

# Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, September 15, 2022



## Keeping the faith

Lori Sorenson photo/0915 FCA youth football hansen

Ryan Johnson, who organizes the FCA youth football program in Luverne, addresses the large group "huddle" between games Saturday morning.

## FCA youth football program continues to grow

By Lori Sorenson

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Second Timothy 4:7 was the Bible verse of the day for young flag football players who gathered Saturday morning for the first game of the season.

Every Saturday for the next several weeks, the west edge of Luverne will come alive with hundreds of elementary-age flag football players through the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Softball diamonds, soccer fields and grassy areas in between are divided into kid-sized football fields surrounded by parents, grandparents and other fans in lawn chairs and on blankets.

Now in its seventh year, there are 370 players and 35 teams — up from last year's 300 players on 28

teams.

They come to Luverne from five different communities — Luverne, Edgerton, Hills-Beaver Creek, Adrian and Rock Rapids. Teams are organized by age in grades 1-6 and practice in their home towns.

FCA youth football/see page 5



At left, fourth-grade football players are among 370 young athletes to compete in the fields west of the Luverne school campus Saturday morning. At right former NFL punter Brian Hansen kneels in prayer with FCA youth football athletes during the group huddle that involves all 35 teams in the 2022 program.



## Where will construction waste go?

Commissioners study their options for 2027 deadline

By Mavis Fodness

A long-term study of Rock County's demolition landfill predicts the eight-acre construction and building debris disposal site will be at capacity by 2027.

Eric Hartman, the county's Land Management Office director, presented the 39-page feasibility study to commissioners at their Sept. 6 meeting.

"We have about five to 5 1/2 years at present fill levels — if we continue as we have," Hartman said.

"This doesn't take into account if we have a catastrophic event like a tornado ... (which) could wreak havoc with what we have capacity-wise."

On average the demo landfill, located three miles east of Luverne, receives 12,981 cubic yards of debris annually.

It's placed in a large pile where it is compacted and mounded in dirt with a 5:1 slope.

The study, conducted by long-time landfill consultants SEH of St. Cloud, outlines four possible options.

They suggest commissioners decide a course within the next 12 months due to the length of time it takes to receive state permits.

### Do nothing, close landfill in five years

The study indicated if commissioners do nothing and close the facility once capacity is reached, future debris will need to be trucked elsewhere.

The nearest demo landfill to Rock County is 25 miles away in

Landfill options/see page 5

## Fareway Meat Market opens in Luverne next week

By Lori Sorenson

Meet the face of Luverne's new Fareway Meat Market, Brian Tieskotter, the 6-4 Iowa native sporting a bow tie with his company polo shirt.

"We take pride in having quality product and quality service," he said when asked what he's looking forward to about opening the store next week.

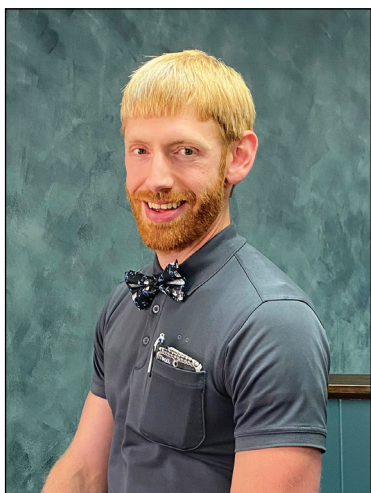
Since February, contractors have been working in the former W-2's Quality Meats building at Main Street and Highway 75 to retrofit the 2,300-square-foot space.

Fareway's investment includes a 9-by-12-foot walk-in cooler, new frozen and refrigerated cases and upgraded infrastructure and cosmetic touches.

The building also has new siding, fresh paint, new signage, LED lighting on south and west, blackout glass, a new door and parking lot improvements.

A ribbon-cutting Tuesday evening will celebrate the improvements and usher in the first official day of the store being open on Wednesday, Sept. 21.

Tieskotter has been with



Brian Tieskotter manages the Fareway store in Luverne.

Fareway for 17 years, but this is the first store he's in charge of opening, and it's the company's first stand-alone Fareway Meat Market in Minnesota.

In addition to fresh cuts of beef, pork and chicken, the store will offer meal sides, some groceries and meat accessories, such as seasonings, rubs, marinades, wood pellets and charcoal.

Tieskotter received his

Fareway to open/see page 2

## Nutcracker fine art sculptures to be dedicated Sunday downtown

By Lori Sorenson

A large-scale fine art project three years in the making will be dedicated Sunday in Luverne.

Three 7-foot-tall hand-painted nutcrackers stand at attention at downtown Main Street intersections — one at Estey Street, one on Blue Mound Avenue and a third in front of the History Center.

The "destination branding committee" of Luverne Initiatives For Tomorrow (LIFT) is hosting the dedication at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at the intersection of Redbird Road and Main Street.

The sculptures trace their beginnings to 18-inch prototypes that were hand-painted in 2019 by local artists — 10 of them in all.

By this time, word had spread among travelers about Luverne's unique nutcracker collection at the History Center where the guest book recorded thousands of visitors.

To capitalize on tourism traffic, local leaders invited artists to create 18-inch nutcrackers which were unveiled at a reception in June 2019.

The 10 artists who created the nutcrackers are Janine Brands, Lori Hallstrom, Cody Henrichs, Jen Huisman, Cora Mumme Miller, Chris Nowatzki,

Nutcracker art/see page 16



Luverne artist Janine Brands was the first to complete her sculpture, a 7-foot bison-themed nutcracker, last summer.



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Meetings

Blue Mound Quilters will meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. Park in the north lot. Bring your own projects to work on and an item to share for a light noon lunch. Call 507-227-0914.

MS Support Group will meet at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at Pizza Ranch in Luverne. All persons with MS, family and friends are invited. Call 283-2069 or 283-2964 for info.

### Food distribution is Sept. 15

New Life Celebration Church's third Thursday monthly food giveaway is at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Atlas building at 101 W. Maple St. in Luverne.

Enter from Maple Street and stay along the west side of the building. Parking lot opens at 3 p.m. Do not block the Redeemed Remnants parking lot, intersection or alley entrance. Food will be loaded into vehicles, which exit via the alley going west. Call 507-283-8963 or 507-283-4366 with questions.

### Book sale starts Sept. 15

The Friends of the Rock County Library annual book sale is Thursday, Sept. 15, through Saturday, Sept. 17. Times are from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15; from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16; and from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 (bag sale).

For more information, contact the library at 507-449-5040.

### CoffeeBreak study starts Oct. 4

The kickoff meeting of CoffeeBreak begins at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, and will meet each Tuesday, at the Luverne Christian Reformed Church at 605 North Estey Street in Luverne.

Children ages 3 to kindergarten are invited to participate in StoryHour, a program with Bible stories and playtime. A nursery is also available. No charge and no prior Bible knowledge necessary. All faiths and ages are welcome. For more information call Kristi Stroeh at 507-227-5102 or email at kristi.stroeh@hotmail.com

### Society's annual meeting Oct. 3

The Rock County Historical Society annual meeting is at noon Monday, Oct. 3, at the Big Top Events Center. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the History Center for \$15, or the day of the event at the door for \$25. The program is on old restaurants.

### Community Ed

Community Education will offer the following classes in the next few weeks. Call 507-283-4724 to register.

Students will follow along with the instructor to create a painting at **Paint & Snack** class. Grades 4-6 is Sept. 19. Fee is \$33.

**Junior Cardinal Cross Country Team** for grades K-6 will be from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting Sept. 13. On the last day, kids will do their own race at the end of the home cross country meet.

**Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)** classes for children ages 0-5 is a Community Education program for parents and their children from birth to kindergarten age. It offers information and support to parents and provides activities for parents and children to explore together through classes that meet once a week throughout the school year.

**Taking Defensive Driving** Classes allows adults 55 years of age and older to save on insurance premiums. The eight-hour beginner Defensive Driving class will be offered on Nov. 7 and 10.

### Library Happenings

For more information about library happenings, call 507-449-5040 or email rockcountystaff@gmail.com.

**Trivia Night** is at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at Take 16 in Luverne. Team registration begins at 6 p.m.



Lori Sorenson photo/0915 luverne lawn care ribboncutting

## Luverne Lawn Care ribbon-cutting

Luverne Lawn Care celebrated a grand opening and ribbon-cutting Thursday morning, Sept. 8, at their Harrison Street shop and office. Owners Ross and Mira (Uithoven) Steensma and Nick and Brittany Weidert purchased the mowing and chemicals business from the Luverne Farm Store in February when the longtime local business closed its doors and since then opened in the former Mel's Alignment building on Harrison Street. Pictured are (front, left) Becky Walgrave, Amber Lais, Cris Oeltjenbruns, Bill Martin, Greg and Marilyn Uithoven, Ross and Mira (Uithoven) Steensma, Nick and Brittany Weidert, Grace Steensma, Matt Van Grootheest, Elaine Steensma, Annie Opitz, (back row) Tyler Bush, Knute Oldre, Adam and Linda Uithoven, Steve and Terri Steensma, Ryan Oye, Jan and Jeff Weidert, Cade Ver Steeg, Andy Steensma, Pat Baustian and Bob Junak.

## Minnesota's voting season starts Sept. 23

### September is Voter Registration Month

Voting season is just around the corner in Minnesota, and now is the time to get registered.

Using mnvotes.gov, Minnesotans can register to vote, check their registration, and update their registration on their computer or smartphone.

Early voting will begin on Sept. 23. Minnesota registered voters can request an absentee ballot to vote from home at mnvotes.gov or vote early with an absentee ballot at a local election office.

To highlight the importance of updating and registering to vote, Governor Tim Walz proclaimed September Voter Registration Month in Minnesota.

"Minnesota leads the nation in voter registration; still we know that as many as 550,000 Minnesotans who are eligible to vote are not yet registered," said Secretary Steve Simon.

"That's why our office is working with local election partners around the state to ensure that every Minnesotan has the opportunity to make their voice heard at the polls this voting season."

Voter Registration Month culminates on Voter Registration Day Sept. 20 — the national holiday for registration.

Secretary Simon will make several stops at area colleges and universities to encourage young voters to

make a plan to vote ahead of Nov. 8.

Registration is especially important for those who live in mail-in ballot precincts.

In the 2022 election, more than 150,000 Minnesotans live in areas that vote exclusively by mail — without a local polling place.

Registered voters in these parts of the state will be mailed ballots starting Sept. 23, which must be returned to elections offices by Nov. 8.

In addition to registering to vote, Minnesotans can use mnvotes.gov to learn more about the races on the ballot and where they can vote.

This year voters may notice the races they can vote in, and their polling places, have changed due to redistricting.

In Minnesota, new maps of these district lines were produced by a panel of five judges and released to the public on Feb. 15, 2022.

Quick Links:  
View the elections home at <http://mnvotes.gov/>

Register to vote or update your registration at [mnvotes.gov/register](http://mnvotes.gov/register)

Request an absentee ballot at [mnvotes.gov/absentee](http://mnvotes.gov/absentee)

View a sample ballot at [mnvotes.gov/myballot](http://mnvotes.gov/myballot)  
Find your polling place at [mnvotes.gov/pollfinder](http://mnvotes.gov/pollfinder)

## Fareway store to open/ continued from page 1

meatcutter training directly through Fareway, first working in New Hampton, Iowa, which is near Protivin where he grew up on a dairy farm that also raised poultry, pork and grain.

Tieskotter said the right cut of meat properly trimmed makes a big difference in quality and palatability.

Fareway uses Duroc pork from Windom. "It has a higher fat content, which makes it more flavorful," he said. And its beef is sourced from the Midwest.

Tieskotter most recently worked in Spirit Lake, but he has also been involved in Fareway stores in Humboldt, Sioux Center, Shenandoah, Sioux Falls, Storm Lake and Spencer.

