater Commissions was created by the 1919 legislature for the purpose of promoting the project of establishing a deepwater way connection for ocean-going vessels between the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean and to promote the construction thereof. Among other things the project will require the canalization of the St. Lawrence river from Montreal so as to permit passage of the largest ocean-going vessels. Accomplishment of the project would make Duluth and certain other cities on the Great Lakes ocean ports and make possible the shipment of the great resources of the heart of the continent to the markets of the world without breaking bulk, and therefore at a minimum of cost.

## 1950: Allotment increases for soil conservation in county

*The following appeared in The Rock County Star-Herald on Feb. 2, 1950.*

### County Receives Larger Allotment For 1950 Soil Conservation Practices

#### No Definite Information Available as Yet About 1950 Corn Acreage Cuts

The 1950 appropriations for agriculture conservation practices in Rock county will be \$51,600, about \$2,000 more than in 1949, Leonard Arp, Rock county PMA chairman, announced on Monday. The funds will be available for payment to farmers who are carrying out conservation practices for the 1950 program, Mr. Arp said. An official announcement of practices which must be followed to qualify farmers for payments has not yet he added, but it is expected that the program will be very similar to that of 1949.

Largest appropriation to counties in this area will be Murray county’s \$89,100. Nobles county will receive \$75,800; Jackson will get \$65,600; Cottonwood,



## BITS BY BETTY

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

\$64,800; and Pipestone, \$56,600.

#### Corn Acreage Data

No information has been received about corn acreage adjustments for Rock county so far. “However,” Mr. Arp stated, “we have been informed that there is to be a cut of 19.7 percent in acreage for the entire commercial corn area.” The state of Minnesota has not yet announced acreage allocations for the individual counties.

**Bits, continued on page 7**



## OBITUARY

### Helen Fitzer

Helen Viola Fitzer, 94, Luverne, died Thursday, May 27, 2021, under hospice care at Good Samaritan Society – Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.



Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, June 6, at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. A private family service will be Monday, June 7, with burial to follow at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Helen Stein was born June 4, 1926, to Julius and Katherine (Johansen) Stein in Brookings, South Dakota. She moved to Rock County in Minnesota in 1936 where she graduated from Luverne High School in 1944. Following graduation, she was employed at Creeger's Clothing Store in Luverne as a bookkeeper.

Helen married Maurice Fitzer on April 9, 1948, at the First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. The couple made their home south of Luverne on the Fitzer family farm. Helen took on the role of farm wife and mother. In 1983 the family farm transitioned to their son Geff, and Helen and Maurice moved into town. They later downsized from their home to an apartment before moving to Poplar Creek Assisted Living and later to the Good Samaritan Society – Mary Jane Brown Home. Maurice died on Jan. 4, 2016.

Helen was a 60-plus-year member of the First

Presbyterian Church in Luverne where she was involved in Anchor Group and the women's circle. She enjoyed gardening, cooking and baking and was skilled at needlepoint and crossstitching. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and loved having family up at their cabin on Lake Benton. She was known for her rum cakes and pizza burgers.

Helen is survived by her children, Gregg (Laurie) Fitzer of Surprise, Arizona, Geff (Jackie) Fitzer of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Sally Fitzer of Verona, Wisconsin; eight grandchildren, Gina (Kris) Jacobsen, Katie (Dennis) Haugland, Grant (Alexandra) Fitzer, Brynn Fitzer, Tori (Matthew) Carper, Chris Fitzer (Jessica Quitem), Mikki Fitzer and Connor Fitzer (Lauren Muller); 13 great-grandchildren; and other family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Maurice; son Gary Fitzer; and three brothers, Clarence Stein, Raymond Stein and Leonard Stein.

Memorials may be directed to FAST (Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics), PO Box 608, Downs Grove, IL 60515.

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

(0603 F)



Mavis Fodness photo/0603 LPS Last Day

### Good-bye to a long school year

Luverne Elementary Principal Stacy Gillette gives students a thumbs up Friday morning as she and several staff members wave good-bye to students as they leave on buses for the last time during the 2020-21 school year. For the first time in about 170 days, students were able to see Gillette and staff members without masks. Restrictions on outside use of masks in public places were lifted recently but had remained in place at the school until Friday's half-day of classes were completed. The second semester of the 2021-21 school year was completed in person, but the first semester involved a combination of in-person, hybrid and distance learning for the 1,200 K-12 students.

### Free yoga sessions offered by crisis center at city park

By Mavis Fodness

Southwest Crisis Center is offering free trauma-informed yoga sessions to the public through July 13.

They'll be from noon to 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays, June 8, 15, 22, 29, and July 6 and 13 at the Luverne City Park.

Rock County Advocate

Jennifer Lindsey has led the regular yoga support group for three years and decided to open the sessions to the community for the summer.

"Although the trauma I work with is domestic and sexual violence, there are all kinds of other trauma people have that

would benefit from our yoga sessions as well," Lindsey said. "Plus, I think this pandemic has been traumatic in its own way for everyone, and we could all use some yoga."

No one will be required to share anything personal and the yoga is come and

go, Lindsey said.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own mats, but a limited number of mats are available before each session.

Contact Lindsey at 507-283-9917 or jennifer@mnsbcc.org with questions.

### 'Fortune Cookies' play illustrates dementia

A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota will present its third one-act play about memory loss in the educational online series titled "Fortune Cookies," by Bonnie Dudovitz.

The production is an educational tool for both community and families navigating the Alzheimer's and dementia journey.

The free virtual play is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 17, through Eventbrite at <https://marshall-fortune2021.eventbrite.com>.

The play is supported by the Minnesota State Arts Board through the arts and cultural heritage fund grant.

For questions, contact local coordinator Linda Wenzel at 507-283-5064 or [www.aceswmn.org](http://www.aceswmn.org).



