



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, January 13, 2022

Driver's license tests return to Rock County

Exam station at Rock County highway building opens weekly starting Jan. 26

By Lori Sorenson

Local residents will be able to take their written and behind-the-wheel driving tests in Luverne starting Jan. 26.

The Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) weekly test site at the Rock County Highway Department in Luverne reopens this month after nearly two years of pandemic closure.

The state closed all 93 test sites in March 2020 amid staffing and safety concerns.

A few months later, it reopened 14 consolidated stations statewide. Marshall was the closest to Rock County, but scheduling backlogs sent many to Mankato, Willmar and farther.

Later in the year a few more sites opened, but 70 test sites, mostly in rural areas of the state, remained closed, forcing rural drivers to travel hundreds of miles to get licensed.

Cindy Arends handles driver's education registration for families in the Luverne School District. "That is good news," she said about the local site reopening Jan. 26.

"As far as I know, students have been getting tests done, but this will make it so much more convenient for parents to stay in town rather than travel."

Hundreds of drivers, hundreds of miles

A Star Herald story this summer detailed hundreds of miles

Driver's test site/see page 5



Lori Sorenson photo/0113 remme at power plant

City electric supervisor Brian Remme is overseeing upgrades at the historic power plant on East Main Street. Pictured behind him is the 1960s generator that will be joined by two new ones. "This will mean future reliability for the community as a whole," Remme said.

City embarks on \$11 million power plant upgrade, two new generators

By Lori Sorenson

On the heels of a nearly complete \$14 million wastewater treatment plant upgrade, the city of Luverne is investing more than \$11 million into the historic power plant on East Main Street at the Rock River.

The project, which includes two new 3,100 kW generators at \$5 million each, will ensure Luverne's backup generators keep the city's lights on in the event of a power outage.

The improvements will also allow the city to provide increased backup power for Missouri River Energy Services, which

contracts with Luverne for that energy.

On Tuesday night's agenda, the council took action on a resolution to issue electric revenue bonds in the amount of \$11.865 million to make improvements that include:

- modernize the east substation and the associated switchgear,
- erect a control building,
- install two new 3-megawatt diesel generators in the power plant, and
- make all of the necessary improvements to the power plant to house the generation equipment.

City permits 128 projects valued at over \$15 million in 2021

By Lori Sorenson

A good way to measure growth over time is to track the number of building permits issued for construction.

Luverne building official Chad McClure compiled numbers for 2021 when he issued 128 permits valued at \$15,077,990.

Of those, seven were for single-family home construction valued at \$1,128,742 and com-

prised nearly 13 percent of permit valuations last year.

McClure points out that these valuations don't reflect actual cost; they're based on formulation for permitting purposes only.

Major projects permitted in 2021 include:

- Luverne Aquatics & Fitness commercial addition and remodel on North Blue Mound Avenue valued at \$4.3 million.

•Kemp Electric new commercial building in the industrial park valued at \$180,000.

•Prairie Loft Apartments new commercial building at Hatting Street and South Highway 75 valued at \$7 million.

•Luverne Storage Rentals new commercial building in the industrial park valued at \$230,000.

McClure points out that 2021's permits don't include the

\$17.5 million Armory National Guard Readiness Center, which is permitted through the state.

Also, the \$50 million Lineage cold storage warehouse near PMP and the city's \$11 million power plant and generation project will finalize permitting in 2022.

There were fewer projects permitted in 2021 than 2020, but

Luverne growth/see page 5

Rock County's oldest resident dies

By Mavis Fodness

Dallas Bowron left lasting impressions with people he met during his 107 years in Rock County, most of them positive.

Bowron, Rock County's oldest resident, died Saturday at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

"Dad was a positive guy who liked engaging with people," said son John Bowron of Luverne. "He was honest and fair."

The elder Bowron grew up in Magnolia and graduated from Magnolia High School in 1932 during the Great Depression.

"Lessons learned of that time taught Dad to be very conservative and self-reliant," John said.

"Dad always paid cash — if you couldn't pay for something, you didn't need it."

As a teenager, Dallas bought sheep for his livestock trader dad, often traveling to out-of-state sales. He purchased the champion Suffolk buck at the 1935 World's Fair in Chicago.

"One local Rock County banker got a telephone call to see if his check would be good," John said.



Dallas Bowron (right) enjoyed horses throughout his lifetime. He's pictured with his son, John, during a Rock River Wranglers annual ride in 2012.

Business skills honed as a teenager served Dallas well when he started farming with his dad in 1939.

"He was always interested in improving what he was involved in," John said.

Dallas convinced his dad that

combines harvested grain better than threshers did by showing him the grain lost on the ground after threshing.

In 1958 Dallas purchased the Charolais cattle — the first to be

Dallas Bowron dies/see page 2

'Love to Grow' expo offers ideas for beginners, seasoned gardeners Jan. 22

By Mavis Fodness

Inspired by winter home shows, Project Food Forest is organizing a "Love to Grow" expo Jan. 22 at Take 16 in Luverne.

Kim Rockman is executive director of Project Food Forest, whose mission is to help empower people to feed themselves through agroforestry, edible landscape design and education.

She said the "Love to Grow" expo is part of the group's education efforts.

"We really want to make this approachable for people who are new to gardening and those who are experienced," she said. "We know that people who are growers like to talk and share experiences with each other."

Home shows offer only small glimpses into the gardening world, Rockman said, with



Luverne horticulturalist George Bonnema will share tips about growing tomatoes and other vegetables at the expo Jan. 22

generally one or two greenhouses or landscape designers at indoor home construction, remodeling and decor events.

The Jan. 22 gardening expo in Luverne offers a broader view, from growing vegetables

'Love to Grow'/see page 3



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Luverne Music Boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18, in the LHS Choir Room. Everyone is welcome. Contact Heather Johnson with questions, 507-920-6825.

Battle Plain Township Board will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18, in the conference room of Edgerton Ag, 1300 Mechanic St., Edgerton.

Compassionate Friends will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17, at the Luverne Area Community Foundation Office located next to the Palace Theatre in Luverne. The group is for anyone who has experienced the death of a child, grandchild or sibling of any age and from any cause. Call 605-254-2072 or email pat.saum@gmail.com.

Free tax preparation

AARP volunteers will offer free tax preparation for low-income and seniors at the Rock County Library on Mondays starting Feb. 9 through April 15. Call 507-449-5040 for appointments. Bring documents, including last year's tax return and a form of identification to document social security number. Masks required.

Free food Jan. 20

New Life Celebration Church will offer free food at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, at the Generations Building on East Lincoln Street in Luverne. Vehicles should enter the west parking lot from Lincoln Street and drive to the double glass doors on the west side of the building where volunteers will load groceries into cars. Walkers should receive their pre-packaged groceries on the east side of the building. Call 507-283-4366.

'Love to Grow' Expo Jan. 22

Project Food Forest and local sponsors will host a "Love to Grow" Expo from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22, at Take 16 on East Main Street. The event features Luverne horticulturalist George Bonnema and other professional presenters, a showcase of local projects, and vendors with locally produced goods and materials.

Appetizers and charcuterie of locally sourced ingredients are included in the ticket price, and specialty craft infused beers and herbal teas will be available for purchase. Proceeds benefit Project Food Forest's outreach and education efforts throughout the region. Tickets — \$30 in person and \$15 virtually — are at Eventbrite.com.

Contact Kimberly Rockman, 605-951-0227, with questions.

Winter Carnival Jan. 22

Luverne Music Boosters Winter Carnival will be from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22, in the Luverne Classic Gym. The event features food, games, prizes, Bingo, a cakewalk and more to benefit music education in Luverne Schools.

Online mental health classes

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will offer free online mental health classes for January and February.

Among them are suicide prevention classes called QPR — Question, Persuade and Refer — plus a special one for ag communities.

The classes are designed for family members and caregivers, persons living with a mental illness, service providers and also for the general public. Go to namimn.org and click on "Classes."

Community Ed

Call Cindy at Community Ed, 507-283-4724, to register for classes.

Community Ed website is http://www.isd2184.net/Communit_Ed/index.html

Refresher 4-hour Defensive Driving Class will be Jan. 20 at 5:30 p.m.

Luverne School students, grades 8 and older may register now for the **Winter Session of Student Driver Education** that begins Jan. 31 from 4 to 6 p.m. The fee is \$355, which includes 30 hours of classroom and six hours of behind the wheel instruction. On Jan. 24, out-of-district students may register for open spots in the winter session.

First Aid/CPR/AED Certification Class is Feb. 3. Fee is \$58.

Students ages 3-12 years old will learn to play the orff instruments (smaller version of xylophone) at **Melodious Mallets**. Class begins Feb. 4 and culminates with the Luverne Street Music Spring Showcase in May. Fee is \$100 for 16 lessons.

Dallas Bowron dies at age 107/continued from page 1

raised in Rock County — to improve calf weaning weights.

Farming was a part of Dallas' 42-year career. He and his late wife, Minerva, retired to Luverne in 1981.

To the Cedar Avenue neighborhood, Dallas was known as "Grandpa Bowron." He used to give out candy to the kids who would frequently stop by.

Homemade birthday cards with scribbles and stickmen given to Dallas for his 99th birthday from the neighborhood children were among his most cherished, he told the Star Herald in 2013.

Dallas became a popular resident when he moved to Poplar Creek when he was over the age of 100. He lived there until entering hospice eight weeks ago.

He is remembered by his four granddaughters — Emily Crabtree, Alison Chinn, Johnna Ahrendt and Jessica Oye — and the life lessons and memories he has given them including:

- The role model of doing the right things, being honorable and loving unconditionally.

- The memories of his grace and movement on the dance floor as he loved dancing and teaching them to let him lead.



In 1958 Dallas Bowron purchased the Charolais cattle — the first to be raised in Rock County. Below, he's pictured with a work horse on the farm by Magnolia.



- Instilled a strong work ethic in those who worked by his side, especially his ability to spot and pull a roadside or pasture thistle no matter where he was headed.

- And being gratefulness for good health, where he never let age define him or limit him. Dallas just kept on living and doing as much as he could whether he was 80 or 100.

A complete obituary for Dallas is printed on page 7.

Recertify private pesticide applicator license

By **Liz Stahl, U of M Extension Educator — Crops**

If you plan to use a Restricted Use Pesticide on land or sites for the production of agricultural commodities, reside in the state of Minnesota, and your private pesticide applicator certification expires on March 1, 2022, you need to renew your certification.

You can double-check your certification status at <https://z.umn.edu/PPA-lookupMDA>.

While there are several options to recertify in 2022, the cost is the same (\$75) regardless of the option you choose.

Option 1: Attend a live in-person workshop.

Workshops offer a great opportunity to review regulations and safety issues related to pesticide application, as well as provide you with the latest University research on integrated pest management.

Recertification workshops scheduled for southwestern Minnesota include (complete list at www.pat.umn.edu):

- Jan. 27*, Pipestone, MN West Community & Technical College, Room 103, 12:30 to 4 p.m.

- Jan. 28, Slayton, Murray County 4-H Bldg., 12:30 to 4 p.m.

- Feb. 2, Sleepy Eye, Sleepy Eye Event Center, from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

- Feb. 7, Fairmont, Knights of Columbus, from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

- Feb. 10, Marshall, Merit Center, from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

- Feb. 14, Jackson,

American Legion, from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

- Feb. 22, Worthington, Worthington Event Center, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Feb 23*, Lamberton, Southwest Research and Outreach Center, from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

*Masks required at these locations due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Anyone attending a workshop for recertification must bring a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport.