"This will probably be my last stop," he said about being in Luverne. "It's a nice small town."

He's buying a home in Luverne and said he looks forward to skydiving at the airport and seeing an outdoor movie at the Verne Drive-In.

Fareway in Luverne will employ nine other people in various positions, most of them part-time, mostly in product preparation.

Luverne Properties LLC owns the corner lot building and has a two-year lease with Fareway.

Gary Papik is among six local investors comprising

Luverne Properties LLC. He said he's been holding out for a business like Fareway to come into the building.

"There was a lot of other interest in the building, but we waited," Papik said earlier this year. "We knew it needed to be a meat market, because that's what the people in Luverne were asking for."

He said the location is also well-suited for a meat market.

"It is great when you can stop in quick to get what you need and get on to your next thing," Papik said. "This location is ideal for that."

He pointed out that W-2's Quality Meats left town for staffing reasons and pending retirements, not because there wasn't support for a meat market.

"The business was here, but they were at a point in their lives where they needed to leave," Papik said.

If all goes well for Fareway with the small meat market, the company has an option to acquire property across the intersection to the southwest to build a stand-alone meat market store.

In addition to the Luverne store opening, Fareway, based in Boone, Iowa, is opening eight other Midwest stores this year and next year in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri.

## #TellUsTuesday Results

Scan Here to Vote for this Week's Survey!



### Were You Ready To Get Back To School?

Yes, what took so long?!	33%
No, I wanted more summer!	50%
Indifferent	17%

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# MPCA fines Agri-Energy for air quality and record-keeping violations

By Lori Sorenson

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency announced last week that it had fined Agri-Energy, LLC, \$34,000 for exceeding air pollutant emissions and failing to keep required equipment testing and maintenance records.

According to the MPCA enforcement investigation, the violations occurred in July 2019 when the Luverne ethanol production facility failed emission stack tests.

Violations included:

- Cooling cyclone exceeded “very small” particulate matter” (PM2.5) by more than twice the permitted limit.

- Thermal oxidizer exceeded sulfur dioxide by seven times the permitted limit.

- Cracked corn dust collector exceeded small (PM10) and very small (PM2.5) particulate matter by more than four times the permitted limit.

- Dry FRAC dust collector exceeded small (PM10) and very small (PM2.5) particulate matter by more than 1½ times the permitted limit.

In addition to paying a \$34,000 civil penalty to the MPCA, Agri-Energy has completed a series of corrective actions, including:

- Completed performance emission stack retests for PM10, and PM2.5, on their cracked corn dust collector and dry FRAC dust collector.

- Submitted a complete major amendment application to increase PM2.5 limits on their cooling cyclone, and sulfur dioxide limits on their thermal oxidizer.

- Submitted an updated operation and maintenance plan for proper recording of daily visual emissions, weekly roadway and periodic inspection records.

environment by limiting pollution emissions and discharges from facilities,” MPCA officials said in a statement released Sept. 1.

“When companies do not fully comply with regulatory requirements, the resulting pollution can be harmful to people and the environment.”

When reached by email on Sept. 6, Agri-Energy officials said the matter had been resolved.

“Agri-Energy is committed to environmental protection,” said Agri-Energy’s Staci Bogue-Buchholz, site and optimization leader for the Luverne facility.

“Accordingly, the company resolved this matter and worked in cooperation with MPCA to protect the state and local community’s interests and comply with Minnesota law and all permit obligations.”

When calculating penalties, the MPCA considers how seriously the violations affected or could have affected the environment, and whether they were first-time or repeat violations.

The agency also attempts to recover the economic benefit the company gained by failing to comply with environmental laws in a timely manner.

MPCA spokesman Stephen Mikkelson said Monday that the delay between the investigation and penalties was due to the nature of a “stipulated agreement,” in this case.

Essentially, it required a series of meetings to arrive at a negotiated settlement for penalties and actions.

He added that the violations had stopped in 2019 and that no one had been harmed.

“It was more about the potential,” Mikkelson said. “What occurred was not found to have been a lasting impact in the area, but had it continued unchecked there could have been potential for harm.”



Lori Sorenson photos/0915 suicide walk

Stacy Schepel and her daughter Cameryn (center) chat with fellow walkers Christina (left) and Jake Aukes in Luverne City Park Saturday morning for the second annual “Out of the Darkness” suicide awareness event.

# ‘Out of Darkness’ raises suicide awareness

By Lori Sorenson

An estimated 200 people braved a damp, chilly morning in the Luverne City Park Saturday morning to participate in the 2022 “Out of the Darkness” suicide awareness walk.

The event raises money for research to end and prevent suicide and to show community support for those who have lost loved ones to suicide or have struggled personally with suicide.

A balloon release highlighted the reasons people walked Saturday.

“We are united in our goal and determined to bring suicide prevention out of the darkness and save lives,” Stacy Schepel said. “When we are together and connected, we are stronger and we can overcome many challenges.”

She said the balloon release reinforces the message that there is hope for people who are struggling.

“Reach out, not just for yourself, but everyone around you,” Schepel said. “It is hard work, and work that is well worth the effort. You are not alone and you matter; you are enough.”

Her message to survivors was they’re not alone and that with support from each other and many community resources they have hope for a brighter future.

She led the group in a count to three to release the balloons, which

represented the light of hope among those gathered in the park.

Schepel encouraged the group to wait in silence while the balloons floated up and away. “To our loved ones, we remember you, we miss you and we love you,” Schepel said. “We wish you were still here.”

Prior to the balloon release, several community members shared their experiences with mental illness and suicide.

Bailey Penning lost her sister, whom she considered her best friend, to suicide in February of 2019.

“Holidays suck; there’s always that one person missing now,” she said. “It’s not fair. Life’s not fair. It’s not the same anymore and it never will be.”

She said losing a loved one to suicide is painful, and she urged those who are thinking about taking their lives to consider their loved ones.

“There is hope and there are so many people around that are here for you,” Penning said.

“If you are stuck in a dark place and don’t know where to turn, please reach out.”

Sandi Emery lost her son, Marcus, to suicide in December of 2020, and said she didn’t know he was struggling.

“When Marcus was around me, he always appeared to be mentally

and physically strong with a positive, happy outlook,” she said. “So as a parent, his death left me asking myself, ‘What could I have done to prevent this?’”

She said her sense of guilt doesn’t go away, but she draws some comfort from doing what she can to help others.

“... which is why today’s event is important to me. When someone is struggling and left in a situation where it seems that what they are feeling cannot possibly be dealt with, they should not have to feel alone.”

Jeff Cook lost his mom to suicide in December of 2006 after his sister died of leukemia. He was a senior in high school and said his mother had struggled with mental health and addiction since he was little.

“Her actions made a huge impact on my life,” he said. “Studies show that a parent suicide leads to an increased risk of suicide attempts or completions in their children.”

Cook reminded parents that life can be hard, but to know that there is help.

“Never forget the little eyes that are watching you,” he said.

“Show those little eyes how to ask for help and all the positive effects help can have for you as a parent and also the entire family.”

# H-BC homecoming includes daytime volleyball, morning parade

By Mavis Fodness

Hills-Beaver Creek High School celebrates Homecoming 2022 with activities that begin a new tradition and a new time for the homecoming parade.

New this year is a girls’ volleyball game played at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, at the secondary school in Hills. The Patriots will take on Edgerton.

Both the elementary and secondary students are invited to watch. Edgerton will also bring its sixth- through 12th-grade students.

“We wanted to give our volleyball team a homecoming experience they will never forget,” said secondary principal Andrew Kellenberger.

“Having both student bodies in one gymnasium is going to give our teams that state competition crowd with a homecoming-spirit feel.

“Our student body plans to travel to Edgerton next year for their homecoming.”



Samantha McGaffee photo/0915 H-BC Homecoming 2022

Hills-Beaver Creek High School prepares for homecoming activities next week with the selection of class representatives. Pictured (front, from left) are Brynn Rauk, Claire Knobloch, Gracie Fagerness, Cameron Allen, (second) Taylor Huisman, Amalia Ternus, Elly Klosterbuer, Jenifer Martinyuk, Eduardo Wegener, (back) Carter VandeVoort, Brayden Metzger, Alex Harris and Luke Fuerstenberg. Missing from photo are Olivia Bork and Cody Moser.

Both the varsity and the junior varsity volleyball team will play Sept. 23.

The event follows the 11 a.m. parade through Hills, which is a new time for the

event and includes elementary students participating. Organizers caution

that the volleyball game is a public event but spectators should expect a large crowd with standing room only viewing.

Homecoming candidates and class representatives were selected last week in preparation for the homecoming week beginning Monday.

Coronation takes place at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, at the secondary school.

King candidates include Taylor Frederickson, Luke Fuerstenberg, Alex Harris and Cody Moser.

Queen candidates are Amalia Ternus, Jenifer Martinyuk, Elly Klosterbuer and Taylor

Huisman.

Mistress and master of ceremonies for coronation are Olivia Bork and Brayden Metzger, respectively.

Class attendants are juniors Carter VandeVoort and Brynn Rauk, sophomores Cameron Allen and Gracie Fagerness, and freshmen Eduardo Wegener and Claire Knobloch.

The homecoming football game is 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, against Westbrook-Walnut Grove.

The H-BC student council plans a tailgate meal before the game. Other tailgate meals are planned for Oct. 7 and 19.

**Happy Birthday**  
**Bev Viessman**  
**September 17**  
 Greetings can be sent to:  
 Bev Viessman  
 500 Phyleon Drive  
 Luverne, MN 56156

**Happy 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
**Robert (Bob) Fick**  
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## Negative thinking curbed by thoughtful gift of horseback riding badge

Sunday marked six weeks since Millie and I competed in a horse show.

Rain postponed one show, and the other was canceled for lack of entries.

The cancellations broke a pattern of preparation I followed every two to three weeks all summer. The pattern created my relaxed frame of mind by balancing practice with working a full-time job. A six-week layoff is a long time to practice, and negative thoughts have entered my normal routine.

Those thoughts are leading me away from the goal I set before the show season: to be the top point winner on our local show circuit.

So far, Millie and I have earned 64 points, five more than all of last year.

We are tied or close to the lead in most classes when previous years had us in third or fourth place at this time of the season.

The preparations routine (not in place last year) seems to be doing the trick, and I'm feeling good that we can finish the season in the first place in at least two events.

But with the show cancellations, points are hard to achieve this late in the season and my negative thinking is telling me, "Why bother finishing because the goal can't be achieved anyway?" ... and "Preparing for shows is just not that fun anymore."

Last week I was a volunteer horse handler for a Girl Scouts event at Rock Ranch.

Five girls learned about horse behavior, basic care,



### RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

and ended with a beginner riding lesson. I worked with a girl named Izzy.

She's a confident rider, having attended a summer camp that offered horseback riding. She was eager to learn more and, with a little instruction from me, was able to complete most of the saddling and riding tasks by herself.

While I walked alongside, she rode through an obstacle course to end the two-hour session. Each Girl Scout wore a smile and was in good spirits despite the warm and humid weather conditions.

Just before Izzy left, she surprised me by handing me a present. It was a Girl Scouts badge for horseback riding.

That badge hangs on my home office bulletin board, next to a picture of me with Millie.

It is a gentle reminder to push away those negative thoughts that tell me preparing for horse shows is not fun anymore, and I should see my goals through to the end.

The badge brings me back to Izzy as she thanked me for the time she spent with a horse.

She reminded me not all of us have that opportunity, and I am fortunate I get to spend that time in the barn every day. Time in the barn is relaxing and pleasant after working in the office all day.

While the badge was just for horseback riding, I wonder if the Girl Scouts have a badge for cleaning up manure?

## There are 18 school board candidates for five open seats; who will you vote for?

Stay tuned for Star Herald online candidate recordings to showcase future leaders

### STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Ready or not, the 2022 election season is upon us, and by next week, early voting will be available for those interested in doing so.