Submitted photo

### Lions Club tests children's eyes

During Mother's Day Week the Luverne Lions Club was at Little Lambs Preschool and Luverne Elementary School testing children for eye diseases through "Lions KidSight USA Foundation," which works to test children's eyes early to preclude major disease later in life. Pictured at Luverne Elementary are Lions Club members (from left) Bill Martin, Gordon Mulder, Larry Harms, Glenda Schomacker and Lois Mulder. Using a special camera that detects deformities in the cornea's surface, the group saw 36 preschoolers and 486 kindergartners through fifth-graders at the schools. Funding for the effort comes from Lions District 5M3, which is dedicated to Lions International causes of eyesight and diabetes.

## DEATH NOTICE

### Glenn Swenson

Glenn A. Swenson, 85, Hills, died Friday, May 28, 2021, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage in Luverne.

A memorial visitation will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 2, at the Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. Burial of cremains will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery near Luverne.

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

(0604 DN)

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

### Harold Sandstede

Harold A. Sandstede died Feb. 1, 2021, while in hospice care.

A celebration of his life is scheduled from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, June 30, at SpringBrooke Events and Golf Course in Beaver Creek.

(0603 DN)

### Bits/continued from page 6

Mr. Arp would not speculate about when these allocations could be expected to be made.

Mr. Arp set the three-year average of acres in the county planted in corn at "approx-

imately 110,000." He said that the figure could not be entirely accurate because some farmers still refuse to submit any information about their farms and in

other cases it has been impossible to secure complete information about crops.

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@iw.net](mailto:mannmade@iw.net).

# Dining & Entertainment

## HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, June 5 • 5 to 7 p.m.  
Hills Fire Hall - Freewill Offering

**\*BURGERS, BRATS & ALL THE FIXINGS**

All proceeds go toward the Hills Fire Dept. Relief Association

## PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

LHS Presents: Grease

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| June 3, 4 and 5    | 7:30 pm |
| June 10, 11 and 12 | 7:30 pm |

Tickets: \$6 for adults. \$4 for students.

**TICKETS GO ON SALE MAY 19 AT NOON.**

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## Luverne Fire Department Burger Feed

JOIN US FOR FRESH GRILLED BURGERS WITH ALL THE FIXINGS, SIDES, AND DRINK!

\$8.00 per plate, \$3.00 for extra burger

**Saturday, June 5th from 11am-3pm**  
**At Luverne Fire Department**





### Local teachers begin ‘Future Educators’ recognition

The Luverne Education Association hosted its first Future Educators reception before school on May 25. The event recognized ten Luverne High School seniors who have declared their intention to major in education and become teachers in the future. LEA members encouraged the future educators with warm wishes, some advice and gifts, including the book, “What Teachers Make.” Future educators pictured above are (front row from left) Trevor Halverson, Rozilyn Oye, Sadie Reisdorfer, McKenzie VanGrootheest, Elise Jarchow, (back) Russell Aanenson, Jayson Rops, Josie Golla and LaShad Smith. Not pictured is Rebecca Austin. Submitted photo

### Memorial Day Luverne/continued from page 1

teen, Abraham now lives in Vermillion, South Dakota, but she spent her early years in southeastern Afghanistan in a province where the Taliban was initiated.

On Monday she talked about the freedoms she enjoys as a U.S. citizen versus what it was like to live where she wasn’t free to be herself or even attend school.

“When I moved to the United States, the chains around me finally broke loose,” she said. “The America I believe in offers freedom and a chance to realize dreams better than anywhere else in the world.”

She said Americans shouldn’t take peace and security for granted because not everyone has that privilege.

“I love the fact that each morning I wake up and each night I go to bed feeling secure ... America has greatly invested in protecting its citizens, and if that’s not enough, America goes on to protect the rest of the world,” Abraham said.

“I believe in America, not just because it sends its soldiers to other parts of the world, but because they have sacrificed themselves so that others can enjoy the peace they have at home.”

The Maplewood Cemetery Memorial Day event was among several throughout Rock County Monday.

Hills, Hardwick and Beaver Creek also had ceremonies, and a candlelight vigil Monday night honored veterans at the Rock County Veterans Memorial on the courthouse lawn.



Lori Sorenson photos/0603 maplewood memorial day  
Memorial Day services at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne unfolded under sunshine and blue skies for the in-person event that was canceled last year due to COVID-19.

At right, student trumpet players Jocelyn Hart (left) and Ainslee Robinson play taps at the conclusion of the Memorial Day service Monday morning in Maplewood Cemetery.

Below, Marlene Hassebroek enjoys a patch of sunshine during the Memorial Day service at Maplewood Cemetery.



Maddie Oye (at podium) sings the veterans’ version of “Hallelujah” Monday morning during the Arthur Moeller American Legion Post 478 Memorial Day program at the Hardwick Veterans Memorial. Mavis Fodness/0603 Memorial Day Hardwick 2021

### Memorial Day program in Hardwick/continued from page 1

South Dakota unit in Sioux Falls after 10 years with the Luverne unit.

Niessink echoed the solemn reason for setting aside one day a year since 1865 as tribute to fallen U.S. soldiers.

“Freedom is never free. We must never sorrow for the

loss of these great men and women, but rejoice that they have lived and made a difference,” he said.

“We will always remember those who had to be brave for us — we owe them a debt we can never repay — only that we re-

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### USD Vermillion announces local students on dean’s list

The University of South Dakota, Vermillion, has released the Spring 2021 dean’s list for full-time student with a 3.5 GPA or higher and the president’s list for part-time students with a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Named to the dean’s list were the following students:

Luverne: Jack Baustian, Grace Bosch, Mackenzie Petersen, Madison Reisdorfer.

Hills: Ashley Esselink, Megan Gehrke, Mary-Frances Ladd, Kailey Rozeboom.

Adrian: Avery Balster, Hannah Bullerman, Bailey Lonneman, Skylar Polzine.

Lismore: Dakota John, Mitchell Veld.

Amanda Sterling, Luverne, was named to the president’s list.