Bringing your Private Pesticide Applicator Certification Card will assist in the registration process as well. Please note you must attend the entire workshop to meet recertification requirements.

Walk-ins are welcome, but NEW this year, pre-registration is available, up to three days prior to the event at www.pat.umn.edu (be sure to note cancellation policies).

Check-in will start 30 minutes prior to the posted start time. For walk-ins, payment will be collected by checks only.

In case of inclement weather, please call the Farm Information Line at 1-800-232-9077 for any weather-related updates.

You can also check our Twitter feed @UmnPSEE or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/UmnPsee> for weather-related program changes.

Workshop topics include:

- Pesticide Laws and Regulations.
- Personal Protective

Equipment.

- Planning a Successful Pesticide Application.

- Current Crop/Pest Issues and Integrated Pest Management.

Option 2: Take an online, self-paced Canvas Course.

With this option you work through educational modules at your own pace (if you do not finish in one sitting, your work will be saved and resume where you left off). Note, this course must be finished by Feb. 28, 2022. Registration can be found at www.pat.umn.edu under the "Self-paced course" section.

Option 3: Take the exam online by going to www.pat.umn.edu and clicking on the "Exams" section. The manual (19th edition), which helps with the test, is available at no cost online.

Option 4: Take the mail-in written exam by picking up a test packet at most county Extension offices or by contacting the Worthington Regional Extension Office (507-372-3900, Ext 3901).

You may also request a hard copy of the manual (cost of \$10) to help with the test.

Option 5: Attend a live, online Zoom workshop (Feb 24, 1:00 to 4:30 OR Feb 25, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).

Space is very limited and pre-registration is required. See more details at www.pat.umn.edu.

Successful completion of any of these options will

renew your certification for three years.

For more details and requirements on all the options, including payment and cancellation policies, go to: www.pat.umn.edu.

Note that these workshops are separate from the additional, annual training required for certified applicators who wish to apply dicamba formulations onto dicamba-tolerant soybeans.

Check the Minnesota Crop Production Retailers Association website at <https://mcpr-cca.org/dicamba-information-trainings/> for more information regarding these sessions.

If you plan to apply paraquat, see <https://z.umn.edu/paraquat> for more details on additional training requirements as well.

If you have never been certified or your certification has already expired, you **MUST** take the test either online or by the mail-in option to receive your certification.

After successfully becoming certified, you will be eligible for recertification options when it is time to renew in three years.

Contact Liz Stahl, Extension Educator in Crops (507-372-3900 ext. 3912, or stah0012@umn.edu) if you have questions or need further information about these workshops.

Liz Stahl is an Extension Educator in Crops with University of Minnesota Extension

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School Board to hire health aide/from page 1

what are we going to do?"

ESSR — Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief — is pandemic aid that could be used to pay for the position, rather than using the General Fund.

The health aide, a 40-hour-a-week position, requires the minimum LPN qualifications. The pay is \$25 per hour with no benefits.

"We are hopeful that we can get an advertisement out and find someone," Superintendent Craig Oftedahl said. "We might not find anybody."

Lower 2022 levy, decreasing enrollment; food service budget in red

Board members accepted the 2022 local levy at \$3,750,644, a decline of 3.94 percent from the year before.

The \$152,862 decrease is due, in part, to lower enrollment in the district.

The district's current budget is \$19.9 million.

According to the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, the general and community education funds both ended with positive fund balances of \$10.5 million and \$141,736 respectively.

However, the food service fund lost \$17,841.

District business manager Tyler Reisch indicated the food service fund might be at a negative \$214,000 by the next fiscal year-end in June.

Reisch said increased food costs and the requirement to provide meals for free are driving the fund into the deficit. Reimbursement from the federal level is based on district family applications to the free and reduced meal program.

Prior to 2020, 33 percent of local families qualified for the federal free and reduced meal funding. Only 15 percent of families applied for the program this year.

"No one is applying for free and reduced lunch, because you are already getting it (for free)," Oftedahl said. "Your numbers are skewed — 15 percent of the people filled out the application; we lose out of 18 percent (of the reimbursement)."

The district may be able to apply for pandemic ESSR grant dollars to lessen the impact.

Meanwhile, Reisch said ways to cut or recoup food service costs will be considered before the end of the school year.

'Love to Grow' expo/ continued from page 1

and developing pollinator gardens to nurturing edible perennials (apples, berries, etc.) establishing native gardening.

The January timeframe allows enough time to purchase items or plan new techniques prior to the beginning of gardening season, Rockman said.

The first-time local expo is also a fundraiser for the Project Food Forest, which operates the local five-acre demonstration site, Prairie Ally, on North Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne.

The in-person expo begins at 1 p.m. in Take 16's events area.

Local gardening expert George Bonnema kicks off the afternoon with a presentation on vegetable gardening followed by University of Minnesota Extension's Gary Wyatt talking about edible perennials.

The South Dakota State University native plant initiative staff will present on native plant landscaping, and a local projects showcase will close out the educational presentations.

A social hour wraps up the expo at 5 p.m., allowing expo-goers to visit with vendors while enjoying appetizers and a charcuterie of locally grown ingredients. Specialty brews and teas will also be available.

A virtual live option of Love to Grow expo speakers is available from 1 to 4 p.m.

Cost is \$30 for in-person attendance and \$15 for the virtual option.

Purchase tickets online at eventbrite.com and Love to Grow Expo at Take 16.

For more information contact Rockman at 605-951-0227 or email info@projectfoodforest.org.

"No one is applying for free and reduced lunch, because you are already getting it (for free). Your numbers are skewed — 15 percent of the people filled out the application; we lose out of 18 percent (of the reimbursement)."

— Superintendent Craig Oftedahl



Mavis Fodness photo/0113 First Comes Love

Mary Brown (in front with scissors) celebrates her new business, First Comes Love Bridal Boutique with Luverne Area Chamber members Friday, Jan. 7, with a ribbon-cutting. Pictured (from left) are Becky Walgrave, Amber Lais, Brenna (Brown) Richters (holding Sawyer), Gary Papik, Zach Brown, Janine Papik, Mary Brown, Miles Brown, Liam Brown, Marilyn Bloemendaal, Stacie Smidt, Curt Bloemendaal, Darcy Hoff, Becky Feikema, Shelly Nibbelink, Cris Oeltjenbruns, Annie Opitz and Tony Schomacker.

Childhood fancy becomes new business

By Mavis Fodness

As a child, Mary Brown was fascinated by the elaborate ball gowns featured in period movies like "Gone with the Wind."

Decades later as an adult, she never imagined the sewing skills she learned as a child would lead to opening "First Comes Love," her own bridal boutique, decades later.

"It's one of those dreams I've held since I was a little girl and never thought I would get to do — it seemed too fanciful and impractical," she said.

Thoughts began to change as she noticed how a special moment in a young woman's life became just a commercial experience.

Bridal shops often rushed brides-to-be through the selection and purchasing process without much personalized customer service.

"I've thought that Luverne needed a bridal



shop — someone should do this, and I realized I could be that 'someone,'" Brown said.

Brown, surrounded by family and Luverne Area Chamber members, celebrated with a ribbon-cutting Friday, officially opening the boutique in the Mall on Main in Luverne.

Brides can select new wedding dresses from four traditional commercial designers by trying on samples at the shop, or they can have dresses designed and sewn by Brown herself.

"I really like creating something that is in your heart and in your head and seeing that vision become a reality," she said.

Floor-length skirts, tight bodices and beautiful fabrics found their way from Brown's head and heart into dresses and gowns she designed for her childhood dolls.

"I was 10 or 11 years old when I made hoop skirts and ball gowns for my dolls," Brown recalled. "I was always driven to do better each time."

Brown's full-time job is working as a nurse practitioner, but she has sewn about a dozen gowns over the years and updated vintage dresses to be more modern for brides-to-be.

She's also altered both wedding and prom dresses. Fit, Brown said, is the most important element.

"If it doesn't fit, it is not right," she said.

Accessory bridal items for sale at First Comes Love are headpieces, hair decor and undergarments.

First Comes Love is open Fridays and Saturdays or by appointment at 219 E. Main, Ste. 2, Luverne. Appointments can be made online at www.firstcomes-lovemydress.com. Call 507-220-1193.

Along with dresses designed by commercial designers, Mary Brown at First Comes Love Bridal Boutique can also design and make custom dresses for brides, bridesmaids and mothers of the bride and others. The boutique offers for sale undergarments, veils, hair accessories and possible tuxedo rental.



Wedding gowns hang in the newly opened First Comes Love Bridal Boutique as Luverne Area Chamber members chat with the Brown family in the store located in Mall on Main in Luverne.

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Flu drives week's fashion choices

I'm not a fashion diva, and never has that been made more clear than last week when I—like



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

many in Rock County—slogged through the first week of 2022 with a case of the flu.

I felt fine Sunday morning, but I opted not to attend church because my husband had been feeling poorly for a few days. Our community's new-found sense of health caution made me decide against sharing the germs from our house.

By bedtime I was sicker than a dog—which may have been a result of watching the Vikings play—but was likely due to the fact that it was "my turn."

Monday, shaking with fever, I wrapped myself in the beautiful, fuzzy, brown bathrobe that my late father-in-law gave me the Christmas before he died. It became the foundation piece for my wardrobe for most of the week.

Wednesday, during a moment of just wanting to feel normal, I actually got dressed—donning my favorite pair of stretchy camo pants from Costco, pairing them with a leopard print, long-sleeved T.

The blend of patterns made me observe that I looked like one of my granddaughters who often blend unicorn prints with

rainbows and butterflies and look adorable.

Though not using the word "adorable," our still-visiting 27-year-old daughter noted that people's fashion sense is often "eclectic" at both ends of the human lifespan.

I was too weak to punch her in the arm.

Sometimes the big, fuzzy robe was too warm, so I exchanged it for the lovely, gray-plaid wrap that my son and his wife gave me this Christmas.

I felt the gray plaid brought a modern twist to the camo/leopard look, and the white Kleenex in my hand served as a nod to tradition.

I prefer more neutral colors so I just allowed my throbbing red eyes to serve as the "pop of color" for all of my outfits.

Friday I considered my plush, pink-plaid pajamas, my brown, fuzzy robe, and the black headband keeping my frazzled hair off of my face and thought, "I've been on and off of this couch for six days. I'm really, really sick of being sick, but I have to admit—it does feel good to look good."

Maybe I'm more of a diva than I think?

Health Care Month highlights employment opportunities

Multiple Minnesota agencies team up to address workforce shortage

The critically important role of health care workers has never been more apparent than now as we enter a second winter with COVID-19.

Minnesota's nursing assistants, RNs, respiratory therapists and many others have saved thousands of lives during the pandemic. They need more Minnesotans to join them in this noble and lifesaving work.

That's why Governor Walz has proclaimed January as Health Care Month, and he's working with top officials in health, human services, education and economic development.

"There are tens of thousands of open health care positions throughout Minnesota—at every level, in every setting and in every part of the state," said Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Commissioner Steve Grove.

"Caring people are needed now more than ever to make a difference in the lives of others—and get started on a fulfilling, in-demand career path."

Minnesota Department of Education Commissioner Heather Mueller said reaching students early and often is key to addressing the health care worker shortage.

"We need to ensure that our students know about the many career pathways that exist within the health care profession and how each of these pathways can intersect with other areas of career

interest," she said.

"High school students age 15 and older have an opportunity to earn while they learn by engaging in training that allows them to be hired into age-appropriate health care employment."

In higher education, training and tuition incentives are being offered for students pursuing education in high-need career areas at public institutions.

During Health Care Month, special focus will be put on sharing health care employment opportunities with unemployed Minnesotans. Minnesotans looking for a fulfilling career, as well as students at both the high school and college level.