If they haven't been paying attention, Luverne School District voters will be surprised and a little overwhelmed by a list of 18 candidates vying for five open seats on the Luverne School Board.

There are 15 seeking election to four open seats with four-year terms. They are Eric Hartman (the incumbent) Michael DeBates, Heather Johnson, Jason Schear, Amber Lais, Matt Goembel, Amber Nath, Jacob Hartz, Austin Kurtz, Brett Hood, Zach Nolz, Randy Saker, Maggie Siebenahler, Josh Gangestad and Scott Wessels.

Three others are seeking election to an open seat that has two years remaining on the term. They are Ryan DeBates, Maggie Vandenburg and Matthew Van Grootheest.

Know these people? Would any of them be good for our school district leadership? What do you know about them and why they're seeking election? Better yet, how will you find out?

We'd recommend asking them. All 18 of them. And the best way to compare apples to apples would be to ask them all the same questions and pay close attention to their answers. Maybe write down their answers for later reference.

... Or you could read the Star Herald.

It's our job to profile candidates for election.

And when it comes to local races like a school board, a community newspaper is the only place voters can comparison-shop for their future leaders.

**Photos and profiles featured in Sept. 22 Star Herald, online 'candidate forum' soon to follow**

We start next week with profiles and photographs of the candidates for a "face to the name" sort of introduction.

And soon after, we'll start the process of video-recording brief interviews of the candidates who will respond to questions as they would during a live debate or forum.

The Star Herald has been asked to host a debate, but with 18 candidates it would take nearly two hours to get through brief introductions, so it logistically wouldn't be practical.

Thankfully, modern technology allows our candidates to express themselves and answer tough questions as they would in a moderated forum, only it will be in front of an iPhone camera and microphone in

an empty room.

Yes, it will lack the energy of a competitive and robust debate, but we're hoping the recordings — which will be available on our website until Election Day — will offer a glimpse of personality, competency and the spirit that drove these individuals to seek election.

We think these candidates represent a great cross-section of the Luverne School District, and we applaud them for their willingness to lead.

The job of an elected official is often thankless and difficult work, and we're lucky so many are motivated to take it on.

The job for voters is to decide who is best suited for those responsibilities, and the responsible voters will do their homework.

Our job at the Star Herald is to showcase the candidates — their motives, their skills, their desires for the district — in a way that's fair, accurate and informative.

It won't be perfect, and the people elected won't be perfect, but we pledge to do our best ... as we're sure the winning candidates will.



## Lug nut covers only decorative along with decorative lighting; both are legal

**Question:** I have recently noticed several semi-trucks with lug nuts on their front tires that are pointed and stick out beyond the edge of the cab. I'm concerned that they could cause damage to other vehicles. Is there a law about this?

**Answer:** I believe you are referring to the lug nut covers. They are only a decoration and have no function of holding the rim onto the front assembly of the semi. There are no state or federal laws that prevent anyone from putting these over their lug nuts.

The only law that may pertain to the pointed lug nuts would be



### ASK A TROOPER

By Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

in regard to the overall width of the vehicle. No vehicle or commercial vehicle can exceed 8 feet 6 inches wide on the roadway.

Commercial vehicle drivers are required to check the tightness of the lug nuts and other equipment when they perform

their daily walk around check on the semi. If a semi is missing a certain amount of lug nuts, this would put their vehicle out of service until they were replaced.

**Question:** Is it legal for me to have a red soft-lighted "RAM"

lettering logo on the front grill of my truck? It's not flashing, but always illuminated. Any answer is appreciated.

**Answer:** No vehicle is allowed to have a red light or any colored lights illuminated on the vehicle if it is traveling on the roadway. These lights can be displayed on private property for display only. Under lights are becoming more popular for vehicles on display, but once on the road they are illegal.

That is because they are a distraction and can be blinding to other motorists. It is important to do your research before putting aftermarket items on your

vehicle. A lot of companies sell these items, but equipment laws vary by state.

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

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

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

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

## ON THE RECORD

### Dispatch report

#### Sept. 2

- Complainant on E. Warren Street requested to speak with a deputy.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported vandalism at property.
- Traffic control was required on Highway 75 and Dodge Street.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported an accident with property damage.
- An outage was reported.
- Complainant on W. Main Street reported a civil issue.

#### Sept. 3

- Complainant in the Ellsworth area reported a possible intoxicated driver.
- Complainant west-bound of exit on Interstate 90, mile marker 12, Luverne, reported debris on roadway.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported vandalism at location.
- Complainant on E. Dodge Street reported theft at location.
- Complainant on E. Veterans Drive reported a parking issue.
- Complainant on 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 231<sup>st</sup> Street, Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.
- Complainant on E. Main Street reported pedestrians in the road at location.

#### Sept. 4

- A driving complaint was reported between Ash Creek and Luverne.
- Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported a possible intoxicated driver.
- A noise complaint was filed on W. Warren Street and Donaldson.
- Report of property being found in Blue Mound ice arena parking lot.
- Complainant on N. Estey Street reported a runaway.
- A driving complaint was filed on 200<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Magnolia.
- RCSO assisted another agency on N. Kniss Avenue and W. Dodge Street.
- Complainant on N. Elmwood Avenue filed a noise complaint.

#### Sept. 5

- Roadside assist was requested on County Road 4 and County Road 6, Beaver Creek.
- Lost property was reported.
- Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported

debris in the road.

#### Sept. 6

- Complainant on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 211<sup>th</sup> Street reported road closed.
- Property was found on E. Main Street.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported counterfeit money was received.
- Suspicious activity was reported on W. Maple Street.

#### Sept. 7

- Complainant at BP Expressway reported a suspicious vehicle.
- RCSO assisted another department at the Magnolia exit off Interstate 90.

#### Sept. 8

- Complainant on E. Warren Street reported damage to her vehicle.
- Complainant at Luverne High School reported suspicious activity.
- Complainant on S. Freeman Avenue reported a man axe attacking.
- Complainant on Highway 75, Luverne, requested a deputy.

#### Sept. 9

- Complainant on Highway 23 and 141<sup>st</sup> Street, Beaver Creek, reported suspicious activity.
- Complainant on E. Warren Street requested information on assistance with housing.
- Complainant on 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Luverne, reported a dangerous driver.
- RCSO assisted state patrol on Highway 75 and Interstate 90, Luverne.
- Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 3, Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.

#### Sept. 8

- A duty officer responded to a hazmat material issue on S. Walnut Avenue.
- An outage was reported.
- An outage was reported.
- Suspicious activity was reported on 171<sup>st</sup> Street, Luverne.

#### Sept. 9

- Complainant reported an outage.

In addition, officers responded to 3 motor vehicle accidents, 11 ambulance runs, 16 animal complaints, 4 fingerprint requests, 6 burn permits, 3 gas drive-offs, 2 alarms, 3 drug court tests, 2 purchase and carry permits, 1 stalled vehicle, 16 traffic stops, 15 abandoned 911 calls, 5 tests, 3 welfare checks, 1 report of cattle out, and 2 follow-ups.



A Ketterling Services truck backs into place at the Rock County demolition landfill Monday with a load of construction and building debris from Lyon County. A feasibility study indicates the 1995 landfill is on track to reach capacity in 2027.

## Landfill options for construction demolition/continued from page 1

Nobles County. The next is in Lincoln County, and both are reaching capacities in an estimated eight years.

“The whole state is in the same predicament,” Hartman said.

Local municipal solid waste (MSW) is already transported to Lyon County, which occurred in 1993 when the MSW landfill in Rock County was closed.

In an existing agreement, when MSW is delivered by truck to Lyon County, the Rock County truck returns with demo debris and deposits it in the local landfill in a cost-saving measure.

The study indicated that changing which materials are accepted or limiting the use of the landfill to just county residents would extend the landfill’s lifespan.

### Increase slope of current debris pile

A variance to Rock County’s 10-year landfill permit would be needed for a vertical expansion.

The variance would allow Rock County to increase the height of the current debris pile.

Instead of a 5:1 slope, the proposal increases the slope to 4:1.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issues the permit and would need to OK the change that would extend the landfill’s capacity to 10 years.

The vertical expansion

takes place on the same eight-acre landfill footprint.

“One of the downfalls to a steeper slope is that we will be susceptible to runoff during heavy rainfall,” Hartman said.

Boron and manganese are typically found in groundwater testing. Elevated levels are attributed to the leaching of the chemicals from building debris, the study reported.

Mark Sehr, the county’s engineer, said samples from local test wells and runoff from a nearby creek are completed quarterly and haven’t showed chemical levels exceeding state standards.

Cost associated with a vertical increase is \$750,000 to \$1 million.

### Expand existing landfill eastward

The study indicated that the county owns an additional 14 acres, located east of the current demo landfill.

The lateral expansion would increase capacity to 44 years and cover an additional seven acres, adjacent to the existing site.

When the state took over the nearby MSW landfill in 1993 under the state’s Closed Landfill Program, the county granted the state perpetual restrictive easements when the state took over monitoring the former MSW site and fund a potential cleanup.

A leachate collection

system may also be necessary.

The system allows any precipitation to collect stormwater and/or stormwater that comes in contact with the debris. The leachate would then be rendered at a municipal treatment plant.

Estimated costs put the expansion at \$2.5 to \$3.5 million, with additional ongoing operational costs due to the leachate treatment.

“It is a nice long-term solution,” said County Administrator Kyle Oldre. “But it’s got its own challenges.”

### Develop a new demo landfill

The study indicated MPCA’s history issuing permits for new demo landfills or expansions as few or none at all.

The study estimates a five-year wait for any permit issuance. Rock County’s demo landfill permit expires in 2027.

Since 2002, Hartman and Sehr have talked with MPCA officials about how the landfill is quickly coming to capacity.

Hartman said it’s uncertain if a potential synthetic liner is necessary or what other requirements are needed, if any.

“It’s been a little challenging trying to move forward with plans because the state is operating under a set of rules regarding demolition waste that they have talked about updat-

ing for the last 6-8 years,” Hartman said.

The study put no estimated costs to a new landfill and indicated that this was not a recommended option for Rock County.

“Nobody wants this in their backyard,” Oldre said.

Currently the transfer of local municipal waste is brought to a facility at the landfill site. If a new landfill site is established, the garbage collection would also be moved.

### Landfill origin dates back to 1995

The demolition landfill in Rock County opened in 1995. At the time engineers set a lifespan of 36.5 years based on use.

At 27 years, the demo landfill is reaching capacity faster than expected.

Commissioners encouraged staff to work at a solution, which may include working with the other regional counties and/or the Association of Minnesota Counties. Together with legislators and state officials, a solution can be found.

“We are not looking for a fight. We just want guidance and timely responses,” said Commissioner Jody Reisch.

“We want to work with them and do what’s right for the environment and citizens, but I don’t want to be four to five years from now and looking at a \$3, \$4 or \$5 million bond.”

## FCA youth football program/continued from page 1

### ‘Humbling’ growth

FCA is an international non-profit Christian sports ministry with chapters in nearly all sports for all ages and incorporates Christian principles into team playing.

The Luverne FCA Flag Football league started seven years ago when Ryan Johnson was looking for an FCA flag football team for his son.

“I learned that if I wanted a team, I should start one,” Johnson said.

That first year 120 local players participated, and the program has tripled in numbers since then.

“I’ve been blown away — and humbled — by the growth of it and how it has reached so many people and how it has benefited so many kids,” Johnson said in 2021.

Coaches and teams work on the fundamentals of football, teamwork and physical conditioning. And they learn what it means

to be an athlete and a Christian.

“They learn the message of Christ and they learn how to grow and become better people,” Johnson said. “They learn how to be patient, how to be a teammate and how to be a competitor.”

Following their 9:30 a.m. Saturday games, players huddle with their teams to review play highlights and bow their heads in prayer.