### Chamber and Plaza Committee plan free events in Luverne City Park

The Chamber is working with the Plaza Committee from LIFT to host some FREE community events for the public. The following are the announcements about the events:

**Night at the Zoo**, Thursday, June 10, 3:30 until 7 p.m. in the Luverne City Park will have free activities for children, including the Great Plains Zoomobile, Fantasy Face Painting, Tracy Area Animal Rescue, other kids activities and prizes.

**Brown Bag Concert**, Friday, June 11, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Luverne City Park. Bring a lunch and lawn chair and enjoy. Featuring Ron and Jane Cote. Sponsored by Main Street Financial Services

**Yoga in the Park**, Saturday, June 12, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., Luverne City Park with Stephanie Hoven. Bring a mat and relax. Event is free and open to the public

**Walk, Run and Roll**, Saturday, June 19, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Luverne Trailhead (at East Main Street and Blue Mound Avenue). Put on your shoes, grab your bike and water and head out for a morning walk, run or ride on the Luverne LOOP. Stop by the trailhead on your trip to enjoy a treat from **75 Diner** restaurant.

For more information, contact the Luverne Area Chamber at 507.283.4061 or [www.luvernechamber.com](http://www.luvernechamber.com)

### Buffalo Days/from page 1

that motorists and shuttle services can drop people off

“We’re going to do the best we can,” Lanphere said.

“The one thing we all know and support is we all want to have events and we’ve planned them and tried to hold them with the best of our abilities given the information we have at the time. ... We’re all just happy we can be out and about.”

#### Buffalo Days Expo returns to courthouse

The Buffalo Days Expo (formerly Arts in the Park) will return to the Courthouse Square after a wet city park prompted the decision two years ago. It’s from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 5.

“The public likes it there,” Lanphere said. “I’ve never had so many calls and emails from people supporting an event.”

Because fewer vendors had been coming through the years, the smaller venue made more sense so they weren’t spread apart so far.

Also, Lanphere said, contrary to social media reports, the event wasn’t moved to eliminate the Buffalo Chip Throwing Contest.

“It was moved to accommodate our businesses and the people who came and supported the trades,” she said.

“They loved it up here. It’s easier to get to, there’s parking on all sides so you don’t have to wait to go across a river. You can walk downtown. All day

we had people walking from different directions from neighborhoods. It’s a beautiful location. It’s not so big to walk around the whole park.”

She said sidewalk accessibility is an important factor for many people.

“There are so many older people who love to come down to Buffalo Days that just could not make it, because you have to walk so far,” Lanphere said.

So far about 60 vendors have committed to coming to this year’s event, but many longtime vendors didn’t survive the pandemic.

“Lots of people who used to do trade shows had to give it up, because they weren’t making any money,” Lanphere said. “When I reached out to some who had always been here, they’re out of business.”

In addition to the Buffalo Days Cruise-In and Expo, the Buffalo Days Parade starts at 10 a.m. Saturday down Main Street, and from June 1-8 Sanford Health is sponsoring a virtual 5k Buffalo Days Fun Run/Walk.

A quilt show will be at the Hinky House from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and a live band, Too Drunk to Fish, will play from 5 to 10 p.m. at Take 16.

Sunday’s events include a wrap-up of weekend baseball tournaments, pulled pork sandwiches from noon to 3 p.m. at the History Center and golf cart rides on the Loop trail from noon to 4 p.m. starting at the History Center.

See [luvernechamber.com](http://luvernechamber.com) for details.

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Submitted photo/0603 LHS Tennis

The Luverne tennis team won the section championship on Tuesday, May 25, in Redwood Falls by defeating Yellow Medicine East 6-1. Pictured (from left), Logan Ommen, Ethan Nath, Jayson Rops, Griffen Jarchow, Pierce Cunningham, head coach Lucas Larson, John Miller, Ben Jarchow, Blake Frahm, Kyle Ferguson, Chance Tunnissen, Spencer Kracht.

## 11 in a row: Luverne tennis punches ticket to state tournament for 11th straight season

**By Brennen Rupp**

There are three constants in life – death, taxes and the Luverne Cardinals boys' tennis team qualifying for the Class A State Tournament.

For the 11th straight season the Cardinals will be participating at the state tournament after winning the Class 3A Section Championship on Tuesday, May 25, in Redwood Falls.

"Making it to the state tournament for the 11th straight season means a ton to the squad," Luverne first-year head coach Lucas Larson said.

"Especially when you take into account that there was no season last year. There was a ton of pressure for our players to perform like teams of the past."

The Cardinals opened the

day by defeating Pipestone Area 4-3 in the section semi-finals.

In the section championship, the Cardinals defeated Yellow Medicine East 6-1.

"The Cards met this challenge head on and gave two of their best performances of the season on Tuesday," Larson said. "I'm really proud of each and every one of them."

**LHS 4, Pipestone 3**

Luverne's Pierce Cunningham defeated Pipestone's Tony Wacker in straight sets. Cunningham won the first set of the match 6-0. Cunningham then won the second set 6-2 to pick up the match

**Tennis/page 10**

## Rock County track teams gear up for sections

**By Brennen Rupp**

The Luverne and Hills-Beaver Creek track teams were among five teams that competed in Luverne on Tuesday, May 25.

The Luverne girls' track team took home first place, while the H-BC girls' team placed fourth overall.

On the boys' side of things, it was Southwest Minnesota Christian/Edgerton placing first.

The H-BC boys' track team placed second, while Luverne finished third overall.

Luverne's Gracie Zewiske placed first in the 100 meters with a time of 13 seconds and 73 milliseconds.

Mia Wenzel placed fourth with a time of 14.46 and Sarah Stegenga placed fifth with a time of 14.50.

Wenzel placed second in the 200 with a time of 29.05. Isabella Oye placed fourth with a time of 29.38. Anna

Banck finished fifth with a time of 29.52.

Luverne's Cassi Chesley placed fourth in the 400 with a time of 1:10.64.

In the 800, Luverne's Jenna DeBates took home first place with a time of 2:27.93.

H-BC's Kenadie Fick placed third with a time of 2:44.20.