Many entry-level health care positions can be started with employer-provided training, and many of those positions leverage skills and experience from other industries—meaning people with employment experience from other sectors are encouraged to apply.

Wages go up with additional training and certification, which in some cases is also paid for by the employer.

There is projected long-term demand for many health care positions, according to DEED's

Labor Market Information office, as well as critically high current demand for many health care workers.

DEED and its partners in CareerForce are hosting health care hiring events around the state.

MDE is sharing health care career exploration information and encouraging school leaders and teachers to connect with local health care employers hiring high school age students now.

The Office of Higher Education is leading an effort to enroll, train and deploy 1,000 certified nursing assistants to long-term care locations by the end of January.

DHS is engaging in intensified efforts to connect direct support professionals with Minnesotans with disabilities who need them.

MDH is exploring ways to expand access to health care employment by addressing pandemic-induced training and certification bottlenecks and encouraging vaccinations to reduce the burden on the health care system.

All the agencies are committed to working together to connect Minnesotans with career path employment in critically needed health care positions to address the health care workforce shortage.

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Becoming a positive covid statistic

I finally became a Covid statistic just before the end of 2021 when I tested positive.

Even though I was fully vaccinated, I still contracted the virus. I knew from the get-go that was a very strong possibility.

The reason I went in for testing wasn't because I was sick and had all the symptoms. It was more like I was a half a bubble off plumb on the feel-good level. Of course, Mary was relentless in her encouragement for me to get tested.

We had planned to connect with family over the New Year's weekend, and more as a precaution and concern for other family members—and to get Mary off my back, I went to the Sanford drive up testing site at the ambulance garage.

I was tested at 10 a.m. and then followed post-test protocol and went home and waited for the results.

The New Year hadn't started yet, so my "be more patient" lifestyle hadn't kicked in yet.

I kept checking My



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

Sanford Chart with no results, so I called the Sanford Medical Center and was told my results were being processed.

I was on my stationary bike when my results finally came back. I about fell off my bike when I saw "POSITIVE" typed just below test results.

I called the Star Herald office with the news, and they couldn't believe it. Next call was to the family to cancel our New Year's plans.

Mary came home shortly after I completed my phone calls, and I told her the results. As you can imagine, there was an onslaught of "I told you so," and of course followed by a couple of "I knew it." There wasn't much I could say but, "You're right as

always."

We put together the housing arrangement for my five days of quarantine. Honestly, three of the five days were over the holiday weekend, so it wasn't a huge work issue.

Like I said earlier, I am fully vaccinated, and while the vaccine didn't prevent me from getting the virus, I am here to tell you I give the vaccine full credit for my very mild symptoms.

I actually enjoyed my quarantine time. For the most part I felt pretty good, and by the time Day 5 rolled around, the bubble on the feel-good level was about dead center.

I know you heard this many times before, but from my experience, getting vaccinated is the way to go.

Kracht: 'How about you?'

To the Editor:

2021 is over, but where are we with the Covid-19 pandemic? We are still getting the same confusing, contradictory advice from the same people who have been wrong every step of the way.

Remember the promise from the person who is now in the White House? "We are not going to shut down the economy and the country, we are going to shut down the virus!" He also said, "We are eight months into this pandemic, and Donald Trump still doesn't have a plan of how to get this virus under control. I do!"

Well, now we know that was a lie. Now he has apparently hoisted the white flag, saying, "There is no federal solution to this pandemic. We will leave it up to the states." But still trying to push federal mandates. Does any of this make sense?

Then this geriatric idiot goes on national television, squinting at the teleprompter, and tells us we are in for a winter of serious illness and death. Great Christmas message, genius!

Then there are the things about Covid no one is talking about. The lockdowns didn't work. The masks didn't work. The vaccine doesn't seem to be working very well, either.

There have been more deaths from Fentanyl overdoses than Covid in 2021 between the ages of 18 to 45. Fifty-three thousand from Covid, seventy-two thousand from Fentanyl. Go ahead, fact check it.

Why hasn't it been reported that more people have died from Covid under this administration than the previous one? Or the fact that more people have died since we have had a vaccine than before we had one? How

VOICE OF OUR READERS

many so called "Breakthrough" infections have there been in the U.S.? Doesn't the CDC want the public to know this information? Is it because they have been pushing the vaccine so hard and it doesn't seem to be very effective?

Remember, we were first told it was 95 percent effective. With a second dose, it would keep you from getting it. Now, get your booster, and you might not get as sick. Does this sound like they are being totally honest with you?

What about natural antibodies from having Covid? Therapeutics for treating Covid, that have been around for years? Well, follow the money. Nobody is going to make millions of dollars from that!

Now we have the new variant, Omicron. Not as deadly, they say, with symptoms being sneezing, runny nose, and headache. We used to call that a head cold.

Don't get me wrong. Covid is real. I know people who have died or gotten very ill from it. My family and I have had Covid.

With all of this, I have lost all faith in our leadership, government, and our health care system. How about you?

Mert Kracht,
Luverne

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Dec. 31
•Complainant on S. Donaldson Street requested to speak to a deputy.

Jan. 1
•Complainant on E. Dodge Street filed a disturbing the peace complaint.

•Complainant on W. Mead Court requested to speak to a deputy.

•Fire reported at location on 170th Avenue, Luverne.

Jan. 2
•Complainant on 170th Avenue, Luverne, reported kids locked in car.

Jan. 3
•Complainant on E. Fairway Drive reported credit card fraud.
•Complainant requested to speak to a deputy.
•Complainant on W. 4th Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, reported subject with Rock County warrant.

•Complainant on 121st Street, Garretson, South Dakota, reported property damage at location.

•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne, reported a driving complaint.

Jan. 4
•Complainant reported rural soliciting.
•Complainant on N.

Kniss Avenue reported trespassing at location.

Jan. 5
•Complainant on W. Warren Street and Sunshine Avenue reported garbage cans in the road.

•Complainant on S. West Park Street reported disturbing the peace.

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported theft.

•Complainant requested monthly siren testing.

•Deputy on Fletcher and Freeman streets reported a stop sign down at location.

•Complainant on S. Fairview Drive reported theft at location.

•Trooper on Koehn Avenue and S. Walnut Avenue requested assistance with a fleeing vehicle.

•Complainant on E. Main Street reported suspicious activity.

In addition, officers responded to 1 deer accident, 1 transport, 9 ambulance runs, 1 parking violation, 20 paper services, 3 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 30 burn permits, 1 gas drive-off, 1 alarm, 2 drug court tests, 2 purchase and carry permits, 2 stalled vehicles, 7 traffic stops, 12 abandoned 911 calls and 2 welfare checks.

Building Permit Report 2021

Comparative Totals:

YEAR	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
PERMITS ISSUED	128	197	169	243	245
VALUATION	\$15,077,990	\$9,797,569	\$22,709,761	\$6,967,765	\$10,265,627

Notables:

Single-family permits (including individual duplex-units, served with private utilities)

YEAR	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
PERMITS ISSUED	7	6	4	15	13
VALUATION [Ⓛ]	\$1,128,742	\$1,245,228	\$959,253	\$2,645,479	\$2,198,246
% OF TOTAL VALUATION	7.5%	12.7%	4.2%	38%	21.4%

[Ⓛ] Doesn't reflect actual cost; based on formulation for permitting purposes only.

Luverne growth, measured in permits/continued from page 1

the construction value was much greater in 2021 —\$15,077,990 vs. \$9,797,569 in 2020.

Major projects permitted in 2020 were the Premium Minnesota Pork new commercial building at \$4.5 million, the HRA (Blue Mound Towers) remodel at \$1.1 million, the Subway new commercial on South Highway 75 at \$350,000 and the Henning Construction new commercial building at \$150,000.

In other 2021 business news:

•ATLAS ministry moves and

expands in the former Kawasaki building

•Big Top Tents moves and expands in the former Bomgaars building.

•Schomackers buys next-door Sewing Basket building and connects for crossover business.

•Agri-Energy to reopen May 1 after pandemic and economic closure.

•Luverne Counseling gets façade upgrade on Main Street business front.

•Vasshous Candle Co. opens on Main Street.

•Generations buys Grand Prai-

rie Events and offers existing seniors building on Lincoln Street for sale.

•Blue Mound Digital opens with new local marketing opportunities.

•Barbara Kay's Bridal Boutique opens in Victorian brick home south of I-90.

•Papik Motors buys Iowa dealership.

•Honor Barber Shop opens on North Freeman in apartment building under renovation.

•Lineage announces a \$50 million cold storage warehouse construction near PMP to start in 2022.

State reopens driver's license exam station in Luverne starting Jan. 26/continued from page 1

traveled by hundreds of local drivers for license testing.

Between March 2020 and March 2021, Arends said more than 100 students were affected by the state's test station closures.

Many of them traveled 70 miles to Marshall's driving exam station or more than 90 miles to Fairmont's station. Others drove 140 miles to Willmar when the wait was too long in Marshall and Fairmont.

And they made these trips twice — once for the written test and another for the driving test.

They made return trips if students didn't pass their tests.

If all the students licensed last year went to Marshall, the closest option during that time, they made the 140-mile round trip twice (once for the written test and once for behind the wheel), totaling 280 miles.

In many cases, the accompanying adults took a day off work, and student drivers missed a day of school.

Efficiencies for whom?

Before the pandemic, exam stations were in each county operating at least one day per week (by statute). It meant students missed only an hour of school to take the test and

Class D Road (Car, Van, Pickup)

You MUST bring:

- Your social security number
- Your valid instruction permit
- Your own vehicle, on which
 - Doors must open from inside and outside
 - Seatbelts must work properly
 - Headlights, taillights, brake lights and turn signals must work properly
 - Vehicle registration must be current (license plates and registration stickers) or the vehicle must display a 21-day permit
- Valid proof of insurance (such as the original insurance identification card or policy) for the vehicle you are taking the test in. Photocopies or copies off the Internet are not acceptable
- If you are under 18 years of age, you must
 - Present a certificate of course completion (white card) to prove you have completed an approved driver education course
 - Have held an instruction permit for at least six months with no convictions for moving violations or alcohol/controlled substance violations
 - Present your Supervised Driving Log signed by your primary driving supervisor
 - Present the Supplemental Parental Curriculum completion certificate if the course was completed after you obtained your instruction permit
 - If you are under 18 and all or part of your six months of driving experience was in a state other than Minnesota, you must provide a certified driving record from that state
 - If you are under 18, a parent/guardian signature is required to apply for a driver's license if the test is passed. However, a parent/guardian need not be present during the road test
- There is a \$20 test fee for a third or subsequent test (after failing first two)
 - Payment by cash or check only; credit or debit cards are not accepted

then return to class.

After March 2021, the Worthington exam station reopened, but the state delayed reopening all locations, citing efficiencies gained from consolidations and centrally locating staff.

Rock County Administrator Kyle Oldre, however, pressed the state to reopen all locations, pointing out efficiencies for state employees created ineffi-

ciencies for people forced to travel for the service.

"Do they think it's more efficient for 100 people to drive east, in our case, rather than two people to drive here?" he said last summer. "It just doesn't make any sense."

Luverne driver's ed instructor Brian Snyders said Worthington is still an hour round trip for local drivers in an unfamiliar town.

"They have four-way stops and roundabouts that we don't have here," he said last summer.

Student drivers are only part of the driving population affected by the test station closures.

Commercial drivers testing for their CDLs also had to travel for testing, missing more hours of work during the extra time away.

