



# Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, December 22, 2022

## Human services prepares to manage mental health clients

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County residents seeking mental health services through state and federal assistance programs will have a choice about where to continue counseling after Jan. 1.

Southwest Health and Human Services, based in Marshall, is developing a unique program for Rock and Pipestone counties

where multiple third-party counseling services would be available to income-eligible residents.

Beth Wilms, SWHHS executive director, and members of her mental health team talked about the developing mental health program at the Rock County Board of Commissioners meeting Dec. 13.

"We want to grow services — we want to provide a comprehen-

sive continual care," she said via Zoom.

"This withdrawal allows for a little choice and clients can really direct their care and not be limited to a Rule-29 community health center."

Since the late 1950s, Rock County's income eligible residents were referred exclusively to Southwestern Mental Health

Center (SWMH), Luverne, which managed the budget for the six counties involved in the service agreement with the center.

Due to shortfalls in the upcoming mental health center's budget, commissioners were unwilling to contribute an additional \$500,000 to continue the third-party counseling agreement.

Instead, on Jan. 1 Rock Coun-

ty will join Pipestone County and allocate the \$400,000 annually spent by both counties for mental health services for income-eligible residents.

Wilms said the mental health center in Luverne has not revealed the total number of clients receiving counseling services paid for by

Mental health/See page 3A

## Committee recommends new H-BC elementary

Also supports improving Goehle gym, locker room

By Mavis Fodness

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board will decide in the new year whether or not to move forward with building a new \$26.1 million elementary school.

Board members met in a workshop session Monday night, where recommendations from the stakeholders facilities committee, who met Dec. 14, were presented.

The board took no formal action as they decide long-term facility needs in the district.

The stakeholder committee's recommendations mirror the community survey results released Dec. 12.

Stakeholders also preferred building a new elementary school in Beaver Creek while supporting a closer look at improvements at the Hugo Goehle gymnasium and locker rooms in Hills.

They also recommended asking voters in April two questions.

One question would fund an elementary school. The second question would request \$3 million for improvements at the Hugo Goehle facility, which includes demolishing the adjoining old high school.

Board members are considering adding replacement of the Hugo Goehle facility's roof to the

H-BC building/See page 5A



Carrie Overgaard photos/1222 Grace Nativity



## Grace Lutheran live nativity brings Christmas story to life

Adult and youth members of Grace Lutheran Church assembled for the congregation's annual "Live Nativity" Sunday in the church parking lot in Luverne. The recreated Biblical nativity scene featured Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus in the manger, three wisemen and shepherds with live donkeys, goats and camels, and an angel overlooking the manger. Participants warmed up in the church with craft activities, cookies and hot chocolate, and fire pits were available for outside warming. Wisemen (from left) Chad and Connor Overgaard and Eli Radke bring gifts to Mary and Joseph (portrayed by Lauren Hansen and Tucker Banck), overseen by Angel Ella Schmuck perched atop the stable.

## City leaders pass the torch to new department heads

### Lais reaches 50-year career goal

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne's longtime water and wastewater supervisor Al Lais started his city career in 1972 after losing his AR Wood job when the company closed.

He and AR Wood co-workers Jim Van Maanen and Bruce Kurtz found employment in the city's water department which had openings at the time.

"Our first job was to climb in a tank and clean out a water filter at the plant," Lais recalled.

Little did he know that assignment would mark the beginning of a 50-year city career that officially comes to an end on Dec. 31.

After that first brief assignment in 1972, Lais went on to work in several city departments, including managing



Lori Sorenson photo/1222 lais retires Al Lais received recognition for "50 years of dedicated service."

the landfill back when city and county operated it together.

In his early years at the

Lais retires/See page 3A

### Berghorst leads team finance planning for 30 years

By Lori Sorenson

When Barb Berghorst was hired to run Luverne's city finances in 1991, she was asked to plan long-range purchases and help with budget forecasting.

"We wanted everyone to anticipate what they'll need over the next five years, and I put that all on a big spread sheet," she said.

"It all had to fit in and be financially feasible. ... I listened. I planned. I calculated. And I worked with everybody."

As Berghorst retires 30 years later, she said she's proud to have accomplished those goals with city leaders who supported the mission.

"The most important thing finance has done in the city operation over 30 years is long-range planning and being prepared," she said.



Lori Sorenson photo/1222 berghorst Barb Berghorst retired this year after 30 years as city finance director.

Teamwork

She said it took solid relationships among city departments and good city leadership, which she said Administrator John Call has

provided over his past 17 years.

"All the department heads meet every week, and we talk about projects. Every project that we work on has input from everybody," Berghorst said.

"For example, when we work on a street project, you have to know about all the utilities, water, sewer and electric. You have to know if they need to be upgraded while you're working on a street. ... And everything touches the money."

She said that's why frequent communication is so important.

"I believe passionately that we're all here to work together," Berghorst said. "Everybody makes a difference, and if we all are focused on the future and the goals, we will figure it out."

Berghorst retires/See 2A



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### UMC community free meal Christmas Eve — Dec. 24

The United Methodist Church will host a free Christmas Eve community meal at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24. Please sign up at church or call the office. A pick-up option is available by calling 507-283-4529.

### Christmas meditation Dec. 23

The United Methodist Church annual Christmas Meditation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, at the Luverne Palace Theater. Relax, reflect on the past year, remember the reason for the season, and take time away from shopping, baking and other holiday stressors.

Listen to peaceful piano music, and center into the Christmas season in the darkened theater, lightened only by Christmas lights and calming winter pictures on the movie screen.

It's a free event and open to all who are welcome to stay as long as their heart needs. Christmas goodies and cider will be available in the lobby.

### Blue Mounds State Park offers January activities

•Meet at the picnic area parking lot on Jan. 1 for a First Day Hike from 1 to 2:30 p.m. to start the new year off outdoors and discover a winter wonderland on the prairie. Join the naturalist for a 2-mile hike along parts of the Upper Cliff Line and Mound Trails. Trails may be snow covered or icy during winter months. Warm clothing and sturdy boots are recommended.

•Meet in the Picnic Shelter from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, to learn about Beavers, Nature's Architects and America's largest rodents.

Discover how these critters use their unique adaptations to play a valuable role on the landscape. The program will conclude with a short walk down to the creek to look for beaver activity.

•Meet in the Picnic Shelter from 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, for Winter Birding: Owls. Winter can be a great time to view owls. Fly into what makes these wonderful birds so special and discover what species are in the backyard.

### Community Ed

Community Education will offer the following classes in the next few weeks. Call 507-283-4724 to register. Watch for the new Winter Brochure in the Luverne Announcer the weekend of New Year's Day. Registrations will be taken starting Jan. 3. The Community Ed Office will be closed from Dec. 21 through Jan. 2 for winter break.

ECFE Classes for Children ages 0-5 years and parents 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.

Defensive Driving 8-hour class provides a 10 percent premium discount on auto insurance to anyone 55 years of age or older. The 8-hour class needs to be taken once and the insurance discount is good for three years. A 4-hour refresher class can be taken every three years to remain eligible for the insurance discount.

New Residents: Census Information Needed for Preschool Children. Call 507-283-4724 with information for children ages 0 to kindergarten. The school district uses the information for planning purposes, mailing out information on school events, including the state-mandated Preschool Screening for all 3-year-old children. If your child is 4 and has not been screened, call to complete the screening before kindergarten.

### Food Shelf evening hours

The Rock County Food Shelf is now open for an additional evening shift from 5 to 6 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of the month. Call Mary at 507-227-5548 or Katie at 507-227-3531.



The new \$296,000 trail segment will run along Warren Street from Pine Drive to County Road 4 where a painted crosswalk will connect users in the Sybesma Housing Subdivision to the Luverne Loop trail.

## Luverne Loop to connect Sybesma Addition, provide handicap access to Hawkinson Park

By **Lori Sorenson**

Residents in the Sybesma Addition may be connected to the Luverne Loop trail, thanks to a grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The Luverne Economic Development Authority is applying for the "Active Transportation Infrastructure Program" trail connection grant in the amount of \$258,000.

The project would entail a paved 10-foot-wide trail connecting the Sybesma Subdivision residential area with the nearby Luverne Loop Trail at

Kolbert Park.

According to discussion at the Dec. 12 LEDA meeting, the project would "create a safer environment for transportation and mitigate safety hazards for pedestrians and bikers of all ages and abilities."

The trail will run along Warren Street from Pine Drive to County Road 4 where a painted crosswalk will connect users to the Luverne Loop trail.

Since the city of Luverne is under 5,000 population, Rock County will need to act as the sponsoring agency. A local city

match of \$38,000 would cover the project estimate of \$296,000.

### Hawkinson Park trail connection

In other Luverne Loop business, the LEDA discussed a \$50,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation for a Loop connection through Hawkinson Park on the city's west side.

The "Rural Leadership Boost Grant" supports small communities with placemaking projects in rural areas.

The Hawkinson Park Trail Connection project

includes construction of an 8-foot-wide concrete trail that provides handicap access from Cottage Grove Avenue into Hawkinson Park and connects to the Luverne Loop Trail.

According to LEDA discussion, it will "allow users of all ages and abilities to enjoy the public outdoor recreation facilities within the community."

A local city match of \$20,000 will cover the project estimate of \$70,000. The Hawkinson Park connection is planned for 2023.

**Luverne Loop/See 5A**

## Berghorst retires from 30 years in city finances/from page 1A

### Money saved, bond ratings improved, awards earned

Along the way, this approach saved taxpayers money.

"You can't have your tax levy go up and down and up and down," Berghorst said. "The goal is to keep it as flat and stable as you can."

The planning formula turned out to be good for Luverne's bond rating, which rose six pegs from a BBB to AA minus during her tenure.

"That's a big deal for interest rates and it's a big deal to the rating agencies because they know you're financially sound," she said.

This didn't go unnoticed by her peers in state government, which awarded the city of Luverne with Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 27 years straight. (Berghorst didn't apply during her first three years.)

She said the award was a reflection of the city's goals.

"That's what I was asked to do when I was hired. To do long-range planning and to anticipate things and figure out a way to pay for things," she said.

"Getting the certificate was always a goal, because it demonstrates financial prudence."

City Administrator John Call said the award



Barb Berghorst started in 1991 when Luverne City Hall was still located downtown.

was also a reflection of Berghorst's personal excellence.

"Barb is really smart about spread sheets, depreciation schedules and municipal finance in general, but she also has a great personality and an ability to work with people," Call said.

"You rarely find someone who is so smart but has people skills also. I have always thought Barb could run a Fortune 500 company; she has all of the required skills."

### From ledger paper to software programs

Berghorst started in Luverne when City Hall was still located in the former bank building on the corner of Main Street and Cedar Avenue.

Steve Perkins was city administrator and Gordon Gits was mayor.

She and her husband, Sam, were living in Pipestone where she

had been working in city finance since 1981.

"Everything was paper and pencil when I started there," Berghorst recalled.

"There were no computers. Just these big ledger books with green accounting paper, and a section for every fund. You had to record everything and use those totals that you manually did with your paper and pencil."

When it was time to computerize the process, Berghorst found her calling.

"The computer part of it I loved," she said. "I was able to purchase the first computer and the first software package, write the chart of accounts and input the chart of accounts, make it match what the state auditor wanted, and understand how everything worked together."

In Luverne she enjoyed moving City Hall from the downtown Cragoe building to the former hospital and Minnesota West building, because she could be part of building the in-office computer network.

"I loved that," she said. "I love projects and figuring things out."

Since finance relies on technology, Berghorst said people in her position become IT specialists by default.

"We have to make sure we have hardware and software to protect our network

environment from ransomware, and we frequently update passwords and take other security measures."

She said she also enjoyed learning how city government worked.

"It was so interesting to know what was going on and how they made decisions," Berghorst said.

"I had questions about 'What's the difference between a resolution and an ordinance?' I didn't know, but you learn as you go, and I worked with good people."

### How to buy a fire truck

While it seems straightforward, Berghorst said many city governments, especially smaller towns, don't strategically plan their finances.

"Typically, smaller towns operate like a checkbook. They look at this year, they budget for next year, and they want to know if there's any money in the bank when they're done," she said.

"But in a city like ours with millions of dollars in utility operations, you need to have a better sense of financial planning. So, funding depreciation, doing rate studies every three years, and making sure you have adequate reserves are all essential to get the mountains and valleys smoothed out."

Berghorst remembers

**Berghorst retires/See 10A**

## #TellUsTuesday Results

Scan Here to Vote for this Week's Survey!



### How Many Christmas Celebrations Do You Have This Year?

1	46%
2-3	29%
4-5	21%
6+	4%

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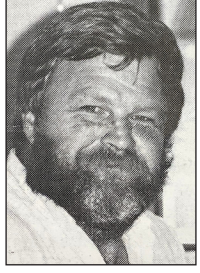
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## Al Lais retires/from page 1A

landfill, Lais helped with city snow removal using the landfill heavy equipment.

"The snow would be so high we'd have to pile it up on the corners with loaders," he said.

"One winter storm the wind blew so hard, four city snowplows couldn't even cut into the snowdrifts. So I had to bring in a loader from the landfill and lead the plows down the street just to get it busted up. One storm we moved snow over 24 hours straight."



Al Lais pictured in a 1992 city newsletter.

rusting away," Lais said. "They were built in 1963 when IBP came."

### Good leadership

He said being part of a growing, healthy city was what he enjoyed most about his work.

"There's growth happening here, vs. being stagnant," Lais said.

"We were ready for an industry if they started asking about coming here. That all relates to growth."

When Del Domagala retired in 2000, Lais took his place at the helm of the water and wastewater department.

By then, Lais said he knew most of what he needed to know, but he wasn't afraid to lean on local plumbers if he had to.

"Jerry Buss will call me up, or I'll call him up. We're basically the seniors of Luverne," he said. "If I don't know it and if he doesn't know it, nobody knows it. We still do that today."

Lais said the city has been fortunate to have a progressive council and the leadership of City Administrator John Call (who also retires at the end of December).

"We were lucky to have him for 17 years; most administrators before him were here five years or less," Lais said.

"He's always been open to me doing research and asking questions. ... I felt like I was part of the solution on projects."

Call said the city is losing a wealth of information with Lais's retirement.

"Al is one of those guys that had so much institutional knowledge about the city's water and sewer infrastructure; all stored in his memory banks," he said.

"He could literally tell you about where the pipes were in every block in town. I guess you could say he knew, 'where all of the bodies were buried.' To have worked for the city for 50 years is really quite an amazing feat."

### At 70, ready to retire

Now Lais said the city is poised for future growth, especially with Luverne's connection to the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System for supplemental water.

And at 70, he said he feels ready to retire.

"I never thought I'd be where I am today," Lais said.

"My goal was to make 50 years, because I don't think that's been done before, but I never minded going to work."

Lais has been working part time on an hourly rate since this summer until his official retirement Dec. 31.

Longtime city water and wastewater worker Darrel Ykema is filling Lais' shoes as department head after passing his certification last summer.

"There's a lot to know about how our system runs," Lais said.

"There's a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes that most people don't hear about."

Lais will continue working with his personal business, Al's Upholstery, and he said he looks forward to more time with his family in retirement.

He and his wife, Sharon, have three grown children, Mark (and Kari), Matt (and Amber) and Robyn (and Rick) Wessels.

\*See the Dec. 27 paper for City Administrator John Call's retirement story.

### Working up from 'bottom of the pile'

After seven years at the landfill, Lais started in the city's "sewer collection and water distribution" department.

Lais took care of meters, cleaned sewers, replaced hydrants and meters, and eventually learned all there was to know about the city's water and sewer service.

"I basically worked from the bottom of the pile to the top through the years," Lais said.

He recalls late night calls to the water plant to keep Luverne's system meeting demand.

"I used to get called out at night, back in the day when IBP was here," Lais said.

"They used so much water you'd have to go out at 11 p.m. after the shift and backwash the south water plant every night because you couldn't go two days. That's how dirty the water was with iron and manganese. The filter can only take out so much."

### Front row seat to growth

Along the way, Lais found himself in a front row seat for city planning and expansion.

In 1987 Luverne built an addition on the wastewater plant to increase flow from 500,000 gallons per day to 1.5 million gallons per day.

"That's when we added our first oxidation ditch," Lais said.

The Juhl Addition development around that time prompted a booster station near the American Reformed Church.

And in 1991 the Minnesota Veterans Home began construction in Luverne, prompting a flurry of development.

"After that, everything north of the Vets Home was built," he said. "Everything north of the Baptist Church ... That's a lot of growth."

The Sybesma housing addition on the west side of town followed with Poplar Creek and The Oaks senior living apartments south of Mary Jane Brown.

Then came the new hospital in 2005 north of the Veterans Home and along with it, dozens more homes and other development.

With all that growth, and the addition of new homes and industry, Lais said it kept him and the water and wastewater department busy making sure the city could keep up with all the new connections.

For example, the sewer line was redone when Oakley Street was rebuilt to increase flow from an 8-inch line to a 15-inch line to accommodate growth to the north.

