



Rock County STAR HERALD

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April 30, 2015

Highway 75 road work starts soon

Construction begins week of May 11 with culvert replacement

By Lori Sorenson

Highway 75 (Kniss Street) in Luverne will be under construction from May 11 to early September with a short in-town detour at the start of the project.

To prepare business owners and residents along that route, the city of Luverne hosted a preconstruction meeting Tuesday night, April 21, in Luverne City Hall.

The meeting, which attracted about 30 people, addressed the staging of the project, detour routes and projected timing of the project.

Project engineer Gary Kurth, with DGR in Rock Rapids, conducted the meeting and used a Google Earth map on projector to illustrate the course of the construction.

He said the most inconvenient part of the project, replacing the Poplar Creek culvert, will occur first.

Even though detour signs will be set several blocks away, "through traffic" will be allowed to business up to the "hard closure" where the culvert is located.

The hard closure will be between the south corner of the McClure Plumbing and Heating property and the northeast corner of the Herman Motors construction site.

The estimated time of the hard closure could be four weeks, depending on weather and circumstances.

In addition to replacing the culvert, workers will bury two major infrastructure lines under the culvert — a water main and a gas line.

That work will be done in addition to tearing out pavement, removing the box that's there, replacing rip rap and other necessary work.

Kurth said traffic can be allowed

Highway 75 construction/see 3A



Lights ... camera ... PROM!

Mavis Fodness photo/0430 Luverne prom

Luverne High School seniors Caitlin Hartman and Cory Stroeh pause during the grand march Saturday, April 25, in the high school gymnasium. It was a busy weekend for students all over southwest Minnesota as Adrian High School and Hills-Beaver Creek students also celebrated prom Friday and Saturday nights. See those photographs, in addition to coverage of Ellsworth's April 18 event, on page 1B of this Star Herald.

Four properties receive abatements, one pending appeal

By Mavis Fodness

Four Rock County residences received more than \$5,000 in tax credits and another property is under consideration after Rock County Commissioners approved recommendations from Tom Houselog, county land records director.

Houselog has been conducting local board of appeal and equalization meetings, where residents can question the upcoming property

tax assessments or request disaster credits. Eighteen out of the 20 townships and cities have been completed, he said.

Two of the requests were disaster-related, specifically fire damage.

In order to qualify, structures must receive 50 percent or more in damage, Houselog said.

The other two property tax requests were due to errors in data

entry. Houselog said the errors have been corrected.

At their April 21 meeting, commissioners approved the following homeowners, property addresses, amount of the abatement or correction and/or tax credits and the reasons as follows:

- Audrey Gabrielson, 1402 Victory Circle, Luverne; \$373.30 abatement for 2014, \$379.30 credit for taxes payable in 2015; due to an August 2014 fire.
- New Horizon Farms, Rose Dell Township Section 13; \$2,082.52 abatement for 2014, \$1,802.04 credit for 2015; due to a January 2014 fire that destroyed the hog production facility.
- Gertrude Wessels, Kanaranzi Township Section 23; \$638 credit in taxes payable 2015; due to an error in homestead determination.

Property tax adjustments/see 5A

State test suspension has little effect in area schools

By Mavis Fodness

Area school districts lost a testing day when the Minnesota Department of Education temporarily suspended use of the state's online testing website.

On Tuesday, April 21, Commissioner Brenda Cassellius announced in a press release that the testing site would be shut down until technical problems within the testing system were resolved.

No timeframe was given on how long the test company, Pearson, would have the system offline.

The system was back online for students and administrators on Thursday, April 23.

The problem occurred, according to the state department, when students failed to access the system to complete the tests, a problem not experienced locally.

"The majority of the problems have occurred on the administrative side of the program," said Stacy Gillette, Luverne Public School's testing administrator.

"That is the side I use to set up and monitor the test sessions."

Up until last week, the testing had been progressing relatively smoothly.

In the state nearly 400,000 tests have been completed with the recent technical problems not adversely impacting those tests already completed.

Districts across the state have

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment Testing suspended April 21; system back online April 23

been testing students in grades 3-10 in reading, math and/or science as part of the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment program. Districts were allowed to begin March 9.

Locally, effects of the daylong suspension were minimal due to how local school districts set up their testing schedules.

"The (Hills-Beaver Creek) district has a number of make-up days scheduled to accommodate unforeseen circumstances such as this," said Superintendent Todd Holthaus.

Because districts set up their own testing, the schedules are also flexible.

"Our students are back in class receiving instruction instead of testing," said Adrian Public School Superintendent Roger Graff.

Because the break in the test schedule affected districts statewide, Commissioner Cassellius extended the districts' MCA completion deadline in May by an additional two days.

Miracle of birth

Luverne woman delivers babies for New York couple



Submitted photo

Caitlin and Aaron Altman and their three children, (from left) Joselyn, Ashton and Braylynn, pose with the twins shortly after their birth. The twin boys, Mateo and Nicholas Melcher, are sons of Michael Melcher, New York, and were delivered March 5 by Caitlin, who served as a gestational surrogate for the New York couple.

"I feel my children are the best things that happened in my life. Why not be able to give that to someone else?" — Caitlin Altman

By Mavis Fodness

Thanks to a local woman, a New York dad is able to raise twin sons as his own, a life event he didn't even think was possible until only a few years ago.

Michael Melcher compares life before his children's births to that of the main character in "The Wizard of Oz" movie.

"Dorothy said the first part of her life is black and white," he said. "Then she wakes up in Oz and it's all in color."

On March 5, identical twins Mateo and Nicolas Melcher were born at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls via gestational surrogate Caitlin (Rosin) Altman.

She is a 2007 graduate and Hardwick native living in Luverne. She and her husband, Aaron, also an LHS 2007 grad, have three children of their own, ages 7, 5 and 3.

"I feel my children are the best things that happened in my life," she said. "Why not be able to give that to someone else?"

That someone else turned out to be Melcher, 51, a New York City partner in a mentoring company assisting executives with specific leadership goals. He never thought he could reach one of his own personal goals with his partner of 20 years, Jason, to have children of his own.

"I grew up in an era for gay people

Gestational surrogacy/see 2A



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Kenneth Cemetery Association will meet at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 3, at the Kenneth Lutheran Church.

Blue Mound Quilters will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, May 4, at Take 16 Brewery in Luverne. A meeting and election of officers will be at 7:45 p.m. at the library

Springwater Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, at the home of the clerk Teresa Kramer.

Lady Luverne Red Hats will meet at 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 8, to carpool from St. Catherine Catholic Church's east parking lot for lunch at Safari Bar and Grill in Renner. A 2 p.m. tour of Renner Lutheran Church will follow lunch. RSVP to Connie by Thursday, May 7, at 283-8470.

Pink Ladies will meet at 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 11, in the Blue Mound Room at Sanford Hospital in Luverne.

Rock County VFW Auxiliary Post #2757 will meet at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, May 12, at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

Tourist Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at the American Legion in Luverne.

American Legion Post #123 and Auxiliary will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, at the post home.

AI-Anon meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Buffalo Ridge Meeting Room (lower level) at the Sanford Medical Center in Luverne. Call Stephanie at 507-449-1246.

Narcotics Anonymous meets at 7 p.m. Fridays in the basement of St. Catherine Catholic Rectory, 203 E. Brown St., Luverne. Use east door. Call Shawn at 507-220-3180.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays in the library. Call 605-321-4324.

LES kindergartners present program

Luverne Elementary kindergarten classes will present their music program, "A Day in the Country" at 2 p.m. Friday, May 1, in the Luverne Elementary gym.

Bike rodeo May 2

The Luverne Optimist Club and Rock County Sheriff's Office will host their annual bike rodeo at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 2, in the Luverne Community Education parking lot. Call 920-9387 with questions.

Redemption Riders Run for Son May 2

The Christian Motorcyclists Association will host its annual Run for the Son Saturday, May 2, with the Redemption Riders chapter meeting at 7:30 a.m. at Luverne Kawasaki. They will ride for approximately 120 miles round trip to help raise money to help present the gospel of Jesus. Call Kim Bakke at 507-304-1455

Luverne Optimist sandbox refills May 4

The Luverne Optimist Club and W&N Construction will sponsor their annual sandbox fill Monday, May 4, starting at 6 p.m. Call Audrey, 283-2018, to reserve sand.

First Presbyterian Breakfast is May 6

The First Presbyterian Church of Luverne will host its Ecumenical Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 6, at the church. Pam Miller, who works with the American Heart Association, will present the program, "Take Care of Yourself — Fulfill God's Purpose for Your Life." All women are invited to attend.

Volunteer recognition May 6

A volunteer recognition open house will be from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 6, at the Luverne Senior Center. Coffee and donuts will be available and music will be provided by the Luverne Senior High Choir at 11:20 a.m. Socialize, relax and stay for lunch at 11:45 a.m. RSVP to 507-283-9846 to order lunch.

Luverne pops concert set for May 8

The Luverne Middle School and High School choirs will present their pops concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 8, in the elementary gym. The concert will feature the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade choirs, the ninth-grade girls' choir and the concert choir singing music from Disney movies. Cost for the concert is \$4 for school-age children and \$6 for adults. Activity passes will also be accepted.

Bank Nite movie 'Big Hero 6' May 7

The free Bank Nite movie, "Big Hero 6," will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at the Palace Theatre in Luverne.

Sponsored by First Farmers & Merchants National Bank and Papik Motors, a free, family-friendly movie is shown on the first Thursday of every month as it was done for "Bank Nite" in the 1930s.

St. Catherine students bless trees for Earth Day

By Lori Sorenson

Father Tom Jennings and the Wednesday afternoon students at St. Catherine Church, Luverne, celebrated Earth Day April 22 with trees, flowers and other living things.

The city of Luverne is planting 70 new trees on city boulevards for Arbor Day, and Jennings and the children blessed one of them with Easter water.

The tree is a flowering crab apple tree, which grows berries that feed birds and provide beauty on the boulevards.

As part of the Earth Day observation, nature lover and amateur photographer Alex Miller shared nature photos he's taken and talked about a wetlands restoration project near his home by Hardwick.

Representatives from the Natural Resources Conservation Service talked about earth-friendly practices, such as reducing tiling, planting cover crops, composting household waste and more.