Class D Knowledge

Please bring the following documents with you

- If you are under the age of 18 at the time of your test and this is your first test, you must bring the blue certificate of enrollment card issued by a driver education program, or you will not be able to take the test.
- Know your social security number.
- If you have already taken the knowledge exam twice for this class of license, you will be required to pay a \$10 retesting fee (cash or check only).
- Bring the correct [documentation](#) to apply for a permit or license.

When you arrive for your Knowledge Test

- You will be required to complete a short health screening questionnaire and have your temperature taken.
- You must wear a face mask to enter the exam station and while taking the knowledge test.
- For a person younger than 18:
 - If the person is applying for a credential, a parent or guardian must accompany the applicant.
 - The parent or guardian must pass the health screening and wear a face mask.

Customers can make appointments within two weeks of the exam station opening by calling 651-284-1234. A complete list of locations and services can be found online at [drive.mn.gov](#).

Appointments taken now for Luverne test

When testing resumes in Luverne Jan. 26, hours will be Wednesdays from 8:45 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 to 3:45 p.m. for Class D skills (the most common driver's license) and commercial skills.

Knowledge tests will be from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Customers can make appointments within two weeks of the exam station opening by calling 651-284-1234. A complete list of locations and services can be found online at [drive.mn.gov](#).

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LUVERNE MUSIC BOOSTERS 40TH ANNUAL Winter Carnival

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

SATURDAY JANUARY 22 5:00-8:30PM LUVERNE HIGH SCHOOL CLASSIC GYM

BINGO • PRIZES • FOOD • RAFFLE
CAKE WALK • CARNIVAL GAMES
FACE PAINTING • COTTON CANDY

Proceeds help support music education at Luverne Public Schools. Thank you for your support.



Kristi (left), Tyson, Matt and Rex Metzger recently donated their great-great-grandfather's buggy to McCrossan Boys Ranch in Sioux Falls. They're children of Ray and Kathy Metzger, formerly of Hills, and they received the vintage buggy from Kathy's father, Rex Leubecher, Sioux Falls.

Antique buggy finds new life at McCrossen Boys Ranch

By Lori Sorenson

A piece of Metzger family history found a new home at McCrossan Boys Ranch, Sioux Falls, where a 150-year-old horse-drawn buggy was donated last month.

It originally belonged to Kathy Metzger's great-grandparents, George and Augusta Leubecher, who homesteaded the farm where Kathy's late father, Rex Leubecher lived at 69th and Sycamore in Sioux Falls.

The buggy was stored there for decades until recently moving to the Metzger shop near Hills after being gifted to Ray and Kathy Metzgers' children — Kristi, Tyson, Matt and Rex.

"They always thought it would be fun to fix up and actually hitch horses to it, but that never happened," Kathy said.

"In December they decided to donate it to McCrossan Boys Ranch.



The 150-year-old buggy is driveable (except for a couple of spokes that need tuning) and has all original parts.

... This is a place that was always near and dear to my dad's heart."

On Dec. 29 staff from McCrossan picked it up from the Metzgers' shop by Hills.

Troy Geis, director of admissions and equine services, was there.

"We couldn't tell what kind of shape it was in when we picked it up — it had 100 years of dust on it and you could tell it had sat in barns and shops for 100 years," he said.

"But once we got back and started cleaning it up, we saw that it's in extremely good condition. It had been well taken care of."

He also remarked on its original condition.

"It's probably one of the most original buggies I've ever seen," said Geis, a self-described history buff.

"To see something that's existed for 100-some years is so cool, and

Buggy, continued on page 14

1905: The Fourth of July celebration continues

The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on July 7, 1905. This article is continued from last week.

Was a Grand Success Such Was Luverne's Celebration of the Glorious Fourth 6000 People Were in Attendance Notwithstanding Preceding Unfavorable Weather Conditions, Luverne Observes Our Nation's Birthday With a Notable Successful Celebration—Occasion Graced by Presence of Governor John A. Johnson Who Delivers Inspiring Address—Splendid Program Carried Out to the Satisfaction of All

Large Crowd in Attendance

Expectations of a large crowd were not very bright even with the dawn of a beautiful day. The heavy rains had washed out many culverts in every direction and had made the roads seemingly impassable. Doubtless the belief was generally entertained that the celebration would be abandoned. But the patriotism of our people—the spirit which makes July the Fourth the grandest and most glorious day of the year in any country in the world—was equal to the occasion. It was our Nation's birthday and that nothing short of a deluge on the day itself would keep the people from celebrating it was well apparent by noon. At 8 o'clock in the morning the Bonnie Doon train brought five coaches packed with citizens from Doon, Rock Rapids and Ashcreek; other trains added their quota in generous measure, while from every roadway carriages brought hundreds of people from the surrounding country, many of them driving miles out of the regular road to avoid wash-outs, until at noon it was estimated that there were fully six thousand people present.



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

Greeting to Gov. Johnson

Gov. Johnson A. Johnson arrived from St. Paul at 5 o'clock in the morning and was escorted to The Manitou where he made his headquarters during his stay. Luverne greeted him in gala attire, for on the day previous the people of Luverne had made up their minds to celebrate in spite of the rain and between downpours during the afternoon had put up the elaborate decorations planned, which being of "fast" colors did not lose their beauty by the drenching received. Private decorations by the business men and others were added at an early hour and by 9:30 not only Main street but many residences were gaily bedecked in the holiday attire of bunting and flags.

The Parade

The program of exercises for the day was opened by the parade which formed at the corner of Main street and Freeman avenue. This feature was the only one of the many arranged by the committee which suffered seriously by the rain. The muddy streets made it impossible for many to participate who had planned to do so, and accordingly the parade was robbed of many of its best features. The parade was headed by the South Dakota Fourth

Bits, go to page 8

CELEBRATIONS

Open House

Alvie Boomgaarden will celebrate his 99th birthday from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at the Howling Dog in Luverne.

ENGAGEMENT

Jeff and Carol Tweet, Lismore, announce the engagement of their daughter Paige Tweet to Tucker Oeltjenbruns, son of Glen and Christine Oeltjenbruns of Luverne.

Paige is a 2018 graduate of Adrian High School and graduated from South Dakota State University, Brookings, in May 2021 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture business and a minor in marketing. She is currently working in Worthington at Fulda Area Credit Union as an ag support specialist.

Tucker is a 2018 graduate of Luverne High School and is currently working at C&B Operations in Luverne as a diesel technician. He graduated from Lake Area Technical College, Watertown, South Dakota, with a degree in diesel technology.



Paige Tweet and Tucker Oeltjenbruns

They are planning a June 2022 wedding in Luverne.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2012)

•Ever since Breanne Hup, Luverne, was a little girl, she has been intrigued by all things African. Last month that intrigue led her on a nine-day mission trip to Zambia, a small country in south-central Africa.

Hup, daughter of Ken Hup, is a registered nurse at Sanford Hospital Luverne.

As part of a 10-member team from the Ransom Church in Sioux Falls, Hup's mission assignment included teaching hygiene classes at a weeklong Bible camp for 250 young people between the ages of 11 and 27.

The theme of the Bible camp was, "Never the Same Again," which, Hup said, turned out to be true for her as well as people who came to the camp.

25 years ago (1997)

•The wind chill factor is more than an abstract figure when electricity fails in a blizzard.

About 70 Rock County rural families learned more than they wanted to know about subzero survival skills when they lost power during last weekend's storm.

Rock County customers of Sioux Valley Southeastern Electric Cooperative were without power from about 11 p.m. Thursday to 10 p.m. Friday.

With blowing and drifting snow reducing visibility and closing roads, several families were rescued by emergency caravans Friday that took them to Luverne where they could stay with family members or friends in warmer quarters.

50 years ago (1972)

•During 1971, 255 hearings were held in Probate and Juvenile Court in Rock County, Judge Helga Skyberg reported this week. The hearings involved estates, guardianships of minors and incompetents, juveniles, inebriates and mental cases.

Total appraised value of property involved in probate proceedings aggregated \$5,306,546.10.

New estates included 25 petitions for general administration, 45 petitions for probate of wills, two for special admin-

istration and two for descent or summary distribution, with the total value amounting to \$3,726,933.16.

During the year real estate sold through the Court amounted to \$249,876.15.

75 years ago (1947)

•Mothers of grade school children at their meeting Tuesday of the "Mothers Club" found a number of things not entirely to their liking and was announced that steps will be taken to improve the situation.

The city street department came in for criticism because officials this year have failed to protect the coasting hill as in the past. No barricades or warning signs have been erected as in other years and the children who use the hill for coasting are risking their lives with passing cars.

The mothers also commented on the fact that this year the city has failed to provide a skating pond for the youngsters. The only entertainment being provided for the youngsters is by the commercial institutions which they can frequent.

The dangerous situation existing at the junction of highways 16 and 75 was discussed. It was reported that several school children have had "close calls" at that corner. The group plans to have a delegation request city officials to provide an officer at that corner, three times a day, to furnish additional protection for the tiny tots using that crossing on their way to and from school.

100 years ago (1922)

•Otto Bierkamp was elected president of the Luverne Commercial club, Harper Shaffer, vice president; F. A. Leicher, secretary; and Wm. Jacobsen, treasurer, for the ensuing year at the annual meeting of the club held Thursday evening of last week.

In addition to the regular board of directors of twenty-five members, an executive committee of five was selected upon whom the responsibility of mapping out the activities of the club will rest. This committee is composed of the president and secretary, F. C. C. Smith, G. A. Hagedorn and J. H. Stewart.

OBITUARIES

Randy Aanenson

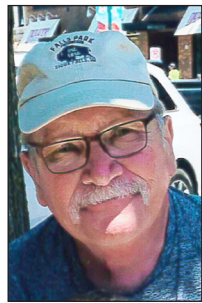
Randy "Rocky" Aanenson, 69, of Garretson, South Dakota, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2022, at the Avera Dougherty Hospice House, after a courageous fight with cancer.

Funeral services will begin at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 10, 2022, at Zion Lutheran Church in Garretson. Interment will be in the church cemetery. Visitation will be from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, with a prayer service at 5 p.m., at the Minnehaha Funeral Home, Garretson. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Garretson Fire Department, Garretson Food Pantry, Garretson American Legion, or the Dougherty Hospice House.

Randall Orville Aanenson, or Rocky as he was known to his many friends, was born on July 1, 1952, to Orville and Rose Mary (Cowell) Aanenson in Luverne, Minnesota. Randy grew up on a farm near Hardwick, Minnesota. He attended elementary school in Hardwick and high school in Luverne, where he graduated in 1970. After graduation, Rocky enlisted in the Army National Guard and went to basic training at Fort Ord in California. Upon completion of basic training, Rocky returned to Luverne where he worked at A.R. Wood Manufacturing.

Randy spent a lot of his free time in Garretson, where he met his best friend and love of his life, Donna Hove. Randy and Donna were married on Sept. 28, 1974, at Zion Lutheran Church in Garretson. After a brief stay in Luverne, Randy and Donna moved to Garretson where they made their home and raised their three children.

In 1978 Randy began working for John Deere in Garretson and continued to work there until his retirement in 2018. He saw many changes in his 40



years with John Deere and met so many great friends. His love for John Deere tractors showed through his many "toys" he bought and displayed in his home.

Rocky was in the Army National Guard for 22 years. He began his service in Luverne, and later transferred to the 1742nd transportation unit in Flandreau, South Dakota, until he retired in March of 1992. Rocky had a lot of great memories from his time spent in Guard. Some of his most memorable were his trips to London, Korea, and Germany.