Then all the teams gather for a final huddle to review their Bible verse of the week and what it means for them as athletes and as Christians. Players who could recite the verse from memory when called on are rewarded with T-shirts or footballs.

Guest speakers (some from the NHL and NFL) each week share what it means to be a Christian both on and off the field. On Saturday it was former

NFL punter Brian Hansen.

“A coach will have more influence on a child in one season than most people will in a lifetime,” he told the volunteer coaches.

More information is at southdakotafca.org. There is a flag football tab where the Luverne link can be found in the list of communities.

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Mavis Fodness photos/0915 Youth Trade Show

A good crowd gathers Monday night at Take 16 for the Rock River Rootbeer-sponsored Youth Trade Show. The first-time event drew 28 booths with 37 school-aged children selling various items to the public. **Above, left:** Cora McDonald made "Planter People," decorations for potted plants.

## Young entrepreneurs debut their wares

*First-time event draws 28 booths to Take 16*

**By Mavis Fodness**

Twenty-eight booths and 37 children drew a crowd of buyers Monday night at the Youth Trade Show hosted at the Take 16 Brewery in Luverne.

School-aged children were invited to sell items at the two-hour event that was inspired by Take 16's general manager Luke Rensink's daughter Mila.

She started "Mila's Bracelets" in July, first selling her wares at a block party hosted at the brewery.

"I wanted to earn a little bit of money," Mila said. "I got \$80."

She promptly put 25 percent of her earnings back into her business, saved another 25 percent and spent 50 percent.

"I spent the money on tickets for rides at the fair," Mila

said.

The Youth Trade Show opens the doors to other entrepreneurs like Mila to debut their wares to the public.

In addition to bracelets, the youth worked alone or worked with partners to make items such as bakery goods, jewelry, craft items, crayons, key chains, fishing lures, slime, fire starters and chunky-knit pumpkins.



Mila Rensink works her booth called "Mila's Bracelets" along with her dad, Luke. She's the inspiration for the first-time Youth Trade Show at Take 16, where Luke is the general manager. Mila sold bracelets at a recent block party event to earn extra spending money. The Youth Trade Show allows other young entrepreneurs the same opportunity.



**Left:** Keychains are among the craft items for sale at the "A2K Creative Creations" booth by Afton Nuffer, Aubrey Nuffer and Kallista VanGrootheest. **Right:** Jaelyn Arp created chunky-knit pumpkins and other Halloween decor for her business called "Arp Art."



## CELEBRATIONS

### Celebrations

**Doreen Rollog** will be celebrating 70 years as organist and pianist Sunday, Sept. 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., following the worship service at Palisade Lutheran Church. A meal will be provided.

### Card showers

**Robert (Bob) Fick** will celebrate his 85th birthday on Thursday, Sept. 22. Greetings may be sent to 1479 County Highway 4, Luverne, MN 56156.

**Bev Viessman** will celebrate her birthday on Saturday, Sept. 17. Greetings may be sent to 500 Phyleon Drive, Luverne, MN 56156.

## MENU

**Monday, Sept. 19:** Chicken-fried steak and mashed potatoes with gravy, Italian blend, dinner roll, dessert.

**Tuesday, Sept. 20:** Ham, baked potato, carrots, dinner roll, dessert.

**Wednesday, Sept. 21:** Tuna pasta salad, tomato wedges, pears, dessert.

**Thursday, Sept. 22:** Meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, Italian blend, dessert.

**Friday, Sept. 23:** Turkey and cheese sandwich, potato salad, peaches, dessert.

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

*Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9846, extension 11 to reserve one day prior, 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).*

## REMEMBER WHEN

### 10 years ago (2012)

•Gary Papik of Papik Motors, Luverne, has been selected as the 2012 Time Quality Dealer of the Year nominee representing Minnesota.

The Time Magazine Dealer of the Year Award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted awards for new car dealers.

Recipients are among the nation's most successful auto dealers who have also demonstrated a long-standing commitment to effective community service.

The award is presented in partnership with Ally Financial and in cooperation with the National Automobile Dealers Association.

### 25 years ago (1997)

•A Luverne man raced his way to a national championship during last week's International Motor Contest Association Super Nationals staged at Boone, Iowa.

Brett Stegenga, an IMCA sprint car driver from Luverne, captured a huge purse by winning the 20-lap championship race for his class Thursday. The victory earned the local driver \$1,800 and \$1,000 in prizes.

For Stegenga, Thursday's national title was the second

one he has earned in his career. His first sprint car national championship came in 1992.

### 50 years ago (1972)

•Luverne police are investigating a break-in at Ohlen's Corn Crib sometime between 2 and 4 a.m. on Saturday morning.

The burglars netted about \$50 to \$75 in change, most of it obtained from breaking into a cigarette machine. The burglary was discovered around 4:05 a.m. when Orville Ohlen stopped at his business to pick up some keys before leaving on a business trip. Entry was gained by breaking into the side door.

### 75 years ago (1947)

•The Rev. T. A. Rodsater, who for more than a half century has been a Lutheran minister, preached his farewell sermon last Sunday at the Bethlehem Lutheran church where he served as pastor nearly 44 years. Although he resigned on January 1, he continued to serve until his successor, the Rev. Erling Thompson, was called. The new minister will conduct his first services in his new parish this coming Sunday.

The Rev. Rodsater was ordained at the West Lutheran church, Manchester, October 1, 1896. His first parish was at Anaconda, Montana. From 1899 to 1908, he served at Forest

City, Iowa, going from there to Brandon, S.D. where he was pastor from 1908 to 1913. From Brandon, he went to Hills, where he has since served the Bethlehem congregation. He also served as pastor of the Palisade church for a number of years.

### 100 years ago (1922)

•Preparations are now being completed by the Quartzite Quarries, Inc., for touching off the largest blast of dynamite in the history of the company. This will be done the first of the week, either Sunday or Monday.

The charge will consist of 7,000 pounds of dynamite, which will be placed in seven eight-foot holes and all ignited at the same time. It is expected that this explosion will push out a ledge of rock equivalent to 35,000 tons.

In the notable blast of August 1921, five thousand pounds of dynamite were used, five holes being used at that time for the planting of the explosive at a depth of about 75 feet. The coming blast will be planned along the same lines as last year, a thousand pounds of dynamite being placed in each of the seven holes.

The Dupont Power Co., of Minneapolis, will make a special delivery of the dynamite to be used, either today or tomorrow, making the delivery by motor truck.

## 1971: Grimm and Byrne used to operate in former Ohlen's Cafe location

*The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on June 10, 1971.*

### Who in the World Were Gimm and Byrne?

Not everyone remembers Gimm and Byrne's any more.

There are still some, however, who do, and this writer is one of them. Now that Ohlen's Café, which years ago was Gimm and Byrne's, is closed, it is unlikely there will ever be a restaurant there again. So we're going to reminisce a little in the event future historians should ever go through these pages searching for material



## BITS BY BETTY

**By Betty Mann,  
Rock County Historian**

on what happened "way back when."

There are those who ask, even now, who in the world were Gimm and Byrne?

Well, as I remember them, Gimm was a jolly, well-built German, whose first name was Fred, but who often was called "Feedy." Byrne

was an Irishman, slight build, serious in demeanor.

Gimm was the talker and had a hearty laugh. Byrne was quiet.

Gimm was tri-lingual. He was best at German and English, but he could also speak and understand Norwegian.

It wasn't until the prohibition era that I was old enough to come to town with Dad, and invariably, one visit we made in Luverne every time we came was Gimm and Byrne's. (Before prohibition, it was the corner saloon). Gimm always hailed Dad with a greeting in Norwegian as he stood behind the massive bar. The best drink he could then serve was a bottle of Country Club near-beer which he called "Peeah." "Peeah" was beer with a German accent.

I had my first drink of root beer in Gimm and Byrne's. In a mug. It was

at Gimm and Byrne's that I had my first hamburger in a restaurant. Up to that time, I thought a hamburger could only be bought at a food stand at the county fair, and nowhere else.

What a treat a Gimm and Byrne hamburger was for a farm boy who had to be content with sandwiches made of minced ham, grape jam, and cold roast pork every noon while attending country school.

Gimm and Byrne's also conjures up another boyhood memory. It was the only place I knew of to go when I had to go. A place like that you don't

forget too soon.

The first black man I ever saw was in Gimm and Byrne's. When he wasn't cooking in the kitchen, he was out in front cleaning and scrubbing.

A row of chairs lined the side of the building opposite the bar. Here was the town's meeting place for men. A cuspidor (c'mon, man, they were spittoons, and you know it) stood beside each chair. The town characters of those days could usually be found sitting there.

It was at Gimm and Byrne's that I came to know

**Bits, go to page 7**



## LHS Class of 1972 meets for 50<sup>th</sup> reunion

Nearly 50 returning graduates from the Luverne High School Class of 1972 gathered at the Luverne Country Club on July 16 for their 50th class reunion. Pictured are (front, from left) Jeannine Clark Vastenhou, Jeanne Murphy Vehle, Paula Bentson Kolander, Gail Boelman Harmelink, Kathy Bowman, Colleen Habbena Kelderman, Lori Boelman, Kathy Rapp Ryan, (second) Tom Stanley, John Smith, Peggy Herrmann, Mary Wilcox Ebert, Jeanette Slieter Rutten, Mary O'Toole Hemme, Gloria Oien Wesley, Marcia Huiskes Bork, Karen Tilstra Rollag, Marlene Schuur Vos, Andy Schmidt, Connie Walker Boler, Fred Boll, (third) Jack Hommen, Steve Sehr, Wendy Wildung, Roger Tollefson, Zane Birky, Pat Pelstring, Max Jensen, Diane Foerster Jauert, Mary Clark Jons, Twyla Strassburg, Vicki Birkeland Smook, Al Padilla, (back) Martha Vegge Nelson, Dennis Oehlerts, Lynette Noll Medellin, Becky Gangestad Keller, Maxine Iveland DePauw, Rick Olson, Mary Galagan Arnold, Paula Wendt Joyce, Paul Navara, Joel Christensen, Sally Frahm Smith, Pixie Larson, Donna Kennedy Roman and Doug Meyer.

## Blue Mound Lutheran Church observes 150th

The Blue Mound Cemetery Association will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Blue Mound Lutheran Church with a Fall Festival service at 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at the church in rural Luverne.

A catered meal in the parish hall will follow the service, led by guest pastor Gary Klatt.

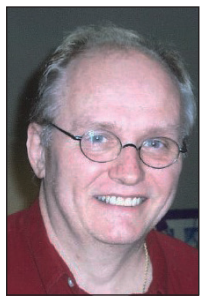
All are welcome. The church was organized on July 12, 1872. The church was built in 1876 in Mound Township. A 1884 cyclone moved the tiny church and disposed it unharmed off of the foundation.

The church was then moved to its current location in Vienna Township.

## OBITUARIES

### Allen Croat

Allen Dale Croat, 69, a lab tech and then as an X-ray tech. In 1981 Allen accepted a position as an X-ray tech at Sioux Valley hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After four years he was promoted to CAT scan tech, a position he held for the next 33 years.



Allen was also a very active member of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists from 1981 through 2020. He served as vice president and president for one year each on the local and state boards and was president of the national board for a year. He also served two years as president, two years as chairman of the board, and six years on the board for the South Dakota Society of Radiologic Technologists. He

was very proud of his career and dedicated a large portion of his time and energy to serving his community by improving and bettering his field of work.

After his retirement he continued to live in Sioux Falls with a close friend, Roxie Rauk.

In March of 2021 he moved into the Good Samaritan Villages of Sioux Falls for rehabilitation following a surgery.

In his free time Allen enjoyed reading, listening to music, doing needle point and crocheting. Allen loved all types of music, especially the golden oldies, and his collection of music grew over the years.

He also developed a love for Disney and worked part time at the Disney Store in Sioux Falls. He learned to know every Disney character,

which movie they played in, and which songs were in that movie. He also collected Disney memorabilia and loved wearing anything Disney.