In addition to the blessing of the new tree, the event included a procession of children with plants and flowers to decorate the altar.



Stephanie Christensen photos/0430 earth day at st catherine

The Wednesday after-school students at St. Catherine gather for a group photo after the blessing of the tree. Pictured below, Camden Janiszski (left) and Andy Halverson wheel a tree to the front of St. Catherine Church sanctuary to be blessed. Below, right, Larenzie Axness (left) and Ava Steinhoff proceed to the altar with their potted flowers.



Michael Melcher holds his twin sons shortly after their birth March 5 in Sioux Falls. Luverne's Caitlin Altman served as the gestational surrogate.

Surrogate birth/from 1A

ple when it wasn't clear that we could have children," Melcher said. "A lot of people my age are not alive. A lot of guys in my peer group died in the early '80s and '90s before they had a chance to be in a changed society where things like being a parent are possible."

Almost three years ago, Melcher attended a conference in New York titled, "Men Having Babies." Besides guest speakers, the conference included representatives from various fertility clinics and surrogate agencies. Fate led Melcher to choose a Minnesota agency to find a gestational surrogate.

"I have a real soft spot for Minnesota," he said. "Maybe because I grew up watching 'The Mary Tyler Moore Show' ... the Midwest is full of very solid people."

The International Assisted Reproduction Center (IARC) in Maple Grove paired Melcher with Altman, whose Google search found IARC.

Both filled out biographies, each reading the others before the agency arranged the introductory phone call that lasted two hours.

"He is very thorough," Altman said. "I felt very confident and comfortable everything would go well."

For Altman and Melcher, No. 1 became a well-used number:

- Altman was the first surrogate Melcher talked with.
- Both only wanted to carry and raise one baby.

Surrogate birth/continued on page 3A

Surrogate birth comes with a price tag

By Mavis Fodness

Costs of assisted reproduction vary greatly from state to state, depending on the procedure and the type of agreement.

According to surrogate law expert Steven Snyder, the Midwest is the most economical location for a surrogacy agreement, with total costs ranging from \$80,000 to \$120,000, if results are successful the first time.

Snyder, an attorney in Maple Grove, has overseen 300 surrogate agreements, handling 80 percent in Minnesota through the International Assisted Reproductive Center (IARC). He has completed three surrogate agreements in Rock County.

One of those agreements was with Luverne's Beth Bartels, who was a gestational surrogate 10 years ago for a couple from London, England.

"It was such a cool experience," she said. "I developed a relationship with the parents and (the birth of twins) was a fulfillment of a lifelong dream for them."

The gestational surrogate plays a small but important role in helping couples have children. Technology has boosted the success from assisted-reproductive services to 58 percent. However, it is difficult to know how often a gestational surrogate is used.

"There are no industry statistics," Snyder said pointing to the wide range of available sur-

rogacy services.

For example, Snyder said, if a couple creates an embryo using their own sperm and egg, cost ranges from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Costs are higher, up to \$25,000, if an egg donor is necessary.

Surrogate fees can be free if a friend or family member agrees to carry the baby to full term, but most surrogates receive payment for the care they give to the developing child, Snyder said.

Those payments range from \$15,000 to \$35,000, depending on whether it is the surrogate's first or second pregnancy.

"Experienced surrogates ask for more," he said.

For surrogates who view their service as more altruistic, like many Midwest surrogates do, the cost is also less, Snyder said.

The surrogate's medical insurance handles the cost of prenatal care and delivery with the intended parent paying the \$2,000 to \$10,000 medical deductible.

Agencies such as IARC charge about \$20,000 if all the agency's services are used from surrogate introduction to the court proceedings involved in transferring parental rights (\$6,000 to \$8,000).

"It costs a lot of money but you can't really put a number on it," Snyder said. "(Having a child) is a wonderful miracle."



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• Land Surveying

Highway 75 construction/ continued from page 1A

through once a soft surface (gravel) is replaced, but he assured affected businesses in that area that he'd communicate with them about closures and timeframes for reopening.

Business owners particularly concerned about the detour were Joel Herman, who is expecting semi-loads of car deliveries in June, and Nate Golla, who said 90 trucks per day enter and exit the Farm Store property.

Kurth said he would work with them on possible truck detour routes in order to keep traffic patterns moving smoothly.

He also told some concerned business owners, such as the Cozy Rest Motel owners, that temporary business would be allowed in order to remind motoring customers where the businesses are and that they're open for business. He said traffic wouldn't be detoured at I-90 and that the exit and entrance ramps to Luverne wouldn't be closed at any time.

The official detour is east on Hatting to Freeman, then north to Warren and back west to Highway 75.

One message Kurth repeated throughout the meeting was that he and the contractors would work to make sure all businesses had access of some kind to and from their property.

One exception is a storage facility owned by Al Aanenson, and Kurth asked him, "How well do you get along with your neighbor, Opsata?"

Aanenson smiled and said he did and that he'd

work with Opsata to come and go through that adjacent property.

At Tuesday's meeting, Kurth provided an overview of the construction, which will affect Highway 75 from Interstate 90 to the north city limits.

The project consists of a variety of work including:

- Resurfacing (mill and overlay) from I-90 to Main Street

- Seal coating from Main Street to north city limits

- Replacing a box culvert between Harrison Street and Edgell Street over Poplar Creek (this is the detoured area)

- Watermain work north of Harrison St. to Main St.

- Sidewalk improvements for accessibility

- Revised signal at Main Street

- Restriping from four lanes to three lanes (one lane each way with center lane for left turns)

The \$2.7 million project is a partnership between the city of Luverne and the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Business owners and residents at the meeting were asked to provide their cell phone and email contact information in order to alert them to water shut-offs, detours and other interruptions.

"We're going to try to keep everyone informed, and would like to communicate with you instantaneously via text or email," said City Administrator John Call.

Duininck Incorporated of Prinsburg was awarded the contract.



Lori Sorenson photos/0430 band concert

Students in grades 5-12, under the direction of Richard Owen and Angie Swenson, perform in a combined band the final number of Friday night's concert, "Shorewood Overture," by Michael Story.

Students present spring instrumental concert

By Lori Sorenson

The Luverne Instrumental Music Department presented its 2015 Spring Concert Friday night, April 24, in the Cardinal Gym.

The annual event included performances by the fifth-grade band, under the direction of Angie Swenson, and by the sixth-grade, seventh- and eighth-grade and high school bands, all under the direction of Richard Owen.

New to this year's spring event was a combined performance of all the bands playing "Shorewood Overture," by Michael Story.

In addition to the customary

farewell by senior band students, Owen presented the 2015 band awards and scholarships.

The David A. Buffington Memorial Award was presented to Sam Ykema and Mitchell Graber. The award was established in memory of a former LHS trombone player and is given to students who demonstrate character, loyalty and dedication.

The Carl Nash Award for outstanding contributions to the band program by a junior was awarded to Ryleigh Beers and Katerina Siebert.

The Tony Maiello Award for marching band excellence went to Connor Crabtree.

The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, a national award for outstanding jazz band performance, was given to Cole Bosch.

Drew Weis was selected to receive the John Philip Sousa Award, the most prestigious award for high school instrumentalists.

The Papik Family Music Scholarship was presented to Monaya Husstoff. It's given in honor of Gary and Janine Papik's three children who all were in band and choir all four years of their high school careers.

It's the 14th year the Papiks have handed out the award, which comes with a \$300 scholarship.



Above, left, high school band students perform "Music from the Hunger Games" during Friday night's band concert. Above, right, Angie Swenson directs fifth-grade band members in their performance of "Camptown Races." Below left, seventh- and eighth-grade students perform "Ballad for Trumpet," which included a trumpet solo by Quinn Buss (pictured at left). Below, right, high school trumpet players (from left) Joe Guy, Brandon Winter and Mitchell Muller play their parts in the song, "The Machine Awakes."



Surrogate birth/ from page 2A

•Only one donor egg was used.

•The first in vitro fertilization treatment resulted in a pregnancy.

Altman's first ultrasound revealed she was carrying two embryos.

Shock was the initial reaction to the news of identical twins.

Melcher thought the medical equipment was faulty.

"I thought maybe ... (in the Midwest) they don't have the most up-to-date ultrasounds and they are just looking at the same one from two different angles," Melcher said.

For Aaron Altman, Caitlin's tears were thought to be an emotional response to having a child for someone else.

His viewing of the ultrasound showed two distinct fetuses inside one placenta. Caitlin was afraid of the possible complications as the babies developed.

This was never a concern before during her other easy

pregnancies.

However, none of those concerns occurred and Matteo (5 pounds, 13 ounces) and Nicolas (6 pounds, 6 ounces) were delivered as two healthy babies at just over 35 weeks of gestation by Caesarean section. Caitlin's worry of extra stretch marks, a possible miscarriage or development of genetic defects was over.

At 12 days old, the boys went home with Melcher, their biological father, to New York.

Time spent with the twins in the neonatal intensive care unit allowed Altman to ease into the inevitable giving up of the babies to Melcher and his partner, Jason.

Melcher himself also made the transition easier with his desire to keep the Altman family involved in the boys' lives.

"I want my kids to know their whole story," he said. "I view Caitlin and Aaron and the egg donor as extended family."

Cardinal jazz bands take concert on the road

By Mavis Fodness

The Luverne Public Schools Instrumental Music Department conducted its 2015 Spring Jazz Concert Tuesday, April 21, at the American Reformed Church in Luverne.

According to director Richard Owen, the groups first performed at the church last year and returned because of the facility's excellent acoustics for audience members to better hear the small group of performers.

Students performed seven numbers and featured middle school soloist Jonah Louwagie on trumpet and high school students Tatiana Gust (saxophone), Ryleigh Beers (saxophone), Madi Schandelmeier (trumpet) and Cole Bosch (percussion).



Mavis Fodness photo/0430 Jazz Band MS

The Luverne Middle School Jazz Band poses after their spring concert performance Tuesday, April 21, at the American Reformed Church. Jazz band members are (front, left) Elise Jarchow, Ainslie Robinson; (being held) Nathan Lindsley and John Miller; (third row) Destiny Matthiesen, director Richard Owen, Jonah Louwagie, Cade Wenninger; (back) Hunter Sandbulte and Isabel Smeins. Missing is Peter Baustian.