Similarly, underground infrastructure was upgraded on Warren Street and other arteries as their road surfaces were rebuilt.

"We put the new cement ground storage tanks in at the north water plant, because the other ones were



Mavis Fodness photo/1222 Gingerbread House Making 2022

## A sweet activity before Christmas break

Second-graders at Luverne Elementary School made gingerbread houses Monday afternoon under the supervision of teachers Laura Louwagie, Kelly Bergan, Lori Nath and Kristin Schomacker. Students were given a variety of building materials including the staples of graham crackers, M&M's, white frosting, candy canes, marshmallows and pretzels. Using an empty milk carton, students built their houses on the lid of an empty plastic ice cream pail, which they place over their completed houses for transport home. Students and staff begin the holiday break Wednesday and resume classes on Jan. 3. Pictured above, second-graders (from left) Evren Janiszkeski, Daniel Eggebrecht, Olivia Rigney and Gavyn Gainey work on their individual gingerbread houses using a tray of building materials in the center of the table.

At right, Greyson Mundt takes a close look at the construction of his gingerbread house.



Below, Olivia Rigney carefully places a marshmallow on her gingerbread house.



Estelle Olson uses white frosting to get the pretzel stick just right on her gingerbread house.

At left, Braelinn Papik's completed gingerbread house features candy canes shaped into a heart as the front door.

## Human services to manage mental health clients/from page 1A

either Rock or Pipestone counties.

Because of the uncertainty of the number (which could be more than 250 clients), human services personnel are contacting counseling services in Luverne, Pipestone and Sioux Falls to prepare for clients contacting human services for continuing mental health services starting in a matter of weeks.

"We are scrambling just to make sure we have some basic services provided so that people won't fall through the cracks," Wilms said.

Communication with existing clients appears to be limited, she said, with some clients receiving letters from the mental health center indicating their treatment through the Luverne location is ending Dec. 31.

In discussions with the mental health center, Wilms said, when possible and due to strict data privacy rules, a "warm handoff" will be completed when an appropriate counseling service is chosen by the client.

The handoff would

be handled on a one-by-one basis as service with Southwestern Mental Health ceases.

It is unclear if the SWMH center would be among the third-party counseling services.

"We are hearing some mixed messages," Wilms said. "We do not know what type of services this will be."

After a two-year absence, the mobile crisis service will return as part of a state Department of Health grant.

The Luverne mental

health center will manage the crisis services for the area that includes Rock County.

Wilms said the expansion of third-party counseling options in Rock County has positive merits for the vulnerable clients.

"There is still a stigma in mental health and they may not want to get services in the community that they live in," she said.

"The plan is to have a multiple choice of services in Rock County (that includes options in Luverne, Pipestone or Sioux Falls)."





**THE NORTHVIEW**

By Brenda Winter, columnist

**Last Christmas**

*Grandma's Christmas extravaganza won't be the same this year*

Last Christmas we gathered at Mom and Dad's on Christmas Eve like we always do.

We four adult kids and some of our adult kids and some of their little kids piled into Mom's living room.

The family has grown so large that we sometimes stack three deep to fit in the square 14x14 living room Grandpa Adolph and his brothers built in the '40s.

Last Christmas we began the evening by attending church. Then, we arrived at the farm for round one of Grandma's Christmas extravaganza. We were welcomed by a kitchen table covered with hors d'oeuvres: ham and pickle pinwheels, little smokies, chips, dips, pickles – all the salty things.

When Mom, wearing this year's new, red blouse, said it was time to open presents, we smashed ourselves into the living room for the gift exchange.

In recent years we children (in our late 50s) introduced the wrapping paper ball exchange, which involves pelting innocent others in the head with wads of wrapping paper. (What is it about returning to one's childhood home that causes one to revert to age nine?)

Mom said she found the last wad of paper in July.

After the gifts, Mom called us back to the kitchen for the final round of all the sweet things. Those who left without a stomach ache didn't try hard enough.

Last Christmas, Mom prepared all the food, bought all the gifts, did all the setting up, and put it all away.

Last Christmas was our last Christmas.

In November, Mom died while resting in her blue rocker in the living room, 14 days after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

The closets in the farm house are filled with decorations, garland, snowmen, angels and wrapping paper.

The special dishes are in the kitchen cupboard next to the platters she used to serve the Christmas goodies.

We're doing our best. We put up the tree, but no one turns the lights on.

We're pretending presents are "from Grandma," but they aren't really.

We'll try to make it through family pictures without her.

This Christmas, as we gather in the living room, we'll look at the Baby Jesus in the nativity scene.

It's going to be hard, but we'll rejoice that she's with Him, and not with us like she was ...

Last Christmas.

**Merry Christmas!**

**STAR HERALD EDITORIAL**

Christians believe "God so loved the world that he gave his only son" to take away the sins of the world (John 3:16), and as such, we celebrate the arrival of Jesus as told in the Bible's second chapter of Luke:

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ... And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory

of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the

Lord has made known to us."

And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

*Merry Christmas, dear readers. We at the Star Herald wish you joy and peace this holiday season.*



**Christmas in Rock County still means sharing memories, attending church, big family dinner**

Marie C. (Dunn) Schroeder shared this clipping about Christmas 150 years ago for reprint in the Rock County Star Herald.

**'Christmas in Rock County 60 years ago'**

From the Rock County Herald dated Friday, December 23, 1932

Christmas in the '70's (1870s) meant little to the pioneers in Rock county's sod houses. It brought no romance to those early settlers as they sat around a wood stove fire, waiting for nightfall, when they would go to bed. It was just a day like all the rest, in those times when a man thought it recreation to ride fourteen miles behind oxen after wood, and a woman grieved all day after a dog stole her cherished soup bone, saved to be the main item of the Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Dunn sat in their West Main street home this week and told about those early days. Mr. Dunn came to this county in 1870, homesteading in what is now section 24, Beaver Creek township, about two and a half miles northeast of what is now Beaver Creek village. Mrs. Dunn joined him the next year. They lived there a quarter of a century, but for the first decade Christmas meant nothing to them. "We were so poor we couldn't do anything on Christmas," Mr. Dunn said, and Mrs. Dunn added: "If you're wanting us to tell you about how we celebrated Christmas,

I'm sorry I can't accommodate you. We didn't have any entertainments and there were no special efforts to observe the day. I was too busy cooking and taking care of the children in those days. Mostly we just stayed at home and tended to our own business. What did we have for our big Christmas dinner? We didn't have any; we were thankful just for something to eat."

That was why, a year or two later, a neighbor's dog brought grief into the Dunn home. Mr. Dunn had managed to buy a quarter of beef, a few weeks before Christmas, and they were saving the last of it, a soup bone, which was hanging in a wooden lean-to outside the main house. Two days before Christmas a dog sneaked into the shed and left with the soup bone. There was no meat on the Dunn's dinner table that Christmas.

Poor though they were, the Duns were among the prosperous settlers in the county. They had some money, at first; some of the pioneer groups had none. Their little money went quickly, of course, and was gone when Mr. Dunn was harvesting his first crop. It bought them a cow, however, and provided a wooden floor for their sod house; their neighbors' floors were grass or dirt.

Mr. Dunn, like all the other settlers, thought a sod house was necessary. They believed, as they were told, that frame houses would blow away, and that persons would freeze to death in a wooden house. So he built his home with sod from the sloughs, cut into bricks 4x18x36 inches, and molded into walls 36 inches thick.

There was one window, with glass panes as befitted a prosperous citizen. There were two rooms in the house, with 12-foot ceilings.

The roof was built in this manner: Split-rail rafters were laid a foot apart from the walls to a ridge pole; willow brush was laid on the rafters, sod on the willow brush, and about four inches of dirt on the sod. The roof held, and did not leak.

When the house was finished, Mrs. Dunn came to her husband. With her she brought some dried apples, product of her Wisconsin home. These dried apples were made into the only sauce, or dessert, or sweet side dish the family had for a year.

As they sat in their Luverne home this week, Mr. and Mrs. Dunn said, time and again, that Christmas meant nothing to the pioneer families 55 and 60 years ago.

They looked around at the radio and phonograph in the living room, at the rugs on the floor and at flowers and a huge fern in a jar on a handsome pedestal. Mrs. Dunn reached over to touch the big radiator, and with a shrug said: "I know it's hard to believe, but that first Christmas or two meant nothing. These things" – she looked around the room, and shrugged again – "we had nothing to celebrate Christmas with."

For instance, Mr. Dunn related, just before that first Christmas the two spent in their new home, he got caught in a blizzard.

"I had a wood lot seven miles from home on the Rock river," he said. "About Christmas, continued to page 8A"

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## ON THE RECORD

### Dispatch report

- Dec. 11**
- A fire call was reported.
  - Complainant reported a family and child issue.
  - Complainant reported a suicide threat.
- Dec. 12**
- A civil issue was reported.
  - Complainant reported motor vehicle theft.
  - Report of a POR registration.
  - Complainant reported fraud.
  - Complainant reported a runaway.
- Dec. 13**
- Complainant reported a domestic issue.
  - Complainant reported a vulnerable adult.
  - Complainant reported child maltreatment.
  - Complainant reported child maltreatment.
  - Complainant reported harassing communications.
  - Assistance from another department was conducted.
- Dec. 14**
- Assistance from another department was conducted.
  - An outage was reported.
  - An outage was reported.
  - Complainant reported a domestic issue.
  - Complainant reported a domestic issue.
  - A winter weather warning was issued.
- Dec. 15**
- A winter weather warning was issued.
  - Complainant reported disturbing the peace.
  - Assistance from another department was conducted.
  - Assistance from another department was conducted.
- Dec. 16**
- Weather report was issued for icy conditions.
  - Complainant reported trespassing.
  - Complainant reported



Mavis Fodness photo/1222 Deputy Keeseey Sworn In

### Deputy Keeseey sworn into duty

Rock County's newest deputy, Zachary Keeseey, repeats the service oath delivered by Sheriff Evan Verbrugge Dec. 13 in front of county commissioners at the courthouse. Keeseey, who grew up in Randolph, Minnesota, graduated from Riverland Technical College in Albert Lea. Since his graduation he's served with the Eagan Lake, Mapleton and Mankato police departments. He moves to Luverne with his girlfriend and daughter. The couple is expecting their second child in January.

- child maltreatment.
  - Complainant reported reckless driving.
- Dec. 17**
- Complainant reported debris.
  - Complainant reported a pedestrian on the road.
  - Complainant reported property damage.
  - Complainant reported property damage.
  - Complainant reported a suicide threat.
  - Complainant requested a residence check.
- Dec. 18**
- Complainant reported reckless driving.
  - Complainant requested a miscellaneous public assist.
  - Complainant reported debris fell out of pickup.
  - Complainant reported disorderly conduct.

- A weather advisory was issued.
- Dec. 19**
- Complainant reported a disorderly.
  - A weather advisory was issued.
  - Complainant requested assistance.
  - Complainant reported debris in roadway.
- Dec. 20**
- An outage was reported.
- In addition, officers responded to 4 motor vehicle accidents, 16 vehicles in the ditch, 13 ambulance runs, 6 paper services, 3 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 7 background checks, 2 gas drive-offs, 8 alarms, 1 drug court test, 9 purchase and carry permits, 14 stalled vehicles, 14 traffic stops, 12 abandoned 911 calls, 2 welfare checks, 1 report of cattle out and 4 follow-ups.

# Fire department rescues 1,200-pound cow from pond

By Lori Sorenson

Members of the Luverne Fire Department rescued a cow from a frozen pond Friday with equipment borrowed from Cleveringa Construction.

According to Luverne Fire Chief David Van Batavia, the call came in at 10:50 a.m. of a cow struggling to get out of a hole in the ice.

The 1,200-pound cow, belonging to Don Renken, was in the pond south of the Arne and Gloria Vink home near the interstate, and a passerby called 911.

According to Renken, his cows pasture in that area and drink water from a hole he chops in the ice.

"I guess she must have wandered out on the ice and broke through," he said. "My boy and I were trying to think of a way to get her out with a rope."

By this time, however, the fire department had contacted Adam Uithoven with Cleveringa Construction about borrowing a telehandler.

"Adam drove it out there and telehandled the forks out over the ice," Van Batavia said. "Just the cow's head was out of the water. She was pretty tired and cold."

He said Uithoven lowered the forks down to the water and two firefighters in diving gear helped tie her to the equipment.

"He picked her up on the forks and we were able



Fire department members in diving suits (from left) Eric Woodley and Tyson Facile tend to a 1,200-pound cow that they rescued from an icy pond near the interstate south of River Road Friday around noon.

to gently put her down," Van Batavia said. "She was able to stand and move around."

Renken said on Tuesday that the cow was able to walk to the shed and find warmth from the other cattle gathered inside.

"She's doing good," he said. "I'm just glad everything turned out OK. And thanks to the fire department. They all worked together pretty good."

Van Batavia re-

marked that his crew is becoming skilled at animal rescues.

The department rescued a dog that fell in a Blue Mounds State Park crevice this past summer, and a few years ago, firefighters rescued a deer that fell through the ice in the Rock River near the city park.

"When the phone rings and it's the Sheriff's Office, you never know what it's going to be," he said.

## Loop trail gets grants for additions and amenities/continued from page 2A

### Extra trail amenities

The final phases of the Luverne Loop project are nearly complete and under budget, allowing planners to add eligible trail amenities to meet the grant budget proposal.

The grant award was \$839,300 with a local city match of \$359,700 to cover the project estimate of \$1,199,000.

The actual project bid came in at \$810,864, roughly \$388,000 under budget.

The additional trail projects include wayfinding signs for \$100,000, a Towne Square segment for \$199,000 and a South Highway 75 segment for \$25,000.

The trail wayfinding signage project includes map kiosks, directional signage with mile markers, and interpretative signs.

The Towne Square segment will complete the section of trail along the north side of Hatting Street connecting the trail near the Econolodge with the trail at the intersection of Freeman and Hatting streets. This segment will be con-



The Hawkinson Park Trail Connection project includes construction of an 8-foot-wide concrete trail that provides handicap access from Cottage Grove Avenue into Hawkinson Park and connects to the Luverne Loop Trail.

structed once the retaining wall for the Prairie Loft apartments is complete.

The final segment along south Highway 75 will replace the existing 5-foot-wide sidewalk

with a 10-foot-wide trail between the South Highway 75 trail crossing at Gabrielson Street and the Econolodge.

This segment will be completed according to the develop-

ment timeline for the vacant lot. The projects are planned for 2023.

The projects will be included in the Legacy Grant Scope of Work, reimbursable on the 70/30 grant/match basis.

## H-BC new elementary school/ from page 1A

scope of work.

Costs will be presented at the Tuesday, Dec. 27, school board meeting. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Hills.

Representatives from the architectural firm, AT&S&R, and the construction management firm, RA Morton, examined potential sites for the new 12-acre elementary school.

They recommended three potential sites in Beaver Creek and one site in Hills.

Additional property would need to be purchased for the elementary school to be built in Beaver Creek. The current elementary is located on two acres.

The fourth site is located in Hills, where the district owns enough property for the elementary to be attached to the secondary school.

Wishing You a  
*Blessed Christmas*  
and a  
*Happy New Year!*

Jim Den Herder, Cal Den Herder  
& Colby Den Herder  
Luverne, MN  
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## A love of decorating leads to 13 Christmas trees at Helgeson home

By Mavis Fodness

Maureen Helgeson likes to decorate her rural Beaver Creek home for the holidays, and this year she put up 13 Christmas trees.

"I think it is so much fun to decorate — especially for Christmas," she said. "I'm really into snowmen. ... I can leave them up longer."

Typically, the holiday decorations stay in place until the end of January, when everything is packed up but one tree, which is redecorated throughout the year.

This year's 13 artificial trees of varying sizes are the most Helgeson has assembled for one holiday.

The themed trees are set up in various rooms of the Helgeson farm house including the downstairs bathroom.

Her favorite is the "Grinch tree," which is topped with a paper cutout of the popular Dr. Seuss character and is filled with various Grinch-like bulbs and ribbons.

Surrounding the Grinch tree are decorations fitting the theme including a pair of slippers and a sign that reads, "We wish you a merry Grinchmas."

Other trees include one from her late in-laws, Gordie and Kitty Helgeson, that is covered with red and white poinsettias.

Another has small dairy cows (her grandson's favorite) and other farm-themed items.

Antique bulbs cover another tree, and one all-white Christmas tree is decorated as a seven-foot snowman complete with a plastic head on top and



Helgeson, continued to page 8A

Mavis Fodness photos/1222 Helgeson Trees

Maureen Helgeson poses with one of 13 decorated Christmas trees in her home in rural Beaver Creek. A theme accompanies each of the trees, with her favorite being the "Grinch tree." Above, far left: A "Charlie Brown tree" rests on the pool table in the Helgeson basement. The red bulb celebrates the city of Hills' centennial 1890-1990. Above, center: One tree is a seven-foot snowman, complete with a set of Maureen's boots



The creativity of Maureen Helgeson is on display with the "Power Chip tree," where she painted snowman faces in each center. At left: Pictures of friends and family wearing various holiday props during last year's gatherings decorate a tree.



## BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,  
Rock County Historian

### 1943: Larson's Diamond Club story continues

The following article is part of the Diamond Club Member group that began in the January 7, 1943, issue of the Rock County Star Herald. Members of this group consist of persons of age 75 and older.

The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on July 8, 1943.

This article is continued from last week's edition of the Star Herald about L. G. Larson.

#### Remembers Storms

Mr. Larson spent part of the memorable blizzard of 1888 in the school building of what is now district 44 in Beaver Creek township. For some reason, most of the smaller children had remained at home that day, and only the older boys were there. When the storm rose, and they say they were unable to walk home, they decided to spend the night there. Among the pupils were Tom Arneson, Ole Eide, John Engelson and several others in addition to

Bits, continued to page 8A

## CELEBRATIONS

### Open house

Marilyn Swenson will celebrate her 85th birthday with an open house from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, at the Centennial Apartments. Refreshments will be served.

## H-BC Secondary posts student honor rolls

### Quarter 1-A Honor Roll

**Seniors:** Anthony Beaner, Olivia Bork, Devon Dysthe, Ellynor Klosterbuer, Jenifer Martinyuk, Brayden Metzger, Cody Moser, Amallia Ternus, Leif Tollefson.

**Juniors:** Grace Anderson, Lanae Elbers, Sylvia Fick, Taylor Gehrke, Tahliya Kruger, Brynn Rauk, Larissa Steinhoff, Avril Susie, Olivia Susie, Joylynn Taubert.

**Sophomores:** Beau Bakken, Gracie Fagerness, Jackson Gacke, Michael Martinyuk, Jack Moser, Harli Rozeboom, Bailey Spykerboer, Lexxus Wessels, Amber Wiersema.

**Freshmen:** Micah Bosch, Mya Erickson, Claire Knobloch, Jamin Metzger, Abigail Olson, Austyn Pap, Sarah Prohl, Ella Sammons.

**Eighth Grade:** Brynn Bakken, Katelyn Chesley, Makynzie Hellerud, Hailey Moser, Riggins Rheault, Ava Steinhoff.

**Seventh Grade:** Aspynt Bartels, Sage DeBoer, Karson Metzger, Maddox Metzger, Ella Rheault, Maxwell Sammons, Lily Top, Annmarie Wiersema.

**Sixth Grade:** Hope Bosch, Karis Dwire, Hailee Gehrke, Ryker Gehrke, Gavin Harnack, Kamron Kellenberger, Karissa Kerkhove-Brandt, Brekyn Klarenbeek, Auston Olson, Kaleb Olson, Trinity Olson, Nicholas Zingler.

### Quarter 1-B Honor Roll

**Seniors:** Alexandra Drake, Luke Fuerstenberg, Tyrae Goodface, Brock Harnack,

Alexander Harris, Taylor Huisman, Britton McKenzie, Riley Sheppard, Elisha Taubert, Joshua Wiersema.

**Juniors:** Layla Deelstra, Alexis Gardner Swenson, Madison Gaugler, Cooper Gehrke, Tyler Hartz, Aiden Kerkhove-Brandt, Ty Leuthold, Justin Roelfs, Taylor Spykerboer, Riley Tatge.

**Sophomores:** Cameron Allen, Sawyer Bosch, Isabella DeBoer, Emma Deelstra, Lukas Hubbard, Blake Leenderts, Kadence Rozeboom, Johnathan Tiesler, Gracie Wilhelmi.

**Freshmen:** Callum Bartels, Ally Birger, Abigail Harris, Bode Kruger, Jack Kruger, Cady Leighton, Gavyn Leuthold, Henne Merson, Donavan Mess, Teagan Rainford, Mason Shaffner, Talya Shanahan, Hadley Spath, Joshua Ternus, Jacob Tiesler, Nate Van Maanen, Gavin Voss, Jacob Wallin, Eduardo Wegener, Isabel Wysong.

**Eighth Grade:** Camdyn Broesder, Brooklynne Hubbard, Ava Rainford, Tryg Tollefson, Lilith Volden, Tatyana Williams.

**Seventh Grade:** Claire Boeve, Charlette Donth, Jace Gacke, Braxton Kaiser, Haven Kerkhove-Brandt, Brodie Metzger, Khloe Susie, Ruby Susie, Bristol Teune.

**Sixth Grade:** Kelsey Baker, Gabriella Junge, Keiton Koller, Binta Moeller,

## First quarter honor rolls released by Luverne High School

### Quarter 1-A Honor Roll

**Seniors:** Justis Ahrendt, Mariam Alinzi, Abigail Anderson, Brock Behrend, Ross Bergman, Emma Beyer, Parker Carbonneau, Zachary DeBoer, Marcus Feit, Egypt Forrest, Emmanuel Gonzalez, Jacie Graham, Jadynt Hart, Jocelyn Hart, Tori Hemme, Camden Hoven, Camden Janiszkeski, Anja Jarchow, Ashlyn Johnson, Isabella Lanoue, Reese Louwagie, Lacey Morseman, Priscilla Muehr, Ethan Nath, Acen Olson, Carly Olson, Logan Ommen, Isabella Oye, Alyia Renken, Averill Sehr, Ryenn Stegenga, Kamryn Van Batavia, Cedar Viessman, Mallory Von Tersch, Ava Vortheims, Christina Wagner, Elizabeth Wagner.

**Juniors:** Morgan Ahrendt, Tyler Arends, Tucker Banck, Alexis Berg, Zoey Berghorst, Kayla Bloemendaal, Abby Boltjes, Morgan Bonnett, Brynn Boyenga, Kai Buss, Cassandra Chesley, Conner Connell, Jenna DeBates, Elliot Domagala, Ryan Fick, Elle Halverson, Henry Hartquist, Roselynn Hartshorn, Uriel Hernandez, Julia Hoogland, Addison Huiskes, Kira John, Patrick Kroski, Maya Limones Gonzalez, Jacob Madison, Evan McCrary, Dennie Sandbulte, Tori Serie, Elizabeth Smidt, Kiesli Smith, Sarah

Stegenga, Zachary Terrio, Perceyis Trierweiler, Skylar VanderSteen, Brooklyn Wicks, Steven Woods.

**Sophomores:** Keaton Ahrendt, Payton Behr, Zachary Brown, Kaitlin Conger, David Happeny, Leif Ingebretsen, Owen Janiszkeski, Katia Jarchow, William Johnson, Caitlin Kindt, Brianna Kinsinger, Linkon Knorr, Camden Kunkel, Nora Louwagie, Andrea Luitjens, Xavier McKenzie, Liam Murphy, Emma Nath, Janica Oechsle, Katherine Pizel, Maria Rops, Carter Sehr, Hannah Sneller, Kylie Vander Lugt, Sage Viessman, Marcus Vortherms, Zane Walgrave, Piper Wynia.

**Freshmen:** Anna Banck, Rhiannon Bartels, Julia Beyer, Connor Bose, Casey Buss, Zander Carbonneau, Maddux Domagala, Fox Forrest, Tyler Hodge, Ella Hoogendoorn, Gavin Hoven, Jaydon Johnson, Hannah Kempema, Allie Kracht, Jaxon Lais, Addyson Mann, Logan Mann, Nicholas Mann, Paula Martinez, Greta McClure, Cameron McCrary, Nardy Merida, Elizabeth Mulder, Gabriella Nath-Huls, Makayla Oechsle, Jordyn Reisch, Adelyn Rodriguez, Emma Saarloos, Austin Sandbulte, Madison Schepel, Ella Schmuck, Ava Sieve, Zoey Smeins, Jessika Tunnissen, Katelynn Van Belle, Hadley

Vanderburg, Brooke Vos, Hannah Woodley, Aaliyah Xaysongkham.

### Quarter 1-B Honor Roll

**Seniors:** Josie Anderson, Gavin Baum, Brady Bork, Tyson Cowell, Lily Ehlers, Ashton Eitreich, Sarah Gehrke, Yoselyn Gonzalez Quintana, Andy Halverson, Lauren Hansen, Lucas Hansen, Kaleb Hein, Grace Ingebretson, Katharine Kelm, Tiana Lais, Kaysie Lenz, Cole Mann, Jocelynn Mann, Deziree Nath, Mallory Nelson, Monica Padilla, Lola Peterson, Gavin Reisch, Joseph Remme, Travis Schempp, Krystyn Skindelien, Riley Sneller, Bonita Tiesler, Carsen Tofteland, Daylin Velasquez, Kaylee Voorhees, Ryan Vos.

**Juniors:** Anika Boll, Hailey Boll, Hallie Bork, Zakada Bradley, Tucker Dammann, Sarah de Cesare, Isaac DeBates, Brendan Eidem, Kenedee Franken, Aiden Gibbens, Morgan Hadler, Michael Halsne, Kyliana Hendricksen, Izabel Honerman, Samuel Honerman, Morgan Jonas, Cade Kracht, Spencer Kracht, Ava Loosbrock, Emma Lusty, Gracie Nath, Alyssa Petroff, Rayann Remme, Tyler Rolfs, Sawyer Saker, Mitchell Sauer, Will Serie, Jacob Stroh, Owen Sudenga, Hannah Vaudrin, Zane Verba, Josie Voorhees.

**Freshmen:** Jocelyn Altman, Ella Apel, Bergen Ask, Treven Bell, Isabella Benson, Alexander Booe, Lucas Brockberg, MaKaylee Churchill, Jayden Dass, James DeBates, Dayson Fritz, Joshua Hansen, Elijah Henrichs, Samuel Hinz, Dawson Holtz, Rebecca Hoogland, Levi Huisman, Caleb Kracht, Landyn Lais, Elizabeth Lantgen, Xander Remme, Riley Ripka, Jace Rozeboom, Blake Sauer, Traytan Sayavong, Blake Swenson, Jace Tofteland, Kianna Winter.

## OBITUARIES

### Carol DeWispelaere

Carol F. DeWispelaere, age 84, of Luverne, Minnesota, died peacefully, with her family at her side, on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage in Luverne.



Memorial visitation will be Friday, Dec. 16, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. A second memorial visitation with a short service will be Monday, Dec. 19, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Balaton Community Center in Balaton, Minnesota. Burial will follow at Lakeside Cemetery in Balaton.

To view Carol's Life Tribute video or sign an online registry, please visit [www.hartquistfuneral.com](http://www.hartquistfuneral.com).

Carol Faye Giles DeWispelaere was born December 10, 1938, to Everett and Marjorie (Rokeh) Giles on the family farm near Balaton, Minnesota.

The fourth of seven children, she grew up enjoying the love and attention of many aunts and uncles. She became an attentive hostess by watching her parents host living room dances and card parties. As a child, she asked her aunts to save coupons from Betty Crocker cake boxes and was able to purchase a set of silverware. As an adult, she saved coupons for silverware for her daughters and a set of dishes for herself.

In high school she babysat, picked rocks, helped neighbor ladies, and worked at restaurants to purchase records she would share with her siblings. She enjoyed music and was often heard in the kitchen humming along with the radio.

Carol graduated from Hendricks High School in 1956 without missing a day of class. Following her dad's death from a heart attack in

August 1956 she moved with her mom and younger siblings to Marshall, Minnesota where she worked at Carrow's Dry Cleaners.

She met Maurice DeWispelaere at a dance in Vesta, Minnesota. They married on Nov. 8, 1958. They honeymooned in the national parks of the Southwest and were awed by the Grand Canyon and landscape that had no silos and barns.

The couple lived in Lynd, Minnesota and had four children, Dan (1959), Laurie (1961), Angie (1963), and Dave (1969). In Lynd they enjoyed many other young families in what they dubbed "Incubator Alley." They farmed near Ivanhoe, Minnesota until 1969 when Carol and her children moved to Luverne, Minnesota. Carol and Maurice later divorced.

Carol supported her family by babysitting in her home. She cleaned houses and did custodial work at A.R. Wood Manufacturing Co. where she eventually became a machinist. Wood's closing in 1981 revealed Carol's talent as a baker and cook as she worked at Blue Mound Inn and Catering, Mary Jane Brown Home Food Services, and Casey's Bakery. Many in the community remember her famous desserts: blueberry torte, cookie bars, banana bread, and her always-requested butter cut-out cookies. If any of these treats made it to a breakroom, suddenly everyone needed a break. Her kids were adept at finding the secret spots where sweets were hidden. Carol outsmarted them by labeling the containers "squash."

Carol loved and served the Lord as a member of St.

Catherine Catholic Church. She was never one to toot her own horn, but she gave her heart and time volunteering at the Minnesota Veterans Home, Mary Jane Brown Home, and Generations Senior Citizens Center.

Her beautiful, gentle, almost shy smile or kind, encouraging words could light up someone's day. Many were a delighted recipient of a handcrafted card, a small thoughtful gift or a fresh baked goodie. Her embroidered dish towels reached every corner of the U.S. and always brought top dollar at family reunion auctions.

She enjoyed seeing life beyond southwest Minnesota traveling to England and Wales, Hawaii, and to visit her children in Alaska, Montana, and Colorado. She fished for halibut (and caught the biggest fish of the day!), tried skiing and experienced bunny slopes, and spent precious time with her grandchildren.

Little delighted her more than seeing her children and grandchildren excel and develop their own strengths which she quietly coached. A near drowning experience when she was a young girl caused her to make sure all her children took swimming lessons. She taught her kids a strong work ethic and to save their pennies for a rainy day.

Because she believed in the importance of education, a Dollars for Scholars Scholarship was established in her name on her 75th birthday. In her later years she enjoyed doing puzzles, reading, and watching the Minnesota Timberwolves. She proved her spelling skills while watching Wheel of Fortune, solving the puzzle ahead of everyone else, and participating in spelling and grammar activities her entire life. She also became very fond of her grand pets,

Nellie and Tana.

Carol had a myriad of health issues beginning with her first heart attack at age 46. Exercise became an important part of her life. She could be seen walking miles in the country, then later doing laps in the city park. When she could no longer walk long distances, she could be found in an exercise class or doing the NuStep at the fitness center. She was a substitute leader for the Bone Builders class and enjoyed the new friends there. She was a brave and courageous woman and always worked toward better health.

Carol is survived by her children, Dan (Dawn) DeWispelaere of Luverne, Laurie (Jay Johnson) DeWispelaere of Glennallen, Alaska and Tucson, Arizona, Angie (Hans Scherthner) DeWispelaere of Big Sky, Montana, and Dave (Angela) DeWispelaere of Loveland, Colorado; grandchildren Nicholas (Bobbi) DeWispelaere, Abby DeWispelaere (Shane Oehlerts), Vince (Kristin) Johnson, Vanessa (Andrew) Duley, and Daniel and Alyssa DeWispelaere; great-grandchildren Harper and Tejay DeWispelaere, Alex DeWispelaere and Hailey Click, Ryder, Cash, and Winter Johnson; and siblings Kenneth Giles, Colleen (Russ) Enga, Barb Possail, Darell (Lois) Giles, and Donnie (Mary) Giles.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother and sister-in-law, Roger and Janice Giles; brothers-in-law Don Laabs and Jerry Possail; and sisters-in-law Juanita Giles and Shelba Giles.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Carol Giles DeWispelaere Dollars for Scholars Scholarship (Luverne), American Heart Association, American Diabetic Association, or Generations Event Center (Luverne).

(1222 V)

### Clare George

Clare George, 103, of Newington, Connecticut, beloved wife of the late Andrew C. George Sr., passed away peacefully on Monday, December 12, 2022.



Clare was born Clara Gabrielson to the late Ole Hoiland Gabrielson and the late Alvide Teresa Gabrielson in Luverne, Minnesota, on July 21, 1919. She grew up on a family farm and still owns farmland in Minnesota.

Clare and Andy met at a USO dance in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, during World War II. Soon after, Andy was deployed to Europe where he remained for three years without a furlough. They wrote a letter to each other every single day of his deployment, a testament to their love and dedication. Clare saved every single letter.

Clare and Andy married after the war and moved to Hartford, Connecticut. She never lost her love for Minnesota. Her car may have had a Connecticut license plate, but it also sported a bumper sticker that read, "It's hard to be humble when you're from Minnesota." Clare never forgot where she was from and returned to see her family and farmland often.

Clare worked as a legal secretary at Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance for many years. She was a devoted member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Newington since 1954 where she was a much loved Sunday School teacher, longtime member of Quiltmakers, reader, and helped wherever and whenever needed. Clare was a "super donator" of blood over the years to the American Red Cross — whatever she did, she did it all the way.

Above all, Clare was devoted to her family and her faith. She delighted in everything that had to do with her children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces, nephews, godchildren, neighbors and friends. At a sporting event, nobody cheered louder than Clare George. She never passed a basketball hoop without asking for the ball to shoot her shot. And

she taught everyone how to make the best Christmas sugar cookies. But to this day nobody can replicate her dinner rolls ... probably because they take the kind of patience and determination only Clare George possessed. She

was relentlessly kind, loving, and optimistic, even — and especially — when the world gave her every reason not to be. She will forever serve as an example to all who knew her that in a world where you can be anything, strive to be just a little more like Clare George.