Allen is survived by his best friend, Roxie Rauk of Sioux Falls; his nieces and nephews, Mary Krumwiede of Bingham Lake, Terri Birman of Canby, Larry (Jill) Karsten of Milroy, Sherri Karsten of Ivanhoe, Lynette (Jeff) Werner of Wilmont, Tammy (Kevin) Stude of Sioux Falls, and Amy Danner of Rushmore; and many great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings Gene, Duane, Beverly, and Donna.

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

(0915 F)

### Marvin Gradert

Marvin M. Gradert, 87, (Dominick) of Terre Haute, Indiana, and formerly of Luverne, Minnesota, passed away Sunday evening, July 17, 2022.



Marvin was a graduate of Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia, where he earned his bachelor's degree and received his MBA degree from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

He was a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the United States Air Force, serving 27 years as a fighter pilot.

He was born December 8, 1934, in Virgil, South Dakota, to Carl Gradert and Martha Micheel Gradert.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Donnalee Boland Gradert; a daughter, Tamara Gradert of Texas; a son, Scott Gradert (Fariba) of California; and a granddaughter, Nakissa Gradert

During his career with the Air Force, he served 2 1/2 tours during the Vietnam War. During the Vietnam War he taught at The Fighter Weapons USAF (Top Gun) School Nellis AFB.

Upon retirement from the Air Force, Marvin continued working as a pilot, flying for Piedmont/US Airlines. He was a member of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, American Legion Post #0123 of Luverne, and VFW Post #972 of Terre Haute.

Marvin was a golfer and enjoyed running, but most of all loved woodworking and making furniture and all kinds of useful items out of wood.

Funeral services were conducted at 4 p.m. Sunday, July 24, 2022, in Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 645 Poplar Street, with Pastor Philip G. Meyer officiating. Visitation was prior to

services on Sunday from 2-4 p.m. in the church.

Graveside services with military honors were at 1 p.m. (CDT), Wednesday, July 27, 2022, in Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Arrangements were under the direction of Callahan & Hughes Funeral Home, 605 South 25th Street, callahanandhughes.com

If friends should so desire, memorial contributions may be made to Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 645 Poplar Street, Terre Haute, IN 47807 or to Shriners Hospitals for Children, 4400 Clayton Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110.

(0915 V)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### VandeGriend joins Sanford Luverne

Rachelle VandeGriend recently joined Sanford Luverne Clinic as a certified nurse practitioner. She will be a family medicine provider, caring for patients of all ages.

She lives in rural Edgerton with her husband and

three children.

VandeGriend graduated from South Dakota State University, Brookings, and is board certified in family medicine by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

## DEATH NOTICE

### Robert Cook

Robert Edward Cook, 73 Luverne, died Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, at the Good Samaritan Home in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Arrangements are pending with Dingmann Funeral Home and Creation Services in Luverne. (DN 0915)

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**PALISADE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Worship service 10 AM  
Meal to be provided

Please join us to celebrate and say thank you to Doreen for her 70 years of service!

**Luverne PUBLIC ART PROJECT DEDICATION**

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DESTINATION BRANDING COMMITTEE invites you to join us to dedicate ~ Luverne's Public Fine Art Project ~ FINE ART STATUES on MAIN STREET created by three amazing local artists!

**SUNDAY—SEPT. 18—4:00 pm**  
At Redbird Road & Main  
Reception to follow at History Center

LUVERNE INITIATIVES FOR TOMORROW  
"LIFT...ing Luverne Higher"

KIM SCHMIDT  
JANINE BRANDS  
JEN HUISMAN

## Don't give up now ... weeds are actively reproducing

September is the time to get your lawn in shape for winter and the next growing season.

If you are a "do it yourself" person, now is when to tackle perennial weeds like dandelions and similar broadleaf weeds. Those little seedlings are busy storing nutrients in their roots so next spring they can put on a spectacular growth spurt and impress with their robust energy.

Spraying with a broad-leaf herbicide now will eliminate those problem weeds.

Persistent weeds like creeping Charlie, also known as ground ivy, will take more than one spray application, so hitting it now gives time for another application in early October.

Weed sprays are most effective when the weeds are growing actively. After the heat of summer and with the shorter days of autumn, they are making the most of the time they have left for this growing season.

I was in a "big box store" this week and checked out the assortment of bulbs for fall planting that were available. The price of some of them was really cheap, but when I checked the bulb size in the package, I understood the reason for the price.

Most consumers don't understand that small bulbs may not even produce a blossom. The tulip bulbs I saw for that cheap price were smaller in diameter than a quarter and likely will produce a very small flower if they bloom at all.

Larger bulbs were available also, and the size was reflected in the price. I generally order my bulbs from a reputable mail order source, so I am not enticed by these great impulse deals.

I know you are probably sick of pulling weeds in your garden, but the weeds are not tired of making sure they get to come back next year. Even the smallest weed seedlings will attempt to make seeds at this point in the season, so eliminating them will help reduce the weeds you have to battle next season ... sometimes I wonder if there is such a thing as fewer weeds, but I battle on none the less.

Purslane is one of the most persistent of the weeds we deal with. It grows low to the ground and has succulent-like leaves and stems. If you pull it and leave it lie in the hot sun, it will wilt, but during the night it will absorb enough moisture from dew to survive long enough to root back into the ground, even if it is just part of a stem. I bring a bucket to collect this weed and either feed them to the chickens (and they like it) or add it to the compost pile.

Our perennial flower beds are beginning to look tired, but cutting off the dead flower heads will help make the last of the season bloomers look better, and if you have annual flowers planted with your perennials, many of them are really coming back for a great color show after the heat of summer.

Same is true for potted assortments of annuals ... keep feeding them and they will reward your efforts with renewed energy and color, for however long that will last.

Bonnema is a gardening enthusiast and former greenhouse owner. He can be reached at [flowergb@iw.net](mailto:flowergb@iw.net).



## KNOW IT AND GROW IT

By George Bonnema, Luverne Horticulturalist

# Remembrance of Luverne's first AFS exchange student

Philippe Piot 1940-2022

Chambery, France's Legion of Honor recipient

By Tom Getman and Philippe's American friends and family

Philippe died peacefully the evening of Aug. 4 surrounded by his beloved Colette and their three children, Emmanuel, Karine and Antoine. May his memory be a blessing.

Luverne in the 1940s and '50s was still in the grip of not only the trauma and losses of the war but also religious separation.

Myths about "the other" still existed in small Midwestern towns, and when Phil arrived as a Catholic, Wayne Hoffman, the Presbyterian pastor, and Stan Eyberg, the ELCA Lutheran pastor, suggested that Monsignor Michael Doyle from St. Catherine's Church be added to the AFS sponsors.

From his arrival, Philippe was a healer and bridge builder. The pastors and other sponsors became friends and the congregations and community followed.

Fifty years later when Phil and Colette attended mass, Father Tom Jennings mentioned that "after half a century Phil is still remembered by our members as a significant influence."

The gentleman from Chambery, who would become a rare Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor, would also prove himself early on the Chevalier of Rock County.

Philippe lived in my family's home, with my parents, Dr. Jerry and Clara Getman, and my four siblings during the 1957-58 school year. Before this time, foreign language wasn't taught in Luverne. As his Luverne roommate he became a brother as close as my Getman brothers especially as we reconnected in later life. We honor the huge faithful gift Philippe was to his far-flung family and friends. Nothing conveys this more than the treasured memory of our Christmas 1957.

Bill, then 4, remembers, "Each day I took my little red chair and sat out by the driveway to await Phil's return from school. He still spoke only broken English as did I so he would hold my hand and take me down to Al's Market near the high school and buy me a popsicle. We communicated better than anyone else in the family."

My cousin Bill Keitel provides this childhood perceptive of Phil, speaking



Pictured in 2019 (from left) are Tom Getman, Colette Piot, Dominique Piot (Philippe's sister), Karen Getman and Phillippe Piot.



The Getman family Christmas card in 1957 shows the youngest Getman sibling, Bill, on the lap of exchange student Philippe, learning how to say "Joyeux Noel." Older Getman siblings are (from left) Tom, Jim, Cindy and Chuck. At left: Piot as a student at LHS.

for all the Keitels and many other "children" from that era:

"As a child of six my remembrances are vague and shadowy. But I remember the excitement of a person who spoke a different language than our own.

We accepted him into our communal family and embraced his presence. The years carried on and I never encountered him again ... yet he lived on in the periphery of my imagination. A person from far away who made a great impression on a small homogenous community in the Midwest.

AFS and the sponsors were fully responsible for creating this international relationship in which all benefited mightily. He helped us become aware of a larger world and create a spirit of recognition beyond the watershed of the Rock River.

Though we never crossed pathways again, I was made aware that the world was bigger and better than I could imagine. I share the whole joint fam-

ily sorrow."

Class of '59 Eleanor Rober Guilder conveyed:

"He will always be in our hearts ... thinking of the love, smiles and kindness he showed to every LHS classmate. I will always smile when I hear his name or hold the senior photo of him on which he wrote a note and signed. He loved our class just like his own. He was our first exchange student and the best."

Dr. David Piepgras (Class of '58), remembered Philippe joyfully:

"I have thought of him often over the years, as a fine outstanding ambassador. How fortunate we all were to have him as a classmate our senior year at LHS. We enjoyed many times together with a group of close friends; Phil was not only a unique center of attention and affection at our many evening gatherings but became the nucleus of our group.

During my time in the military, my wife Jane and I located him at his office (with Peugeot Com-

pany) in Paris and had a delightful reunion. His presence at our 2008 Class reunion in Luverne was very special and we pass on our sincere condolences to his family, along with thanks to AFS and his American family and sponsors for bringing Phil into our lives."

In a 1980 Paris visit my parents reestablished personal contact with Philippe, and subsequently Karen and I and our three children visited the Piot family in 1984 in Chambery.

It was the first of back-and-forth visits almost every year since, resulting in the two sets of same gender and age children becoming as brothers and sisters.

Philippe was a principled businessman, public leader and generous loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend to all who knew and loved him. Our lives will not be the same without his presence.

Something truly special and universal happened with Philippe as an ambassador. He had a unique purpose and place in this world ... especially to our small out-of-the-way town so soon after World War II.

He was of course the first of a long string of wonderful exchange students, however unique in that he was a mindful survivor anointed with the grace needed to manage the actual horrors of war along with those of his iconic historic family.

He was likely the last (possibly along with the 1958-59 German student) foreign exchange student who actually watched bombing from the mountains overlooking their occupied cities. His sense of purpose was underscored.

May his gracious and vibrant spirit of friendship and healing linger much longer in our lives.

For once again we are facing alienation that comes from warlike partisanship and ideological division that can only be healed by love that embraces the strangers and aliens in our midst.

The affection of Phil's caring in his radiant manner — especially for the little children here and his many grandchildren, nieces, and nephews in France — is a treasure that will be cherished for the rest of my days. What a privilege and what a gift.

Thank you, Philippe Piot and family. Our memories of you are truly a blessing to your friends in France and the United States.

May his spirit live on in all who knew him."

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**Rehearsals begin September 28**





## THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall  
Outdoors columnist

### Dogs require year-round effort to be successful hunters

Writing about dogs is my favorite subject. If you have been a reader of my column for any length of time, you can already tell this by the number of times they occupy this space.

Dogs, especially hunting dogs, are a 12-month-a-year effort. Whether it's training a new dog or keeping the older dog sharp as a tack, both take consistency, time and commitment.

With dove season opening a few days back and prairie grouse and pheasant season opening in short order, there are a few things you should be doing with your dog if you had not already been doing so.

The first one is as good for you as it is for the dog, and that is just an uptick in the exercise level.

Dogs that lay on the couch all summer are far more likely to die of heat-related stroke and other muscle/joint problems than dogs that are in great physical condition.