In November of 1990, Rocky was called up for active duty to serve his country in Operation Desert Storm. He returned with his unit in May of 1991 to a large parade and community celebration. Rocky made many friends through the Guard and helped mentor a lot of friends along the way. This past summer he was reunited with the 1742nd unit he served with in Desert Storm for their 30-year reunion. Rocky had several stories to tell from his years in the Guard.

Rocky was very involved in the Garretson community. He served on the city council and was an active member at Zion Lutheran Church. In 1978, Rocky joined the Garretson Fire Department where he missed very few calls, was treasurer for many years, and enjoyed training and mentoring new firemen. Rocky retired from the fire department after 30 years. Following retirement, he continued to support the Garretson Firefighters and made many new friends!

Through the years, Rocky was an active member of the Garretson American Legion, holding every office in the chapter at some point.

Randy and Donna enjoyed traveling with friends

and family. Some of their most memorable trips were an Alaskan cruise, Las Vegas, Montana, Kansas City Chiefs football games, and driving through the western United States visiting national parks. They also enjoyed visiting their "snowbird" friends in Arizona.

Randy was a very proud dad of his two sons and daughter. He loved cheering on his kids and later his grandkids in all their activities. There were very few events he missed. Some days he would travel and watch multiple events to see all his grandkids.

Randy was always very positive and loved people. Some would say "he had the gift to gab." He found and made friends wherever he would go. This was evident as he battled cancer. He had so many amazing friends and family that dropped everything to help him out, came to visit and called to check in.

Randy will be lovingly remembered and missed dearly by his wife Donna; sons Scott (Danielle) Aanenson and Shelby (Kacey) Aanenson of Sioux Falls; daughter Heidi (Tony) Roos of Hardwick; eight grandkids, Megan, Autumn, Collin, Austin, Haylee, Paxtin, Emersyn and Genesis; siblings Gloria (Jim) Rolfs of Luverne, Joyce (Sam) Hansen of Hardwick, Carol (Jim) Hatting of Luverne, Alan (Dixie) Aanenson of Luverne, and Joan (Myron) Berry of Sioux Falls; his mother-in-law, Nelda Hove of Sioux Falls; brothers-in-law Kevin Hove and Kory (Lisa) Hove; his aunt Gloria Aanenson of Luverne; many nieces and nephews, cousins, and so many wonderful friends!

Randy is preceded in death by his parents, Orville and Rose Mary Aanenson, his father-in-law, Dennis Hove, brother-in-law Kent Hove, along with many dear friends and family.

(0113 V)

Dallas Bowron

Dallas Loren Bowron, 107, Luverne, died peacefully on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

A memorial visitation will be from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. Burial will be at a later date at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Rock County Historical Society, Generations (formerly known as Luverne Senior Citizens), or the Maplewood Cemetery Association.

Dallas Loren Bowron was born on Sept. 7, 1914, to John and Pearl (Simmons) Bowron in Hector. The family moved to Magnolia when he was age one. He attended and graduated from Magnolia High School in 1932. Dallas then attended Nettleton Business College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

On Nov. 24, 1937, he married Minerva Aanenson



at the home of the minister in Milbank, South Dakota. The couple lived in Magnolia and then moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where Dallas worked for 2½ years at the stockyards in sales, bookkeeping and in the alleys. The couple moved back to Magnolia in 1939 and began farming. Dallas mastered the art of private livestock trading in sheep, cattle, and horses. He also farmed crops. Through his livestock experience he introduced the first Charolais cattle to the area in 1958. In 1981 the couple retired and moved to Luverne after 42 years on the farm.

When not farming, Dallas and his wife enjoyed dancing; many friendships were created as the couple traveled to local dance halls. Dallas was a charter member of the Rock County Cattlemen's Association. He enjoyed classic country music and polka bands, farming with his son, visits from his daughter, fol-

lowing the activities of his four granddaughters, and was a devoted husband to his wife in his retirement. He was blessed to have lived as a "super-ager" and celebrated his 90th birthday with his own private dance and went skydiving.

Dallas is survived by his daughter, Judy Bowron of Plymouth; his son, John (Jeanne) Bowron of Luverne; four granddaughters, Emily (Joshua) Crabtree of Luverne, Alison (Derek) Chinn of Alexandria, Johnna (Jeff) Ahrendt of Luverne, and Jessica (Jason) Oye of Luverne; eight great-grandchildren, Connor, Madison, and Colby Crabtree, Spenser and Maxwell Chinn, Hunter and Morgan Ahrendt, and Corynn Oye.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Minerva; an infant son; and a sister, Barbara.

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

(0113 F)

Kenneth Husen

Kenneth E. Husen, age 76, of Alexandria and formerly of Luverne, Minnesota, died on Thursday, January 6, 2022, at his home.

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 11 a.m. at First Lutheran Church in Alexandria with Pastor Karivan Wakeren officiating. Interment will be in the Kinkead Cemetery in Alexandria, Minnesota.

A visitation will take place on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, from 4-7 p.m. at the Anderson Funeral Home in Alexandria and will continue one hour prior to the service at the church on Thursday.

Kenneth Earl Husen, the son of Carl and Agnes (Blinson) Husen, was born on February 14, 1945, in Luverne, Minnesota. Ken graduated from Luverne High School in 1963 and continued his education at Nettleton College for his business degree.

Ken married his childhood friend and high school sweetheart, Becky Hamann. They were united in marriage on November 27, 1965, at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. Together they raised their daughter Jennifer in Luverne. Even though Ken traveled for work, he never missed any of Jen's school or 4-H events and proudly cheered her on.

Ken started his career as a bank teller at Home Federal Savings and Loan. He quickly found his love for the insur-

ance world while working at Tri-State Insurance, Lumber Mutual, and Beaver Creek Mutual. He was also a licensed real estate agent before fully retiring in 2006.

For many years Ken was involved with the Rock County Fair in Luverne and the Sioux Empire Fair in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He loved fair time and volunteered countless hours making sure those who attended had a fun and safe time. He was a great supporter of the 4-H program. Ken was a member of the Luverne Lion's Club and the Sioux Falls Elks Club where he appreciated the friendships with others through the years. Ken served on the Beaver Creek Mutual Board of Directors.

Ken enjoyed playing pinocle with his friends and family, especially the time he spent playing with Becky in their card club.

After Ken's retirement, Ken and Becky moved to Alexandria in 2009 to be closer to their daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughters. While in Alexandria, Ken enjoyed spending time with his granddaughters and watching them at their events, continued his woodworking hobby while teaching his son-in-law some "tricks of the trade," visiting with Jen daily and, of course, enjoying moments with Becky. In addition to all of that, he continued to be an active member

at the Alexandria Elks Club, volunteered at the Douglas County fair, and enjoyed friendly debates around the coffee table at the local cafés in town.

Ken and Becky spent several winters in Apache Junction, Arizona, where they met many new friends and reconnected with old friends from Luverne. He was an active member of the Architectural Board at the Roadhaven resort where they lived.

Ken was a great caretaker of Becky while she underwent multiple surgeries and health challenges. Just as he was a great caretaker of Becky, he never hesitated to help a friend or be there for the family. His love and support for others will be greatly missed.

Ken is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Becky Husen of Alexandria; daughter, Jennifer (Scott) Sundby of Alexandria; granddaughters, Meredith and Maggie Sundby of Alexandria; brothers, Raymond Husen (Betty Benkowski) of Sartell and James (Judy) Husen of Palm Desert, California; and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Donald Husen.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to the American Diabetes Association and Arthritis Foundation.

Arrangements are with the Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory. www.andersonfuneral.net

(0113 V)

DEATH NOTICES

Harriet Kroontje

Harriet Ann Kroontje, 86, Leota, died Monday, Jan. 10, 2022, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Visitation will be from 2-5 p.m. Sunday at the Bethel Reformed Church in Leota. Funeral will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the

Bethel Reformed Church in Leota. Burial will be in the Leota Community Cemetery.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home, www.dingmannandsons.com and the Leota Burial Association.

(0113 DN)

Frieda Kooiker

Frieda Kooiker, 68, Magnolia, died Monday, Jan. 10, 2022, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

Arrangements are pending with the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne, dingmannandsons.com.

(0113 DN)

Theresa Burmeister

Theresa A. Burmeister, 57, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, died Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls following a battle with cancer.

A funeral service is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, at the American Reformed Church

in Luverne. Burial follows at Woodstock Cemetery in Woodstock. Memorials may be given to Theresa's GoFundMe page.

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

(0113 DN)

Free online mental health classes available

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) has set up a wide variety of free online mental health classes for January and February.

The classes are designed for family members and caregivers, persons living with a mental illness, service providers and also for the general public.

Go to namimn.org and click on "Classes" to see the entire list and access classes.

NAMI Minnesota is a non-profit organization that works to improve the lives of children and adults with mental illnesses and their families.

MENU

Monday, Jan. 17: Orange chicken, brown rice, Oriental vegetables, mandarin oranges, cookie.

Half-Price Day sponsored by Security Savings Bank.

Tuesday, Jan. 18: Goulash, peas, tropical fruit, garlic bread stick.

Wednesday, Jan. 19: Chicken fiesta casserole with lettuce, tomato, sour cream, pears, dessert.

Thursday, Jan. 20: Chicken-fried steak with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, bread,

dessert.

Friday, Jan. 21: Fish patty with tartar sauce on a bun, cheesy hash browns, baked beans, peaches.

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

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

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

PALACE THEATRE		UPCOMING EVENTS	
	American Underdog	PG-13	
	Friday, January 14	7:00 pm	
	Saturday, January 15	7:00 pm	
	Sunday, January 16	2:00 pm	
	Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 - 12th grade, \$7 for adults		
	Afternoon Escape Movie: American Underdog	PG-13	
	Thursday, January 20	2:00 pm	
	\$5 Admission		
TBD	Weekend Movies		
	January 21-23 and January 28-30		
	Arch Allies		Tickets on sale now!
	Saturday, February 5	7:30 pm	
	Tickets: \$20 for students, \$25 for adults		
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COLLEGE NEWS

USD announces Fall 2021 dean's list

Several area students were named to the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, dean's list at the end of the Fall 2021 semester. To be eligible, students must earn at least a 3.5 GPA on a scale of 4.0.

Those named to the dean's list are as follows:

Luverne: Tyler deCesare, Autumn Nath, Sydney Biever, Hannah Jo Pap, Sadie Reisdorfer, McKenzie VanGrootheest, Mackenzie Petersen, Madison Reisdorfer, Kathryn Oksness, Brandy Pilaczynski, Mace Walgrave, Grace Bosch and Tia Hadler.

Hills: Kailey Rozeboom.

Ellsworth: Devin Dreesen, Morgan Dreesen.

Adrian: Bailey Lonneman, Ryan Wieneke.

Lismore: Dakota John, Mitchell Veld.

Named to the Academic Honors list (fewer than 12 credits) is Mary-Frances Ladd, Luverne.

DSU Madison names honor students

Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota, has named area students to the president's academics honors list for the Fall 2021 semester with a GPA of 3.5 to 4.0.

Receiving the honors are Zane Holmgren, Ethan Teunissen and Austin Winter, all of Luverne, and Sidney Fick of Beaver Creek.

Area students receive honors at STI

Southeast Technical College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has named full-time students with a 3.5 to 4.0 GPA to the president's list and part-time students with a 3.5 to 4.0 GPA to the academics honors list for the Fall 2021 semester.

Named to the president's list are the following:

Luverne: Brody Bonnett, construction management technician; Brody DeBates, electrician; Jo-Hannah Ladd, land surveying science technology; Hunter Sandbulte, diesel technology; ag/construction; Austin Watts-Boll, HVAC/R

Hills: Ashlee Kelderman, pharmacy technician.