Luverne's Maria Rops finished fourth with a time of 2:45.38 and Grace Ingebreton finished fifth with a time of 2:45.86.

In the 1,600 Luverne had four athletes cross the finish line first to own the Top 5 in the event.

Tenley Nelson crossed the finish line first with a time of 5:27.20.

Elizabeth Wagner finished second with a time of 5:58.75.

Ingebreton placed third

**Track/page 10**

## Top-seeded Luverne Cardinals best Pipestone Area 7-4, advance in 3AA section tournament



Madison Rupp photo/0603 baseball

Ethan Beyer fires a throw to first base after fielding a groundball against the Pipestone Area Arrows on Saturday, May 29, in Luverne. The Cardinals defeated the Arrows 7-4.

**By Brennen Rupp**

The Luverne Cardinals baseball team wrapped up the regular season with a 17-3 record and earned the No. 1 seed in the Class 3AA Section Tournament.

The Cardinals began their quest for a state tournament bid on Saturday, May 29, in Luverne against the Pipestone Area Arrows.

The Cardinals defeated the Arrows 7-4 to get one step closer to the state tournament.

Luverne's starting pitcher, Cade Wenninger, struck out the first batter he faced to open the game.

In the bottom of the first inning, Bailey Cowell was hit by a pitch and Ethan Beyer drew a walk

**LHS baseball/page 11**

## LHS softball team falls to Marshall in season finale, Cardinals set to start section tournament against TMB

**By Brennen Rupp**

The Luverne softball team wrapped up the regular season on Thursday, May 27, with a pair of home games against the Marshall Tigers.

The Tigers won the first game of the doubleheader 9-2. Marshall won the second game 10-0.

Luverne's starting pitcher, Roz Oye, struck out the first batter she faced to open the game.

Billi Connell led off the bottom of the first by drawing a walk. Oye drew a walk two batters later. With runners on the corners and two outs in the inning, Connell was tagged out at home.

The Tigers scored one run in the top of the second to take a 1-0 lead.

Marshall set down the Cardinals in order in the bottom of the second.

In the top of the third, the Tigers scored one more run to make it a 2-0 ballgame.

Regan Bork drew a



Brennen Rupp photo/0603 softball

Carly Olson fires a throw to first base after fielding a bunt during Luverne's matchup against the Marshall Tigers on Friday, May 28. The Cardinals were swept by the Tigers.

one-out walk in the bottom of the third. Connell drove in Bork on an RBI double to trim Marshall's lead to 2-1.

Luverne's Carly Olson

tied the game on a two-out RBI single in the bottom of the third.

Marshall scored five runs in the top of the fourth to

make it a 7-2 ballgame.

The Cardinals set down the Tigers in order in the top

**LHS softball/page 11**

## H-BC golf team competes at sections

**By Brennen Rupp**

The first day of the section 3A Golf Tournament was held on Wednesday, May 26, in Worthington.

The Hills-Beaver Creek golf team was one of 12 teams competing on Day 1 of the tournament.

At the end of Day 1 the Adrian girls' team was sitting atop the standings with a total score of 411.

The Heron Lake-Okabe-na/Fulda team was in second place with a score of 426. Westbrook Walnut-Grove finished in third place with a total score of 459.

The H-BC team placed fourth with an overall score of 469.

The top four teams after day one get to advance to day two of the section meet, which will be held on Wednesday, June 2, in Worthington.

The top individual golfer on the girls' side is Minneota's Lauren Bowyer. The Minneota golfer finished with a round of 94.

H-BC's Tess Van Maanen is currently tied for seventh place with three other golfers with an overall score of 103.

Hannah Fick is sitting in 20th place with an overall

score of 119.

H-BC's Tara Paulsen is in 25th place with a score of 123. Mackenzie Vos is right behind Paulsen, in 26th place with a score of 124.

Danette Leenderts is in 30th place with a score of 128.

Adrian finished in the top spot for the boys with an overall team score of 360.

Minneota placed second with an overall score of 384.

HLOF placed third with a score of 388.

Southwest Minnesota Christian/Edgerton finished in the fourth spot with a score of 391. The Patriots finished five strokes out of the fourth-place spot with a score of 396 to finish in the fifth spot.

Adrian's Brock Henning was the top individual performer with a score of 81.

H-BC's Thomas Dysthe advanced to Day 2 of the competition by finishing with a score of 96.

Ethan Kruger finished his season by shooting a 99. Dallas Page shot a 100. Jacob Axness finished with a round of 101. Damion Meinerts finished with a score of 104. Austin Allen shot a 105.

The second day of the 3A section meet is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. in Worthington.







# Unsung Heroes: Wildlife managers do dirty work to help maintain nature’s beauty for our enjoyment

I never really figured out what I wanted to do after high school until I was about 28 years old.

After graduation I took a few years off from schooling in the sales and marketing arena. I sold cars and then newspaper subscriptions.

At age 28 I decided I wanted to be a regional fisheries manager for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

However, this would have required six more years of school and then a half dozen years working my way into that position.

I had two little kids and I just couldn’t do that many years of school and no money.

The next best thing was to enter the world of financial services, be pretty good at it and then spend my free time in natural resources and conservation work.

Now I hang around with area wildlife managers. As it worked out, the wildlife side of conservation and management was where I found my sweet spot.

As a result, I have spent countless hours working with and learning from these people I so admire.

Do you ever wonder what a DNR wildlife manager does?

They usually manage the public lands in about four counties, depending on how big the county is.

My closest friend in this position manages the public lands in Rock, Nobles, Murray and Lincoln counties in southwest Minnesota.

Most work areas that once had five to seven employees are now operating the same number of acres with two to three people. This is a crying shame.

The area wildlife manager is the front-line person for every issue that affects public lands. Most of these acres are Wildlife Management Areas, prominently marked with yellow signs.

They need annual management, like removing invasive volunteer trees, managing food plots with area farmers, and cooperating with local livestock



## THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, outdoor columnist

*“They do very hard work under some pretty difficult circumstances. Beavers get a break from me; they are only doing what nature intended.”*

- Scott Rall

producers to allow intermittent grazing on selected areas that can benefit from the practice.