Open House Come & Go
Bridal Shower
Paige Pierce
bride-to-be of Phil Paquette
Saturday, May 2
9:30 am - Noon
Luverne Country Club
The couple is registered at Ace Luverne, Target & Bed, Bath & Beyond

Happy 85th Birthday
Tillie Clark
Sunday, May 3
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Open House Bridal Shower
KRISTEN CARLISLE
BRIDE-TO-BE OF NIC UIJK
Saturday, May 9
10 a.m.
Zion Lutheran Church, Hardwick
Couple is registered at Target and Menards

SERVICE ABOVE SELF
ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH
Visitors and New Members are encouraged and welcome to join us each Tuesday at Noon at the Blue Mound Banquet Center
John Call - Luverne City Administrator

WANTED GRAVEL BIDS
Clinton Township will be accepting gravel bids for crushed gravel to be applied to township roads.
Bids will open on
Monday, May 4
at 8:00 p.m. at the Township Hall
Clinton Township has the right to reject any or all bids.
Lowell Bonnema, Clerk

Luverne's 25th Annual City-Wide Rummage Sale
APRIL 30 • MAY 1 • MAY 2
Check the listings for rummage sale hours of operation!
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Defying the family odds

Sometimes life's about not giving up

Experiences often shape who we are and define what we become in life.

No one knows that better than Juan Carreon, a 19-year-old I met for the first time during his graduation ceremony on April 15.

The informal afternoon gathering at Pizza Ranch was full of smiles, congratulatory conversations and tears of happiness from Carreon, his family members and Luverne High School faculty and administration.

School officials came to know Juan well because he is one of those students who didn't let what life dealt him define who he is or, better yet, what he wasn't.

He wasn't stupid. He wasn't lazy. He just needed a chance and the right environment to learn, especially math.

His mother, Janice Harris-Buesing, blames herself, wishing she could have helped him more with homework while battling her own health problems when Juan was in elementary school. She thought moving him from Missouri to Minnesota to live with family members would be best as she dealt with her health.

Instead of making the situation better, coming to a new environment was not conducive to learning. Juan often felt like an outsider, disconnected from his family. He often would stare at his homework, unsure of what needed to be completed or how to do it.

He said after months of being unable to finish a worksheet, teachers stopped giving him the papers.

Substance abuse could have led Juan to drop out of school entirely.



RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

While visiting friends in Sioux City, Iowa, he stole from stores just to eat, and a drug overdose brought him to his knees.

The experience made him feel like a failure and propelled him to continue in school. This time he open-enrolled to Luverne, where he ultimately found support at the alternative learning center.

But the journey still wasn't easy.

Juan could have dropped out of school last year when he didn't have enough credits to graduate. One student did drop out of the 2014 class.

Instead of letting the feeling of failure overwhelm him, he moved forward.

Teachers at the alternative learning center said they didn't give up on him because he didn't give up on himself. He worked through the self-study program for mathematics earlier this month.

Juan said for his family's sake, he is considering participating in Luverne's May 17 graduation ceremonies. In his family, high school diplomas can be counted on one hand.

It was suggested that he should be the commencement speaker because he didn't let his experiences take him away in a less positive direction.

"Now he has a diploma; he has a future," said Superintendent Gary Fisher.

Juan plans to join a family member as an electrical journeyman — entrance of which requires a high school diploma.



Mavis Fodness photo/0430 Mavis Column Juan

Juan Carreon receives the vinyl folder that will hold his Luverne High School Class of 2015 diploma from Principal Ryan Johnson earlier this month. Carreon worked through the school's alternative school to achieve the diploma that only a handful of members in his family have achieved.

Spring is here; let's focus on the prairie

Life on the Prairie series to celebrate Rock County nature

With winter safely behind us, the Blue Mounds State Park and Touch the Sky Prairie are seeing an increasing number of visitors enjoying the outdoors.

We don't have lakes or mountains in Rock County, but we do enjoy our prairie vistas with their Sioux quartzite outcroppings, which are beautiful in themselves.

To call attention to these natural resources, we will celebrate Life on the Prairie, Summer 2015.

It's an effort by Luverne Convention and Visitors Bureau, Blue Mounds State Park, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Minnesota DNR, Brandenburg Prairie Foundation, Council for Arts and Humanities Rock County and Luverne Area Chamber.

And the purpose is to honor the county's Northern Tallgrass Prairie.

The Northern Tallgrass Prairie was once this continent's largest ecosystem with over 30 million acres.

Today, less than 1 percent of the original Northern Tallgrass Prairie remains intact.

Rock County is home to approximately 2,500 acres with 1,000 acres at Touch the Sky Prairie and 1,500 acres at Blue Mounds State Park.

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

The prairie remained intact partially due to the prominent glacial ridge of Sioux quartzite that runs through the county.

On May 29, park manager Chris Ingebretsen will present "Bison at the Blue Mounds State Park" at 8 p.m. in the amphitheater.

On May 30, DNR botanist Fred Harris and herpetologist Jeff Leclere will present "Vernal Pools and Herps at Blue Mounds and Touch the Sky" at 10 a.m. in the state park interpretive center.

On June 13, author Jim Kersten will present "Our Amazing Sioux Quartzite Country" about the glacial ridge at 10 a.m. in the state park interpretive center.

On June 13, musician Paul Imhote will present a concert on the prairie, "Sounds of Strings," at 7 p.m. at the state park interpretive center.

On June 21, poet and author Freya Manfred will present "Words on the Prairie" at 3:30 p.m. at the state park interpretive center.

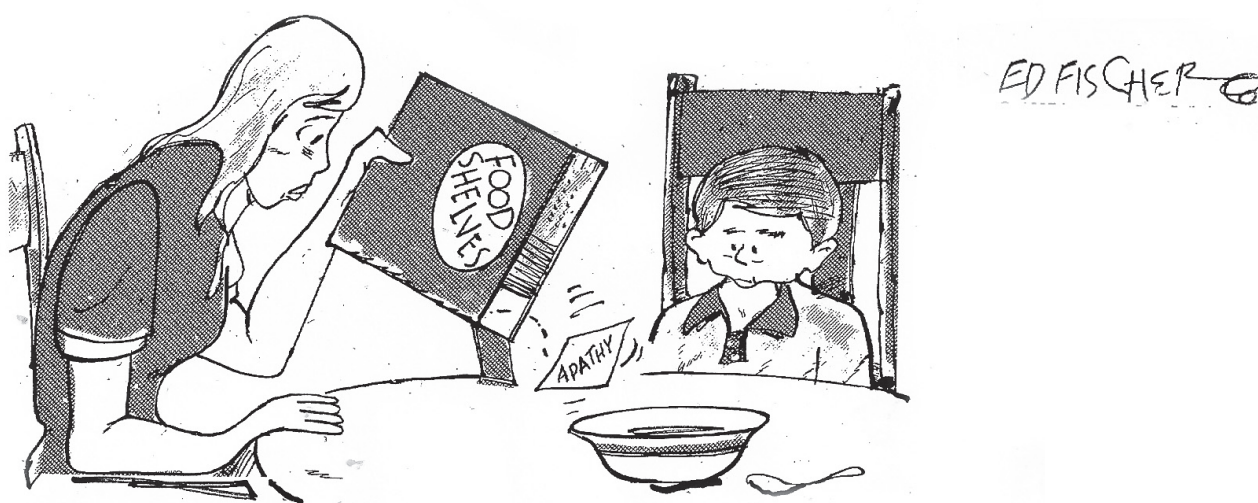
On Aug. 14, park manager Chris Ingebretsen will present "Bison at the Blue Mounds State Park" at 8 p.m. in the amphitheater.

On Aug. 15, naturalist Howard Paul of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will present "A Walk on the Prairie" at 9 a.m. starting at the west kiosk parking lot at Touch the Sky Prairie.

The events are free and open to the public.

The goal of this summer's 2015 Life on the Prairie series is to educate, promote, preserve and expand the knowledge of native prairie in Southwest Minnesota.

Let's pencil in these events and plan to enjoy the gifts Mother Nature blessed us with here in Rock County.



Almost casualty to annual junk days, chair finds new life, memories in backyard

Last week was the citywide junk pickup, and by unofficial observation the amount of junk that is put on the curb is dwindling from year to year.

Junk pickup is definitely on my top 10 list of favorite city perks. I don't really have a top 10 list but if I did, junk pickup would be ahead of leaf pick up, but behind snow removal.

At our household, junk pickup does cause some contention between Mary and me. For the most part we are in agreement as to what makes it curbside, but without fail an item or two are up for debate as to whether or not they are junk.

The item up for contention this year was an Adirondack chair our daughter, Emily, made in woodworking class back in the eighth grade nearly 15 years ago. Emily did a great job building the chair and it's had a good life on the deck in Redwood Falls and a few good years here in Luverne.

Like all deck furniture, time and the sun have a way of getting the best of it, and this chair has seen its better days.

Over the years I have repainted it and replaced a board here and there, but it was time for the curb.

This wasn't the first year I tried to get the chair curbside for the junk pickup, but this year was going to be different.

Emily has long since moved on, and Mary was out of town while I was moving junk to the curb.

It's not like I don't have a heart,



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, General Manager
Tollefson Publishing

and I did feel a little bad setting the chair at the curb alongside the pile of meaningless junk. As I walked away from the curb, I glanced back over my shoulder, and I could have sworn the chair looked sad.

I had hoped that maybe someone would spot the chair and salvage it before the city guys picked it up the next morning.

I made the mistake of taking a picture of the chair curbside and texting it to Emily. Her response was swift and to the point. She simply texted back that I was no longer her father.

Shortly after I received Emily's text, Mary pulled into the driveway and I thought, "OMG I'm in trouble now." Just as she was taking me to the cleaners (if you know what I mean), a truck pulled up to the curb and was giving the chair the once-over. Mary said if they take that chair she was going to cry. Only God knows what would have happened to me.

It was time for a little tough love, and I told Mary that it was time for

the chair to go and I went to the shed in the backyard to find more junk to toss out.

Now, I don't know if you know my wife, and God forbid if I ever told you her age or weight, but she doesn't go a buck twenty soaking wet. Lo and behold, as I looked out of the shed, here she came down the hill leading to the backyard with that chair hoisted up over her head.

Her determination to save that chair was inspiring, to say the least.

It didn't take me long to figure out this was no place for tough love. It was time for a compromise.