Beaver Creek: Emilee Kodet, media design technology.

Hardwick: Meredith Kracht, licensed practical nursing.

The following part-time students received academic honors: Justice Brandt, surgical technology, Luverne; Sarah Essman, licensed practical nursing, Magnolia; Hannah Fick, electrician, Hills; Jada Johnson, medical coding, Magnolia.

Honor students named at MSU Moorhead

Bailey Swan, Hills, and Wyatt Vansteenber, Luverne, were named to the Fall 2021 semester dean's list at Minnesota State University, Moorhead. To qualify, students must earn at least a 3.25 GPA on a 4.0 scale with a minimum of 12 graded credits.

Swan is majoring in speech/language/hearing science, and Vansteenber's major is business administration.

Outdoors columnist rates 2021 pheasant season far from excellent



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

The 2021 pheasant hunting season has come to a close, and overall it was a year I would consider only fair.

I keep track of the number of birds I harvest each year. In fact, I have one tail feather from each rooster dating back to 1996 when I got my first trained hunting dog.

This year my harvest total was down about 40 percent. There are several reasons for this, but the lack of roosters in Minnesota was one of the primary causes.

I normally hunt in South Dakota and Nebraska or Kansas every year in addition to Minnesota, but those out-of-state trips to public lands, normally in areas I have never hunted before, don't normally net me much in the way of harvest numbers. I did not make either trip this season.

Minnesota has been in an unusual place the past five hunting seasons, and as a result, there have been far more people hunting on the public lands late in the season in my area than in years past. I have a hypothesis for that. My reasoning for the higher-than-normal hunter numbers in the late season has to do with ice.

Normally large numbers of hunters will be out on opening weekend and about two more weeks after that. At that time, the firearms deer season starts and the bird hunting shotguns get put away. When the firearms season is over (eleven days in my area), a smaller percentage of those same hunters will try their luck with a muzzle loader. That season lasts about two more weeks, and for all practical purposes the deer season and its opportunities end about the first of December.

What do all of those outdoor enthusiasts do then? They go ice fishing in droves. The attraction of fishing on early ice when the bite is generally better than later in the

winter is a very big draw. Thousands of pheasant hunters will oil up the guns, store them in the safe, and grab the ice sled and chase their favorite underwater prey.

This season, like the past three to four seasons, has not allowed this normal transition to happen. When the deer season ended, there was not safe ice in the southern part of the state to actually go ice fishing. So, while they waited, all of those ice fisher wannabes continued pheasant hunting instead.

In a normal year you could drive to a public land spot and give your luck a try. This year on many occasions I had to drive spot to spot, sometimes until I checked the fifth or sixth spot in order to find a place to hunt that did not already have other hunters doing the same.

It is super great to have lots of pheasant hunters utilizing public lands. Hunter numbers equate to more licenses sales and more money for wildlife resource management. It was good to see them taking advantage. Most hunters don't really shoot all that many roosters.

My reduced success was not so much about other hunters harvesting roosters until their populations were low, but more an outcome of hunting pressure. For the record, pheasant populations did not meet the expectations of many.

Roosters are smart. You flush a rooster a few times and if it survives your marksmanship, it learns to go live in a different neighborhood. I hunted a 640-acre spot in south-

west Minnesota and saw almost no birds at all. As I was sitting on the tailgate watching the sun go down, I watched 75 birds exit a harvested crop field nearby and fly into a three-acre wetland about 1/4 mile away on private land. They stayed there during the day, went out to feed and then went right back to the spot where they were not being bothered, and no, I could not get permission to hunt in that spot.

When the weather is very mild, pheasants don't need heavy cover to protect them. They can overwinter in groves and weedy fence lines and do just fine. When the big winds and snow come, they have no choice but to return to protective cover even though that is where I might be.

The mild winter we are still having is allowing the birds to pretty much command their locations. The season closed on Jan. 2 so the pressure for this year is off.

This was the year of the rooster and not the year of the rooster chasers. I am seeing many birds, and this looks great going into next spring's nesting season. I will be out there next year and we can start the battle of wits all over again with my favorite winged opponent. The overall score this season was roosters 10, average hunter 4.

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Happenings at the Library

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

The 2022 Winter Reading Program, "Catch a Keeper at your Library," is currently under way and goes through March 31. Read or listen to 12 books checked out from the Rock County Library and win a fabulous prize. Winter Reading Bingo will also be played. Bingo sheets are available now at the library.

Who says kids get to have all the fun? An Adult Show and Tell will take place at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 17, at Take 16. Bring an item (or items) to tell us about or perhaps a story or two. It will be a fun and relaxing evening of sharing tales of local brews.

Bring your creative selves to Bad Art Night at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 17, at Take 16, and compete to see who

can make the worst piece of art with provided supplies. The less artistic ability you have, the better. Prizes will be awarded.

Goehle gym open Sundays

The Hugo Goehle gymnasium in Hills is open for public recreation from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays now through March 27.

Respite care services offered

A.C.E. of SW Minnesota (A.C.E.) offers respite care services in Rock County for those needing a break from caring for a loved one. The respite program offers short-term (1-3 hours), temporary care for families and caregivers by providing a brief period of reprieve from the daily cares they provide to their loved one.

Contact Linda Wenzel at 507-283-5064.

Bits/continued from page 6

Regiment band followed by the carriage containing Gov. Johnson, carriages containing the city officers, the ladies who participated in the musical program at the patriotic exercises, the callithumpians, headed by the callithumpian band, and a long line of citizens in carriages. The course of the parade was from Freeman avenue down Main street to Spring street, thence north

to Lincoln street, thence west to McKenzie street, thence south to Main street where it continued to the starting point, thence north two blocks to Luverne street grounds where the patriotic exercises were held.

Callithumpian Prize Winners

The callithumpian feature of the parade was

excellent and entitles the participants to much credit for the originality and successful execution of their ideas. Nine prizes were awarded as follows: First prize, \$10, to a group of Pickaninnies dancing on a platform erected on a wagon; second prize \$7, to the Callithumpian (Luverne) band; third prize, \$5, to Fred Crawford and Ed. Thompson, Pygmy Hose Co., fourth prize, \$2.50, to A. E. Wyse, poultry merchant; fifth prize, \$1, to Frank Fritz, dressed as a giant; sixth prize, \$1, to Corse Horne and Barton Chapin; the seventh, eighth and ninth prizes of \$1 each were awarded to the following outfits, the owners of which are unknown: Foreigner with carpet bag, two with white horse and grass in cart, and Zouave.

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 manned@iw.net.



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Nationally touring stand up comedian, Tim Harmston, started his comedy career in 2002 at the Mall of America, of all places. A year later he won Acme Comedy Company's 2003 Funniest Person in the Twin Cities contest, going on to open for such stars as Louis C.K., Jim Gaffigan, and Louie Anderson, and is now a respected headliner in his own right.

Early in his career, a famous comedian told Tim, "You're kind of like an idiot, but with smart material." That winning combination has led to appearances on CBS's Late Show with David Letterman, Comedy Central's Live at Gotham, NBC's Last Comic Standing, The Bob and Tom Radio Show and Wisconsin Public Radio.

Originally from Western Wisconsin, Harmston now lives in Minneapolis where he enjoys trying to teach his wife how to fish, golf, and follow football like a man. Tim also writes and directs hilarious short video spoofs about hockey moms, Christmas tree attorneys, professional poker players and fantasy football.

Public Welcome!

Wrestlers make solid showing in Garretson

By Canaan Petersen
For the Star Herald

After three weeks of rest, recuperation and practice, the Luverne wrestling team returned to action in Garretson, South Dakota, Jan. 8.

Two Cardinals secured medals and the team earned over 10 wins.

Braydon Ripka led the Cardinals again by achieving his best tournament result yet, going 2-1 to earn second place at 145 pounds.

Despite having a winning record, Ripka did not get seeded and drew the second-seed wrestler from Groton in the quarterfinals. He won an 11-7 decision over Christian Ehresmann and advanced to the semifinals.

Ripka downed Tri-Valley's Landyn Reiser in an 8-2 decision before losing to Lucas Hueser from Elk Point-Jefferson in the finals. In a hard-fought match, he dropped an 8-4 decision.

"I went into the tournament not being seeded and beat out the second seed my first match," Ripka said. "I wrestled my way to the first- and second-place match but came up short."

Wrestling at 120 pounds, Luverne's Leif Ingebretsen achieved his best result of the season going 2-2, receiving a fourth-place medal.

After losing his initial match to Keaton Preheim of Marion, South Dakota, Ingebretsen secured two falls in the consolation rounds before falling to Brayden Wiese of Flandreau, South Dakota, in the third-place final.



Images by CD photo for the Star Herald

Luverne's Brayden Ripka (top) scrambles to take down his opponent at Saturday's tournament in Garretson. Ripka led the Cardinals by achieving second place.

"Overall, the team did all right, maybe not as well as we could've done," Ingebretsen said. "I feel like I wrestled fairly well on Saturday."

Luverne's Brody Kopp at 106 and Hudson Hough wrestling at 126 each won two matches but were unable to reach the medal round.

Matt Gangestad at 113 and Jacob Madison wrestling at 170 also secured wins but didn't get through the consolation rounds.

"We had a good showing again when we crossed the border," said head coach Jordan Kopp. "There is not much love as far as seedings and draws go, but the fact we had

two wrestlers that were unseeded place — and a few fall a match short — turned some heads."

The Cardinals travel to St. James on Saturday for the Big South Conference Tournament before returning home again to host a triangular on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

"The team is excited to get back in action, especially the team side of things. We just need to bring the energy and confidence," Kopp said. "We are a young, talented group, so we may not be able to overpower by numbers, but we just need to go out one match at a time."

Girls hockey win twice this week

By Matt Lais
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinals improved their girls' hockey record to 16-1 with a pair of wins this past week.

They traveled to Fairmont for an 8-2 win Tuesday, Jan. 4, before returning home Friday to beat Wahpeton-Breckenridge 9-1.

Luverne 8, Fairmont 2

It took a little time to get the Luverne girls rolling on Tuesday night in Fairmont.

Luverne's Reghan Bork scored the only goal in the first period to give Luverne the 1-0 lead.

Shots on goal for the period were 12-10 in favor of Fairmont. Luverne goalie Cheyenne Schutz made 12 saves in the period.

Kamryn Van Batavia gave the visiting Cardinals a two-goal lead midway through the second with the assist going to Macie Edstrom.

Twenty-three seconds later senior standout Reghan Bork made it 3-0 with Van Batavia and Ella Apel assisting.

"It has been very exciting, and I really enjoyed seeing all the support from my coaches, teammates, family and fans,"

— Kamryn

Van Batavia on her 200th career goal and team's success this season

Van Batavia got her second of the game with just over three minutes remaining with assist going to Anika Boll and Bork.

Fairmont took advantage of a Luverne penalty late in the second when Fairmont's Jozie Hoefker beat Schutz to cut Luverne's lead to 4-1 heading into the second period intermission.

Shots on goal for the

Girls' hockey, go to 10



Samantha McGaffee photo for the Star Herald

Oliver Deelstra takes the ball down the court for the H-BC Patriots against the Adrian-Ellsworth Dragons Friday night in Hills. The Patriots won the game 72-61.

Patriots take down Dragons late

A steal and layup for senior Cole Baker (31 points and 10 rebounds) put the H-BC boys' basketball team up 18-17 over Adrian-Ellsworth with 7:32 to go in the first half, and they would lead the rest of the way to a 72-61 victory Friday night in Hills.