Clare is survived by her son, Andrew C. George Jr. and his wife, Angela, of Groton, Massachusetts; her daughter, Teresa A. Matteo and her husband, Carl, of Verona, New Jersey. She leaves six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, Joe Matteo and Sarah Bender-Nash (Zoe, Ian, and Nora), Eric and Rebecca George (Lillie and Ted), Andrew and Heather Matteo (Grace and Ella), Marissa and Justin Hillian (Ruby and Cassius), Nicholas and Allie Matteo, and Ally and Travis Jacalone (Isla and Charlie).

She was predeceased by three children, Andrea, Jimmy, and Billy.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks to the staff at Cedar Mountain Commons and Jefferson House for their excellent care, kindness and compassion.

Clare's funeral service will be held Thursday, December 22, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Newington, with the Rev. Joe McGarry officiating. Burial will follow at West Meadows Cemetery. Relatives and friends are invited to call Thursday morning from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Newington Memorial Funeral Home, 20 Bonair Avenue, Newington.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1655 Main St., Newington, CT 06111 or to the American Red Cross.

(1222 V)

### Mary Jane Holleran

Mary Jane Holleran, 78, of Luverne, died Monday, Dec. 12, 2022, at the Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato.



A funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. Burial will be in St. Catherine Catholic Cemetery in Luverne.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the RCO of Luverne.

Mary Jane Holleran was born April 18, 1944, to Roland and Anna (Leicher) Holleran

in Chicago, Illinois. Due to a high fever as a toddler, Mary Jane became developmentally delayed. She started school with the Luverne class of 1963 and stayed in school until she was 16 years old.

After school, Mary Jane spent her time with numerous community activities. She attended most high school sporting events and was an encouraging bystander for the local bowling

leagues. She could frequently be found at community activities, as well as in the front pew of St. Catherine Catholic Church.

Her one great hobby was ceramics, and most friends and acquaintances were the recipients of her labors.

In the late 1970s, the State of Minnesota decided that Mary Jane qualified for a new jobs program that had been created for people with her unique talent and skills. She was moved to Mankato where she has resided since. Mary Jane came home on weekends and for special

events until her mother died in 2005.

Mary Jane is survived by her sister, Anne Holleran McPartland, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, her brother, Patrick Holleran, Maryland; two nieces, Renee Ladd, St. Paul, and Laura Holleran, Luverne; and a nephew, Gregg Ladd, Minneapolis.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Phillip Holleran.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, [dingmannandsons.com](http://dingmannandsons.com).

(1222 F)

## MENU AT GENERATIONS

**Monday, Dec. 26: Closed for the holidays!**

**Tuesday, Dec. 27:** Barbecue pork on a bun, coleslaw, vegetarian baked beans, dessert.

**Wednesday, Dec. 28:** Tater tot hotdish, green beans, romaine salad with dressing, dessert.

**Thursday, Dec. 29:** Meatballs in marinara, peas and carrots, fresh fruit, warm fruit crisp.

**Friday, Dec. 30:** Tuna noodle casserole, mixed vegetables, warm cinnamon applesauce, dinner roll, warm apple slices with raisins.

Half-Price Day sponsored by Minnwest Bank.

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*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*  
Lake 2:14

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## Christmas/continued from page 4A

the biggest pleasure I had in those days was hauling wood with my oxen. And it took most of my time. I made five trips every week in the winter. Well, this time I got caught in the worst blizzard I have ever seen. Three other men were with me and we couldn't see the lead ox for the snow. Finally we left the oxen on the ice at the river's edge and started walking, thinking to get to some house. We got lost and that night wound up at the home of Henry Martin, a settler of '69, who lived south of the wood lot. Other lost men came drifting in that night, and the next day, until twelve of us were there. Martin had killed a big hog for Christmas meat. We got there Monday night and stayed until Thursday. When we left, the hog had been eaten up and Martin said, "Well, I won't have to get any salt for that hog, anyway."

"And while he was gone," said Mrs. Dunn, "I was in that house alone, with a small baby. I didn't know what had happened to Mr. Dunn, and there was not much wood. I was afraid to burn much of it, so I'd keep up a fire about six hours every day and the baby and I would stay in bed the rest of the time to keep warm."

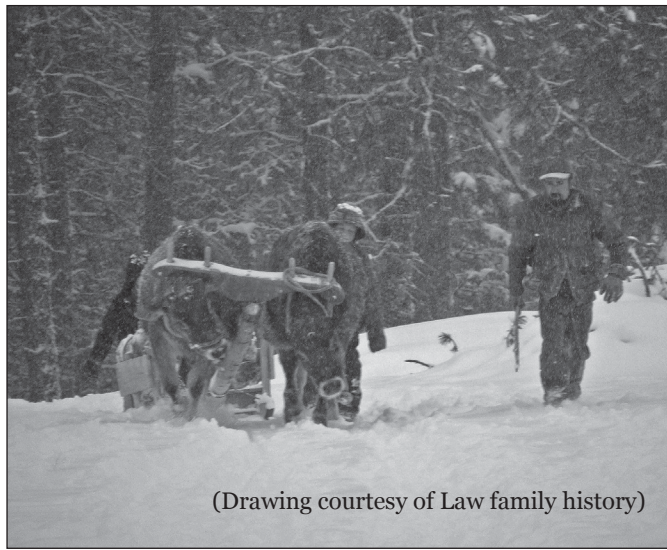
Mr. and Mrs. Dunn looked around the room again and then both sat quietly for a few minutes, saying nothing. Mrs. Dunn started knitting again. "We didn't have much Christmas," she said.

There were no toys and not a doll at Christmas time. There was nothing bought at a store. "I did try to make a few trinkets for the children when they were old enough," Mrs. Dunn said, "but they didn't amount to much, and the children always found them before Christmas."

There were no Christmas issues of magazines, although Mr. Dunn continued to receive a New York publication edited by Henry Ward Beecher. There were no holiday cocktails; they walked through the mud and snow to the well in a slough bottom for their water. Except at times, when gophers got into the well, then the walk had to be three-quarters of a mile.

On these gopher-caused trips for water, Mrs. Dunn went to the home of Aldro Grout, in the southeast quarter of section 24. He and Eli Grout, Aldro's cousin, were the Dunns' closest neighbors. Eli Grout lived only half a mile away, in the southwest quarter of section 24. Fred Miercourt lived a mile and a half southwest of the Dunns, in section 36, and Bishop Crossman a trifle farther away in section 36.

There were no decorations and there were no flowers. A little patch of oats just to the right of the



(Drawing courtesy of Law family history)

one door in the house did look well for a time, but the grasshoppers ate it up. And there were no green things growing anywhere. The Dunns did have some hope for a while about their beans, but the oxen got them one day.

Things got better, of course, with time. Mr. Dunn built a frame house with lumber hauled from Worthington, the rail head then, and they lived in that home, the first of its kind in the county, for a time, although they were not able to finish it inside for a year or two. The county prospered. A Methodist church was built at Beaver Creek, and there, and in Bishop Crossman's large house near the Dunn home, families sometimes would gather for social times.

Mr. Dunn marketed his crops in Worthington, taking three days for a trip, and passing through Luverne, then growing, where Wold & McKay had erected the first business building some years before. The structure is now known as the Stager apartments and is the last building on the south side of Main street, going east. The Dunns became affluent enough to kill a beef and a few hogs just before Christmas. Times were good.

That was in the 80's. Luverne was a nice little settlement, and those Christmas times are remembered, too, by Mrs. Beaubien, who was one of the city's early settlers, and who this week sat in the Dunn living room, listening to them talk.

"Christmas had become the big day of the year here by then," Mrs. Beaubien said.

"There were services in all the churches, with a long program and a huge tree in every church. Everybody went, mostly in sleighs, and there was a gift, always hung on the tree, for everybody there. Nobody missed it who could go. Too, we always used to get together on Christmas day - four or five families of us - at some home and spend the day talking - oh, we had plenty to talk about then, too - and eating a big Christmas dinner."

The country was modernized then, with its community gatherings and its organs. It was not the country the Dunns looked

at in the '70's.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunn cannot recall the details of their first Christmas in the sod house, but they know just about what they did.

Most of the day they sat around the cooking stove, with one of its corners resting on a rock which replaced a broken leg. For dinner they had a little bacon Mr. Dunn had bought - for his carefully hoarded money had not then given out. They had home-made light bread. They had potatoes gotten from Henry Martin. The potatoes were chilled but that didn't matter. And they had dried apple sauce.

Mr. Dunn brought in piles of green box elder wood, and went to the slough for water. They took turns petting the baby, and reading the journal from New York. Mrs. Dunn swept the floor of two-foot boards again. It was a fine floor, but it would get black; so much dirt was always dropping from the sod walls.

For supper they ate bacon and chilled potatoes - and dried apple sauce. They put the baby to bed and Mr. Dunn brought in more box elder wood before they settled down to rest a while beside the kerosene lamp, in front of the broken-legged stove. Wind blew from the north, and loose dirt rattled off the roof. The lamp smoked and Mrs. Dunn turned it down a bit. Mr. Dunn put more wood in the stove and closed all the dampers. They blew out the lamp and went to bed.

That was Christmas day in a Rock county pioneer's sod house in 1871.

*Though the story referred to the events as happening in 1872, she said sources show the homestead claim was filed in 1871, and the family came from Wisconsin by wagon train in 1872. That would mean this year, 2022, is the 150th year after their first Christmas in Rock County.*

*She shared that her great-grandmother Laura had a baby soon due - when she was home in a sod house with a toddler, alone during a blizzard, just before that Christmas. Their second child, daughter Olla E. Dunn, arrived January 19, 1873, the first settlers' baby born in Beaver Creek township.*

## Bits/continued from page 6A

Mr. Larson. The following morning, Sam Hendershoot, a farmer living about a half mile away, brought them hot biscuits for breakfast.

### Worked in a Store

After completing his rural school education, Mr. Larson attended Decorah Institute, Decorah, Iowa, for two years. I stayed at home until I was 21, and then I decided I'd like to work in a store. I got a job in Garretson where I stayed a year and then got so lonesome that I quit. Then I went to Bradley, near Watertown, S.D., and got another store job, and the same thing happened. From there I went to Webster where I worked for a while, and I finally decided I wasn't cut out to be a storekeeper.

"I then thought I'd try my luck at teaching school, and I was hired providing the former teacher didn't return. It looked pretty bright for a while, until she finally told the board she was coming back, and then I was left without a thing to fall back on. I tramped two whole weeks over the Sisseton reservation looking for a job and didn't find a thing.

### Luck Changed

"My luck changed, however, because I managed to get a job teaching in a Norwegian

parochial school at \$25 for the month. That really looked good for me, because I didn't have a penny to my name.

"They must have liked me, because I got a job teaching in the public school in what was known as the Hegna district near Wallace, S.D., and kept it four years."

In July 1898, Mr. Larson was married to Alma Hegna in Dexler township, Codington county, S.D. He states he had \$14 in his pocket at the time, and \$5 of it went to the minister who performed the ceremony. On their wedding trip, they went from Watertown to Booge, arriving there just in time to take in a big July Fourth celebration at the Lars Pederson grove. Although he and Mrs. Larson had originally planned to return to South Dakota, they never did and have lived in Rock county ever since.

### Retired in 1938

They rented land and farmed for eight years, and then moved to their present home on the northwest quarter of section 1, range 47 in Beaver Creek township, in 1905. In 1908 and 1909, Mr. Larson taught school in district 22 in Beaver Creek township, and after that continued to farm until he retired five years ago. He and Mrs. Larson still live

on the home farm, however.

A member of the Palisade Lutheran church, Mr. Larson has served as treasurer of the congregation for many years and is the present vice-president. He also served as treasurer of the school district, and has been assessor for Beaver Creek township for 10 years.

He and Mrs. Larson became the parents of three sons, and one daughter, all of whom are living. They are: Rev. Elmer Larson, pastor of a Lutheran church at Ada, Minn.; Mrs. Arthur (Mabel) Edmundson, who lives on a farm; and Herman Larson, dean of voice at Oklahoma University, Norman, Okla.

Mr. Larson has two brothers, both of whom live in Beaver Creek township, and one sister, Mrs. Ole Ormseth, Luverne.

He attributes his long life to clean living, doing very little worrying and working hard always.

*Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156.*

*Mann welcomes correspondence sent to manmade@iw.net.*

## REMEMBER WHEN

### 10 years ago (2012)

•Rock County residents and their holiday guests are encouraged to visit the third floor of the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building this month.

The Herreid Military Museum Task Force announced this week that the Heritage Gallery - the third floor exhibit - will close on Dec. 31.

The displays on the third floor of the former jail building next to the courthouse were set up to tell the story of life in Rock County from 1938 through 1948.

The exhibit, "Together We Stood: Rock County 1930-1948," illustrates what life was like at home in Rock County during World War II. ...

After Dec. 31, the gallery will be dismantled to make way for an expanded exhibit featuring the stories of military service from the Korean War to the present.

### 25 years ago (1997)

•To say the local Dollars for Scholars chapter received a generous Christmas gift this week would be an understatement. A check for \$500,000 from Vernon Aanenson St. Paul, a 1932 Luverne High School graduate, was deposited into the local account Tuesday.

Aanenson has owned Old Dutch Foods in St. Paul since 1952. He said he gave the money because he wanted to invest in the future of LHS graduates. "I'm a Rock County kid, you know," Aanenson said Tuesday in a telephone interview. "I'm doing very well in business, and I thought I'd do something for future graduates of Luverne."

### 50 years ago (1972)

•Joe Malone will be installed Thursday night as worshipful master of Ben Franklin Lodge No. 114 A.F. & A.M. at the Masonic Temple. He will succeed LeRoy Luitjens as head of the organization.

Other officers to be installed are: Norm Wesels, senior warder; Don Briggs, junior deacon;

Gerrit Van Engelenhoven, senior steward; Louis Sargent, secretary; Allison Ordnung, treasurer; Phil Ordnung, marshal; Jess Searles, chaplain. Keith Brooks will be the installing officer.

### 75 years ago (1947)

•The newly appointed Luverne hospital committee didn't waste any time when they met for their first meeting Friday night. They immediately decided that the best available site in Luverne was Block 1, Highland Park addition, located on West Dodge street, just west of the John J. Boisen residence.

Named on the committee to obtain options on the property were George Michaelson, Gerrit De Vries and H. L. Fay. As soon as these options are secured, the state department of health will be asked to approve the site.

Three other possible locations were considered by the group. One was the property located on Blue Mound Avenue and East Bark street legally described as Auditor's Outlot 22. Another was Lot 2, Block 12, Bark, Adams and Howe's addition, located on Estey avenue and West Bark; and the other was located at the extreme south end of Donaldson street, legally described as Block 3, Snook addition.

### 100 years ago (1922)

•The second edition of the new Luverne cook book, which was first compiled and placed on the market a year ago last September, has this week been delivered from the Herald's presses, and copies are now on sale at the public rest room.

The cook book is published by the ladies of the Luverne Presbyterian church, and contains about seven hundred recipes, being a hundred and eight page book exclusive of the advertising pages that were in the first edition. The first issue consisted of one thousand copies, the last of which were recently sold, and the new edition is of five hundred copies.

## Helgeson/continued from page 6A

a set of black rubber boots at its base.

"The boots are mine and I spray-painted them black," Helge-

son said.

She and her husband, Gary, host several gatherings of family and friends throughout the holidays.

A tree in the basement is covered with pictures taken of visitors wearing one or more of the festive props Maureen has found over the years.

The majority of the decorations are curated from household auctions and rummage sales.

Because she likes snowmen, they've become the favorite gifts from family and friends. Her collection has grown to include 250 snowmen among Christmas houses and stockings arranged throughout the main floor of the Helgeson home.

Helgeson even has a classic "Charlie Brown" table-sized tree decorated with a single red bulb depicted in the Charles Schultz comics.



One tree in Maureen and Gary Helgeson's rural home contains cows, a favorite among their grandchildren.

For Helgeson, her Christmas trees and the stories behind them come down to two things: "I love decorating and being with family," she said.