We still have the chair. It's not for sitting on anymore. It's more of a yard ornament. The chair has found a new home under one of the apple trees.

I kind of have to admit the chair looks happy just sitting there. About the only thing the chair holds now is memories. It's been just a little over a week since the chair was saved from the junk pickup, and, truth be told, I am glad it was.

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch Report

April 17
 •Complainant reported someone tried to get into the building on E. Lincoln Street.
 •Complainant reported that a fire is getting out of control around County Rd. 8 and smoke is over the road. Complainant reported that subject has a history of burning other people's property. Checked it out and nothing appears to be out of control. Subject called in a controlled burn.
 •Complainant reported that earlier his neighbor had been burning and he called the fire department. Deputy advised he spoke with complainant about this and told him to call the sheriff on Monday.
 •Complainant reported she tried to withdraw money at the ATM and the transaction went through but the money did not come out. Contacted officer of the bank and were advised nothing could be done until tomorrow.
 •Complainant reported she spoke with Social Services about her brother abusing her trust fund and she needs to report it to the sheriff's office, too.
 •Complainant reported that the last resident was evicted from this residence and no one should be there. Owner was contacted and advised there is a window out and lights on. Deputy reported the house was searched and everything appears to be fine.
April 18
 •Deputy conducted a traffic stop on County Rd. 17 and 61st Street. Erwin's was contacted to tow vehicle.
 •Complainant reported they are releasing subject from jail and can't get hold of the victim. Deputy went to victim's house but there was no one home. Will try later.
 •Complainant reported subject is being destructive, breaking things and threatening to harm himself and others. Deputy transported subject to

the ER for a mental health evaluation.
 •Deputy arrested subject for DWI and took him to jail.
 •Dispatcher received a 911 call with only static on the other end. No answer on callback and no answer from manager. Deputy advised the office was locked and no one was there. Phone problem.
 •Complainant reported her sister punched her in the face and won't let her leave. Deputy advised complainant did not wish to press charges. She took her children and left.
April 19
 •Complainant reported there is someone throwing things at his house and they broke a window. Complainant believes he knows who did it and they are having a party in his garage. Deputy reported most of the parties were asked to leave the property and not come back.
 •Complainant reported her sister is being threatened. Deputy spoke with subject and advised him to quit bothering her.
 •Pipestone County received a report of a possible domestic in Rock County. Daughter left residence.
April 20
 •Dispatcher received a 911 call with static on the line. No answer on callback. Sent deputy. Finally reached owner on cell phone who said everything was OK.
 •Complainant reported subject called and made some veiled threats to their business.
 •Complainant reported wood lying on the railroad tracks in the middle of S. Kniss Avenue.
 •Complainant reported subject just came in and smells like alcohol. He is no longer there.
 •Complainant reported she is being harassed.
 •Complainant reported a fall detection alarm. Contacted subject's son and he said everything is OK.
April 21

•Complainant reported someone broke a window last night.
 •Complainant reported someone hacked her computer and is threatening to crash it if she doesn't send \$200 to an offshore account. Complainant stated subject shut her computer down while on the phone with her. Subject stated he is from Microsoft.
 •Complainant reported loud music on W. Mead Court. Deputy spoke with the resident about the noise and they said they would keep it down.
April 22
 •Complainant reported they had fall detection alarm. Contacted subject to see if she needed an ambulance and she said she did not and would let Lifeline know.
 •Complainant came to the RCSO to turn in pills and wanted us to count and take possession of them. Complainant was advised that we don't do this and all she had to do was put them in the container in the lobby.
April 23
 •Deputy conducted a traffic stop and cited subject for driving after revocation and had the vehicle towed by G & S.
 •Complainant reported he found a wallet. Contacted owner and property was returned.
 •Complainant requested we stand by while they repo a propane tank from subject who has not paid her bill and has made threats against the company.
 •Reserved for narcotics info.
 •Complainant reported an assault that occurred at school in Hills. Her daughter is the victim.
 In addition, officers responded to 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 deer accident, 1 transport, 1 funeral escort, 18 ambulance runs, 1 paper service, 3 animal complaints, 1 false alarm, 1 driver's license check, 1 gas drive-off, 8 log/alarm sheets, 3 drug court tests, 2 purchase/carry permits and issued 27 burn permits.



Kirsten Eisma photo

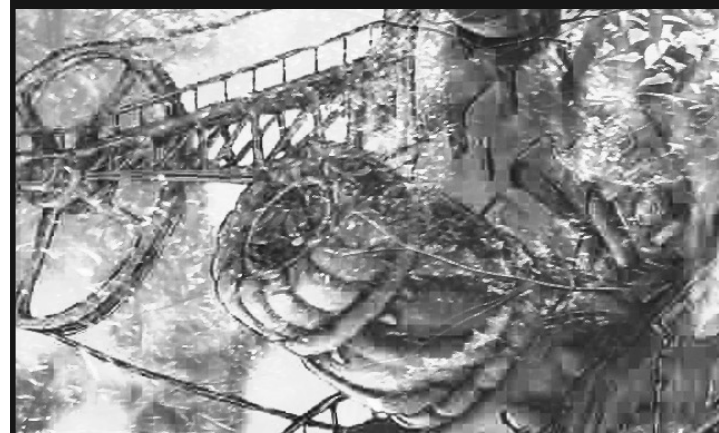
Unexpected visitor in town

Damon and Kirsten Eisma noticed this visitor Monday afternoon, April 20, in a tree across the street from their house on North East Park Street. "Pretty cool," Damon said. "I heard on the news last night that bald eagles are showing up in New York City, too."

Property tax adjustments/from 1A

•Ezra and Caitlin Breyfogle, 901 N. McKenzie Ave.; \$212 credit in taxes payable in 2015; due to an error in homestead determination. The abatements and credits totaled \$5,487.16.
 Houselog said one additional disaster-related request was made by Chad and TyAnn Kramer, 1657 Highway 75, for a November 2014 house fire. However, the state Fire Marshal Office is still determining a cause. "We cannot do anything with that property until that issue is resolved," he said.

dining & entertainment



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green
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 Lantern
 Hardwick, MN * 507-669-2246
 New Hours
 Cafe open Mon-Sat
 10 a.m.
 Bar open
 3 p.m. daily

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 Downtown Luverne

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 SAT., MAY 2 - 4 & 7:00 P.M.
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THURSDAY NIGHT
 14 28 45 50 61
BINGO
 14 28 45 50 61
 8 21 32 47 69
 11 19 FREE 55 63
 5 16 39 48 72
SATURDAY, MAY 2
 Shrimp \$14
Steak Fry 6-9pm
 12oz Steak \$16
 Steak & Shrimp Combo \$18

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Mystery Supper Fundraiser
 Tuesday, May 26 • 6 p.m.
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 Tickets: \$25 each | \$180 table of eight
 To learn more about this event, call Carrie at (507) 283-2375.
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Sunday, May 3
 9am - 1pm
 Adults \$6.00 12 & Under \$3.00
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 Luverne
 124 W Main
SATURDAY NIGHTS 7 PM
 American Legion
 124 W Main St. Luverne
 Lic # 00498

Lorie Line
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 Lorie Line and her Fab Five
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 7:00pm
 AT THE
 Historic Palace Theatre
 104 E MAIN ST, LUVERNE, MN
 \$39 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE Carnegie Cultural Center
 507-283-8294

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Mavis Fodness photos/0430 Cardinal Dash

Stacy Kruse leads Luverne Elementary School students, staff and parents in a Zumba routine.



Cardinal Dash raises funds for school causes

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne's Parents Partners in Education (PPIE) completed a unique fundraiser Friday, April 24, in a fun run around the Luverne Public School's ball fields.

This was the first year the group organized the event that had kindergarten through fifth-grade students request pledges from community members and then run a half-mile to a two-mile course.

"Cardinal Dash: Keeping Cardinal Kids Running" replaced the group's frozen food fundraiser with the fun run activity.

"We also wanted an event that would encourage families to get outside and be active together," said PPIE member and organizer Anne Shelton.

Shelton and fellow member Amy Nelson organized Friday's Cardinal Dash event. "We were thrilled to see

how excited everyone was about the event," Shelton said. "We didn't meet our goal, but we still feel it was a success."

The group raised \$12,600 in pledges, short of the \$20,000 goal set last fall.

However, with the numerous prizes given away and the holding back of the grand prize if the fundraising goal was met, Shelton said enthusiasm is building for keeping the Cardinal Dash as an annual event.

"We earned enough money to support our kids next year and we have a good foundation to build on in the future," she said.

The monies go toward enhancing educational activities, such as the upcoming kindergarten track and field day, guest speaker assemblies and the Presidential Physical Fitness awards.

Above, right: Second-grader Jackson Ganun completes a half-mile run. Jerad Arp (right) came directly from work (complete with pencil behind ear) to run with daughter, Jaelyn.



For the Cardinal Dash, students earned prizes for pledge amounts plus students were eligible for the numerous raffle drawings. Because PPIE didn't reach its goal, the grand prize was kept for possible release next year.

This year, the third-grade class earned the most pledges as a group and fifth-grader Tenley Nelson earned the most pledges as

an individual.

More than 530 elementary students ran in Friday's Cardinal Dash with 235 students returning pledge envelopes with donations, Sheldon said.

"We are very pleased with the entire event," she said. "It was a challenge and we learned a great deal in organizing and planning it ... it fuels my excitement for next year."

CELEBRATIONS

Births

A girl, Eleanor Rees, weighing 7 pounds, 13 ounces, 20 1/2 inches long, was born to **Eric and Amber Wespi**, Gilbert, Arizona, on Saturday, April 25, 2015. Grandparents are Dale and Kathe Runge, Andover, and George and Karen Wespi, Hillsboro, Oregon. Great-grandmother is Eileen Hocking, Luverne.

Open houses

Betty Mann will celebrate her 85th birthday with

an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at First Presbyterian Church in Luverne.

An open house bridal shower for **Kristen Carlisle** (bride-to-be of **Nic Uilk**) will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 9, at Zion Lutheran Church in Hardwick.

Card showers

Tillie Clark will celebrate her 85th birthday on Sunday, May 3. Greetings may be sent to her at 608 E. Dodge St., Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Senior Citizens

Friday, May 1: Italian meat sauce, spaghetti, lettuce, green beans, garlic bread, ice cream.