Baker started off the scoring with a steal and a layup on his way to scoring the Patriots' first 12 points of the game. Adrian-Ellsworth still managed to sport a 15-12 advantage as a timeout was taken by Coach Wiertzema. The home team came out of the time out hot as they went on an 18-10 run over the next seven minutes capped off by a three-pointer by Drew Leenderts (14 points) to give the Patriots a 30-25 lead. Baker finished his remarkable 22-point first half with another steal and layup as the Patriots led 36-27 at half. The Pates started to pull away with 11

minutes left in the game as Oliver Deelstra (13 points) hit a three from the right wing to give them a 52-39 lead. The lead got as high as 16 before the Dragons went on an 11-0 run to cut the lead to 58-53 with six minutes remaining. An offensive rebound by Deelstra and layup by Leenderts with two minutes to go ultimately put them away for good as the Patriots came away with a 72-61 victory.

Box score
Baker 10 1 8-13 31, Raymon 3 0 2-4 8, Harnack 0 0 0-0 0, Page 0 0 0-2 0, Leenderts 4 2 0-0 14, Bundesen 0 0 1-2 0, Gehrke 0 0 0-0 0, Metzger 0 0 0-0 0, Taubert 0 0 0-0 0, Tatge 0 0 0-0 0, Durst 1 0 0-0 2, Scholten 0 0 0-0 0, Harris 1 0 1-2 3, Wiersema 0 0 0-0 0

Team statistics
HBC: 26 of 54 (48 percent), 16 for 25 free throws (64 percent), 33 rebounds, 19 turnovers
A-E: 20 of 51 (39 percent), 18 for 23 free throws (78 percent), 25 rebounds, 21 turnovers

By Mavis Fodness

The Luverne gymnastics team took its 3-1 record on the road Saturday to the Martin County Area Invitational in Fairmont.

The Cardinals took third place with a score of 131.025 in a five-team competition, where Luverne finished 2.275 out of first place.

Luverne went into the weekend competition after winning their third dual meet of the season over Redwood Valley on Jan. 6.

Coach Phoebe Flom is preparing the team for section competition (slated for Feb. 12 in Marshall) by adding harder elements into the gymnasts' routines.

Freshman Ella Reisdorfer has made significant improvements since the Cardinals opened the season Dec. 2

She completed two giants during her uneven bar routine against RWV with mixed results. While Reisdorfer completed the maneuver, her form wasn't to the point where the judges would reward her with higher scores.

"She will need to continue to work on adding the harder skills the judges want to see," Flom said. "Overcoming some of the fear is something they

Gymnasts, go to page 10

Luverne gymnasts back in action after holiday break



Mavis Fodness photo/0113 LHS Gymnastics

Kianna Winter completes a scale on the balance beam in front of the Luverne Cardinals home team Thursday night, Jan. 6.

Cardinal girls' basketball team splits conference contests, defeats Canby

By Jason Berghorst
For the Star Herald

The Luverne girls' basketball team went 2-1 in their first three games of 2022.

The Cardinals lost to Marshall 41-33 on Jan. 4 before defeating Windom 88-39 Friday and Canby 60-33 Monday.

Luverne, now 10-2 on the season, was scheduled to play in Tracy Tuesday, Jan. 11, and will play in Jackson Friday night.

Marshall 41, Luverne 33

The Luverne girls' basketball team traveled to



Images by CD photo for the Star Herald

Senior Madeline Schmuck puts the ball up under the hoop.

"We aren't like other teams because everyone who comes off the bench is able to score. Although we have strong scorers, teams can't just leave one of us open. I think that's what's special about our team."

— Averill Sehr

Marshall Jan. 4 to take on the always strong Tigers.

While the Cardinals didn't upset the Tigers, the 41-33 loss to Marshall was a learning experience for the team, according to head coach TJ Newgard.

"I think what the girls took from the game is that when we play our game, we can play with them (Marshall)," Newgard said.

"Our girls are excited for a second chance in a couple of weeks."

After a very low-scoring first half, Marshall led 12-8 at halftime.

"It was a turnover fest

in the first half," Newgard said.

In the second half, the Tigers outscored the Cardinals 29-25 to earn the eight-point 41-33 victory.

Luverne's Elizabeth Wagner led all scorers in the contest with 17 points, while adding eight rebounds.

Cardinal Kira John pulled in 13 rebounds.

Box Score
C. Wagner 2 0 0-0 4, Beyer 0 0 2-2 2, Ver Steeg 2 0 2-2 6, Sehr 1 0 0-0 2, E. Wagner 6 0 5-8 17, Stegenga 0 0 0-0 0, Jocelyn Hart 0 0 0-0 0, John 1 0 0-0 2, Hansen 0 0 0-0 0

Girls' BB, go to page 10



Images by CD photo for the Star Herald

Luverne's Patrick Kroski maneuvers the puck in front of the goal against Fairmont Jan. 4 in an 8-3 home win over the visiting Cardinals.

Third period propels hometown Cardinals to 8-3 win over Fairmont

By Matt Lais
For the Star Herald

The Luverne boys' hockey team had a big third period Tuesday night, Jan. 4, at the Blue Mound Ice Arena in Luverne to pick up an 8-3 win over Fairmont.

Luverne and Fairmont put up 18 shots between the teams, and only one goal came of it in the first period.

Brock Behrend took advantage of a forced turnover on Fairmont's own blue line and found Blaik Bork on the back door to give Luverne a 1-0 lead going into the first intermission.

Luverne's goalie Tyler Arends had seven saves in the period.

The second period opened with sophomore defenseman Henry Hartquist beat-

ing Fairmont's goalie Carson Johnson with a wrister from the high slot just 1:18 into the period to give the Cardinals a two-goal lead.

Three minutes later it was the home Cardinals again when Bork fed Behrend who followed up his initial shot for the rebound goal.

Ethan Langseth also assisted on Behrend's goal.

Fairmont responded with three unanswered goals in the last 13 minutes to tie the game at three after two periods.

Shots on goal were 18-11 in favor of Fairmont for the period.

In the final period the Cardinals came out buzzing. Sophomore forward Patrick Kroski skated to the low circle and fired a wrist shot to put

Luverne back up by one early in the third

At the 10-minute mark of the third, a Fairmont penalty gave Luverne the power play when Kroski slid a beautiful pass to Behrend who fired one past Johnson to make it 5-3.

Fairmont went on the power play not even 30 seconds after the goal. A strong penalty kill gave Luverne some more momentum, and it was Kroski to Behrend again to make it 6-3 Luverne.

Luverne was short-handed again with just three minutes left in the period.

After a hard dump in of the puck, Kroski flew down the ice for a strong forecheck on Fairmont's defender.

Kroski emerged with the puck and found Elliot Domagala in front of the net. He beat Johnson to give the Cardinals a four-goal lead.

Behrend forced another Fairmont miscue in their own end under a minute in the game to get his fourth goal of the night, and the Cardinals ended the game with an 8-3 victory and improved their record to 6-5 on the year.

Third-period shots on goal were 16-3 in favor of Luverne, with shots knotted at 38 for the game.

Arends had 35 saves in the game.

Luverne hosts Redwood Valley Thursday, Jan. 13, before heading to Waseca on Saturday.

Girls' BB/from page 9

Team Stats
Luverne: 12 of 32 (38 percent), 9 of 13 free throws (69 percent), 26 rebounds, 26 turnovers
Marshall: 14 of 50 (28 percent), 6 of 8 free throws (75 percent), 31 rebounds, 22 turnovers

Luverne 88, Windom 39

The Cardinals had little trouble with the Windom Eagles when they came to the Luverne Classic Gym Friday night.

The Cardinals led 51-23 at the half and defeated Windom by 49 points, 88-39.

"I thought we did a great job of rebounding the basketball and getting out in transition," Luverne head coach TJ Newgard said.

"We had about a 30-rebound advantage in the game, and that's going to lead to a lot of extra possessions."

Elizabeth Wagner tallied 13 rebounds in the contest, while Kira John collected 11.

Luverne, shooting 54 percent from the field, made 38 total shots compared to Windom's 12. Ten Cardinals scored in the game, compared to six Eagles.

"We had a lot of girls contribute and that's always great to see," Newgard said.

Elizabeth Wagner scored 35 points for Luverne, while Brooklynn Ver Steeg scored 13 and Christina Wagner added 12.

Box Score
C. Wagner 4 1 1-1 12, Beyer 1 0 2-2 7, Ver Steeg 5 0 3-3 13, E. Wagner 16 0 3-7 35, Stegenga 1 0 0-0 2, Jocelyn Hart 0 0 1-2 1, Sandbulte 0 0 0-0 0, John

0 0 0-0 0, Smith 0 0 0-0 0, Serie 3 0 0-1 6, Voorhees 0 0 0-0 0, Hansen 1 0 0-0 2, Schmuck 2 0 0-0 4, Jady Hart 0 0 0-0 0

Team Stats
Luverne: 38 of 71 (54 percent), 10 of 16 free throws (63 percent), 54 rebounds, 15 turnovers
Windom: 12 of 56 (21 percent), 7 of 13 free throws (54 percent), 27 rebounds, 22 turnovers

Luverne 60, Canby 33

The Canby Lancers girls' basketball team came to the Luverne Classic Gym Monday night for a non-conference game, and the Cardinals defeated the Lancers 60-33 for Luverne's 10th win of the season.

Averill Sehr led a well-balanced Cardinal offense with 14 points, including three three-point baskets.

Brooklynn Ver Steeg and Elizabeth Wagner scored 13 points each, while Christina Wagner added 12 points.

"We aren't like other teams because everyone who comes off the bench is able to score," Sehr said.

"Although we have strong scorers, teams can't just leave one of us open. I think that's what's special about our team."

Box Score
C. Wagner 4 0 4-7 12, Beyer 1 0 2-2 4, Ver Steeg 5 1 0-0 13, Sehr 1 3 3-5 14, E. Wagner 6 0 1-3 13, Stegenga 0 0 0-1 0, Jocelyn Hart 0 0 0-0 0, Sandbulte 1 0 0-0 2, John 1 0 0-0 2, Serie 0 0 0-0 0, Voorhees 0 0 0-0 0, Hansen 0 0 0-0 0, Schmuck 0 0 0-0 0

Team Stats
Luverne: 23 of 53 (43 percent), 10 of 17 free throws (59 percent), 24 rebounds, 14 turnovers

Girls' hockey team takes win as Van Batavia reaches career milestone/from page 9

period were 19-13 Luverne.

Luverne took over the game in the third period when Van Batavia wasted no time getting a pass from Ella Apel and beating Fairmont's goalie Rachel O' Connor just 18 seconds into the period.

Van Batavia scored three more times in the period to give Luverne a commanding 8-1 lead.

Edstrom and Bork had two assists each on Van Batavia's goals.

Fairmont's Mackenzie Householder scored a goal with just five seconds left in the period, and that's how it ended in the Martin County Arena with the visiting Cardinals winning 8-2.

Shots on goal for the period were 18-10 and 47-35 for the game in favor of

Luverne. Schutz finished with 33 saves.

Luverne 9, Breckenridge-Wahpeton 1

Luverne welcomed Breckenridge-Wahpeton Blades to the Blue Mound Ice Arena in Luverne Friday night for a 7 p.m. tilt.

Junior Kamryn Van Batavia entered the game leading the state of Minnesota in scoring, with 197 total goals for her career and approaching a rare milestone of 200.

Van Batavia didn't take long to give the Cardinals an early lead, dazzling her way through the Blades' defenders just minutes into the game.

It was her line mate Payton Behr who made it 2-0 early in the first with just a snipe of a wrister over the Blades' goalie Kalle Schuler's glove.