The biggest and most common issues many managers face today relate to water.

In the past several years we’ve had unsurpassed amounts of annual rainfall.

Wetlands provide important wildlife habitat and also slow flood waters and reduce downstream pollution.

So, what do you think slowing down water does to an area wildlife manager? It generates complaints from all over their work area when farm drainage is suspected of being adversely affected.

Beavers will do what beavers do and this results in tons of calls to address those concerns in a matter of hours, not days.

Never mind that it rains 6-7 inches in a 24-hour period about every three weeks the past five years, this year being the exception.

Wildlife managers also deal with weeds, such as poison hemlock, which will burn the skin of just about anyone who touches it.

Every report of this plant needs to be followed up by the area wildlife manager and monitored every year to insure it does not come back.

How may spots might this be? Maybe 100 or more. This is an additional duty with no additional staff or hours in the day to do it.

The list continues.

If there are additional public land acres added to the outdoor recreation system that need restoration and seeding, this duty falls squarely on the area wildlife manager. Seed acquisition, contractor agreements, insurance mandates and much more for each and every project are completed.

If I were to list all the responsibilities of an area wildlife manager, the entire edition of the paper you’re reading could not hold them all.

These folks are dedicated people who love what they do, and I love helping them do it.

The DNR is easy to pick on because of rules and regulations to protect the natural resources of the state.

More than a small percentage of the people would just love to trample over those regulations in the search of a dollar, but wildlife managers help to protect natural resources.

The next time you drive by some citizen-owned land managed by the DNR in Minnesota, ask yourself, “If not for this citizen-owned land in my county, would there be any wildlife in the area?” Not where I live.

Get to know these wildlife professionals and give them all of the benefit of the doubt. They do very hard work under some pretty difficult circumstances. Beavers get a break from me; they are only doing what nature intended.

## Luverne baseball/continued from page 9

to open the inning for the Cardinals.

With one out in the inning, Casey Sehr hit a two-run double to get the Cardinals on the board.

The Arrows got one run back in the top of the second inning to trim Luverne’s lead to 2-1.

Wenninger recorded one strikeout in the inning.

In the top of the third inning, Wenninger recorded his third strikeout of the game.

Beyer drew his second walk of the game in the bottom of the third inning with one out. Beyer then stole second base and advanced to third on a wild pitch.

Sehr drove in Beyer on an RBI single to put the Cardinals up 3-1.

With runners on third and second base, Connor Connell hit a triple to drive in a pair of runs with two outs. Connell’s two-run triple put the Cardinals up 5-1.

In the bottom of the fourth, Cowell hit a one-out double. Wenninger then hit a single to drive in Cowell to give the Cardinals a 6-1 lead.

The first two Pipestone batters reached home in the top of the fifth to start a rally for the Arrows.

Pipestone scored three runs in the inning to trim Luverne’s lead to 6-4.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Kaden Anderson led off the inning with a single.

## Luverne softball/continued from page 9

of the fifth and in the top of the sixth.

In the top of the seventh inning the Tigers scored a pair of insurance runs to make it a 9-2 ballgame.

The Cardinals were set down in order in the bottom of the seventh.

The Tigers defeated the Cardinals 10-0 in six innings in game two of the double-header.

The Tigers scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the second to claim a 2-0 lead.

In the bottom of the fourth the Tigers scored six runs to build an 8-0 lead.

The Cardinals scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth to enforce the 10-run rule.

With the pair of losses the Cardinals finished the regular season with a 9-11 record.

Luverne will open the section tournament on Tuesday, June 1, in Pipestone against Tracy-Milroy-Balaton.

The Panthers finished the regular season with an overall record of 15-5.

The winner between TMB and Luverne will play



Madison Rupp photo/0603 baseball

Connor Connell fires in a pitch during Luverne’s section tournament game against the Pipestone Arrows on Saturday, May 29. The Cardinals defeated the Arrows 7-4.

The Cardinals scored one run in the inning to make it a 7-4 ballgame.

In the top of the seventh inning, Connell struck out the first two batters he faced to help the Cardinals secure the 7-4 victory.

Luverne will host Fairmont in the section tournament on Tuesday, June 1, at 5 p.m.

If the Cardinals win on Tuesday, they’ll play in the

section semifinals on Saturday, June 5, in Marshall at noon.

PAS 0 1 0 0 3 0 0 4 5 2  
LHS 2 0 3 1 0 1 x 7 10 5

Batting: Cowell 1-3; Wenninger 1-4; Beyer 1-2; Sehr 2-3; Overgaard 1-2; Bosch 1-1; Connell 1-2; Sneller 1-3; Anderson 1-3  
Doubles: Cowell, Sehr  
Triples: Connell  
RBIs: Sehr 2; Connell 2; Overgaard; Wenninger



Brennen Rupp photo/0603 softball

Luverne’s Averill Sehr swings at a pitch during a game against the Marshall Tigers on Friday, May 28, in Luverne.

the top-seeded Pipestone Arrows immediately following the matchup.

Marshall 0 1 1 5 0 0 2 9 8 1  
Luverne 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 2 2 4

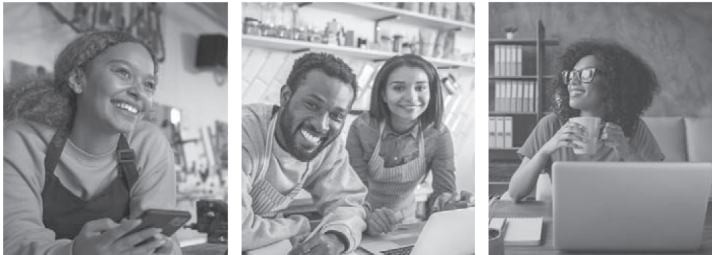
Hitting: Connell 1-2; Olson 1-3

Doubles: Connell  
RBIs: Connell, Olson

Luverne 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 4  
Marshall 0 2 0 6 0 2 10 11 0