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given..."*  
- Isaiah 9:6-7

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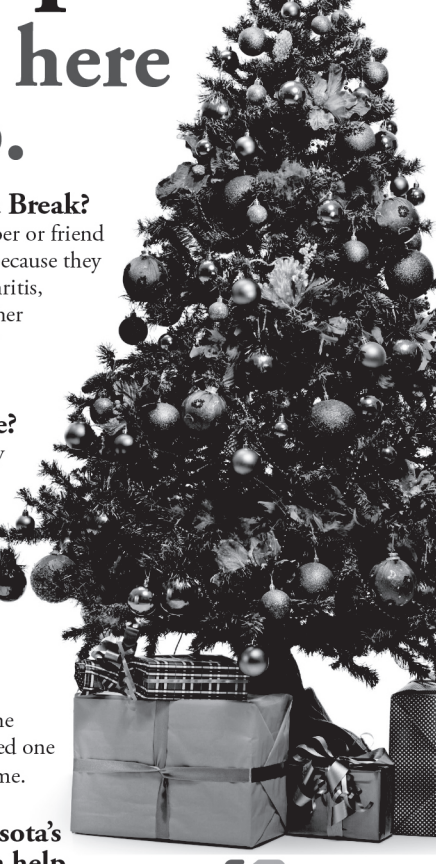
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or via email at [ace.rock@co.rock.mn.us](mailto:ace.rock@co.rock.mn.us)

*Church  
Services*



*The Christmas Spirit*  
Seeing the Holy Spirit  
in Christmas

**Sunday, December 18**  
9:30am  
Christmas Brunch  
Worship at 10:30am

**Saturday, December 24**  
5:00pm  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Sunday, December 25**  
Worship at 10:30am



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*Christmas Worship Schedule*



**Saturday, December 24**  
5:00 p.m.  
Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Worship Service

**Sunday, December 25**  
9:00 a.m.  
Christmas Day  
Worship Service

**ST. JOHN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

Throughout  
the Ages

**Sunday, December 18**  
4:00 p.m.  
Sunday School Christmas Service



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*Bethlehem Lutheran  
Church*

**Christmas Schedule**  
*Hills, MN*

**Saturday, December 24 • 2:00 pm**  
Christmas Service at Tuff Chapel

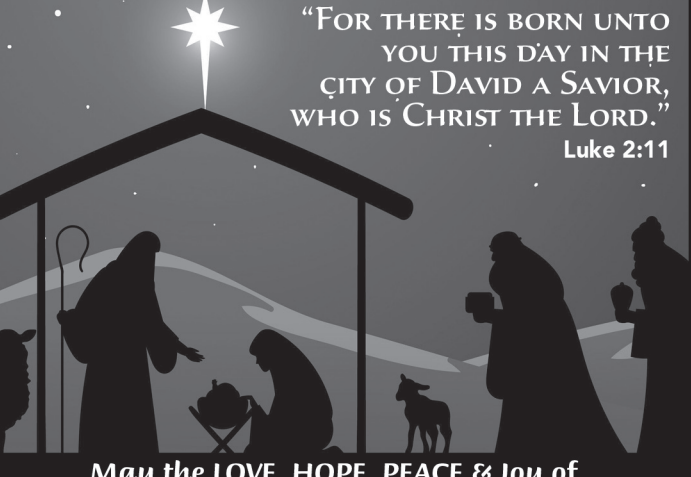
**Saturday, December 24 • 5:00 pm**  
Bethlehem Christmas  
Candlelight Service

**NO Services on  
Sunday, December 25**  
Merry Christmas!



**First Presbyterian Church**

"FOR THERE IS BORN UNTO  
YOU THIS DAY IN THE  
CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR,  
WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD."  
Luke 2:11



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Christmas live your heart throughout the year!

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in Luverne



**Saturday  
December 24**  
5:00 pm  
Candlelight  
Service

**6:00 pm Christmas  
Eve Dinner**

**Wednesday  
December 21**  
7:00 pm  
Children's Christmas  
Program

## Berghorst retires from 30 years leading Luverne city finances/continued from page 2A

her first year in Luverne. “Jim Johannsen, the fire chief, was very concerned that when he needed a new fire truck, it was going to be a big problem,” she recalled. “I said, ‘Well, no. If you need a new fire truck, when do you need it?’ He said he’d need it in about four or five years, and I said, ‘When you tell me that you’ll need a \$100,000 fire truck, it’s easy to figure \$20,000 per year for five years and then we’ll have the money for you to buy a new fire truck.’ If he’d waited and said he’d need it next year, and if everybody else does that, too, you can’t plan.” She said she’s enjoyed the challenge of bringing together the departments

*“We are very fortunate to have had very progressive and conscientious councils. We have an excellent administrator, and we have really good employees all throughout the ranks. When you feel that way, it’s fun to come to work every day.”*

— Barb Berghorst, retiring city finance director

to figure out how to get purchases paid for. “We’re not going to skimp on training, and we’re not going to skimp on safety,” Berghorst said. “We want you to have the tools you need to do your job well, whether that’s computer resources or heavy equipment.”

**Recipe for success**  
And when everyone

communicates, she said, everyone wins. “We have a really good recipe for success,” Berghorst said. “My co-workers and the young people who have moved in here are well-educated and extremely bright.” For example, her replacement, Robyn Wessels, worked several years to become the next city finance director.

“She needed a degree in a finance-related field, which she got while her children were in school,” Berghorst said. “She worked really hard to earn that. Plus, she already has a big-picture view of this organization. She understands utilities, and she’s taken governmental classes you don’t get in college.” Berghorst said she

was privileged to work with “top-notch” people in Luverne. “The staff here are really good in their fields, and they work as a team,” she said. “We are very fortunate to have had very progressive and conscientious councils. We have an excellent administrator, and we have really good employees all throughout the ranks. When you feel that way, it’s fun to come to work every day.” Berghorst, 67, said that made her retirement decision easier. “I love my job, but there comes a time when things are in place and there’s a great staff, so you can

move forward,” she said. She and Sam have four grown children, Randy in Luverne, Steven in Sioux Falls, Amanda (Van Maanen) in Hills, and Stacy in Paulina, Iowa. They have 10 grandchildren, and Berghorst said she’ll spend most of her retirement time with them. “Family’s pretty important to us, and we’re pretty close,” she said. “I’m going to try to exercise more. I’d like to take more stained-glass classes. I’d like to read more. I’d like to do more interesting cooking — more than just making supper. I love interesting food and trying different things.”



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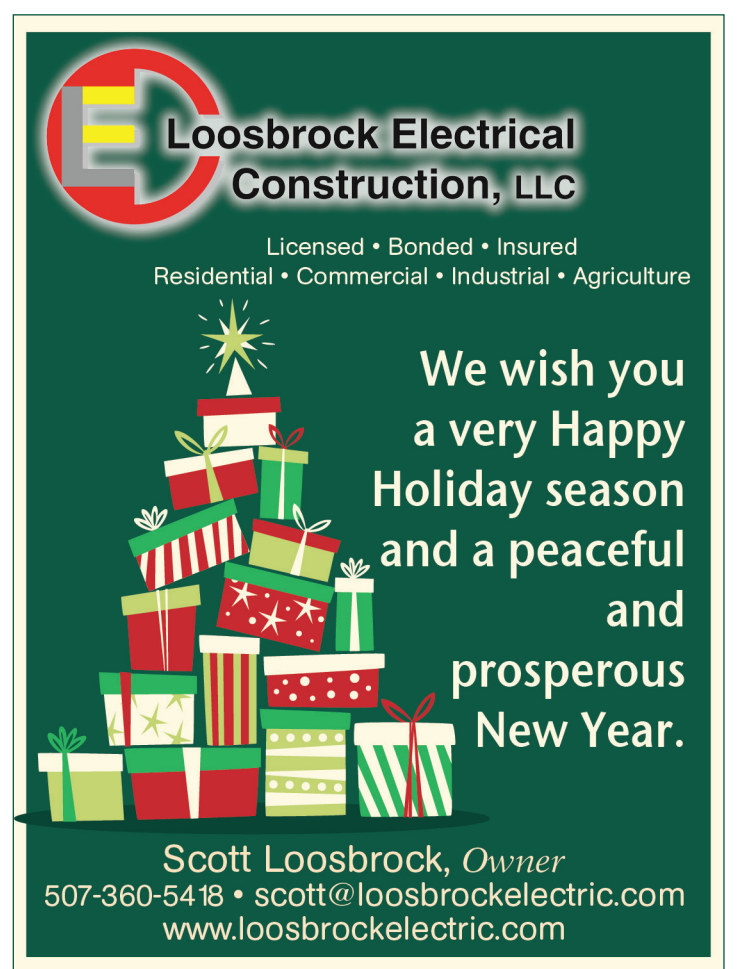


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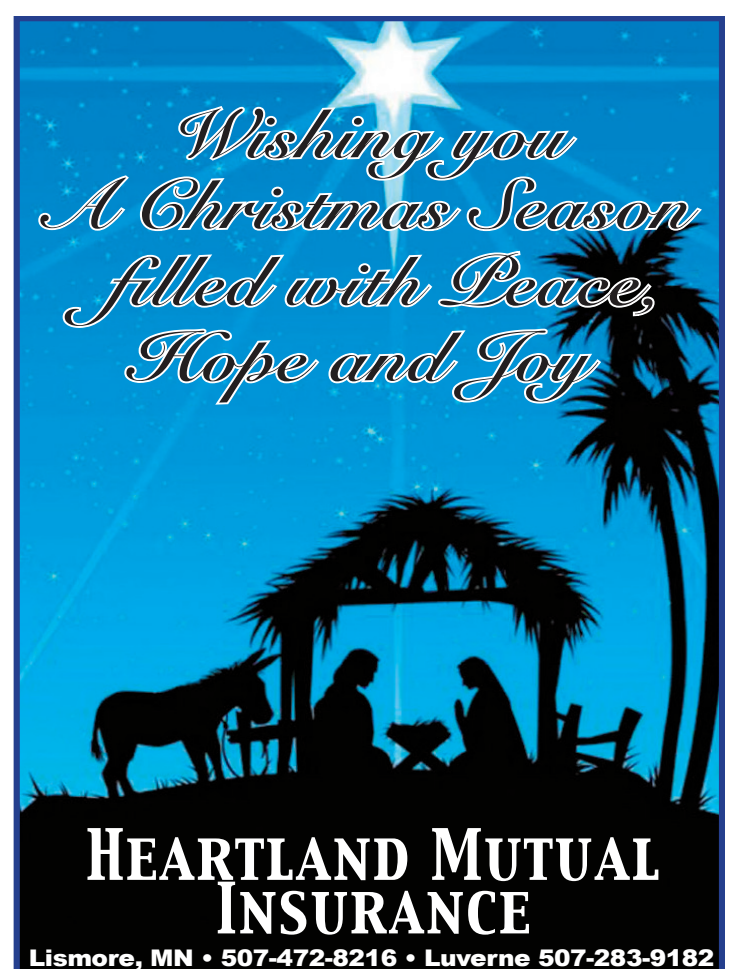
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Greg Hooegeven photo/1222 wrestling Jayden Reisch

Sophomore Jaden Reisch shoots for a takedown against his Ortonville opponent in the first-round match. Reisch won by a pin in the 152-pound weight class.



Greg Hooegeven photo/1222 wrestling mat

The Luverne wrestling team warms up on the mat before their first home tournament in 10 years. Six teams were invited.

## Luverne wrestling hosts Top The Tree Holiday Duals

By Greg Hooegeven

The Luverne Cardinals wrestling team hosted the “Top The Tree Holiday Duals” Saturday, Dec. 17.

It was the first time in about 10 years that Luverne has hosted a tournament, according to Cardinals head coach Jordan Kopp.

“It was great to have our home tournament back,” he said.

The event featured six teams, including the Luverne Cardinals, Quad County Cobras, Ortonville Trojans, Viborg-Hurley/Irene Wakonda Cougars, Chester Area Flyers and Springfield Tigers.

The format was five duals (rounds) per team on three mats, with total team points from each round deciding teams’ placement in the tournament.

Quad County placed at the top of the team tournament with Luverne in second place, Springfield third, Ortonville fourth, Chester fifth and Viborg-Hurley sixth.

In Round 1, Luverne took on Ortonville, beating them 78 points to 6. The Trojans forfeited 6 of the 14 weight classes in the dual. The Cardinals won six matches by pin and lost only one match by pin.

### Round 1 - Luverne 78, Ortonville 6

106 - Brody Kopp (L) fall over Justus Romanoff  
113 - Bernie Rock (L) win by forfeit  
120 - Matthew Gangestad (L) win by forfeit  
126 - Leif Ingebretsen (L) win by forfeit  
132 - Josh Stroh (L) fall over Bo Beaver  
138 - Hudson Hough (L) fall over Jacob Hartman  
145 - Anthony Eustice (O) fall over CeCe Rock  
152 - Jaden Reisch (L) fall over Trent Eastman  
160 - DJ Rock (L) win by forfeit  
170 - Sam Rock (L) fall over Isaac Kirchberg  
182 - Cash Bonnett (L) fall over Logan Omondson  
195 - Jacob Madison (L) win by forfeit  
220 - Kane Akkerman (L) fall over Bladen Larson  
285 - Masyn Akkerman (L) win by forfeit

In Round 2, the Cardinals wrestled Viborg-Hurley, winning the dual 72 points to 12. The Cougars forfeited nine classes and won two classes by pins.

### Round 2 - Luverne 72, Viborg-Hurley 12

106 - Brody Kopp (L) win by forfeit  
113 - Bernie Rock (L) win by forfeit  
120 - Matthew Gangestad (L) win by forfeit  
126 - Julia Hoogland (L) win by forfeit  
132 - Josh Stroh (L) win by forfeit  
138 - Hudson Hough (L) win by forfeit  
145 - Levi Simonsen (V) fall over CeCe Rock  
152 - Jaden Reisch (L) fall over Maxx Holm  
160 - DJ Rock (L) win by forfeit  
170 - Jaksen Olson (V) fall over Cash Bonnett  
182 - Sam Rock (L) fall over Trevor Ryan  
195 - Jacob Madison (L) win by forfeit  
220 - Kane Akkerman (L) fall over Jacob Johnson  
285 - Masyn Akkerman (L) win by forfeit

In Round 3, Luverne faced the only other team with a full roster of weight classes, Quad County. Luverne and the

Cobras were tied 34 points to 34 after the first 13 weight classes, Luverne lost the final class by forfeit and the dual 40 points to 34.

### Round 3 - Quad County 40, Luverne 34

106 - Mario Gradillas (Q) fall over Brody Kopp  
113 - Bernie Rock (L) fall over Dane Hildahl  
120 - Matthew Gangestad (L) fall over Colton Baumgartner  
126 - Griffin Howard (Q) Dec. 6-4 over Leif Ingebretsen  
132 - Blaine Carroll (Q) fall over Josh Stroh  
138 - Tarrick Rupp TF 16-0 over Hudson Hough  
145 - Gage Wilke (Q) MD 12-2 over CeCe Rock  
152 - Jaden Reisch (L) fall over Gage Corner  
160 - Logan Willi (L) win by forfeit  
170 - DJ Rock (L) fall over Nilan Hildahl  
182 - Sam Rock (L) MD 13-1 over Hunter Ridler  
195 - Jacob Savig (Q) MD 10-0 over Jacob Madison  
220 - Jasen Jansen (Q) fall over Kane Akkerman  
285 - Austin Sweep (Q) win by forfeit

In Round 4, Luverne faced Springfield, winning 72 points to 10. The Tigers forfeited 10 weight classes. Luverne and Springfield split the remaining four weight classes 2-2.

### Round 4 - Luverne 72, Springfield 10

106 - Brody Kopp (L) win by forfeit  
113 - Bernie Rock (L) win by forfeit  
120 - Matthew Gangestad (L) win by forfeit  
126 - Wyatt Schmidt (S) MD 11-3 over Leif Ingebretsen  
132 - Rayden Boyenga (L) win by forfeit  
138 - Hudson Hough (L) win by forfeit  
145 - Treven Bell (L) win by forfeit  
152 - Jaden Reisch (L) fall over Paytin Johnson  
160 - DJ Rock (L) win by forfeit  
170 - Sam Rock (L) fall over Ashtin Johnson  
182 - Cash Bonnett (L) win by forfeit  
195 - Jacob Madison (L) win by forfeit  
220 - Sam Rummel (S) fall over Kane Akkerman  
285 - Lucas Madison (L) win by forfeit

In the final round the Cardinals wrestled Chester, winning 66 points to 18. The Tigers forfeited six classes. Luverne won five classes and lost three classes by pins.

### Round 5 - Luverne 66, Chester 18

106 - Carter Leibeg (C) fall over Brody Kopp  
113 - Bernie Rock (L) fall over Connor Peterson  
120 - Matthew Gangestad (L) fall over Jacob Foster  
126 - Rayden Boyenga (L) fall over Lawrence ‘Quincy’ Emery  
132 - Daniel Swenson (C) fall over Hudson Hough  
138 - Cameron McCrary (L) fall over Brennan Jordan  
145 - CeCe Rock (L) win by forfeit  
152 - Ariene Stallford (C) fall over Treven Bell  
160 - Logan Willi (L) fall over Marcus Johnson  
170 - DJ Rock (L) win by forfeit  
182 - Sam Rock (L) win by forfeit  
195 - Jacob Madison (L) win by forfeit  
220 - Kane Akkerman (L) win by forfeit  
285 - Lucas Madison (L) win by forfeit

The Luverne Cardinals are scheduled to travel to the Garretson Invitational Saturday, Jan. 7, and a dual against Adrian Area Tuesday, Jan. 10, in Adrian.