This can be hard to do when daytime temperatures are still in the 80s and 90s. This requires you get up a little early and do these condition exercises in the cooler morning temperatures before work for most working stiffs.

Add to this effort the need to exercise your dogs on a gravel road, and it might mean getting up even earlier.

A dog's foot pads get soft when they are not in contact with hunting conditions for a period of time. I make a dedicated effort to take my boys on a 2-mile walk/run on the gravel starting about Sept 1.

This contact with rougher ground will toughen up their pads to avoid the all-too-common issue with sore feet after the first two days afield. Not many hunters take the time, and it shows about half way through Day 2 of the pheasant

Rall, continued on page 10



Photo by CD for the Star Herald

Junior Morgan Hadler returns a serve against Blue Earth Area on Sept. 6, when Luverne extended its winning season with a 5-2 at-home win against the Buccaneers. Luverne finished the week with another win, this one on the road, against the Marshall Tigers by a score of 4-3.

## LHS girls' tennis serves up two more wins

### Cardinals prepare for coveted 'Battle Racket' on Thursday

By Susan Beers  
For the Star Herald

The LHS girls' tennis players continued their winning ways with two victories over the past week.

On Tuesday, Sept. 6, the Cardinals defeated Blue Earth Area 5-2 at home and finished the week with a 4-3 road win over Marshall on Thursday, Sept. 8.

The Cardinals are scheduled to travel to Worthington Tuesday and to Pipestone on Thursday.

The Pipestone meet is for the coveted Battle Racket, and the winner will have the upper hand for the No. 1 seed in the section tournament.

**LHS 5, Blue Earth Area 2**  
In the Blue Earth match,

LHS won two singles contests and was victorious in all three doubles matches.

Roselynn Hartshorn and Cassi Chesley continued their strong play at No. 3 and No. 4 singles. Hartshorn defeated Abby Prescher 4-6, 6-1, 6-1 and Chesley defeated Erin Prescher 7-5, 6-2.

At No. 1 singles, Rayann Remme lost to Addison Arm-

strong 6-1, 6-0. Morgan Hadler lost to Liv Dutton 6-0, 6-0 at No. 2 singles.

In doubles play, Sarah Stegenga and Katharine Kelm defeated Grace Hanson and Carol Schrader by scores of 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 at No. 1 doubles.

Tori Hemme and Priscilla Muehr defeated Ashlyn Klinkner and Lauren Survis 6-4,

**Tennis, go to page 10**

## Girls', boys' cross country win at home meet

By Sara Schmuck

The Luverne girls' and boys' varsity cross country runners placed first as teams at the Bruce Gluf Classic cross country meet Saturday, Sept. 10, in Luverne.

Junior Jenna DeBates led the way with a first-place individual finish, running the 5k in 18:54.40.

The next-fastest Luverne girls' runner was Ella Schmuck with a fourth-place finish of 21:09.80.

"I thought we had another great meet with some outstanding and PR performances," coach Pete Janiszski said.

"The teams combined for 20 Top-15 finishes, and of the three complete teams that we had, each won their division at the meet."

Other varsity girls' 5k



Photo by CD for the Star Herald

In the annual Bruce Gluf Classic Saturday, Luverne runners Ella Schmuck and Khloe Visker set a good pace to lead their team to a first-place finish.

finishers were Khloe Visker eighth in 21:45.80, Kayla Bloemendaal 13<sup>th</sup> in 22:37.10, Grace Ingebretson 15<sup>th</sup> in 22:48.40 and Tiana Lais 16<sup>th</sup> in 23:07.80.

The varsity boys' top finisher was Owen Janiszski at 17:04.38, earning second place. Closely behind for Luverne was fourth-place finisher Camden Janiszski with a time of 17:10.33.

In other varsity boys' 5k results, Ryan Fick was eighth with a time of 17:49.19, Sage Viessman was 14<sup>th</sup> in 18:32.80, Leif Ingebretson 17<sup>th</sup> in 19:15.14 and Kaleb Hemme 26<sup>th</sup>, 19:48.96

Redwood Valley finished second as a team for

**Cross country, page 11**

## Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots up record to 2-0 after win over Madelia Blackhawks

By Dan Ellingson  
For the Star Herald

The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots moved to 2-0 on the season with a 36-6 victory over the winless Madelia Blackhawks Friday night in Hills.

On a cool, wet evening the Patriot offense was balanced with 163 yards rushing and 121 yards passing, while the Patriots' defense held Madelia to less than half that total, 126 total yards.

Running back Beau Bakken put the Patriots on the board first with a 1-yard plunge for a touchdown with 9:05 left in the first quarter. Quarterback Sawyer Bosch ran in the two-point conversion for an 8-0 lead.

A first-quarter Patriot fumble led to Madelia's only score of the game. A Blackhawk defender scooped up



Photo by Samantha McGaffee for the Star Herald

H-BC player Justin Roelfs (No. 10) pulls a Madelia player to the ground Friday night in a home game in Hills. The Patriots went on to a 36-6 victory moving their record to 2-0.

**H-BC football, see page 10**

## Cardinals win invitational, take WWG, fall to Marshall in busy volleyball week

By Stacy Olson  
For the Star Herald

The Luverne girls' volleyball team played three events in five days, bringing their record to 6-2 on the season.

The Cardinals fell to Marshall at home Tuesday 3-0, but they went on to defeat Westbrook-Walnut Grove Thursday 3-0 and took first place at the Cardinal Invitational on Saturday.

The 6-2 Cardinals play Windom at home Thursday, Sept. 15, participate in the Jackson County Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 17, and meet Redwood Valley in Redwood Falls on Tuesday, Sept. 20.

**Marshall 3, LHS 0**

Luverne hosted Marshall Tuesday, Sept. 6.

Luverne fell behind in the first game and was unable to stop the Tigers from running away with the score. The Cardinals fell 7-25.

Game 2 also went to Marshall with a score of 7-25.

The Cardinals made some adjustments in Game 3 but were unable to outscore the Tigers, losing 17-25.

Seniors Kamyryn Van Batavia and Emma Beyer led the Cardinals in serving. Van Batavia was 8 for 8 and Beyer was 5 for 5 with one ace.

Seniors Anja Jarchow and Christina Wagner had seven and five kills respectively.

Senior setter Emma

**LHS volleyball, page 10**



# Cardinals take first loss in rain-soaked game against JCC

Next game is Sept. 15 against 0-2 Windom; games starts at 7:30 p.m.

**By John Sichmeller  
For the Star Herald**

The Luverne Cardinals took their first loss of the football season Friday night when they were shut out by the visiting Jackson County Central Huskies.

The Huskies led 14-0 after the first half of the game and tacked on 10 points in the second half to claim a 24-0 victory over the Cardinals.

Luverne came into the game hoping to spread out the Jackson County defense by utilizing their passing game, but the wet conditions did not play into the Cardinals' favor, according to LHS coach Todd Oye.

"We had a great week of practice with warm weather, but we had different conditions during the game," he said.

"Our game plan was affected by the weather, and unfortunately the wet conditions prevented us from passing the ball successfully."

The combination of the wet weather and a tough Jackson County Central defense led to six Cardinal turnovers throughout the game.

"You're not going to win a lot of football games when you turn the ball over that many times," Oye said after the game.

The Huskies defense capitalized on the first Luverne turnover of the game. Jackson County Central took the early lead when Brennan Runge intercepted a pass by Carter Sehr from the Luverne 6-yard line and ran the ball into the end zone. After a successful point-after kick, the Huskies led 7-0 with 5:40 to go in the first quarter.

The Cardinals were forced to punt on their next possession, but the Jackson County Central return man dropped the ball and the Cardinals recovered at the Huskies 39-yard line.



Photo by CD for the Star Herald

Gavin DeBeer runs the ball Friday night in a rain-soaked game against Jackson County Central in Luverne. The Huskies were successful in the wet conditions winning the game 24-0 against the Cardinals.

The Cardinals kept the momentum going on the next play as junior running back Gavin DeBeer ran for 31 yards down to the JCC 8-yard line. Unfortunately for the Cardinals, they were only able to muster up 3 yards in the next four downs and gave the ball back to the Huskies.

On their next possession, JCC put together a solid 10-play, 95-yard drive to get back in the

end zone. After a successful point-after kick, they led 14-0 with 9:18 to go in the second quarter.

Neither team scored the remainder of the half, and the Huskies took a 14-0 lead into the half.

After a defensive stop to start the second half, Luverne took over at their own 5-yard line.

The Cardinals were able to move the ball 31 yards to the 36-yard line before another turnover

resulted in the ball going back to JCC.

The Huskies capitalized on the Luverne turnover and needed just four plays to get back in the end zone. After another successful extra point kick, the Huskies had a 21-0 lead with 1:43 to go in the third quarter.

Jackson County Central finished off the scoring for the game when their kicker, Alvaro

Gonzalez Garcia, connected on a 25-yard field goal with 11:07 remaining in the fourth quarter to give the Huskies a 24-0 lead.

"Our team played hard the entire game, and I thought the defense made some great strides and did a lot of good things," said coach Oye.

The Luverne defense was led by sophomore Eli Woodley who recorded nine tackles. DeBeer also pitched in with five tackles.

The Cardinals will now prepare for their next opponent, the Windom Eagles, in a rare Thursday night volleyball/football doubleheader.

"It should be a fun Thursday night for the kids," Oye said. "We play volleyball at home versus Windom, and then after the match fans can walk across the parking lot to watch the football game."

Oye said his Cardinals will need to be ready to play.

"Windom is 0-2 but has played two very good teams," he said. "We need to continue to improve and play a solid game."

Game time has been moved to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at Cardinal field to allow fans to watch the volleyball game, which starts at 6 p.m.

**Team statistics:**  
**Luverne:** 84 rushing yards, 13 passing yards, 97 total yards, 16 first downs, 2 penalties for 10 yards, 6 turnovers.  
**Jackson County Central:** 214 rushing yards, 77 passing yards, 291 total yards, 16 first downs, 9 penalties for 64 yards, 1 turnover.

**Individual statistics:**  
**Rushing:** Gavin DeBeer 5-57, Kaleb Hein 6-12  
**Passing:** Conner Connell 2-6, 13 yards  
**Receiving:** Tyson Cowell 1-9, Gannon Ahrendt 1-4  
**Defense:** Elijah Woodley 9 tackles, Gavin DeBeer 5 tackles, Conner Connell 3.5 tackles, Riley Sneller 3.5 tackles

## Cross country teams successful at annual Bruce Gluf Classic/from page 9

both girls' and boys' varsity team scores.

Janiszkeski had high praise for his runners.

"The kids are growing and gaining confidence," he said. "I'm very proud of them for all of their hard work and their attention to improving and striving to become the best runners that they can be."

### Junior Varsity girls'

**4k:** Olivia Lund was first with a time of 18:40. 20, Makena Nelson third in 19:09, Andrea Luitjens 23<sup>rd</sup> in 24:46.60 and Maddy Schepel 29<sup>th</sup> in 26:26.90.

### Junior Varsity boys'

**4k:** Logan Ommen was first with a time of 15:56.40, Dylan Ommen was second



in 16:03, Zach Terrio third in 16:07, Camden Hoven sixth in 16:33.30, Eli McLendon 12<sup>th</sup> in 17:06.20, Isaac DeBates 16<sup>th</sup> in 17:19.50 and Riley Ripka 22<sup>nd</sup> in 18:24.50.

**In the junior high boys' 3200-meter,** Marcus Papik was first with

a time of 13:34.82 and Zander Fountain was 27<sup>th</sup> in 17:59.04.

**In the junior high girls' 3200-meter,** Reinha John was first in 14:49.77, Grace Kempena third in 14:55.12,

and Mariah Knorr 12<sup>th</sup> in 15:54.35.