Hitting: Robinson 1-3; Oye 1-2; Sehr 1-2  
Doubles: Oye

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

**First Baptist Church**  
1033 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne  
Ph. 283-4091; email: [fbcluv@iw.net](mailto:fbcluv@iw.net) — [www.fbcluverne.org](http://www.fbcluverne.org)  
Walt Moser, Pastor  
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Ph. 507-283-4431; [www.graceluverne.org](http://www.graceluverne.org) — [graceluverne@iw.net](mailto:graceluverne@iw.net)  
Ann Zastrow, Pastor  
Thursday, June 3: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 1:30 p.m. Endowment meeting. Saturday, June 5: 5:30 p.m. Worship service with Holy Communion. Sunday, June 6: 9 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion. 10 a.m. Fellowship coffee and treats. 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible study via Zoom. Monday, June 7-Thursday, June 10: 6-8 p.m. Vacation Bible School. Tuesday, June 8: 9 a.m. staff meeting. Wednesday, June 9: 7 a.m. Men's Bible study. 7:30 a.m. Mom's Bible study at Wildflowers. 8 p.m. Youth summer kick-off party. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are still available. Online Sundays 9 a.m. on the church website [www.graceluverne.org](http://www.graceluverne.org), click Worship tab or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. – NEW TIME! Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 p.m.

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne  
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834  
[pastorapalmquist6@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorapalmquist6@yahoo.com)  
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor  
Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well (at els. org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

**American Reformed Church**  
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne  
Ph. 283-8600; email: [office@arcluverne.org](mailto:office@arcluverne.org)  
Mike Altena, Pastor  
Friday, June 4: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible study. Sunday, June 6: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 10:45 a.m. Congregation informational meeting. Monday, June 7-Friday June 11: 8:30 a.m.-Noon Vacation Bible School. Tuesday, June 8: 8:30 a.m.-Noon Vacation Bible School. Noon Staff meeting. 7 p.m. Consistory meeting. Services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

**Rock River Community Church**  
(formerly First Assembly of God)  
1075 110<sup>th</sup> Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4  
Ph. 612-800-1255; email [info@rockrivercommunity.church](mailto:info@rockrivercommunity.church)  
Bob Junak, Pastor; Annette Junak, Assistant Pastor  
Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday school; 10 a.m. Worship service. Children's church for ages 3-6<sup>th</sup> grade and nursery for ages 0-3 provided during our services. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Worship service. All services are in-person and all are welcome.

**United Methodist Church**  
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne  
Ph. 283-4529; email: [luverneumc@iw.net](mailto:luverneumc@iw.net)  
Thursday, June 3: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf curbside. Saturday, June 5: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, June 6: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Worship service. 4:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible study. Potluck picnic in backyard. Monday, June 7: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Wednesday, June 9: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thurs-

day, June 10: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf curbside.

**First Presbyterian Church**  
302 Central Lane, Luverne  
Ph. 283-4787; email: [Firstpc@iw.net](mailto:Firstpc@iw.net) — [www.fpcluverne.com](http://www.fpcluverne.com)  
Jason Cunningham, Pastor  
Sunday, June 6: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. Monday, June 7: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. In-person Worship service and through Facebook Live Sunday. 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](mailto:stjohn@iw.net)  
[www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org](http://www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org)  
Rev. Dr. Phil Booe, Pastor  
Saturday, June 5: 5:30 p.m. Worship. Sunday, May June 6: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Sunday school and Adult Bible study. 7 p.m. Online Bible study. Worship service is 75 people. Services will be available on the Vast channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website, [cityofluverne.org](http://cityofluverne.org).

**Living Rock Church**  
500 E. Main St., Luverne  
Ph. 449-0057; [www.livingrockswmn.org](http://www.livingrockswmn.org)  
Billy Skaggs, Pastor

**New Life Celebration Church**  
101 W. Maple, Luverne  
Ph. 449-6522; email: [newlifecelbration@gmail.com](mailto:newlifecelbration@gmail.com)  
Food mission every third Thursday.

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
305 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick  
Ph. (507) 669-2855; [zionoffice@alliancecom.net](mailto:zionoffice@alliancecom.net)  
Jesse Baker, Pastor

**First Lutheran Church**  
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.  
Ph. (605) 757-6662  
Mark Eliason, Pastor  
Sunday, June 6: 10 a.m. Joint worship service with Holy Communion at First Lutheran. Masks are no longer required if fully vaccinated. Facebook live. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

**Palisade Lutheran Church**  
211 121<sup>st</sup> St., Garretson, S.D.  
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — [firstpalisade@alliancecom.net](mailto:firstpalisade@alliancecom.net)  
Mark Eliason, Pastor  
Sunday, June 6: 10 a.m. Joint worship service with Holy Communion at First Lutheran. Masks are no longer required if fully vaccinated. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

**First Presbyterian Church**  
201 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek  
Ph. 507-935-5025  
email: [lori.firstpres@gmail.com](mailto:lori.firstpres@gmail.com)  
Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. Session meeting.

**Magnolia United Methodist Church**  
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia  
Ph. 605-215-3429  
email: [magnoliannumc@gmail.com](mailto:magnoliannumc@gmail.com)  
Nancy Manning, Pastor  
Sunday, 9 a.m., in-person with livestream available on the church's Facebook site.

**Steen Reformed Church**  
112 W. Church Ave., Steen  
Ph. 855-2336  
Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor  
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship service in-person with livestream available on Facebook and YouTube. Radio worship on KQAD Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
112 N. Main St., Hills  
Ph. 962-3270  
Nita Parker, Pastor  
Sunday, June 6: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Home. 9:30 a.m. Youth time. 10 a.m. Worship at Bethlehem. Basement reserved. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website [blchills.org](http://blchills.org).