Greg Hooegeven photo/1222 wrestling CeCe Rock

LHS girls’ wrestler eighth-grader CeCe Rock ties up her opponent during the Luverne tournament Saturday.



Greg Hooegeven photo/1222 wrestling Ingebretson

Sophomore Leif Ingebretson works to turn over his Quad County opponent to his back.



Greg Hooegeven photo/12122 wrestling DJ Rock

Senior DJ Rock shoots for takedown against the Quad County opponent in the third round of the tournament.

## LHS girls’ basketball team bounces past Redwood Valley



Greg Hooegeven photo/1222 wagner 1

Senior Elizabeth Wagner scored her 1,000th career point during Monday’s game with Redwood Valley in Luverne.

### Elizabeth Wagner scores her 1,000th career point

By Greg Hooegeven

The Luverne girls’ basketball team beat Redwood Valley Monday, Dec. 19, winning 74-43.

“The game went exactly how we scripted it. We have really emphasized pushing the ball up the floor after a defensive rebound or turnover,” head coach TJ Newgard said.

“Tonight we were able to do that wonderfully. We are at our best when we are creating chaos and scoring in transition.”

Senior Elizabeth Wagner set a school record with 42 points in the game. She also had eight rebounds, five steals, five deflections and two turnovers.

Wagner also made history, scoring her 1,000th career point in the second half.

“Setting a school record for points in a game and reaching that milestone is a huge accomplishment for her,” Newgard said.

“The great thing is that even after I called a timeout so she could be recognized she was oblivious. That’s who she is. The only thing she cares about is winning the

game.”

After the break Luverne didn’t allow Redwood Valley to get comfortable and controlled the game.

Junior Sarah Stegenga provided a spark with 11 points, three rebounds and one steal.

Senior Averill Sehr added seven points, four steals and three deflections in Luverne’s win.

Senior Christina Wagner sank six points, grabbed four rebounds, two steals and four deflections.

“I thought Jocelyn Hart came in and held down the middle on both ends of the floor when Kira got in foul trouble,” Newgard said.

“We are so thrilled to have her back this year after losing her entire junior year due to injury,”

The Cardinal girls are on a roll with a season record of 4-0.

LHS was scheduled to travel to Hills-Beaver Creek Tuesday, Dec. 20, before heading into the winter break.



Greg Hooegeven photo/1222 wagner 3

Elizabeth Wagner with her custom 1000-point basketball after Luverne’s win over Redwood Valley.



Senior Olivia Bork chases an offensive rebound under the net. Bork posted two points, one rebound and two steals against Central Lyon Saturday, Dec. 17 in Hills.

## Patriots play scrappy game in loss to Lyons

**By Greg Hoogeveen**

The Hills-Beaver Creek girls' basketball team faced a tough test against Central Lyon Saturday, Dec. 17, when Hills conceded a 75-41 loss.

"Central Lyon is one of the toughest teams in Iowa," said head coach Dylan Gehrke.

"They showed that on Saturday. They're tough as nails on defense and of-

fensively one of the best in the area."

He said the Patriot girls played solid offense in the first half minus some careless turnovers.

Defensively H-BC rebounded well against Central Lyon but had a hard time converting them into points, which led to a 46-17 half-time deficit.

The second half was a test of the Patriot girls'

mental capacity to stay in the game, according to Gehrke. Down but not out, the Patriots did bow to Central Lyon.

"I was proud of our girls on their fight and toughness in the second half.

You see some teams get down 20-30 points at half and they mail it in for the rest of the game," Gehrke said.

"Not our girls at H-BC. They continued to fight, scratch and claw until the very end. That is what I love about this team."

Leading the Patriots' scoring, Abbie Harris and Lyla Deelstra posted nine points each, and Olivia Deelstra and Lanae Elbers contributed six points each.

Ella Sammons had three points and Brynn Rauk, Olivia Bork, Larissa Steinhoff and Izzy Wysong all added two points.

Defensively Harris pulled down three rebounds and snagged three steals. Knobloch posted three rebounds and two steals.

Rauk fought for four rebounds and Elbers blocked four shots.

The Patriots, now 2-3 for the season, were scheduled to take on Luverne at home Tuesday, Dec. 20, and they'll travel to Mountain Lake Thursday, Dec. 22.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1222 HBC GBB O Deelstra Eighth-grader Olivia Deelstra fights for a loose ball with a Central Lyon defender Saturday, Dec. 17, in Hills. Deelstra made six points, had two rebounds and one steal in the game.

## Luverne boys' hockey sweeps Rochester 8-0 on the road

**By Greg Hoogeveen**

The Luverne boys' hockey team traveled to the Graham Area Complex in Rochester Saturday, Dec. 17, where the Cardinals blanked the Lourdes 8-0.

It was a physical game with the Lourdes finding the penalty box 27 minutes for four infractions throughout the contest. Luverne was penalized nine minutes for three infractions.

In the first period both Luverne and Rochester skaters landed in the penalty box.

With seconds left, Rochester player Vinny Harens drew a game misconduct penalty, suspending him from playing for 10 minutes, and Rochester substituted another player to take his place rather than playing short for the duration.

The period ended scoreless with both teams at 0-0 and Rochester outshot Luverne at the goal 11-8.

In the second period Luverne found the net five times with 20 shots on goal compared with Rochester's six.

"Our offensive attack really got things going in the 2nd and 3rd periods which was nice to see," head coach Phil Paquette said.

He added, "defensively we did a good job of limiting quality scoring opportunities for Rochester Lourdes."

At 4:39 Ethan Langseth got Luverne started by scoring a short-handed goal assisted by Owen Sudenga.

Brock Behrend added another short-handed goal at 5:58 assisted by Patrick Kroski and Langseth.

Behrend got his second goal at 7:40 with an assist from Blaik Bork.

At 10:43 Sudenga scored on a powerplay assisted by Henry Hartquist.

Behrend would get his hat trick for the day at 13:47 on a powerplay assisted by Kroski and

Maddux Domagala.

Luverne led at the end of the second period 5-0.

In the third period Behrend scored his fourth goal of the game at 14:19 unassisted.

At 14:52 Kroski scored a short-handed goal assisted by Sudenga.

Luverne's final goal was by Brady Bork at 16:09 assisted by Elliot Domagala and Sudenga.

Third period shots on goal favored Luverne 21-2.

Luverne goalie Tyler Arends faced 19 of Rochester's shots on goal for the game, compared with 49 for Luverne.

"Tyler stood tall in net all 3 periods for his first shutout of the season," Piquette said.

The Luverne boys' hockey team, now 3-1-1 for the season, travels to Worthington to take on the Trojans, Thursday, Dec. 22.

The Cardinals are also scheduled to participate in the Rochester Kiwanis Hockey Festival Dec. 28-30.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1222 HBC BBB J Metzger Freshman Jamin Metzger drives the lane against a tall Central Lyon defense. Metzger posted six points, five rebounds and one blocked shot.

## H-BC boys' basketball team loses to Central Lyon in tough game

**By Greg Hoogeveen**

The Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball team hosted Central Lyon Saturday, Dec. 17.

The Lyons were state runners-up in Iowa 2A basketball in 2022.

The Patriots had their hands full in the matchup and lost to the Lyons 74-44.

Leading the scoring for the Patriots was Brayden Metzger with 12 points.

Beau Bakken posted 11 points and Brock Harnack added eight points.

Other contributors were Jamin Metzger with six points, Riley Tatge

with five and EJ Wegener had two.

Defensively Tatge had four rebounds, two blocked shots and one steal. Jamin Metzger had five rebounds and one blocked shot.

Brayden Metzger contributed five rebounds and two steals. Harnack and Micah Bush had four rebounds each.

Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball team has a season record of 0-2.

The Patriots were scheduled to travel to Mountain Lake Tuesday, Dec. 20, and they'll participate in a tournament Friday, Dec. 30, at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

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**STAR HERALD**  
LUVERNE ANNOUNCER

# Cardinal girls' hockey team blanks River Lakes Stars 8-0

**By Greg Hoogeveen**

The Luverne girls' hockey team skated past River Lakes Stars 3-1 during a non-conference game Dec. 17 at the Blue Mound Ice Arena.

The Cardinals outshot the Stars 48-16, beating the River Lakes goaltender three times.

LHS senior Kamryn Van Batavia scored first at 11:52 in the first period assisted by sophomore Payton Behr.

The first period score was LHS 1, River Lake 0, with Luverne's shots on goal 22 to the Stars' 6.

At 6:08 in the second period, Van Batavia scored again, assisted by her seventh-grade sister Ellie Van Batavia and Behr.

The score was 2-0 after the second period with shots on goal favoring Luverne 15-4.

Behr closed out Luverne's scoring with a short-handed goal in the third period at 11:05 assisted by Kamryn.

River Lakes' only goal made it past Lu-

verne's goalie Mallory Von Tersch on a power play shot late in the third period.

"I felt the girls played a complete game against a quality team," Luverne head coach Tony Sandbulte said.

Total shots on goal were 48-16 favoring Luverne.

The Stars hockey program shares rinks in Richmond and Paynesville.

The non-conference win brings the Cardinals' season record to 8-1.

The Luverne girls will travel to Worthington to take on conference rivals, the Trojans, Thursday, Dec. 22.

The Cardinals are also scheduled to participate in the Herb Brooks Holiday Classic in Blaine for a three-day event Monday, Dec. 26, through Wednesday, Dec. 28.

After winning the Silver Division at last year's event, the Cardinals move up to stiffer competition in the Gold Division this year.



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1222 GHoc Kamryn

Luverne High School senior Kamryn Van Batavia tries to split the River Lakes defense on her way toward the net during Saturday's game in the Blue Mound Ice Arena. Van Batavia scored two goals and had one assist in the 3-1 win.

## DNR reminds riders to stay sober, ride smart

Snowmobile trail conditions vary throughout Minnesota, but in areas where there's good snow, riders have been getting out with gusto.

Snowmobile tracks are common sights in road ditches, on trails and atop the ice. This year's busy start to the riding season continues a surge in recent years of people riding snowmobiles to enjoy Minnesota's outdoors.

Gov. Tim Walz declared Jan. 15-23 to be Snowmobiling Safety Awareness Week, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officers remind all riders to brush up on safety and prioritize safe rides.

So far this year, two snowmobile riders have lost their lives, and there have been multiple close calls, including several snowmobile riders who have fallen through the ice.

During the past eight snowmobile seasons, more than seven riders, on average, have lost their lives each year.

"We're continuing to see new

people get into the sport of snowmobiling and discover the unique way riding the trails connects them with nature," said Bruce Lawrence, DNR Enforcement Division recreational vehicle coordinator.

"With more than 22,000 miles of snowmobile trails in Minnesota, opportunities abound. As long as riders make good decisions when they're out riding, snowmobiling is something they can do the rest of their lives."

Lawrence offers the following tips to ensure a safe ride:

- Stay on marked trails.** Minnesota's snowmobile clubs work hard to maintain good riding condition on the state's trails. Riders who stay on groomed trails are less likely to strike an obstacle or trespass onto private property. In some parts of the state, wet conditions where trails go through low areas or across lakes mean trails aren't yet groomed. Riders should check trail conditions ([mndnr.gov/snow\\_depth](http://mndnr.gov/snow_depth)) before heading out.

- Leave the booze at home.**

Riding under the influence is one of two main factors in crashes and plays a role in about 60 percent of those crashes that are fatal.

- Watch the speed.** Going too fast is the other main factor in crashes. Many serious and fatal crashes happen when a speeding snowmobiler loses control or strikes an object.

- Be careful on the ice.** In recent years, nearly every through-the-ice fatality has involved people who were riding a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle when they fell through. There must be at least 5 to 7 inches of new, clear ice to support the weight of a snowmobile and rider.

- Take a snowmobile safety course.** It's required of anyone born after 1976 and recommended for everyone. People with snowmobile safety certification are less likely to be involved in serious or fatal crashes.

Additional safety tips can be found on the snowmobile safety tips page of the DNR website.

- not going out alone —and letting someone know about trip plans and expected return time.

- carrying ice picks, rope, an ice chisel and tape measure.

- checking ice thickness at regular intervals; conditions can change quickly.

- bringing a cell phone or personal locator beacon.

- inquiring about conditions and known hazards with local experts before heading out.

For more information about staying safe on the ice, including thickness recommendations for various types of activities, see the DNR's ice safety page ([mndnr.gov/icesafety](http://mndnr.gov/icesafety)). For more information about surviving a fall into cold water, see the cold water dangers page ([mndnr.gov/coldwater](http://mndnr.gov/coldwater)).



Greg Hoogeveen photo/1222 LHS BBB woodley

Sophomore Elijah Woodley powers inside the lane for a shot at the net Monday, Dec. 19, in Luverne.

## LHS boys win close game

**By Greg Hoogeveen**

The Luverne boys' basketball team took on Redwood Valley at home Monday, Dec. 19.

Both Cardinal teams played solid games, keeping the game close to the end. Luverne held off a last-second attempt by Redwood Valley to win 77-75.

"It was fun to get a win against a good Redwood team," head coach John Sichmeller said.

The win completed a double header win for the Luverne boys' and girls' teams.

Sichmeller said senior Gannon Ahrendt had a good second half offensively, where he scored 25 of his 31 total points.

To his efforts Ahrendt added five rebounds, six steals and one blocked shot. "Sophomore Carter Sehr made some big shots and

we had a lot of other guys chip in some big baskets," Sichmeller said.

Sehr ended the night with 23 points and eight rebounds.

Senior Tyson Cowell contributed 11 points, one rebound and one blocked shot.

Junior Gavin DeBeer made eight points, nine rebounds and one steal.

"We could have put the game away a little bit easier if we would have made some more free throws down the stretch," Sichmeller said.

"But overall, I was happy with how we played and how hard the kids worked."

The win brings Luverne's season record to 3-1.

The Cardinals were scheduled to play Jackson County Central Tuesday, Dec. 20, in Luverne to make up a postponed game from Dec. 13.

## Avoid tragedy by talking with kids about ice safety

An early cold snap means some lakes and ponds across Minnesota are beginning to freeze. However, this ice isn't safe to walk on and the water underneath is dangerously cold.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone to be extremely cautious around the water, and with children home for Thanksgiving break, talk with them about the risks of cold water and ice.

While ice is never 100-percent safe, ice in the early stages of formation is particularly dangerous. Falls through the ice or into open water at this time of year can turn tragic quickly and result each year in serious injuries or deaths.

Parents and guardians need to be especially vigilant about

watching kids and ensuring children's innate curiosity about the water and ice doesn't put them at risk.

"Kids and people who haven't experienced winter in Minnesota may not have enough knowledge to mitigate the risks associated with cold water and early ice," said Col. Rodmen Smith, DNR Enforcement Division director.

"Talk to your kids, talk to your neighbors — we all have a role to play in keeping people safe as the winter season gets underway."

Anyone who recreates on the ice should wait until there's at least 4 inches of new, clear ice before walking out onto it. Other tips for staying safe around cold water and on the ice include:

- wearing a foam life jacket or flotation suit.

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# Star Herald CHURCH

Page 4B December 22, 2022

## Worship, the response to Christmas

The familiar Christmas story of Jesus coming to earth as a baby has a theme woven through all the stories: worship.

When Zechariah the priest (modern translation, a pastor) was in the temple (modern translation, a church) doing his ritualistic worship, an angel interrupted him. Instead of being in awe and wonder, he doubted and did not worship.

When Mary was living her ordinary life and an angel of the Lord came to her, she responded in worship by yielding to God's plans rather than her own.

When the wise men (modern translation, far away immigrant scientists) came to the temple to see where they could worship the King of the Jews, Herod and the local theologians became insecure and frantically read their books to figure out what these guys were talking about. Herod even used worship as a way to try and trick the wise men to revealing this newborn king. But it didn't work.

Shepherds, who were some of the lowest, filthiest, locker room language talking, non-church going people, were met by angels telling them to go see God's "Glory in the highest." And instead of hiding in shame and saying, "We are not worthy," they ran to the place where Jesus was and worshiped him.

Worship was the correct response to the first Christmas and continues to be today. But is that our response?

Now hear me out before you throw this article away, because I am all for tradition, lights and things that bring about the Christmas spirit. But sometimes even Christians can start worshiping things more than we worship Jesus during the Christmas season.

I hate to break it to you, but they did not sing "Silent

## BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Joshua Hayden, Living Rock Church, Luverne

Night" or have candles that first Christmas. They did not have programs and they definitely did not dress up in their best dress or suit (especially Mary). What they had was simple, yet worthy of worship. What they had was something so incredible and so marvelous that they did not need anything else.

Traditions and Christmas programs are a fun part of the season, and they definitely have their place; but sometimes the simple act of looking to Jesus, God who came to us as a baby, is enough. It is enough to fill our hearts with peace and joy because we see that God is for us and not against us. We see that God is with us, even in the midst of confusion and chaos. We see that He is a God who will go to great lengths to show his love, compassion, and mercy for his people. All of this seen in a baby named Jesus.