Sophomore Sage Viessman sets an easy pace Saturday during the Bruce Gluf Classic at Luverne High School. Viessman placed 14th helping the Cardinals win the boys' varsity team title, which the LHS girls' team also won.

Photo by CD for the Star Herald

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For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*Offer valid at time of estimate only. †The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. C318# 103799, C201# 1078306-0661, License# 7659, License# 50145, License# 41354, License# 99338, License# 128344, License# 218204, WA UBA 603 233 977, License# 2102212986, License# 2106212946, License# 2705152153A, License# LEAF19W6222, License# W0556912, License# WC-29989-117, Nassau HIC License# H01067000, Registration# 176447, Registration# HIC\_0649905, Registration# C127229, Registration# C127230, Registration# 366920918, Registration# 354679, Registration# B21104, Registration# 13VH0993950, Registration# PA059383, Suffolk HIC, License# 52224H, License# 2705169445, License# 262000022, License# 262000403, License# 0086990, Registration# H19114

**NOW OFFERING FALL HELICOPTER SPRAYING!**

We are now lining up pasture spraying for this fall, starting in late September.

Call 507-449-7679 today to help control those nasty weeds to help set your pastures up for success in 2023!!



See you next year! *September 1, 2023*



**ROCK COUNTY TRACTOR RIDE**

thank you

**All 77 Tractors & the 82 Riders**

Bluestem Catering ~ *Skyler Hoiland*  
CHS Eastern Farmers ~ *Dave Vandervliet*  
Lunstra Farms ~ *Dave Lunstra*  
Palisade Lutheran Church ~ *Linda Bakken*  
Keith Schmuck  
Sunshine Foods ~ *Jason Oye & Sarah DeBeer*  
SD Veterans Cemetery ~ *Erin Lammert Brown*  
Luverne Chamber & CVB  
*Ken Vos - Rodger Ossensfort - Verlynx Van Batavia*

**EMPTY PESTICIDE CONTAINER COLLECTION & RECYCLING**  
Monday, Sept. 19 • 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon  
Ketterling Services at 401 S. Cedar, Luverne (north of the fairgrounds)

**ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS:**  
Farmers  
Commercial Applicators  
Golf Courses  
Government Agencies

**WILL NOT ACCEPT**  
Bags (either plastic or paper)  
Aerosol containers  
Glass containers  
Mini-bulks or containers larger than 55 gallons

**PESTICIDE CONTAINERS MUST:**  
Be #2 HDPE Plastic (identifier shown on bottom of container)  
Be clean, dry and properly rinsed (inside and out)  
Have caps removed  
Have labels removed as best you can

For more information about the empty pesticide container collection event, contact:  
Rock County Land Management Office, Phone 507-283-8862  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 1-605-201-6540

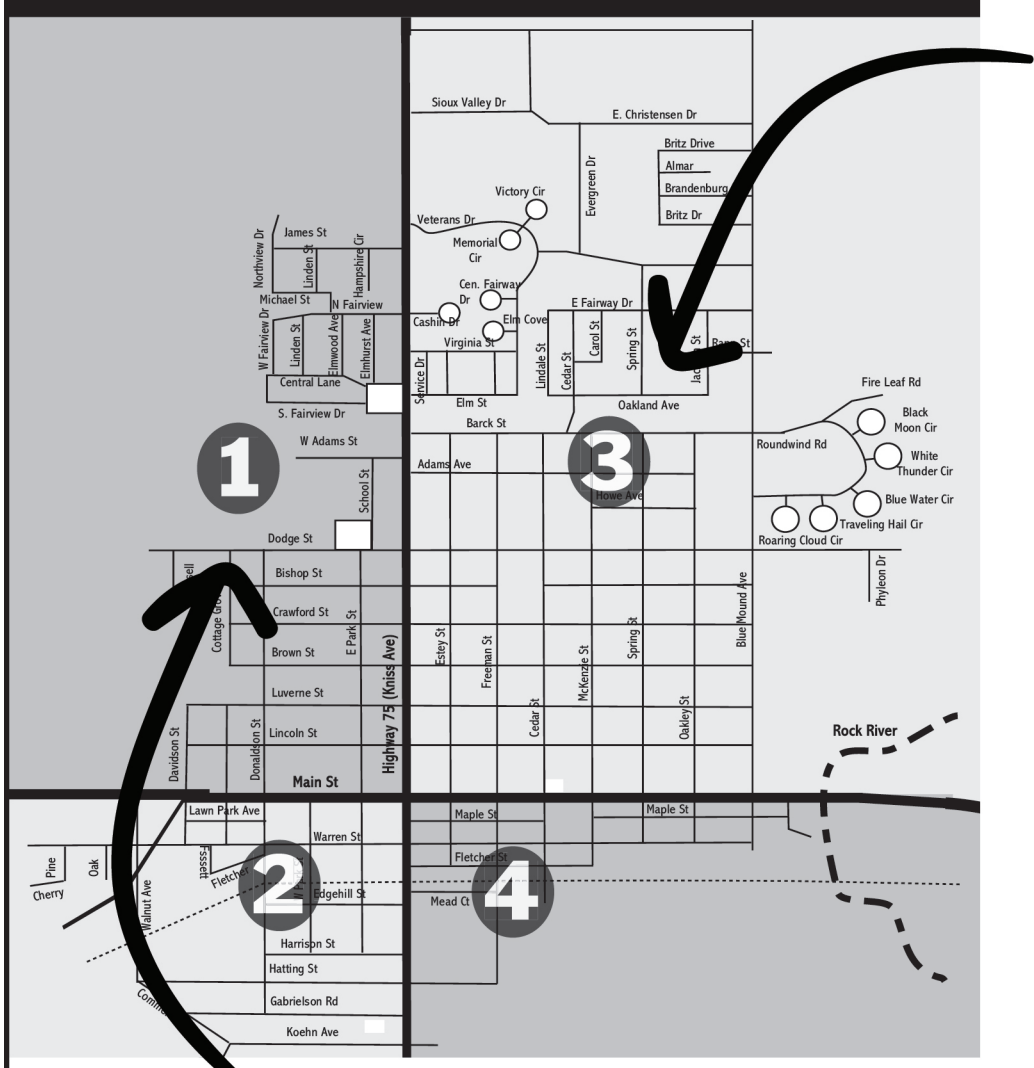
**CONTAINERS MUST BE TRIPLE RINSED**

REUSE REDUCE RECYCLE

**LUVERNE FALL CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**  
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 &**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

*Featuring 16 SALES*



**AREA 3**

- 217 E. Barck Avenue - Benson**  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Newborn-4T girls, men's and women's clothing; toys; strollers; gates; patio furniture; dining table set; décor; swimming pools and much more!
- 1410 Victory Circle - Engesser**  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Table saw; miter saw with stand; ladders 6-20 feet; router; grinders; planer; leaf blower; air compressor; shop vac; picnic table; Yeti; miscellaneous tools; household items and much more.
- 503 Britz Drive - Hebig**  
Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Multi Group Rummage—Light fixtures; wood bench; lots of home décor; juniors, ladies' and men's clothing, S-2X; holiday décor; Christmas tree.
- 500 Britz Drive - Heeren**  
Thursday and Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m.  
4x5 open-end utility trailer; tools; CDs; record albums; bookcase; linens; kitchen items; crafts; books; pictures; china; yarn; miscellaneous; full-size inflatable mattress and air pump.

- 909 N. Blue Mound Avenue - Jacobsma**  
Thursday and Friday: 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Toys; luggage; pictures; miscellaneous.
- 812 Blue Water Circle - Johnson**  
Friday: 5-8 p.m.; Saturday: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Unattended yard sale—Cameras are on—Be kind—Pay like a human.  
Junior clothing; boys' clothing, 6-10; household items.
- 220 N. Freeman Street - Misino**  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Hand-held electronic games; 25 Neil Diamond CDs; graphic and scientific calculator; Irwin Allen's dvd collection; Stauer watch; Game Boy color and games; 10x50 binocular; and much more.
- 204 W. Virginia Street - Muller**  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Cake pans; cake decorating items, etc.; glassware; kitchen items; other miscellaneous items.
- 203 E. Veterans Drive - Sauer, Goembel**  
Wednesday and Thursday: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Boys, girls, women's, men's clothing; toys; books; miscellaneous tools and household; hockey gear; crib mattress.

**AREA 1**

- 1007 Elmhurst Avenue - Hayden**  
Thursday and Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Multi-family sale! Baby items - swing, exersaucer, jumper, and more; boys'/girls' baby clothing, toddler and kids' clothing; home items; kitchen and so much more!
- 1303 Northview Drive - Herman**  
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Tools; Ford manuals; pictures; children's books; light fixtures; wicker furniture; antique red child's tricycle; men's shirts and ladies' clothing and miscellaneous items.
- 405 S. Fairview Drive - Overgaard**  
Wednesday and Thursday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Household; bath bombs; men's clothing, S-XL; women's XL-XXL; two-19" Blackstones; Lots of miscellaneous.
- 413 Central Lane - Svennes, Nelson**  
Thursday and Friday: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Boys' clothing - infant to 5T; adult clothing; household items; décor and other miscellaneous items.



**Out of Town**

- 1190 N. River Road, Luverne; 1 mile east of city park, 1/2 mile north (look for Connell rock) - Connell**  
Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Moving sale and downsizing Family Rummage—Rocking chair; library table; home décor; holiday décor; air purifier; dvd player; men's hockey skates; dinnerware sets; kitchen and home items; wire dog crate; Play Station 2 and games/accessories; kids' and baby toys; Graco stroller; rugs; Osmo iPad kits; Kodiak printer; girls' clothing nb-10, boys' clothing NB-8, boys' and girls' shoes, boys' and girls' coats, women's clothing and coats including plus size, women's shoes size 6, men's shoes size 12, men's clothing 2x-4x \*All name brands\*— something for everyone!
- 545 County Road 4; north of elevator, Beaver Creek - De Kam**  
Wednesday: 12-8 p.m.; Thursday and Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (everything 1/2 price on Saturday).  
Moving sale—2 lift chairs; couch; king-size bedroom set (with mattress, box spring and dressers); kitchen table and chairs; bar stools; TV; end tables; lamps; desks; file cabinets; pool table; outdoor Christmas décor; Christmas village set pieces; kitchenware and much miscellaneous.
- 1152 200th Avenue, Magnolia, 1/2 mile north of Methodist Church - Gacke**  
Thursday: 5-8 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Sectional; ottoman, backpack sprayer; shop vac; air hose reel; miscellaneous tools; large corner desk; furniture; home décor; kitchen gadgets; women's Sanford clothing XL/XXL and more!



## CARDS OF THANKS

Thank you to all those who sent cards, texts, emails and/or brought food after Don's passing. Your words of encouragement and expressions of sympathies are greatly appreciated.

**Jean Pap and family**  
(9.10-9.15)

Thank you to all who remembered me with cards, gifts and visits on the occasion of my 80th birthday. Thank you to my family for the surprise birthday party. It was such fun hearing from all of you.

**Karen Huisman**  
(9.10-9.15)

A big thank you to all our family and friends who came to our anniversary open house. Also thanks for all the cards and best wishes. Special thanks to our son and daughter and their families for hosting the event. We love you all and are truly blessed!

**Marilyn and Jake Aning**  
(9.10-9.15)

The family of Eugene Siebenahler would like to thank you very much for attending his Celebration of Life, the cards received and kind expressions of sympathy shown, following his sad passing.