**Hills United Reformed Church**  
410 S. Central Ave., Hills  
Office Ph. 962-3254  
[hillsure@alliancecom.net](mailto:hillsure@alliancecom.net)  
Alan Camarigg, Pastor

## An example of faith

The other day, as I was reading the New Testament book of Romans, I came across a reference to the faith of Abraham. Abraham trusted in God "...who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist." (Romans 4:17, ESV)

We all have a measure of faith. If we sit in a chair, we believe it will support our weight. If we drive a car, we trust that the brakes will work to bring us safely to a stop when we approach a red light.

Sometimes our faith is misplaced. Every now and then chairs break and brakes fail. We have to repair or replace things so that we may trust them again.

What about God? Do we trust Him to do what He has promised **none** of the time, **some** of the time, **most** of the time or **all** of the time?

Along the way, Abraham's faith was tested. He had to decide whether or not God was worthy of his complete and sincere trust. His faith was tested by waiting. Waiting can be difficult; it can try our patience as well as our faith. God promised a child to elderly Abraham and Sarah – not just any child but the one who would bring the blessing of salvation to this sin-broken world. But weeks turned into months, which became years, which became a decade ... still no child. Waiting wasn't easy because their biological clocks were ticking. With every passing season their having a child seemed less likely.

We find the story of Abraham and Sarah in the book of Genesis. Did they have doubts? Yes. There's nothing quite like waiting, waiting, waiting to stir up doubts! But they didn't despair; they recalled the power and goodness of God revealed in His work of creation. It's as if they turned back the pages of Genesis and drew confidence and courage from the opening verses: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." On a dark night, when Abraham's faith resembled Swiss cheese (holes

## BUILT ON A ROCK

By Rev. Roger Sparks  
Luverne Christian  
Reformed Church

of doubt), God told Abraham to step outside and to count the stars. Abraham gazed into the heavens. He saw more than stars. He beheld signs of God's wisdom and power. With the eye of faith he saw proof that God is able to call into existence things that had not existed.

With such God-given encouragement, Abraham "...believed the Lord, and He credited it to him as righteousness." Abraham believed and was saved. He was saved not just from unwelcome doubts, but from all his sins! Looking to the future, Abraham trusted that God was able to do all that He had promised: a son through him – the Messiah, salvation for the nations!

What may we learn from this example of faith?

First, we shouldn't be surprised if we pass through seasons of doubt. Nothing about us is perfect, including our faith.

Second, let's look and listen for ways that God calls us to trust Him. How do we know He is able to keep His promises? Look at His handiwork in the night sky and in the wonder of living things. Through telescopes and microscopes and with our own eyes we can see proof of God's ability to do all that He has promised. Out of nothing He called the universe into being. Out of an old, childless couple He brought forth a son. And out of unbelieving hearts God is able to summon faith: living faith, saving faith.

So let us trust in God "who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist."

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## H-BC School Board meets May 10

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671  
Minutes  
May 10, 2021

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:02 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Media Center/via Zoom Mtg for Guest attendees – based on MN Statute 13D.021.

Board members present were Bosch, Gehrke, Harnack, Knobloch, Rauk, and Rozeboom. Superintendent Holthaus was also in attendance. Principal Kellenberger and Business Manager Rozeboom were absent.

Motion by Bosch, second by Harnack, and carried to approve the agenda. Proposed Addition to the agenda: 6.5

Visitor to the meeting was Mavis Fodness of the Star Herald.

PATRIOT PRIDE:

-Mazzi Moore took 3rd place in the MN History Day Finals—She is an alternate for the National Contest.

-4 by 100 boys team set school record—Cole Baker, Tyson Bork, Dewell Rauk, Gavin Wysong,

-District Recognition for developing young writers by the SWWC

BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:

-Building Grounds 5/6

-Staff Development 5/5

Motion by Knobloch, second by Harnack, and carried to approve Consent Agenda:

-Minutes—04/26/2021

-Bills

-Assign Renee Edmondson to vacant elementary education teacher position for the 2021-2022 School year

-Accept Jeanette VandenHoek's resignation as teacher effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year

-Accept Diane VandenHoek's resignation as teacher effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year

-Assign Darin DeBoer to Extended School Year DAPE Teacher

-Direct Administration to purchase 11 Affinitech Boards at a cost of \$25,500.29

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

•Secondary Principal Report

•Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report

•Legislative Update

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

DATES TO REMEMBER:

-Regular Board Meeting, May 24, 2021

-Senior Commencement 7 p.m., Friday, May 28 -Regular Board Meeting, June 8

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk  
(06-03)

## Mortgage foreclosure sale set for July 1

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: December 29, 2016

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$33,781.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Linda S. Jordan, a single woman

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: January 06, 2017 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 189906

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

And assigned to: Quicken Loans, LLC

Dated: November 02, 2020

Recorded: November 09, 2020 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 198487

Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 100039033650596798

Lender or Broker: Quicken Loans Inc.

Residential Mortgage Servicer: Quicken Loans, LLC

Mortgage Originator: Not Applicable

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock

Property Address: 821 N McKenzie St, Luverne, MN 56156-1336

Tax Parcel ID Number: 20-0242-000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Fifty-five (N.55) feet of Lot One (1), in Block Two (2), in Barck, Adams & Howe's Addition to the City of Luverne, Rock County, Minnesota, except the West Twenty-five (W.25) feet thereof

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$35,469.91

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: July 01, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

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 six (6) 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 January 03, 2022, or the next business day if January 03, 2022, 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: May 13, 2021

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Quicken Loans, LLC

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 044889F01

(05-13, 05-20, 05-27, 06-03, 06-10, 06-17)

## Luverne School District seeks quotes for vehicle fuels

REQUEST FOR QUOTES  
LUVERNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Notice is hereby given that quotes for vehicle fuels will be received until 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at the Office of the Superintendent, Luverne High School, Luverne, Minnesota.

Detailed specifications and information are available at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

The School Board reserves the right to reject any and all quotes and bids and to waive any technicalities.