Program: Monthly birthdays. Betty Mann's 85th. 11:30 a.m. Kitchen Kut-ups. Peer Helpers visit.

Monday, May 4: Baked rigatoni and beef, corn, fruit salad, bread, pudding.

Program: 1 p.m. Senior Citizens Meeting.

Tuesday, May 5: Taco salad (meat, salsa, cheese, shredded lettuce, chopped tomatoes, sour cream), dinner roll, fruit, dessert.

Program: Two Buck Tuesday sponsored by Myhre Studio.

Wednesday, May 6: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes,

carrots, bread, pineapple.

Program: 9 a.m.-noon Open House Volunteer coffee. 11:40 a.m. music with LHS choir. Egg, coffee and donuts.

Thursday, May 7: Baked fish, macaroni and cheese, peas, pears, raspberry parfait dessert.

Friday, May 8: Parmesan chicken, baked potato, California blend vegetables, bread, fruit cocktail.

Program: Peer Helpers visit. Farewell Party.

Senior Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals in a community atmosphere. Bring a friend or make new ones.

Call Janice Fick at 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

The following appeared
in the Rock County Herald
on April 28, 1922:

TWO LUVERNE COMPANIES SECURE LARGE CONTRACTS

National Concrete Co. Se-

1922: Nobles County orders concrete, Sioux City orders crushed stone from Rock County manufacturers

cures \$36,000 Tile Order; Quartzite Quarries, Inc., Sells 200 Carloads Crushed Rock

Two of Luverne's manufacturing concerns, the National Concrete Materials Co., and the Quartzite Quarries, Inc., have secured substantial contracts for their products during the past week.

The National Concrete Materials Co., was awarded a \$36,000 contract for drainage pipe as a part of a \$69,000 drainage system project let last week by the Nobles County board of commissioners.

The Quartzite Quarries, Inc., contract consists of an order secured this week by Manager Harper Shaffer for

about two hundred carloads of crushed rock, to be shipped to Omaha, Neb., for use on the roads of Douglas county. An order also was secured for crushed rock to be shipped to Sioux City.

It is expected that operations will be started at the stone crushing plant sometime during the coming week, or not later than May 1.

Donations to the Rock County Historical Society Endowment Fund can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, P.O. Box 741, Luverne, MN 56156.

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to manmade@iu.net.

How low can temps go before young plants show frost damage?

Last week had me wondering just how much cold the tender new growth of perennials, shrubs, and trees could actually tolerate ... nature never fails to amaze me. At 25 degrees for a low, I saw very little damage to anything, including my blooming daffodils. I'm hoping that was the last of that kind of cold we will see for many months!

Speaking of daffodils, their display lasted for more than two weeks this year. That is impressive. Spring-blooming bulbs develop their flower buds in the bulb for the next year immediately after they finish flowering.



KNOW IT AND GROW IT

By George Bonnema, Luverne Flowers

If you need to thin or move the bulbs, do not dig them until the foliage turns yellow. At that point, either dig the bulbs or label their location because once the foliage is gone, they can be pretty hard to find. You can replant the bulbs immediately or store them in your basement until fall ... just don't forget to get them back into the ground!

Right now is the time to apply pre-emergence crab grass control. Now is also a

good time to use weed spray to control creeping charlie and other broadleaf weeds in your lawn. I like to eliminate dandelions before they bloom to prevent that crop of seeds.

If you have summer-blooming bulbs to plant, it is safe to get those planted now. By the time they emerge, we should be past our last frost date.

I hope you are enjoying the exuberance of this time of year ... we wait so long and it passes so quickly!

SCHOOL NEWS

SMSU scholarship recipients

Emilie Baartman has been selected to receive the University Gala Fine Arts, Forensics, and Richard A. Baun Memorial scholarships for the 2015-16 school year at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

Emilie plans to major in theatre and communication studies: broadcasting and digital media. She is the daughter of Bruce and Vicki Baartman, Brandon, South Dakota, formerly of Luverne.

Alex Weis, son of Tony and Natasha Weis, Luverne, has been selected to receive a Foundation Distinguished Student Scholarship for the 2015-16 school year at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

He plans to major in physical education/teaching.

SMSU announces graduates

Four area students will graduate from Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, on Saturday, May 9.

They are Brenda Parsley, Adrian, summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting/finance; Nathan Fransman, Beaver Creek, magna cum laude, with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education/early childhood education; and from Hills Taylor Vaughn, magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in hospitality management and marketing; and Jayme Wiertzema, summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in art education.



Lori Sorenson photo/0430 poppies

Poppy promotion begins in May

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2757 and American Legion Post 123 will conduct their annual poppy promotion in May. Posters will be distributed in the coming week, and poppies will be available May 21. Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian is pictured here with VFW Auxiliary President Annabelle Frakes (left) and American Legion Auxiliary President Dianna Tomlinson. Poppies are assembled by disabled veterans and all proceeds are used to benefit veterans and their families. Locally, some funds are used to purchase newspapers for the library at the Minnesota Veterans Home, for Operation Uplink (phone cards) and to provide puzzles and treats for Bingo and Christmas gifts for veterans. "Plan to wear your poppy to the cemetery services on Memorial Day to personally show gratitude for the services of our military," Frakes said.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Ed

Register for these activities by calling Community Ed at 283-4724.

Check the April 26 **Luverne Announcer for the summer community education brochure** listing classes and activities for all ages for the summer. Many activities have discounted registration fees paid ahead of May 13, including morning rec, arts/crafts, golf, gymnastics, running, volleyball, basketball, and tennis.

Using real flowers crafty kids will make a gift for mom at **Flower Pot Creations May 4**. Fee is \$10.

Keep your car insurance discount by taking this refresher **Defensive Driving** class on **May 6**. Fee is \$20 prepaid.

Student Driver Education class is being offered beginning June 15 to students in eighth grade or older. Fee is \$290 due with registration and covers 30 hours of classroom and six hours of behind the wheel driving.

1,2,3 Magic — A Discipline Battle Plan is for parents who would like to learn some new techniques to work with their children ages 2-12 years. Stacy Schepel, school social worker, will present this 2 evening class on **May 11 and 18**. Fee is \$65. Scholarships are available.

Concerned about your **child's development** (ages 0-5 years)? Call 283-4724 for a private screening at no cost.

Check out the **Community Education brochure** on the Luverne School website, the community Education link.

Register for 2015-16 **Discovery Time** preschool. There are openings for children ages 3, 4, or 5 years in the Tuesday/Thursday afternoon classes.

All 3-year-old children living in Minnesota will do an **Early Childhood Screening** as they near age 4. If your child is nearly 4 years old or already 4 and has not been screened, call 283-4724 to arrange an appointment.

Luverne-Adrian FFA Chapter presents awards at annual banquet

The Luverne-Adrian FFA Chapter annual Awards Banquet was Monday, April 6, at the Luverne Elementary School Commons. Tony's Catering of Brandon provided the food for the meal.

The 2014-2015 FFA Chapter Officer team conducted the meeting. Team members include Kaitlynn Brouwer, historian; Kris Severtson, parliamentarian; Johnathon VanDerBrink, sentinel; Sierra Somnis, reporter; Caitlyn Hartman, treasurer; Joanna Westphal, secretary; D.J. Reker, vice president; and Andrea Severtson, president.

Scholarship

Scholarship pins were awarded to chapter members who have maintained a 3.2 GPA during the past year.

Earning scholarship pins were Hans Bakken, Trey Baustian, Jeffrey Cauwels, Aric Meinerts, Dylan Mente, Cody Saker, C.C. Sexton, Mckenna Westphal, J.J. Dooyema, Tommy Norman, Kris Severtson, Josh Zemler, Tanner Baustian, Ryleigh Beers, Zoe Brown, Madi Oye, Jenna Schelhaas, Katerina Siebert, Megan Tweet, Mira Uithoven, Jacob Van Santen, Derek Krueger, Mackenzie Wagner, Kurt Christians, Brent Zemler, Caitlin Hartman, D.J. Reker, Andrea Severtson, Sierra Somnis, Dalton Wenzel and Joanna Westphal.



Submitted photo

Proficiency awards were handed out during the recent Luverne-Adrian FFA Chapter Awards Banquet recently. Pictured are (front, left) Micah Stensland-Bos, Kris Severtson, Alena Hilfers, Amber DeGroot, Samantha Boyle; (second row) Andrea Severtson, Kaitlynn Brouwer, Karissa Hamann, Mackenzie Wagner, Megan Tweet; (back row) Brennan Nelson, Ryleigh Beers, D.J. Reker, Caitlin Hartman, Sierra Somnis, Annabell Petronek and Johnathon VanDerBrink.

Leadership

Chapter members earning 100 points or more during the past year received leadership pins.

Recipients were Kris Severtson, Ryleigh Beers, Madi Oye, Stephanie Riggs, Karissa Hamann, Derek Krueger, Kaitlynn Brouwer, Kurt Christians, Jacob Fick, Caitlin Hartman, Jazmine Olson, Brennan Nelson, D.J. Reker, Michelle Reyes, Andrea Severtson, Sierra Somnis, Johnathon VanDerBrink,

Andrew Verhey, Dalton Wenzel, Joanna Westphal, Samantha Zahnnow, Samantha Boyle and Brent Zemler.

Greenhand Degree

Greenhand Degree pins were awarded to members for their first year of membership.

Greenhand awards were given to Hans Bakken, Trey Baustian, Talon Coners, Tyler Fick, Dylan Mente, Jaden Seney, Jacob Van Santen, Eli Bakken, Makayla Bakken, Jack

Baustian, Amber DeGroot, Alena Hilfers, Tyler Reisdorfer, C.C. Sexton, Mckenna Westphal, Jeffrey Cauwels, Payton Fick, Aric Meinerts, Cody Saker and Ethan Thorson.

Chapter Degree

Chapter Degree pins were awarded to members for two years of membership in the chapter.

Recipients were Kris Severtson, Riley Baker, Tommy Norman, Annabell Petronek,

Quintin Nelson, Katerina Siebert, Erik Tofteland, Andrew Verhey, Derek Krueger, Zoe Brown, Megan Tweet, Mackenzie Wagner, Josh Zemler and J.J. Dooyema.