**James & Tashia Klosterbuer & family**  
**Mike & Traci Davis & family**  
(9.15-9.17)

## RENTALS

**Apartment for Rent** - One bedroom main level apartment. NO pets, NO smoking. Call 507-283-9720. (rtc)

**Apartment for Rent** - Two-bedroom apartment with central air, on-site laundry and one-stall garage. No pets and no smoking. Located in quiet area. Call 507-920-0406. (8.27-9.15)

**House for Rent** - Neat, clean, nice, smaller house in Luverne. All appliances included, also washer and dryer. NO pets; NO smoking! Taking applications. Call 605-413-8862. (9.3-9.22)

## MISCELLANEOUS

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

## EMPLOYMENT

General Construction Laborers Needed. Paid vacation and holidays. Competitive wages. Call 605-261-4050 for more information. (9.3-9.22)

Person to drive a pickup. Full or part-time. Must have a valid driver's license. Call 507-370-1590. (9.10-9.20)

## EMPLOYMENT



### SIBLING CARE COORDINATOR

Luverne Community Education is seeking a **Sibling Care Coordinator for the 2022-2023 school year.** Person must be caring, enjoy working with young children and their parents, and must be open to working with families of many cultures and with limited English-speaking skills.

**Position open until filled**

Application form available at [https://www.isd2184.net/about\\_lps/open\\_employment](https://www.isd2184.net/about_lps/open_employment). Send letter of application and completed form to Craig Oftedal, Superintendent, 709 North Kniss, Luverne, MN 56156. EOE

## EMPLOYMENT

### WildRose Home Care LLC

is looking for part-time **Homemakers** in the Worthington and Adrian Areas. 5-10 hours per week. Must be able to pass a background check. This is a new position, qualified individuals must be dependable and reliable.

Call for application  
**507-337-1101**



## EMPLOYMENT

### Help Wanted

Wild Rose Home Care LLC is looking for a part-time **Personal Care Attendant (PCA)** in Luverne.

Part-time hours 5-10 hours a week and every other weekend working with a female client. Must be able to pass a background check. Qualified individuals must be dependable and reliable.

Call for application  
**507-337-1101**



## EMPLOYMENT



### NOW HIRING!

**LICENSED DENTAL ASSISTANT  
CNA/STERILIZATION PERSON  
PATIENT CARE COORDINATOR**  
NEW CLINIC IN PIPESTONE MN

CARING HANDS DENTAL CLINIC OF PIPESTONE IS CURRENTLY SEEKING to hire a **LDA, a PCC and a CNA/Sterilization person.** Training available. This new 6 operator facility serves all patients of all ages, with most insurances, providing our award winning dental care and education. Come join our fast-paced comprehensive professional dental team. Very **competitive wages and benefits** including vacation, weather/sick/PT days, matching 3% IRA, 50% health insurance subsidy, paid CE, paid license, paid dues, paid BLS training, furnished scrubs, family dental care, Star of the North support, and a comfortable family friendly working atmosphere in a very modern office. Caring Hands desires applicants that are professional, ethical and truly care for people. Hourly wage, no commission, no selling. **Wage based on experience. We offer a signing bonus for these positions.**

Please submit your questions or resume to Stacy Schueller, LDA, RF, Clinic Manager, via email to [stacy@caringhandsdc.org](mailto:stacy@caringhandsdc.org). Come join a great team of caring professionals.

Visit our website to learn more about our great organization that cares about the patients, the staff and their families. [www.caringhandsdentalclinic.com](http://www.caringhandsdentalclinic.com)



### Help Wanted

- Full-time Activities Director** - Applicant should have previous experience with long term care residents. Current CNA certification is beneficial.
- Part-time Activities Staff** - Experience with LTC residents preferred.
- Full-time Housekeeping/ Laundry Staff** - Will train applicant.
- Full-time and Part-time Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)** - PM Shift
- Full-time Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)** - Night Shift

CNA Positions start out at \$17.00 plus credit for experience and shift differential. All shifts require every other weekend shifts.

All positions are eligible for PERA retirement. All Full-time positions (30+ hours per week) are eligible for Blue Cross - Blue Shield, Health Insurance. Send resume to: Suzanne Lenz, 308 Sherman Ave. W. Ellsworth, MN 56129. Email: [slenz@frontier.com](mailto:slenz@frontier.com) | Phone: 507-967-2482

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## REGIONAL/LOCAL OPENINGS!



### WESTERN MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN LIVES

### HELP WANTED • NEW POSITIONS!

#### CHILDREN'S PROGRAM COORDINATOR

This position will oversee the children's community and school mental health programs. Position entails direct supervision of staff, program reporting, oversight, and budget. Position will carry a small caseload of clients to familiarize with documentation/services and be responsible for school and community outreach. Experience in a mental health setting preferred. Must be able to work with an inter-disciplinary team and have excellent communication and documentation skills. Organization, supervisory experience, and management skills are preferred. Bachelor's degree required.

#### SCHOOL LINKED/ FAMILY PRACTITIONER

We are expanding our School Mental Health Program and are looking for Children's Family Mental Health Practitioners to provide services in schools. Must have experience working with children and families with mental health issues. You will be part of an interdisciplinary team. Bachelors, Master's or preferred. Supervision is provided as part of the position for clinical trainees.

#### MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER

Western Mental Health Center is seeking a Mental Health Practitioner to join our ARMHS team. The purpose of the Mental Health Practitioner is to teach and support symptom management skills to assigned adults who have functional impairment due to a mental health condition including:

- Individual contact in homes
- Evaluations
- Resource development
- Treatment planning
- Report writing
- Crisis intervention

Travel Required (agency vehicle Provided), Bachelor's degree required.

#### THERAPIST: LICSW, LPCC, LMFT, LP, PsyD

Our clinic is expanding and we are hiring full or part-time licensed therapists to provide adult and/or child assessments and therapy in an outpatient setting in Southwestern Minnesota.

Duties for this position will include: Providing individual, group, family, and/or other psychotherapy (with-in limits of experience and educational background), emergency services as necessary to meet the needs of clients, assuming management responsibilities for assigned cases, and is responsive to Center quality assurance procedures, Center peer review and utilization procedures, and follows established procedures pertaining to the maintenance of accurate and complete clinical records. Candidate must have excellent verbal, written, organization, and interpersonal skills.

Our clinic offers a rewarding career with excellent work/life balance, generous paid time-off, flexible scheduling including telehealth options.

EMAIL RESUME TO: [kchristians@wmhinc.org](mailto:kchristians@wmhinc.org) or go to [www.wmhinc.org/careers](http://www.wmhinc.org/careers) and fill out an application.

1212 East College Drive, Marshall, MN  
507.532.3236 or 800.658.2429



Read  
Recycle  
Reuse

Please recycle your newspaper when finished with the paper.

The Rock County Star Herald in Luverne, Minnesota, is looking for the right person to help navigate the fast-paced world of **community sports reporting.** Our weekly award-winning newspaper covers two local districts and their high school sports teams, along with community outdoors and recreational activities. We're working to enhance our daily presence with social media posts, sports column/blog and occasional streamed coverage with athletes, coaches and fans. Our vision is to be on the local scene of whatever sports-related news is happening — whenever and wherever it occurs — and share that experience with sports fans to read and watch on social media and to enjoy in print and online pages. **If you share the same vision of a local sports news presence, and if you're passionate about sports with the ability to write about it and share it with others, you may be the person we're looking for.** We're accepting applications now for this **full-time position.** Sports reporting and photography experience is preferred, along with some knowledge of InDesign, PhotoShop and social media platforms. Email cover letter, resume and work samples to Rick Peterson, general manager, at [rick@star-herald.com](mailto:rick@star-herald.com).

## Nutcracker fine art sculptures to be dedicated Sunday downtown/continued from page 1

Mary Petersen, Kristen Peterson, Kim Schmidt and Lois Young.

"There are some very talented people in our community," said Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere. "We did this project to see if not-your-typical nutcracker could be seen as art."

Planners were gauging feedback to the pieces with an eye toward future life-size nutcrackers to promote Luverne's tourism draw.

"Experts say this is our unique brand," Lanphere said in 2019.

"We'll see how people respond to them. Would you stop and take your picture with an 8-foot nutcracker?"

It turns out, many would — and have — taken selfies with the three that were erected earlier this summer.

The artists who recreated their 18-inch prototypes on 7-foot-tall canvases are Janine Brands, Kim Schmidt and Jen Huisman.

Brands was the first to complete her bison-themed sculpture last summer. Its



Janine Brands painted a bison-themed nutcracker with artistic details, such as pheasants in flight, Sioux quartzite rock outcroppings, deer resting by streams and more.

exterior is loaded with artistic details, such as pheasants in flight, and Sioux quartzite rock outcroppings among prairie grasses.

"I tried to represent Luverne," she said, "because that's what the project is for."

Her 18-inch prototype nutcracker also has a bison and state park theme, but the larger nutcracker has more surface area, and

Brands didn't waste a single square inch.

On its torso is a landscape scene of a bison cow and her calf against a colorful sky.

On one leg of the nutcracker, a deer stands along a bubbling stream, and daisies and asters bloom among the blades of grass. The other leg carries a scene of the upstream source that cascades over



Artists were invited to create 18-inch nutcrackers — there were 10 in all — in June 2019. Three of them became prototypes for the 7-footers to be dedicated in Luverne Sunday.

small waterfalls.

Brands, who is more accustomed to smaller art projects, said the sculpture work challenged her to paint more landscape

scenes.

"I was afraid of doing rocks," she said. "I studied pictures of rocks and YouTube videos."

All the sculptures are made of fiberglass and weigh nearly 80 pounds. All three have the same size and shape but carry distinctly different artwork.

They're painted with acrylic paint that received

three clear-coats of auto-quality sealant at Kevin Aaker's Luverne Body Shop.

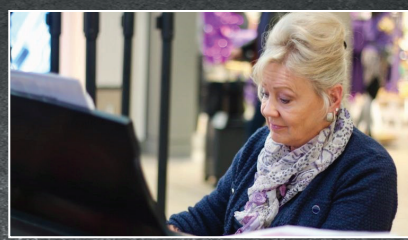
A reception at the History Center will follow the 4 p.m. dedication Sunday.

The project is supported by funding from various local private donors and coordinated by Luverne Initiatives for Tomorrow in partnership with the Rock County Historical Society.



**Transit Authority:**  
The Premier Chicago  
Tribute Band

Saturday, September 24  
7:00pm



**Janie Becker:**  
Piano Inspirations

Sunday, October 16  
2:00pm



**Glenn Miller Orchestra:**  
Its Greatest Hits Show!

Saturday, October 1  
2:00pm



**Folsom Prison Experience:**  
Tribute to Johnny Cash

Saturday, October 22  
7:00pm



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Worthington, MN

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**2022**

**1:00 pm**  
**Palace Theatre**  
**Luverne, MN**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Presenters:**  
**Scott Heibult**  
from Computer Clinic  
&  
**a Representative**  
from Security Savings Bank

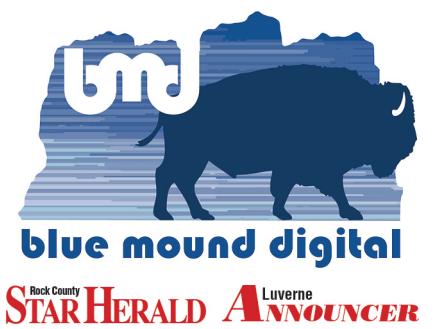
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**LUVERNE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

**GRANT APPLICATIONS**  
**DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

Who can apply?

Not-for-profit organizations (either singly or as a consortium), government agencies, academic and research institutions located within Rock County are among the organizations eligible to request support from the Luverne Area Community Foundation.

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

- Arts & Humanities •Community & Civic Affairs
- Social & Economic Growth •Nutrition •Environment
- Recreation •Education
- Support Programs - children to senior citizen
- Community Health & Wellness including physical & mental health

How to apply?

APPLY ONLINE AT:  
<http://www.luvacf.org/application-information.html>  
or contact Emily Crabtree at  
**507-220-2424** or [emily@luvacf.org](mailto:emily@luvacf.org)

**LUVERNE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
P.O. Box 623 | 102 E. Main | Luverne, MN | 507-220-2424  
Office Hours: T-TH 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00  
[www.luvacf.org](http://www.luvacf.org)