Reva Sehr, Clerk  
(06-03, 06-10)

# Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

### EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYMENT

### MISCELLANEOUS

### WANTED

### EMPLOYMENT

### RENTALS



The Tuff Memorial Home is currently hiring:

**Weekend-only Day Shift CNA**

**Full-time Day CNA**

**Part-time Evening Cook**

**Village Caregiver**

**Village Part-time/On-Call RN/LPN**

If interested, contact Eli Ripley at 507-962-3275 or email eripley@tuffmemorialhome.com

**Competitive Wage | Full Benefits  
Pension Plan | Friendly Atmosphere**



## HELP WANTED

- Full-time CNA
- Part-time CNA (various shifts)
- Part-time Overnight RN/LPN
- MDS Coordinator RN (\$4,000) sign on bonus

**308 W. SHERMAN AVE. ELLSWORTH, MN  
CALL 507-967-2482**

Call **Chantel**  
at **283-2333**  
to advertise

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)

Wanted to buy: Four-bedroom house in Hills, MN. Call 218-289-5259. (5.15-6.3)

RECYCLE!

### EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

### CITY OF HILLS

*Taking applications for*

### PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT

*for the operations and maintenance of streets, parks, buildings, grounds, water/wastewater. Starting salary \$20 per hour with salary increase incentives. Apply at Hills City Office, P.O. Box 172, 301 S. Main Ave., Hills, MN 56138 or call 507-962-3290. Applications accepted until position is filled.*

## NOW HIRING!

GrandStay®

Hotel & Suites of

Luverne, MN is now accepting applications for the following positions:

~Part-time Front Desk

~Part-time Housekeeper

Apply in person!  
GrandStay Hotel & Suites of Luverne  
908 S. Kniss Ave, Luverne, MN 56156  
Ask for Pam or Lisa -507-449-4949



GRANDSTAY.  
HOTEL & SUITES

Help Wanted: Looking for a full-time truck driver to run local. Home every day, hours vary, pay based on experience. Must have Class A CDL. Call 507-920-5469 or 507-227-0607. (tc)

Green Lantern in Hardwick is seeking an experienced front line part-time **Cook**. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Also looking for part-time **Bartenders/Waitresses** for the summer. Stop into the Green Lantern, Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Sundays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. (5.22-6.10)

HELP WANTED: FULL-TIME TELLER/BOOKKEEPER. This position requires assisting customers with basic financial needs. Duties include: cash checks, take deposits, process loan payments, issue money orders, open/close accounts, additional duties as assigned. Position is Monday through Friday. Please send resume or pick up job application at Adrian State Bank, 322 Maine Ave, Adrian, MN 56110-0129. For more information, contact Emily at 507-483-2447. EOE (5.15-6.5)

### SERVICES

For rent in Luverne. Two bedroom apartment with central air, on-site laundry and one-stall garage. No pets and no smoking. Located in quiet area. 507-920-0406. (5.27-6.12)

Two-bedroom home with attached garage/large backyard. One block from schools. Call 605-610-6484 or 605-310-8989 anytime or 605-594-2169 after 6 p.m. Immediate availability. (5.29-6.17)

Duplex for sale or rent. Each unit has three bedrooms, two bathrooms. Totally remodeled. New furnace/air conditioning. All new solid surface flooring. New windows. **Very nice!** (5.27-6.12)

### 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. Also have yard dirt. 715 SW Park Street, Luverne, MN. (5.27-6.12)

**THE DEADLINE  
FOR CLASSIFIEDS  
IS MONDAY  
AT  
10:00 a.m.**

## FEY INDUSTRIES, INC. IS NOW

**Walk in Interviews**

**JUNE 10  
4pm - 7pm**

**JUNE 12  
8am - 11am**

**HIRING**

**\$500 Sign-On Bonus, Starting Wage \$15 per hour**



For more details on Walk-In Interviews,  
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## 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

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Kindergartners Dawson Stratton (left) and Dominic Rigney will complete the graduate walk in 2033 as indicated on the hats they made for Friday's graduate walk.



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Jonathan Dolo (left) leads his fellow graduating seniors around the parking lot surrounded by elementary students.

‘Congratulations’ and ‘good luck’

This year's senior class at Luverne High School were bid congratulations and good luck Friday morning by kindergarten through 11<sup>th</sup>-grade students lining the parking lots at the school campus in Luverne. The 87 graduates finished commencement practice at the elementary and were given a sendoff from school by the younger classmen on the last day of the 2020-21 school year. The congratulatory sendoff of the seniors began as an annual tradition several years ago and was moved outside this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. **At right:** Fourth-graders (from left) Yerari Castillo Alvarez, Mallory Berning, Nick Hoogendoorn, Deegan Stoffel, James Waddington and Rene Flores show their support to passing seniors.



Middle and high school students line the sidewalks to give the graduating seniors a sendoff Friday morning. Mavis Fodness photos/0603 Senior Walk 2021

**LUVERNE TRAP TEAM**

Youth Trap Team

**GUN RAFFLE**

Drawing June 5th at Buffalo Days

\$10 per ticket

Win a Henry Golden Boy 22LR 20 Large Loop Lever stock engraved with a buffalo

Contact Marty Bonnett: 507-220-4272

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

During the past year we have been living by the numbers - the weekly COVID-19 numbers that is. Early on, each week we watched as our local numbers started to increase. Safety measures were put in place and the numbers continued to rise. As the number rose, so did our resolve to combat the pandemic. More restrictions and more precautions were implemented and finally over the last few months the numbers have turned around. We can now see the light at the end of the tunnel shinning brighter and brighter. Thank you for doing your part in reducing those numbers to what we have today.

**RECENT COVID NUMBERS\***

**>1 AVERAGE DAILY CASES**

**0 AVERAGE DAILY DEATHS**

**0 AVERAGE DAILY HOSPITALIZATIONS**

**47.3% OF ROCK COUNTY IS COMPLETELY VACCINATED**

\* Data as of May 26, 2021 Sources: MDH and The New York Times.

**WE ARE MAKING PROGRESS ROCK COUNTY**

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

**Luverne** MINNESOTA  
*Love the life!*

Sincerely,  
  
Mayor Patrick T. Baustian