My desire for us all is not to have a reaction like Zechariah, Herod or the scribes, where they did not worship because of their religious traditions or their pride. How terrible would it be that after spending all of Advent focusing on Jesus, you never spent time truly worshiping him — bending low like the shepherds did in reverence, seeking out Jesus through the scriptures like the wise men did, responding to His presence in your life like Mary did with a willing heart.

I hope that you are able to truly worship Jesus this Christmas. Wherever you are and however you celebrate, may your heart be filled with wonder and your mouth filled with praise as you worship Jesus this Christmas.

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

Monsignor Gerald Kosse, Pastor  
Sundays 8:30 a.m. Mass. Public Mass will be celebrated at FULL capacity in the church. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Friday at the nursing homes — check the bulletin. All Sunday masses will be live streamed on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pg/stccluverne/videos/. Visit www.stscl.org for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday, Dec. 24: 3 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. 5 p.m. Prelude music. 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Sunday, Dec. 25: NO worship services. Monday, Dec. 26: Office is closed. Tuesday, Dec. 27: 8:30 p.m. Grace Notes assembly. 9 a.m. Staff meeting. 1:30 p.m. Worship at Mary Jane Brown. Wednesday, Dec. 28: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. NO confirmation classes. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online worship: Sundays 9 a.m. at www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab; or Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church  
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne  
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834  
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor

Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday School and Bible class. 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well (at els.org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. Saturday, Dec. 24: 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship. Sunday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day worship service. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

American Reformed Church  
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne  
Ph. 507-283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org

Friday, Dec. 23: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. Saturday, Dec. 24: 5 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. Sunday, Dec. 25: NO Sunday School. 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Thursday, Dec. 29: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew. Services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

Rock River Community Church  
1075 110th Ave., Luverne  
Ph. 507-283-9070; email: info@rockrivercommunity.church  
Bob Junak, Pastor

Come as you are—Sundays @ 10 a.m.: Main Service. Kids church age 3-6th grade—Nursery. Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service—Kids age 3-6th grade.

United Methodist Church  
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne  
Ph. 283-4529

Thursday, Dec. 22: 7 p.m. AA meeting. Friday, Dec. 23: 4-7 p.m. Annual Christmas Meditation at Luverne Palace Theater. Saturday, Dec. 24: 5 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. 6 p.m. Free Community Christmas Eve meal. Please sign up at church or call the office. Pick up option is available. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Tuesday, Dec. 27: 9:30 a.m. Folding Team. 1:30 p.m. Sewn in Faith. 7 p.m. Scouts. Wednesday, Dec. 28: 9 a.m. Open prayer chapel. NO classes. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Dec. 29: 7 p.m. AA meeting. Live streamed on Facebook and radio.

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

Sunday, Dec. 25: 9 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 10:15 a.m. Worship service. Youth Sunday school during worship service. In-person Worship service and live on Facebook. Our Facebook page can be found under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne. We are also on the local

Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays.

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

Saturday, Dec. 24: 5 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. Sunday, Dec. 25: 9 a.m. Worship Service. Monday, Dec. 26: 1 p.m. Quilters meet. 3 p.m. Youth night at Pizza Ranch. Wednesday, Dec. 28: 9 a.m. Bible Study. 6:30 p.m. NO youth classes. Services will be available on the Vast Channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website, cityofluverne.org.

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

New Life Celebration Church  
101 W. Maple, Luverne  
Ph. (605) 368-1924; email: newlifecelebration@gmail.com  
Food mission every third Thursday.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick  
Ph. (507) 669-2855; zionoffice@alliancecom.net  
Jesse Baker, Pastor  
Sunday, Dec. 25: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Bible study. Worship service on Luverne cable at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday and Friday.

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

First Lutheran Church  
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.  
Ph. (605) 757-6662 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net  
Mark Eliason, Pastor  
Saturday, Dec. 24: 8 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service at First Lutheran Church. Sunday, Dec. 25: 10:30 a.m. Worship at First Lutheran Church. All are welcome. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @FirstLutheran-Valley Springs; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

Palisade Lutheran Church  
211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.  
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — palisadechurch@alliancecom.net  
www.palisadelutheran.org

Mark Eliason, Pastor  
Saturday, Dec. 24: 6 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service at Palisade Lutheran Church. Sunday, Dec. 25: 9 a.m. Worship Service at Palisade Lutheran Church. We Are ONLINE! Facebook: @PalisadeLC; YouTube: FirstPalisadeLutheranParish.

First Presbyterian Church  
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek  
Ph. 507-935-5025

email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com  
Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. Session meeting.

Magnolia United Methodist Church  
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia  
Ph. 605-215-3429

email: magnoliannumc@gmail.com  
Nancy Manning, Pastor  
Sunday, 9 a.m., in-person with livestream available on the church's Facebook site.

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

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
112 N. Main St., Hills  
Ph. 962-3270 / bethlehemofhills@gmail.com  
Nita Parker, Pastor

Saturday, Dec. 24: 2 p.m. Tuff Chapel Christmas service. 5 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. Sunday, Dec. 25: NO worship service. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blichills.org.

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

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## Mortgage foreclosure sale set for Feb. 2, 2023

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That Default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:  
DATE OF MORTGAGE: 08/29/2016  
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$79,948.00  
MORTGAGOR(S): Erin C. Cogdill and Travis L. Cogdill  
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Reliabank Dakota  
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: 08/30/2016 as Doc No. 189031 in the Office of the County Recorder in Rock County, Minnesota.  
The mortgage was assigned for value as follows:  
Assignee: Citizens Bank, N.A.  
Assignment dated: 1/23/2020  
Assignment recorded: 1/27/2020  
Assignment recording information: Doc No. 196403  
All in the records of the County Recorder in Rock County, Minnesota.  
TAX PARCEL I.D. NO.: 20-0664-000  
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: LOT 10 IN THE FIRST SUBDIVISION OF BLOCK 6 IN GREENVALE ADDITION TO THE CITY OF LUVERNE, ROCK COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
Abstract Property  
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 330 SW Park St , Luverne, MN 56156  
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock  
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Reliabank Dakota  
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: Citizens Bank, N.A.  
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE: \$102,572.68 AS OF 12/30/2022.

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes. Pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Rock County, Minnesota at public auction as follows:  
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: 02/02/2023 at 10:00 A.M.  
PLACE OF SALE: Rock County Sheriff's Office, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave, Luverne, MN 56156 to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said Mortgagor(s) or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months.  
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the mortgagor must vacate the mortgaged property by 11:59 p.m. on 08/02/2023, or the next business day if 08/02/2023 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.  
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: NONE  
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Publication to begin the week of: 12/11/2022 - 12/17/2022  
Citizens Bank, N.A.,  
Mortgagee/Mortgage Assignee  
The Sayer Law Group,  
P.C., By Brian G. Sayer,  
Attorney for Mortgagee/Mortgage Assignee  
925 E 4th St.,  
Waterloo, IA 50703  
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
(12-15, 12-22, 12-29, 01-05, 01-12, 01-19)

## Mortgage foreclosure sale set for Feb. 2, 2023

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:  
DATE OF MORTGAGE: December 8, 2020  
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$154,141.00  
MORTGAGOR(S): Ryan L. Jacobsma and Brittany A. Jacobsma, husband and wife  
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Movement Mortgage, LLC  
DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:  
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on December 30, 2020 as Document Number 198890 in the Office of the County Recorder of Rock County, Minnesota.  
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Movement Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on August 31, 2022 as Document Number 203052 in the Office of the County Recorder of Rock County, Minnesota.  
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Fifty (N.50) feet of Eight (8) in Block Six (6) in P.J. Kniss Addition to the Village (now City) of Luverne, Minnesota.  
Rock County, Minnesota.  
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 125 S WEST PARK STREET, LUVERNE, MN 56156  
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock County, Minnesota.  
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$155,108.34  
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Movement Mortgage, LLC  
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: ServiceMac, LLC  
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 20-1014-000  
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100670800032658734

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.  
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:  
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: February 02, 2023 at 10:00 AM.  
PLACE OF SALE: Rock County Sheriff's Office, 1000 N. Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, MN 56156.  
to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on August 2, 2023.  
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.  
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None  
Dated: November 30, 2022

MOVEMENT MORTGAGE, LLC  
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/  
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.  
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.  
"Sung Woo Hong, Esq."  
Attorneys for Mortgagee  
25 Dale Street North  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
(651) 209-9760  
(22-1244-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.  
(12-08, 12-15, 12-22, 12-29, 01-05, 01-12)

## Kremin quiet title action

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ROCK

IN DISTRICT COURT  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Case Type: Quiet Title Action  
Court File: 67-CV-22-288

Estate of Alberta Mae Kremin, a/k/a Alberta Kremin,  
Plaintiff

vs.

Sandra Heck, the unknown heirs of Steven R. Heck, the unknown heirs of Pauline J. Heck, Diane Winter, the unknown heirs of Rudolph Winter, and all persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the complaint herein,  
Defendants.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS.

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an Answer to Complaint, which is filed in the office of the Court Administrator of the above-named county, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. This action involves, affects, or brings in question real property situated in the County of Rock, State of Minnesota, described as follows:  
The South One Hundred Seventy-seven and Three-tenths (S 177.3) feet of Lot One (1) and all of Lot Two (2) in Kitterman's Addition to the Village of Ash Creek, Rock County, Minnesota.  
The object of this action is to remove, terminate and quiet any interest of the defendants to this action and to the real estate described above.  
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT NO PERSONAL CLAIM is made against any of the Defendants. If any Defendant unreasonably defends the action, then Plaintiff is requesting an order of the Court directing that said Defendant shall pay full costs to the Plaintiff.  
Civil cases are subject to Alternative Dispute Resolution processes as provided in Rule 114 of the General Rules of Practice for District Courts. Alternative Dispute Resolution includes mediation, arbitration, and other processes set forth in the rules. You may contact the Court Administrator for information about these processes and about resources available in your area.  
The undersigned hereby acknowledges that sanctions may be awarded pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 549.211.  
Dated this 1st day of December, 2022

/s/

Paul A. Vis  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Eisma and Eisma  
130 E. Main  
Luverne, MN 56156  
(507) 283-4828  
ID# 297550

(12-15, 12-22, 12-29)

## H-BC School Board meets Nov. 28

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671  
Minutes  
Nov. 28, 2022

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:02 p.m. in the H-BC Secondary School Board room, 301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN. Board members and Administration present were Bosch, Gehrke, Harnack, Knobloch, Rauk and Rozeboom. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Kellenberger and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Fransman was absent.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve the agenda. Visitor to the meeting was Travis Helgeson.

PATRIOT PRIDE:

-American Education Week  
-VFW Writing Contest: Patriot's Pen: Second place went to Brynn Bakken and Third place went to Hailey Moser. Also, Voice of Democracy: First place winner is Avril Susie  
Motion by Bosch, second by Harnack, and carried to approve Consent Agenda:

-Minutes—11/16/2022  
-Bills and Treasurer's Report  
-Imprest Cash Report  
-Student Activity Accounts Report  
-2022-2023 Hills-Beaver Creek Teaching Staff Seniority List  
-2022-2023 Hills-Beaver Creek ECFE Staff Seniority List  
-Setting Friday, December 23, 2022, as a teacher staff non-work time after the early dismissal  
-Set 2nd regular Meeting of December to Tuesday, December 27, 2022, due to Monday, December 26, 2022 being a holiday  
-First Reading of Revised Policy 534-2022a School Meals Policy  
-Assigning Lydia Scruggs as last 1/2 of season Jr. High Girls Substitute Basketball Coach

Motion by Knobloch, second by Harnack, and carried to approve adding special board meeting for Monday, December 19, 2022.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

•Secondary Principal Report  
•Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

-Facility Survey Results from School Perceptions  
-Hearing on 2022 pay 2023 District Levy  
-Work Session after action meeting to discuss Facility Survey Results

DATES TO REMEMBER:

-Regular Board Meeting, Monday, December 12  
-Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 27  
Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk  
(12-22)

## Horton hearing

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ROCK

PROBATE COURT  
DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION

In Re: Estate of  
Susan M. Horton a/k/a Susan M. Linebeck,  
a/k/a Susan M. Lampron,  
Deceased

Court File No. 67-PR-22-291

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING  
ON PETITION FOR ADJUDICATION OF  
INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP  
AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR IN  
SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 23rd day of January, 2023, at 8:30 O'clock A.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship and for the appointment of Jeffrey Badger and Brittany Remme, whose addresses are 1636 York Street, Ulica, New York 13502 and 535120th Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota 56156, as Co-Administrators of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said administrators will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the administrators shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representatives or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: December 13, 2022

/s/ Terry S. Vajrjt  
District Court Judge

Douglas E. Eisma  
Attorney for Petitioner  
Eisma and Eisma  
130 East Main  
Luverne, MN 56156  
(507) 283-4828  
I.D. #249269

/s/ Natalie Reisch  
Court Administrator

(COURT SEAL)

(12-22, 12-29)

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- Avoid political statements or religious discussions, but feel free to let them know you are praying for them!
- Don't date your card/letter because they will be sent out all year long as part of MILITARY MISSIONS care packages.

Cards will be collected at the park or drop them off at The Star Herald office.

Do you have a loved one serving in the military?  
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# Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

MISCELLANEOUS      EMPLOYMENT      EMPLOYMENT      EMPLOYMENT      EMPLOYMENT      EMPLOYMENT

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

**Help Wanted:** Son-D Farms in Adrian is seeking a pick-up driver. Full or part-time. Call Doug for information, 507-370-1590. (12.17-1.26)

*Give the gift of your local Star Herald*

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12 months \$46  
24 Hour Access 99¢

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In County: 12 months \$74  
In County: 6 months \$54

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Online + Print Edition  
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\*Mailed as periodicals. Allow up to 2 weeks out of state.

**TITAN MACHINERY**  
**Full Time Equipment Sales Consultant**  
Competitive Wages  
Health, Vision, and Dental Benefits  
Titan Machinery needs to add an Outside Sales Expert to our team in Luverne, MN!

As an Equipment Sales Consultant, you will be a valued member of Team Titan by:

- **Taking Care of Our Customers:** Build strong business relationships with current and future customers through displaying a high level of initiative, integrity, and by meeting your commitments
- **Being an Expert:** Maintain up to date product knowledge and equipment expertise to enhance sales performance. Know your customers, your market, and your sales process
- **Showing Commitment to Excellence:** Complete accurate, detailed and timely documentation related to sales plans, call reports, and sales packets
- **Being Safe:** Show a focus on always keeping yourself and your team members safe

This position is a great fit for your career if you:

- Have 1+ years of related experience or related education/training
- Love a fast-paced role with a flexible schedule, and have a "work hard, play hard" attitude
- Can use a computer as needed to complete your work
- Enjoy building deep and lasting relationships with customers and employees
- Love to learn and stay up-to-date on product training

Benefits include, but are not limited to:

- HSA (Health Savings Account) - \$1500 tax-free each year, paid to your account by Titan Machinery
- 401(k) with company matching on your first day of full-time employment
- Paid Long-term Disability Insurance

Apply online at [www.titanmachinery.com/careers](http://www.titanmachinery.com/careers) or direct inquiries to:  
**Titan Machinery, HR**  
644 East Beatton Drive  
West Fargo, ND 58078-2648  
701-356-0130

EEO/AA: Women, minorities and the disabled are encouraged to apply.  
**CASE III**  
AGRICULTURE

**WE'RE HIRING GENERAL LABORER**  
FOR THE AREA'S PREMIER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

- COMPETITIVE WAGES
- BENEFITS
- GREAT WORK ENVIRONMENT

**CALL 507-920-5631**  
IN OUR NEW OFFICES:  
615 SOUTH KNISS AVE (HWY 75), LUVERNE MN 56156

**APPLY NOW**

**ROCK COUNTY LICENSE CENTER**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

The Rock County Administrator is now accepting applications for the position of **Administrative Assistant until December 30, 2022 the position is a full time**. The position performs a high level of customer service and conducts clerical work all while providing general office functions. Duties include: processing drivers licenses, license plates and title documents for motor vehicles, assists with the elections process and preparation and collection of real estate taxes, deed and mortgage taxes in the Auditor/Treasurer's office. Applicant qualifications are a high school diploma or equivalent with a two year related degree and two years of work related experience or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience; must also possess good oral and writing communication skills and experience with Microsoft office software applications. This is a full time position with a **starting hourly wage range will be \$19.25 -20.82, DOQ, and includes an excellent benefit package** to include health, dental and life insurance, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, pension, tax deferred compensation.

All applicants must complete a Rock County Application form. For additional questions, please contact the Rock County Administrator's Office at 507-283-5065 or by email at [susan.skattum@co.rock.mn.us](mailto:susan.skattum@co.rock.mn.us)

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

**HAVE A SEAT!**

**LARGEST SELECTION OF BAR STOOLS & COUNTER STOOLS!**

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**Parkview MANOR**  
**Help Wanted**  
**Dietary Aide**  
Full-time with a combination of day and evening hours. Schedule would include every other weekend. \$13.20 an hour. Also eligible for PERA retirement plan and BC/BS health insurance.  
Contact Marge at: [dietary@parkviewmanor.com](mailto:dietary@parkviewmanor.com), or 507-967-2482.  
Parkview Manor, 308 Sherman Ave., Ellsworth, MN 56129.