Proficiency

Proficiency Award plaques were awarded to members for their SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) projects during this past year.

Earning plaques in beef production were Jeffrey Cauwels, Kris Severtson, Tanner Baustian, Mackenzie Wagner, Mitchell Wagner, Megan Tweet, Andrea Severtson, Samantha Boyle and Ryleigh Beers.

Earning awards in agricultural services were Alena Hilfers, Ryleigh Beers, Karissa Hamann, Sierra Somnis, Andrew Verhey, Kurt Christians, Brent Zemler, Caitlin Hartman, Andrea Severtson and Samantha Boyle.

Amber DeGroot won an award in forage production.

Fruit and vegetable production award winners were Annabell Petronek and Caitlin Hartman.

Earning awards in goat production were Josh Zemler and Andrea Severtson.

Swine production award recipients were Ryleigh Beers, Kaitlynn Brouwer and Samantha Boyle.

An award in home and/or community development was

presented to Ryleigh Beers.

Agricultural mechanics repair and maintenance award recipients were Micah Stensland-Bos, Jacob Fick, Brennan Nelson, D.J. Reker and Johnathon VanDerBrink.

VanDerBrink also received an award in agricultural communications.

Equine science awards were given to Andrea Severtson and Samantha Boyle, and Severtson also received a dairy production-placement award.

Samantha Boyle received awards in small animal care and management and poultry production.

Chapter Star recipients

The following FFA Chapter Star Awards were presented:

Luverne-Adrian Chapter Star Greenhand plaque: Jeffrey Cauwels.

Luverne-Adrian Chapter Star in Placement: Karissa Hamann.

Luverne-Adrian Chapter Star in Agribusiness: Samantha Boyle.

Luverne-Adrian Chapter Star Farmer: Andrea Severtson.

2015-16 Officer Team

The 2015-2016 Luverne-Adrian officer team members are J.J. Dooyema, parliamentarian; Eli Bakken, sentinel; Madi Oye, secretary/reporter; Kris Severtson, treasurer; Steph Riggs, vice president; and Ryleigh Beers, president.

Severtson named Chapter Star Farmer, DeKalb recipient

By Mavis Fodness

Completing an outstanding supervised agricultural experience or SAE is only one requirement for the Luverne-Adrian FFA Chapter's Star Farmer Award, one of the chapter's top awards.

For this year's recipient Andrea Severtson, a Luverne High School senior, it was a matter of more than one experience.

Her adviser, Dennis Moritz, could have selected her most recent SAE in goat production. Severtson built a herd of fainting goats.

Then there is her beef production care and management SAE, where her herd grew from a single bottle calf

to four cow/calf pairs.

In addition, Severtson is involved in developing proficiencies in equine science, agricultural services and dairy production, all of which could be developed into an SAE.

Severtson's interest in and love of animals began as a young child and has grown into becoming a career.

"I like the genetics and reproduction (of livestock production)," she said.

Often found caring for her various livestock on the family farm south of Kenneth, Severtson said she plans to pursue a bachelor of science in animal science at South Dakota State University in

Brookings. After achieving the four-year degree, she plans to apply for veterinary school. It was one of her animal loves that propels Severtson to become a doctor.

A horse named Sturgis, a more than 20-year-old palomino gelding, was found struggling to get to his feet in October 2013. With the assistance of a local veterinarian, Sturgis died peacefully.

The experience and compassion of the veterinarian left Severtson with the desire to help others to humanely take care of their livestock.

Mom Denise is not surprised her daughter would make animals a career choice. "She's always had a

love of agriculture and farming," she said.

Andrea's exposure began young with a dairy calf named Bella, now a 6-year-old Holstein in her grandparents' dairy herd.

Because of Bella's demeanor ("she's sassy," Andrea said), she earned a first-place in dairy handling and an opportunity to compete at this week's state FFA Convention.

"Each of (the breeds) have different temperaments," she said. "The Brown Swiss is very head-strong" like Bella.

Based on her SAE projects, academics and work ethic, Severtson was also selected as the chapter's DeKalb award winner.



Submitted photo

Andrea Severtson holds the DeKalb and the Chapter Star Farmer awards. Her dad, Sterling, (above, right) was also named the Chapter Star Farmer almost 30 years ago.

OBITUARIES

Rufus Garnmeister

Rufus Herman Garnmeister, 90, Luverne, died Saturday, April 25, 2015, at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

A funeral service was Wednesday, April 29, at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne. Burial was at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Rufus Garnmeister was born March 25, 1925, to Herman and Emma (Bunte) Garnmeister at home near George, Iowa. He was raised on the family farm.

He was baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church of George and attended country school through the eighth grade near George.

In 1943 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served during World War II. Rufus served in England, Germany, France, Morocco, Holland, Austria and Belgium under General Patton. He was honorably discharged in 1945 and returned to Iowa.

On Jan. 8, 1950, he married Verna Stange at St. Paul Lutheran Church of rural Hull, Iowa. The couple settled on a farm in Springwater Township, Rock County. Rufus worked the land and raised Hereford and Angus cattle, poultry and pigs.

He received awards for his contour farming methods. In 1973 Rufus retired from farming and worked at Luverne Truck Equipment until 1987.

In 2001, after 51 years on the farm, Rufus and Verna moved to Luverne. In 2012 Rufus became a resident of the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne.

He was a member of St.

John Lutheran Church in Luverne, where he served as an elder, participated with Stephen Ministry, evangelism and LCEE.

He taught teen Bible classes for 28 years, sharing his faith with words of wisdom sprinkled with wit. He served as a 4-H leader and was the superintendent of the beef barn at the Rock County Fair for several years. He loved to sing, read and garden.

He enjoyed staying up to date on issues relating to soil conservation, politics, farming and raising cattle. He enjoyed telling jokes and having a good laugh.

Rufus is survived by his wife of 65 years, Verna Garnmeister, Luverne; three daughters, Paula (John) Peterson, Parker, Colorado, Mary (Claude) Vahle, Highland, California, and Ruth (Scott) Kannenberg, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; five grandchildren, Sarah (Kevin), John (Amie), Kathryn (Luke), Andrew, and Jared; three great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Marianne Garnmeister, Greenville, South Carolina; and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and four siblings, Vertis, Herman, and Albert Garnmeister and Loretta Vanden Mark.

Memorials may be directed to Little Lambs Preschool at St. John Lutheran Church, 803 North Cedar, Luverne, MN 56156.

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

(0430 F)

Arnold Spath

Arnold "Mike" Spath, 94, Hills, died Sunday April 19, 2015, at the Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

A funeral service was Saturday, April 25, at Renner Lutheran Church, Renner, South Dakota. Burial was at Hills of Rest Memorial Park in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Arnold Spath was born Sept. 14, 1920, to Thomas and Lulu (McChristy) Spath in Centerville, South Dakota. The family moved to Sioux Falls, and he attended Washington High School. Mike worked for Western Union when he was a teen to assist his family. He enlisted in the Army and served as a sergeant in the 376th Bomb Group, 514 Squadron in North Africa. He received an honorable discharge in 1945.

On Feb. 28, 1945, he married Audrey Ritter. They had two children, Greg Spath and Gwen Wawers. The family moved to Brookings, South Dakota, where he was in the roofing business with his uncle.

In 1958 the family moved back to Sioux Falls, and he built their home in Meadow View Acres. Mike was a finish and layout carpenter for Henry Carlson Company, retiring in 1982. He worked on McKennan Hospital, Gilbert Science Center and Northwestern

Bell buildings.



house in Hills for his son in 1973.

Mike is survived by a son, Greg (Dianna) Spath, Luverne; a daughter, Gwen (Craig) Wawers, Pocatello, Idaho; four grandchildren, Jennifer (Ardell) Van Wetering, Jill (Shawn) Swenson, all of Luverne, Mike (Robin) Spath, Hills, and Gay (Jon) Demaree, Farmington; eight great-grandchildren; a sister, Maxine Horning, Watertown, South Dakota; and a sister-in-law, Donna Gallant, Hills.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Audrey, in 2008; his parents; his parents-in-law, Clell and Ella Mae Ritter; two sisters, Dorothy Jensen and Nancy Markan; and a brother, Thomas Spath.

Memorials may be directed to Hills-Beaver Creek Foundation, Hills-Beaver Creek School District.

Arrangements were by Miller Funeral Home of Sioux Falls, www.millerfh.com.

(0430 F)

Effie Gertz

Effie B. Gertz, 90, Fremont, Wisconsin, formerly of Luverne, died Saturday, April 25, 2015, at Appleton Medical Center in Appleton, Wisconsin.

A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Effie Gehrke was born Dec. 11, 1924, to Gustav and Minnie (Wallenberg) Gehrke in Luverne. On Aug. 30, 1951, she married Clarence Gertz. He preceded her in death in 1988.

She was a faithful woman and family was very important to her. She enjoyed doing jigsaw

puzzles and crocheting.

Effie is survived by two daughters, Betty (Dennis) Ulman, Fremont, and Connie (Steve) Shinneman, Chandler, Arizona; four grandchildren, Sara Ulman, Andrew Ulman (Allison Smith), Rachel Bustillos and Thomas (Trina) Bustillos; two great-grandchildren; two special nieces, Sharon (Harold) Froehlich and Marcia Ossenfort, Luverne; and a special friend, Lindsay Eichkoff.

She was preceded in death by two sisters and four brothers.

(0430 F)





Marilyn Bloemendaal, CPCU Cory Bloemendaal, CIC Pam Haakenson, CPIW

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Notice To All Bidders

Springwater Township is accepting bids for mowing the township hall and the cemetery. Bids should be per mowing. Bidder will furnish their own equipment and fuel. The Township board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A certificate of insurance **MUST ACCOMPANY** all bids! Bids must be submitted before **Tuesday, May 5th, 2015** to:

Teresa Kramer, Clerk,
137 13th St., Garretson, SD 57030

or presented at the township board meeting that evening at the home of the clerk.

Teresa Kramer
Springwater Township Clerk

READ US ONLINE!
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Happy Birthday Betty Mann



Betty Mann will be 85 years old on May 1.

This is also her 20th year as president of the Rock County Historical Society.

Her friend, Esther Spease Frakes, came up with the perfect way to celebrate Betty's birthday and the landmark year with the Historical Society.