**Full-Time Career Opportunity Due to Continued Growth**

**Ag/Business Banker**  
Peoples Bank, Lester

**Essential Duties**

- Business Development
- Expand lending services to current & prospective customers
- Generate, negotiate, underwrite, & coordinate the closing of ag, commercial, & consumer loans
- Assist customers with a variety of banking transactions

**Requirements**

- Degree in a business/ag related field preferred
- 3+ years of business/ag banking or related sales experience
- Detail-oriented, self-motivated, adaptable, & personable
- Strong communication, sales, & negotiation skills
- Team player able to work collaboratively with others

**WE OFFER**

- Competitive Wages
- 401(k) Plan with Company Match & Profit Sharing
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- Dental Insurance
- Vision Insurance
- Paid Time Off
- Paid Holidays
- And More!

For complete job description, visit [peoples-ebank.com](http://peoples-ebank.com) or scan the QR Code.

**PeoplesBank**  
Where Values Matter!

Interested candidates should send resume with references & cover letter to [HumanResources@peoples-ebank.com](mailto:HumanResources@peoples-ebank.com)

Peoples Bank | Attn: Human Resources | PO Box 158 | Rock Valley, IA 51247  
Fax: 712.476.2748

Peoples Bank is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Pro Disabled & Veteran Employer. Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

**STEVENS COUNTY**  
**CASE AIDE POSITION**  
**STEVENS COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES**

Stevens County is looking for an individual with a bachelor's degree, great organizational skills, and a desire to serve a diverse civilian including Senior Citizens.

**GENERAL OVERVIEW OF POSITION**

Under general supervision, provide service and program information to seniors and assist clients with money management. Provide support to Social Workers within the agency.

**WAGE RANGE** 2023 January 1 wages: \$21.72 - \$29.18, depending upon qualifications.

**BENEFITS** Group health, dental, vision, life, disability, critical illness, hospital, and accident insurance. Two-week vacation and sick leave accrual annually, 1 personal day, 11 paid holidays, and 7.5% employer contribution to PERA (retirement).

**REQUIREMENTS** Bachelor's degree preferred in Nursing, Social Work, or a behavioral science field. Experience in health insurance, Medicare, prescription drug program and medical institution billing practices and relevant experience working with seniors and senior programs helpful.

**EMPLOYMENT VARIABLES** The typical schedule is 37.5 hours per week, Monday through Friday. Additional hours may be required but vary based upon workload demands.

**DEADLINE: 4:30 p.m., Friday, December 30th, 2022**  
To apply visit [www.co.stevens.mn.us](http://www.co.stevens.mn.us) under Employment Opportunities.  
ADA accommodations available. Stevens County is an EOE.

**MCAN**  
**Minnesota Classified Advertising Network**

**RURAL MINNESOTA COMMUNITY**  
weekly newspaper, the Kerkhoven Banner, seeks enterprising reporter. Salary and benefits. Send resume and writing samples to [kbanner@tds.net](mailto:kbanner@tds.net)

**GRADE 5 TEACHER**  
Long Term Sub. New London-Spicer Schools. MN licensure required. See [www.nls.k12.mn.us/employment](http://www.nls.k12.mn.us/employment) for more information.

**Classified Advertising that is Easy!**  
The Minnesota Classified Ad Network  
Make an impact with your advertising dollar with classified advertising that reaches over 2.5 million readers!

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**ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES**  
Running or not. Titled or not. Cash in exchange. Sell now while prices are high! Call Dan at 612/720-2142

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**FREE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET**  
for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs include Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Life-line, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Max-sip Telecom today! 866/433-5324

**DONATE YOUR CAR**  
truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 844/220-9501

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\$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing fast internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & get a FREE \$100 Visa gift card. FREE voice remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE streaming on ALL devices. Call today! 855/562-4309

**ENJOY 100% GUARANTEED**  
delivered-to-the-door Omaha Steaks! Get 8 FREE Filet Mignon Burgers! Order The Butcher's Deluxe package this holiday season- only \$99.99. Call 855/402-7187 and mention code 71941ALG or visit [www.omahasteaks.com/GiftGiving3287](http://www.omahasteaks.com/GiftGiving3287)

**THE GENERAC PWRCELL**  
a solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down financing option. Request a free, no obligation quote today. Call 888/913-5895

**Fruit Favorites Gift Box**

**ONLY \$24.99**  
Special, limited-time offer!  
SAVE \$13!  
Reg. Price \$37.99

Call 1-855-942-1350 to order item 296X or visit [HaleGroves.com/H3YF51](http://HaleGroves.com/H3YF51)  
\* Only \$24.99 (reg. \$37.99) plus \$7.99 shipping and handling per pack to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions may apply. Limit 5 boxes per customer. IC: H3YF51

**Alaska** 7 Day Cruise + 7 Day Land Tour = Best of Alaskan July & August - 2023 Departures  
See More - Daily Tours Included! - Also Available: 8-Day Land Only Tour  
Panoramic Glass - Dome Railway • Alaskan Farm • Theater • Trans-Alaska Pipeline  
Extended Denali Park Tour • See More Wildlife! • Mt McKinley • Hubbard Glacier  
Gold Dredge • Pan for Gold • Trolley Tour • Whitehorse Pass • Boeing Factory • More!

**Mississippi River** Memphis to New Orleans  
Graceland • Bayou Airboat Ride  
French Quarter • WWII Museum  
American Queen Steamboat Cruise

**National Parks** Grand Canyon • Zion Park  
Bryce Canyon • Horseshoe Bend  
Farm & Ranch • Yellowstone

**International** Europe - 6 Countries Tour  
Ireland, England, & Scotland Tour  
Norway, Sweden, & Denmark Tour

**Glacier Park** Calgary Stampede • Athabasca Falls  
Canadian Rockies • Banff • Skywalk  
Columbia Icefields • Glacier Ride

**Southern Charm** NC • SC • GA • AL • TN • AR  
Farms Growing Cotton • Rice  
Vidalia Onions • Peanuts • Tobacco  
Graceland • Great Southern Food

**Fall Colors** MA • RI • VT • NH • ME • Boston  
Cranberry Farm • Maple Syrup Farm  
Mayflower

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Steve Fields  
Minnesota Attorney

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Long-Term Disability  
Social Security Disability

**507-923-4169**  
[www.GetFields.com](http://www.GetFields.com)

**KEEP IN MIND! We Have Early Deadlines**

**NEW YEAR'S Star Herald**  
January 5 Edition  
Deadline for advertising will be Thursday, Dec. 29 by 10 am

**OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**  
Monday, December 26  
Monday, January 2

**Rock County STAR HERALD**





# Holiday Recycling Guide

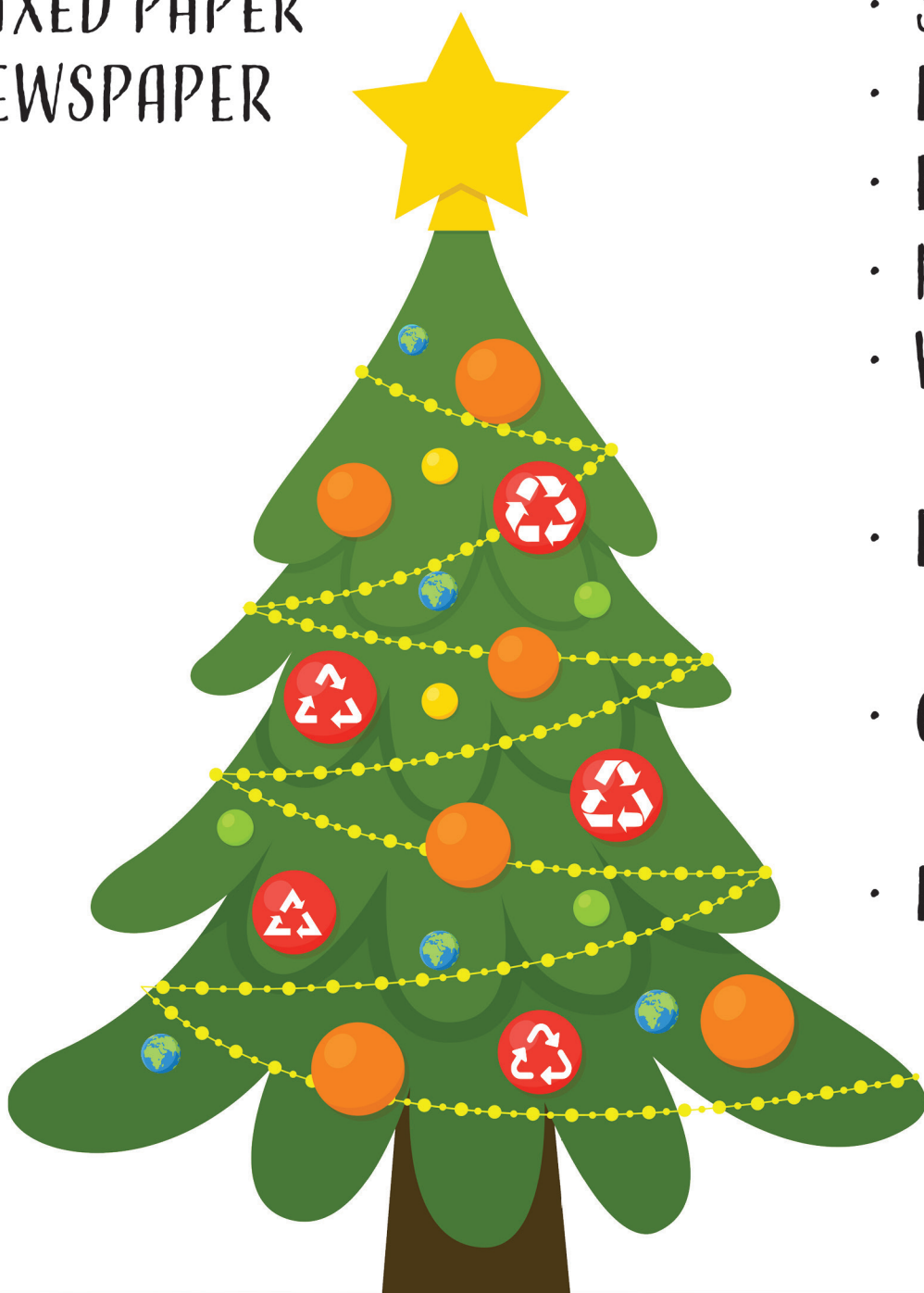


## NICE

- PLASTIC BOTTLES, TUBS & CONTAINERS
- TIN/ALUMINUM CANS
- GLASS JARS & BOTTLES
- CARDBOARD PAPER & PAPERBOARD
- MIXED PAPER
- NEWSPAPER

## NAUGHTY

- WRAPPING PAPER
- CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
- BUBBLE WRAP/PLASTIC BAGS
- TOYS
- NON-RECYCLABLE PLASTICS
- PLASTIC UTENSILS & FILMS
- STYROFOAM
- LOOSE OR SHREDDED PAPER
- ELECTRONICS
- HAZARDOUS WASTE
- WAX LINED CARTONS & CONTAINERS
- DIAPERS & BIO-HAZARDOUS WASTE
- CERAMICS, ROCKS, STONES & NON-CONTAINER GLASS
- LIGHT BULBS, CFC'S OR FLUORESCENT LIGHTS



Thanks to these businesses for taking pride in their community and sponsoring this promotional page!

Blue Mound Area Theatre  
 Cattnach Insurance  
 CHS Farmer-Owned with Global Connections  
 Connell Car Care  
 Continental Western Group  
 Eisma & Eisma  
 Estenson Company, LLC  
 First Farmers & Merchants Member FDIC  
 Hartquist Funeral Home Luverne Chapel  
 Heidebrink & Associates  
 Jensen Management Services, Inc.  
 Ketterling Services, Inc.

Klosterbuer & Haubrich  
 Lewis Family Drug  
 Luverne Country Club  
 Luverne Lanes  
 Luverne Public Schools  
 Mark's Plumbing, Heating and AC/LLC  
 McClure Electric  
 Meulebroeck & Taubert Co.  
 Minnwest Bank Member FDIC  
 Papik Motors  
 Real Estate Retrievers

Rock County Chiropractic  
 Rock County Opportunities, Inc.  
 Rock County Administrator  
 Rock County Star Herald  
 Rock Veterinary Clinic  
 Security Savings Bank Member FDIC  
 Skattum's Confinement/Superior Buildings  
 St. Catherine Church  
 St. John/Little Lambs  
 Sunshine Foods  
 Top Notch Car Wash, LLC  
 Vander Kooi Law Office

WE WISH YOU A  
*Merry Christmas*

MAY IT BE A  
WONDERFUL  
SEASON FOR YOU  
AND YOURS!

**Henning**  
CONSTRUCTION INC

from **Road**  
**Construction** to  
**Soil Conservation**

Adrian, MN • Luverne, MN • 507-483-2486 or 920-7736

May the  
Magic and  
Wonder of the  
Season  
Fill your  
Heart and  
Home.

*Country Cupboards*

2 miles south of Luverne on Hwy. 75 • Phone 507-283-8176

JOY

One of the real joys of the season is the opportunity to say *Thank you*. We wish you and your family a magical holiday season and blessed New Year.

chsbrandon.com

**CHS**

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM  
CLEVERINGA  
CONSTRUCTION

5 1/2 Lots Still Available  
in the Uithoven Addition

LOT 7 LOT 6  
LOT 8 LOT 5

LOT 7  
LOT 8  
LOT 9  
LOT 10

Withoven Addition

Thank you for your business!  
We look forward to helping  
you in 2023!

Call Today!  
**CLEVERINGA**  
CONSTRUCTION  
507-920-5631  
LUVERNE, MN

AG NEEDS  
FARM SHOPS  
POLE BARNs  
Call us today!

**HARTQUIST**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES  
*Celebrating Life*

*Remember as we celebrate this Christmas*

For some families in our community, this year has been especially difficult. We know the first holidays following the death of a loved one are milestones that often bring grief to the surface once more as celebrations and traditions are just not the same.

The names below are the loved ones of families served by our funeral home during the past year. With Christmas upon us, please consider sending the gift of love to these families through a few moments of your time to show concern for them and their grief.

Gerald Pommer	Henry Wayne Baker	Allen Croat
Theresa Burmeister	Curtis "Curt" Smook	Delores Brooks
Dallas Bowron	Daniel Kindt	Carson Ehde
Darrell Hoeck	Stanley Gyberg	Manning Churchill
Dr. Verland Johnson	Margie Knoll	Misti Hanson
David Barber	Joyce Dykstra	Deborah Taubert
Florence Helle	Pamela Oye	Alvin Boomgaarden
Leroy Madison	Lucille Gangestad	Jeanette Tangeman
Matilda Lange	John Thies	Gloria Boelman
Fredrick "Bill" Claussen	Barbara Ashby	Stanley Olson
Jessie Wenzel	Albert Matthiesen	Ann Leskinen
Bryan Fransen	Elaine Snyders	Richard Buss
Glenn Overgaard	George Scholten	Marie Klarenbeek
Barbara Brinkhous	Marilyn Schmidt	Bruce Tofteland
Raymond Van Wyhe	Reva Hoff	Kathy Dietrich
Gary Akkerman	Martha Brouwer	Carol Taubert
Jacob Schelhaas	Dixie Arends	Daniel Siegfried
Iva Elbers	Lyland "Pete" Behr	Sandra "Sandy" Winter
Donald Weinkauff	John Klarenbeek	Joan Michelsen
Anna VanBatavia	Judith Vis	Christopher Smook
Marvin Klooster	Hermina Van Meeteren	Orville Bork
Joyce Mulder	Leona Sweeney	Ubbe Wagenaar
Don Lafrenz	June Polzin	Randall Harms
Virgil Christensen	Naidine Aanenson	Susan Horton
James Vink	Donald Pap	Wilda Pfeifer
Florence Fick	Ramona Vlastuin	Jason Remme
	Ronald Gath	

May each family find peace and comfort in the promise of Christmas this season.

The *Saviour* is born!

*Merry Christmas*

May your holiday be filled  
with hope, joy, peace and love.

**Good Samaritan Society**  
LUVERNE

All faiths or beliefs are welcome.

*For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given*

Isaiah 9:6

**Main Street**  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

212 East Main Street, Luverne, MN  
507-283-9590 or 1-800-260-1014  
www.mainstreetfinancial.net

The office will be closed Dec. 23 & 26 and Jan. 2 to spend time with family.

Edna Buys, Marilyn VanSanten, Nancy VanDeBerg, Lynette Ossefoort, Amy Sandbulte, Teresa Hup, Christina Koedam and David Riphagen

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