"We can give Betty the best gift for her 85th birthday on May 1 by making a donation in her honor to the Rock County Historical Society for their new building," Frakes wrote in an open letter to friends.

Mann has spoken of the History Center as a dream she hopes to see come true. That's why Frakes hopes her friend gets that special birthday gift.

"It's not often that we get the chance to do something really special for a special person on a special occasion ... but this is one of those times," Frakes wrote.

"Betty Mann has worked tirelessly and passionately to preserve and promote Rock County history, and her dream is to see the current Herman Ford building become the new History Center."

Spurring excitement in the fundraising process is the announcement that an anonymous donor will match contributions up to \$300,000.

85th Birthday OPEN HOUSE Saturday, May 2 2-4 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Luverne

To send a greeting and contribution

Mail greetings to:
Betty Mann
213 Cashin Drive
Luverne, MN 56156

Include in the card a check written to the Rock County Historical Society for any amount.

The amount on the check will be matched by the anonymous donor.



Donation to the Historical Society is a charitable donation and is tax-deductible.

Rock County Historical Society

The Herman Motor Building on Main Street will become the new History Center once the Ford dealership moves to its new South Highway 75 location. The History Center will provide more room for displays and working areas for history accumulation. At the present time this space is shared for a number of projects and leads to wasting time when everything needs to be put away as work continues. The Historical Society has also accumulated a large number of items that can't be displayed because of the lack of display space. The new site will triple the display space, which will allow the community and visitors to enjoy artifacts that have never been seen before. A major benefit of the History Center will be its handicap accessibility, something was never attainable at the current museum on North Freeman Avenue.



Fundraising for the project began last year, and supporters have so far raised \$750,000 toward what's now become a \$1.5 million goal. Costs include the building purchase, interior renovation and remodeling, exterior renovation and improvements and parking and green space.

All donations are tax exempt and can be spread out over a period of time up to five years. Pledges are accepted in the form of dollars, stock, land or any other negotiable instruments. We need the help of everyone and we will continue to work hard to meet our goal. We feel this is a very important project not only for the Historical Society, but also the entire community of Rock County and we want to prove that HISTORY MATTERS!

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

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- Exchange Bank-Luverne Member FDIC
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- Rock County
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- Rock County Opportunities, Inc.
- Rock County Star Herald
- Rock Veterinary Clinic
- S&S Carwash
- Sanford Luverne
- Skattum's Confinement/Superior Buildings
- St. Catherine Church
- St. John/Little Lambs
- Stroh's Auto Center
- Sudenga Communications
- SW Mental Health
- Vander Kooi Law Office



Mavis Fodness photo/0430 Luverne prom
Morgan Bain from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, takes a picture Saturday afternoon, April 25, as Luverne High School prepares for its 2015 prom. Pictured from left are Luverne school's Jacob Jarchow, Mitchell Oehlerts, Cory Stroeh, Joe Sommers and Jonathan Gacke.



Mavis Fodness photo/0430 Luverne prom
Mistress and master of ceremonies Madison Crabtree and Knute Oldre (far left) announce Toby Sengvongxay and Blair Altman during Luverne High School's grand march Saturday night.



Mavis Fodness photo/0430 Luverne prom
Luverne High School prom-goers also walked through the auditorium during grand march. Pictured is junior Brandon Staeffler escorting Samantha Feikema from Edgerton.

Area gymnasiums transformed into elegant venues for area prom activities

Area gymnasiums were turned into sparkling cities as local high schools hosted their annual prom festivities.

Luverne High School's junior-senior prom was Saturday night, April 25, with the theme, "A Night in the City."

Occurring at the same time was Adrian High School's prom with "Hollywood Nights" as their 2015 prom theme.

Hills-Beaver Creek High School made "2015" their entire prom theme at the Hugo

Goehle gym in Hills. Prom activities took place there on Friday, April 24.

Ellsworth High School used "Rustic Elegance" as their prom theme at the event that took place Saturday, April 18.



Glenda McGaffee photos/0430 prom photo

Hills-Beaver Creek Seniors Noah Holthaus, Matt McLeod, Justin Sandbulte and Braden Ellingson show off their golf skills during the 2015 prom Saturday night.



Joyce McCarthy/0430 Adrian prom

Adrian High School prom-goers (from left) Madisyn Dingmann, Megan Tweet, Olivia Weidert and Mackenzie Wagner take time Saturday night for a picture.

H-BC

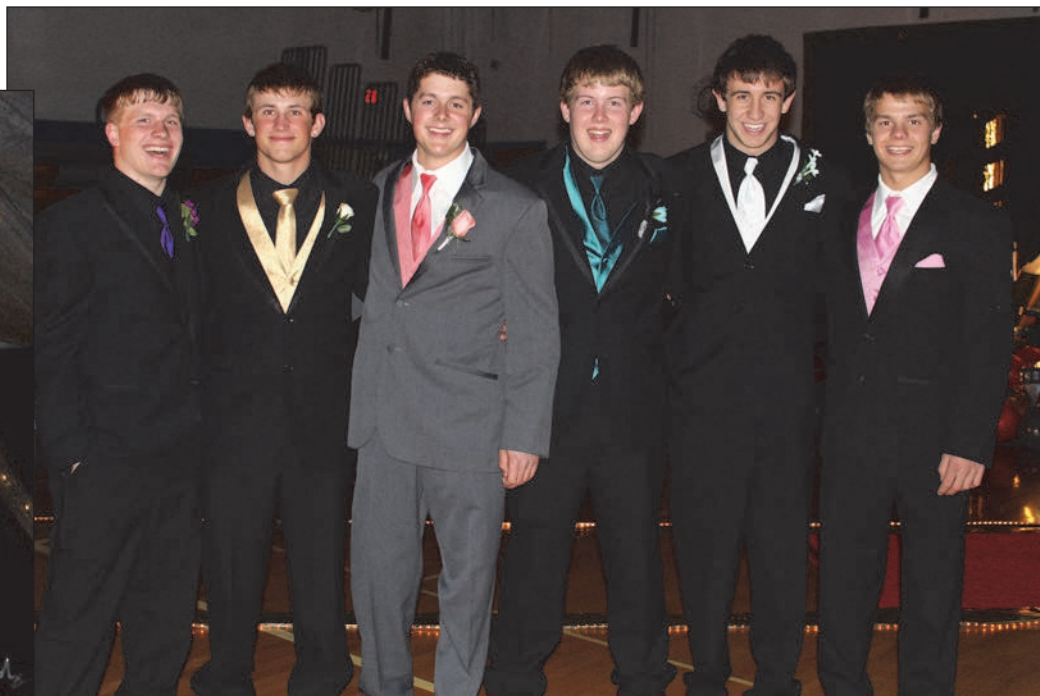
At right: Dalton Klarenbeek and Tori Bork attend H-BC's grand march Saturday night in Hills.

Glenda McGaffee photos/0430 prom photo



Submitted photo

Heidi Nolte and Tyler Kurrasch pose at Ellsworth High School's prom, "Rustic Elegance," April 18.



Joyce McCarthy/0430 Adrian prom

Also posing for a picture are Adrian High School prom-goers (from left) Carter Van Dyke, Logan Rogers, Adam Aggen, Nathan Hendel, Matt Slater and Ryan Elias.



Submitted photo

At right: Modeling tuxedo coats at the Ellsworth High School prom are (from left) Christin Stuber, Brenna Kramer and Megan Popkes.

Ellsworth

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HILLS-BEAVER CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Hills-Beaver Creek School District
301 N. Summit Avenue - PO Box 547
Hills, Minnesota 56138
Website: www.hbc Patriots.com
Email: t.holthaus@isd671.net
Telephone: (507)962-3240

VACANCY NOTICE

- **Position:** 1 fte SLD-(Specific Learning Disabilities) Teacher
- **Caseload:** Both Elementary and Secondary students
- **Qualifications:** Current Minnesota K-12 SLD Teacher license or the ability to obtain MN licensure.
- **Application Deadline:** Position open until filled.
- **Starting Date:** August 2015
- **Apply To:** Superintendent, Todd Holthaus, Hills-Beaver Creek Jr./Sr. High School, 301 N. Summit Ave., PO Box 547 Hills, MN 56138, t.holthaus@isd671.net Please send letter of application, copy of teaching license, college transcripts and three current letters of reference
- **Comments:** Preference will be given to candidates having experience working with Autistic students and a willingness to secure additional coursework to qualify for the MN ASD Licensure. MN EBD licensure also preferential.
- **Location:** The Hills-Beaver Creek School District is located in Southwest MN - approximately 20 miles from Sioux Falls, SD. The district borders both South Dakota and Iowa. The district's K-12 enrollment is approximately 350 students. Pay and benefits are competitive for the area.

- An Equal Opportunity Employer - March 30, 2015

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LIVERNE Call **283-2333**
or stop in at the Announcer office

The Tuff Memorial Home is currently hiring **nurse aides** for day and evening work and every other weekend and holiday. If interested contact Deanna Hrdlicka or Dana Dahlquist at 507-962-3275 or email at dd@alliancecom.net.

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Friendly Atmosphere

TUFF MEMORIAL HOME
"A Home With a Heart"

EMPLOYMENT

The Tuff Memorial Home is hiring a **Hostess** working 2 to 3 days a week from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and a **Prep Cook** working 2 to 3 days a week from 5:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Both jobs include working some weekends. If interested contact Rachel Poss or Dana Dahlquist at 507-962-3275 or email dd@alliancecom.net

Benefits
Competitive Wage
Pension Plan
Friendly Atmosphere

TUFF MEMORIAL HOME
"A Home With a Heart"

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Commercial construction company looking for dependable people to perform various tasks in the construction trade. 40-45 hours per week. **Must have valid drivers license.**

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Email: t.holthaus@isd671.net
Telephone: (507)962-3240 x13

Agriculture Teacher VACANCY NOTICE 2015-2016

- **Position:** 1 fte Agriculture Teacher with 10 extra duty days added onto the contract. Also successful candidate to serve as FFA Advisor
- **Caseload:** Secondary Students
- **Qualifications:** Current Minnesota Vocational Agriculture Teacher license or the ability to obtain MN licensure.
- **Application Deadline:** Position open until filled.
- **Starting Date:** August 2015
- **Apply To:** Superintendent, Todd Holthaus, Hills-Beaver Creek Jr./Sr. High School, 301 N. Summit Ave., PO Box 547 Hills, MN 56138, t.holthaus@isd671.net Please send letter of application, copy of teaching license, college transcripts and three current letters of reference
- **Comments:** This is an excellent opportunity. The district has been donated 10 acres that will be used as a Land Lab. Currently working to partner with the U of MN extension to work on research projects. Low class sizes. Many opportunities for teaching candidate to take the program to the next level!
- **Location:** The Hills-Beaver Creek School District is located in Southwest MN - approximately 20 miles from Sioux Falls, SD. The district borders both South Dakota and Iowa. The district's K-12 enrollment is approximately 350 students. Pay and benefits are competitive for the area.

- An Equal Opportunity Employer - April 8, 2015

Now offering **\$500 HIRING BONUS** for our Luverne, MN location!

The Gas Stop, owns and operates Holiday branded convenience Stores across South Dakota and Minnesota. The Gas Stop is a leader in the convenience store industry. We are committed to providing top tier fuel along with an extensive product selection, great value, and friendly, helpful service.

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EMPLOYMENT

Registered Nurse/LPN – Parkview Manor, a municipal skilled nursing facility is accepting applications for a part-time charge nurse position. Wages commensurate with experience. Benefits include vacation, holiday and PERA retirement plan. Contact Darnell Krull 308 Sherman Ave., Ellsworth, MN 56129 or call. 507-967-2482. (4.30-5.17)

Tow truck drivers. Must have clean driving record and health card. Call G&S Auto, Luverne. 507-920-7822. (4.26-5.14)

Habilitative Services, Inc., a leader in the development of quality services for individuals with disabilities, has an opening for a Team Lead position in Luverne, MN. In this position, you will lead a team of staff in providing services to individuals with physical/developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. A degree is preferred with two to four years of experience in a related field. Habilitative Services, Inc. offers a competitive benefit package. NEW! HSI offers a \$100 sign-on bonus after the completion of 6 months of employment. Apply online at www.habsvinc.com. Job #7024TL. Applications accepted through May 7, 2015. EOE/AA. (4.26-5.7)

Entry level CONSTRUCTION WORKERS. Work April through December; \$12/hour. Call 507-537-9656 today. (4.26-5.14)

Ellsworth Public School is accepting applications for a school bus route driver for the 2015-2016 school year. Applications can be picked up at the school office or by calling 507-967-2242. (4.23-5.10)

The Southwest Crisis Center is seeking a 30-40 hour a week Advocate for Domestic and Sexual Violence Services for Rock County. Responsibilities include crisis support for victims/children; medical, personal, and legal advocacy; facilitating support groups, collaboration and outreach to community partners; and being part of 24 hour on call rotation. We are seeking someone with high integrity and self-motivation; passion, and who has excellent communication skills. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in social work, psychology or related field or combination of experience and education; must possess a valid driver's license, car insurance and vehicle. This position includes benefits and paid leave. Full position description at www.mnswcc.org. Send resume, cover letter, and three professional references to PO Box 111, Worthington, MN 56187, Attn: Kari. (4.19-5.7)

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: To do yard work, mainly keeping flowerbeds weeded and the yard neat and clean. Call 507-669-2585. (4.19-5.7)

Looking for people to help bottle feed calves. Good wages, flexible hours, south of Magnolia. Contact Gary at 507-920-5942. (4.19-5.7)

Do you like to spend your days playing and watching kids grow and learn? Do you like to have your night and evenings free? Then this may be the position for you. Lil' Dreamers Learning Center is hiring a full-time preschool teacher. Would prefer someone with CDA or degree but will train the right candidate. If interested please email your resume or any questions to lildreamers@alliancecom.net or call 605-594-2104. (4.16-5.3)

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Allen Vis wishes to thank each and every one of you that offered a prayer, visited, sent a card, attended Allen's visitation/funeral or showed care and concern to any member of his extended family. (4.30-5.3)

The family of Steve Hup would like to thank everyone for the love, prayers and overwhelming support during the loss of Steve. Your sympathy and thoughtfulness will always be gratefully remembered and deeply appreciated. There are so many things on earth we simply can't explain — why one of us is taken while the rest of us remain. But till the day we see the Lord and he make all things clear, we must find comfort knowing that His love is ever near. Warm regards,
Debbie and Lindsay Hup
Andrea and Dusty Kovarna
John and Alvina Hup
Ken and Sue Hup
Dave and Teresa Hup
(4.30-5.2)

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For Rent: Very nice two-bedroom upstairs apartment stove and refrigerator furnished. No pets. Call 507-283-4095 or 507-290-1948. (tc)

For Rent: Large one-bedroom upstairs apartment. Includes utilities, stove, refrigerator and A/C. No pets and references needed. Call 507-227-1589. (tc)

For Rent: Small efficiency apartment, second floor, near downtown. \$250/month, plus utilities. Call 605-201-6427. (tc)

For Rent: Nice one-bedroom apartment, minimal steps, garage on-site laundry, snow and grass maintenance done and water and sewer paid. \$435. 507-227-5103. (4.23-5.10)

For Rent: Third-floor one-bedroom apartment. Tenant pays gas and electric. No smoking, no pets. Good references required. 507-283-9794. (tc)

Centennial Apartments has a one-bedroom, no smoking apartment available. All utilities included except cable and phone. Section 8 assistance available. Must be 62, handicapped or disabled. Call 507-283-2652. EHO. (tc)

\$400 RENT CONCESSION AT ROCK CREEK TOWNHOMES!
Sign a 12 month lease today and receive \$400 in rent coupons to be used during the first year!
W/D hook-ups, attached garage, no pets/smoking.
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REAL ESTATE

For Sale by Owner: Lake home located at 44 Lakeview Dr., Lake Shetek. Three-bedroom, two-bath. Great location. Viewing by appointment only. 507-227-9225. (4.23-5.10)

Where the blacktop ends, country life begins. Located just outside Luverne city limits is the best of both worlds! Country living close to town. Three bedroom, two bath, large kitchen/dining room, finished basement, new shop, new roof and gutters, geothermal heat. Lots of storage both outside and in. Asking \$235,000. Serious inquires only. 507-920-3816. Acreage. (4.19-5.7)

COMMERCIAL

For Rent: Large to medium office space available now! Plenty of parking for your clients, conveniently located in the Prairie Office Building just west of Taco John's off Hwy. 75. Call today to set up a time to view. 605-202-0413. (4.26-5.14)

Office Space for Rent: Ideal downtown location. Quality building. Several sizes available. Utilities included. Call Randy Creeger, 507-220-1105 or randy.creeger@gmail.com. (tc)

MISCELLANEOUS

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

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RENTALS

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We have several crews of rock pickers and we also do any type of farm work. 712-943-2084. (tc)

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We custom build and install Energy Star Therm-O-Loc Windows. Call Mike at Adrian Glass for a free in-home demonstration and estimate. 101 E. Pearl, Adrian, MN 56110. 507-483-2228. (tc)

FOR SALE

Beef for Sale: Split half, split quarters. Call Marten Kruger at 507-920-9386. (4.26-5.7)

For Sale: Spruce trees for sale by Pipestone County Pheasants Forever. \$2.50 each, sold in lots of 50. To order call 507-825-3914. (4.12-4.30)

SERVICES

Meyer Mowing: Free estimates, hedge trimming, lawn edging, lawn aerating, garden tilling, mowing, thatching, small tree trimming. Will haul clippings. 507-227-2445. (4.2-5.11)

WANTED

Buying old cars, trucks, scrap iron, old farm equipment, tin, wire. Ericksen Salvage, Charlie Ericksen, 605-254-4654. (tc)

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with the
Star Herald
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507-283-2333

GARAGE SALES

Multi-family Garage Sale: Furniture, small appliances, lots of new, slightly used items, too much to list. 12-5 p.m. Thursday, April 30, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2, and 12-5 p.m. Thursday, May 7, and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, May 8, and Saturday, May 9. 1270 21st St., Steen. Gravel road into Steen, one mile before Iowa border. Watch for sign. (4.30-5.2)

Huge Five-family Sale: Antiques, knickknacks, pictures, linens, books, puzzles, toys, games, luggage car carrier, TVs, LOTS OF MISCELLANEOUS, lots of large, 2X-3X clothing, lots of men's jeans — starting at 28 waist. 8 a.m.-? Wednesday, April 29, through Friday, May 1, 501 E. Fairway Dr., Luverne. (4.26-4.30)

Rummage Sale: Girl and girl teen clothes, boy clothes, table and chairs, rabbit cage, toys and much more. 2:30 p.m.-? Thursday, April 30 and 8 a.m.-? Friday, May 1. 1016 Service Dr., Luverne. (4.26-4.30)

Rummage Sale: Baby boy clothing, 3-18 months, Play 'n Pak, swing, jumper, baby toys, household items, women's clothes, 12-14. 4-7 p.m. Thursday, April 30, and 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, May 1. 306 S. Fairview Dr., Luverne. (4.26-4.30)

Rummage Sale: Lift seat, kitchen wares, décor, lounge chairs, stair gates, lots of free items. 6-9 p.m. Thursday, April 30, 7 a.m.-?? Friday, May 1, and 7 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday, May 2. 900 White Thunder Circle, Luverne. (4.23-5.2)

Rummage Sale: Little Tykes, motorized riding toys, girls 0-7, quality outerwear, adult clothes, couch, chair. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, May 1, and 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 2. 305 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne. (4.26-4.30)

Garage Sale: Clothing, boys size 4-7 and etc., household items, furniture, much miscellaneous. 1 p.m.-? Friday, May 1, and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, May 2. 325 S. Fassett St., Luverne. (4.26-4.30)

Grandpa's workshop rummage will be open again. Have now cleaned out the attic and basement and some closets, so have lots of household items. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, May 2, and Saturday, May 16. Located in the garage between 403 and 409 E. Bishop St., Luverne. (4.26-4.30)

MOVING SALE Something for everyone!
1101 110TH AVE. LUVERNE
FRIDAY, MAY 1 2-7 P.M.
1/2 PRICE SALE
Main Street west past Gold N Plump, turn at Assembly of God Church, 2nd place on left side of road. Watch for signs!

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Call **Rick or Chantel** to advertise in the Announcer
283-2333

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