Van Batavia took a pass from Reghan Bork, skated into the zone and fired a no-look wrister past Schuler to give the Cardinals a three-goal lead early in the first.

For the fans who thought they would have to wait to see Van Batavia hit 200, they were wrong.

Van Batavia took a pass and came in all alone on a breakaway, beating Schuler's sprawling butterfly with a little over six minutes left in the period.

Luverne goalie Cheyenne Schutz kept the Blades scoreless, making a huge save on a two on zero that the Blades took advantage of on a Luverne turnover.

Luverne took a 4-0 lead into the first intermission. Shots on goal for the period were 7-6 Luverne. Schutz had six saves in the period.

In the second period the Cardinals got on the



Junior Kamryn Van Batavia (center) reached a rare milestone of 200 career points Friday during the game with Breckenridge-Wahpeton at the Blue Mound Ice Arena. Celebrating with her are (from left) Kully Sandbulte, Hobe Sandbulte, Krosby Sandbulte, Eddie Edstrom, Tenlee Pick, Mallorie Edstrom, Macie Edstrom, Hazel Mollberg, Sydnie and Sadie Gacke.

board when Van Batavia was knocked to her knees and was still able to slide a pass over to Bork who launched a wrister past Schuler to make it 5-0.

A Blades penalty put the Cardinals on the power play at the 10-minute mark of Period 2.

Bork took a pass from Ella Apel, skated in and blasted a wrister on the ice to make it 6-0. Annika Boll also assisted on the goal.

Van Batavia again beat Schuler with a wrister late in the period.

Forty seconds later it was No. 3 for Bork, with the assist going to Van Batavia to make it an eight-goal lead after two periods.

Luverne goalie Emma Saarloos started the second period in replacement of Schutz and made 10 big saves in the period to keep the Blades scoreless.

The final period had the Cardinals and Blades each getting a goal.

Breckenridge-Wahpeton's Kennedy Schuler got the Blades on the board at the 7:31 mark of Period 3.

Luverne got another with Van Batavia getting her sixth of the game and No. 203 of her career with assist going to Ella Apel.

Shots on goal for the period were 5-2 and 21-18 for the game with the Cardinals holding the advantage.

Saarloos finished with

11 saves in the game, and Schutz registered six saves in her first-period action.

After the game Van Batavia shared thoughts on her 200th career goal and her team's success this season.

"It has been very exciting, and I really enjoyed seeing all the support from my coaches, teammates, family and fans," she said.

"When I think about our success this year, I relate it to a practice goal we have set for our team: 'Practice at a high tempo, play at even a higher tempo.' We go hard at practice and stay humble, and it's starting to pay off."

SENIOR ATHLETES of the Week

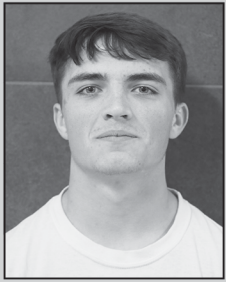
Zach Kruse

Sport: Hockey
Parents: Jason and Karla Kruse
What I like most about Hockey: The memories and holiday tournaments
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Football
Future Plans: Possibly attend SDSU to study marketing



Braydon Ripka

Sport: Wrestling
Parents: Lance and Destiny Ripka
What I like most about Wrestling: It is tough mentally and physically and requires hard work and dedication
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Football, baseball, CEO, hunting, fishing, working on my truck
Future Plans: Attend Mitchell Area Tech for power line maintenance



Eli Radtke

Sport: Basketball
Parents: Blaine and Jennifer Radtke
What I like most about Basketball: The camaraderie with teammates
Other extracurricular activities/hobbies: Football, track and field, hanging out with friends
Future Plans: Attend Northern State University to compete in track and study environmental science



Sunshine Gas
North Highway 75, Luverne
(507) 283-4889

Godfather's Pizza Express
(507) 449-0335

Luverne boys come up short twice

By Jason Berghorst

The Luverne boys' basketball team slipped to 1-6 on the season after losing two Big South Conference games last week.

The Cardinals lost to Marshall by six (50-44) in Marshall on Jan. 4 before falling to Windom by 12 points (62-50) in Luverne Friday night, Jan. 7.

Luverne was scheduled to travel to Pipestone Tuesday, Jan. 11, to take on the Arrows. The Cardinals will travel to Jackson Friday night for a game with the Huskies before hosting Southwest Minnesota Christian Monday night in the Luverne Classic Gym.

Marshall 50, Luverne 44

For the second time in less than three weeks, Luverne lost a close contest to the Marshall Tigers.

The Cardinals fell to the Tigers 51-42 Dec. 16 in Marshall and 50-44 Jan. 4 at home.

Overall, Luverne head coach John Sichmeller found reasons for optimism in the losses to Marshall compared to recent years when games between the two teams were sometimes lopsided Tiger victories.

"I thought our kids played really hard and stuck to the game plan very well," Sichmeller said of the Jan. 4 game.

"The game was back and forth the whole way, and we had plenty of chances to get the win; we just couldn't quite get over the hump."

In fact, Luverne held leads in both the first and second half and outshot the Tigers 49 percent to 39 percent in field goals.

The balance between the two teams was also evident in assists (13 for Luverne and 12 for Marshall), steals (13 and 12), blocks (2 and 2) and turnovers (18 and 17).

Marshall had the rebound advantage (33 to 26).

Luverne junior Gannon Ahrendt, playing in his first game of the season after returning from a football injury, led the Cardinals in scoring with 23 points. Ahrendt also collected nine rebounds.

Connor Overgaard totaled 15



Images by CD photo for the Star Herald
Junior Gannon Ahrendt drives to the basket for Luverne Friday night against the visiting Windom Eagles. The Eagles pulled out the win 62-50.

points for Luverne.

Box score
Cole-Kraty 0 0 0-0 0, Schoeneman 0 0-0 0, Sehr 2 0 0-4 4, Radtke 1 0 0-2 2, Ahrendt 7 3 0-0 23, Overgaard 6 0 3-5 15

Team stats:
Luverne: 19 of 39 (49 percent), 3 of 11 free throws (27 percent), 26 rebounds, 18 turnovers
Marshall: 20 of 51 (39 percent), 6 of 13 free throws (46 percent), 33 rebounds, 17 turnovers

Windom 62, Luverne 50

Luverne scored the first points of the game and led by as much as 7-2 in the first five minutes, but the early success was fleeting for the Cardinals in a 62-50 loss to the Windom Eagles Friday night at home.

Windom sported a 34-28 halftime lead and maintained (and extended) the advantage in the second half.

The Eagles led by as many as 17 points (62-45) with 1:20 left before Luverne scored five late points.

Senior Eli Radtke was the leading scorer for Luverne with 14 points. Gannon Ahrendt added 13 points.

Connor Overgaard collected 11 rebounds for the Cardinals.

Box Score
Cole-Kraty 1 0 1-2 3, Schoeneman 1 0 0-1 2, Frahm 0 1 0-0 3, Sneller 0 0 0-0 0, Cowell 0 0 0-0 0, Sehr 2 1 2-5 9, Feit 0 0 0-0 0, Radtke 3 1 5-5 14, Friedrichsen 0 0 0-0 0, DeBeer 0 0 0-0 0, Ahrendt 4 0 5-8 13, Overgaard 2 0 0-0 4, Mounce 0 0 1-2 1, Arp 0 0 1-2 1

Team Stats:
Luverne: 16 of 59 (27 percent), 15 of 26 free throws (58 percent), 45 rebounds, 18 turnovers
Windom: 21 of 61 (34 percent), 17 of 21 free throws (81 percent), 43 rebounds, 16 turnovers

15 free throws (47 percent), 28 rebounds, 19 turnovers

Edgerton 82, H-BC 52

It was a tough night for the Patriots on both sides of the court as they dug themselves into a hole early Thursday night in Edgerton.

The Eagles jumped out to a quick 20-point lead by forcing the Patriots into 27 turnovers in the contest. But the Lady Pates were able to come out of half time fighting as the second half was much more evenly matched. Southwest Christian sported a 45-22 lead at intermission before ultimately prevailing 82-52.

The Patriots were led by senior Kenadie Fick (8 rebounds) and sophomore Lanae Elbers who each had

Kenadie Fick, Lanae Elbers, and Sam Moser each had double digit rebounds with 14, 10, and 12 respectively. The team as a whole had an incredible 15 steals and 49 rebounds in the contest.

Deelstra (10 points), Fick (10 points), Elbers (11 points), and Moser (8 points) also led the Patriots on the offensive side of the ball.

Box score
Fick 3 0 4-4 10, Rauk 2 0 0-0 4, L Deelstra 3 1 1-4 10, Voss 1 0 1-2 3, Bork 1 0 1-1 3, Steinhoff 0 0 0-0 0, Anderson 0 0 0-0 0, O Deelstra 0 0 0-0 0, Elbers 4 1 0-0 11, Fagerness 0 0 0-0 0, Moser 3 0 2-4 8, Spykerboer 0 0 0-0 0, Harris 0 0 0-0 0, E Deelstra 0 0 0-0 0, Kueter 0 0 0-0 0

Team statistics
HBC: 19 of 72 (26 percent), 9 for 15 free throws (60 percent), 49 rebounds, 14 turnovers
HLO-F: 8 of 50 (16 percent), 7 for

14 points. MacKenzie Voss (8 points) and Grace Anderson (5 points) also contributed to the Patriots who will host the West Lyon Wildcats on Tuesday night in Hills.

Box score
Fick 3 2 2-4 14, Rauk 1 0 1-2 3, L Deelstra 0 0 0-0 0, Voss 2 1 1-1 8, Bork 0 0 0-0 0, Steinhoff 0 0 1-2 1, Anderson 1 1 0-0 5, O Deelstra 1 0 0-0 2, Elbers 5 1 1-2 14, Fagerness 0 0 0-0 0, Moser 1 0 1-3 3, Spykerboer 0 0 0-0 0, Harris 0 0 0-0 0, E Deelstra 0 0 0-0 0, Kueter 0 0 0-0 0

Team statistics
HBC: 20 of 58 (34 percent), 7 for 16 free throws (44 percent), 26 rebounds, 27 turnovers
SWC: 33 of 72 (46 percent), 9 for 15 free throws (60 percent), 47 rebounds, 21 turnovers

Gymnasts/from page 9

all need to work on.

"We had a tough meet at home, but I have been really impressed with some of the junior varsity girls. The changes we have added to all the routines are paying off."

Next up for Luverne is an away meet against Jackson County Central Jan. 18.

MCA Invitational

Jackson County Central won the five-team MCA Invitational with a score of 133.45.

Waseca was second (133.025), Luverne, third (131.175), Blue Earth Area, fourth (129.425) and MCA (127.025) rounded out the five competing teams.

The invitational featured eight competitors from each team competing in each of the four events. The top four scores from each team comprised the team totals. The top 12 individuals in each event were recognized.

As a team, Luverne won the vault with a score of 35.875.

The Cardinals finished third on the bars (30.675), third on the beam (31.15) and fifth on the floor exercise (33.475).

Waseca won the bars and beam events (31.3 and 32.6 respectively) and JCC won the floor (35.175).

Individually, Luverne's Ella Reisdorfer placed first in two events and took the all-around title with a score of 34.525.

She won the vault (9.05) and uneven bars (8.475) and finished third on the beam (8.35) and seventh on the floor (8.65).

Peyton Benda of JCC won the beam (8.75) and Addison Armstrong of BEA won the floor (9.05).

Finishing in the top 12 for Luverne were Kianna Winter placing second on the vault (9.025) and 12th on the beam (7.65), Sarah deCesare finishing in sixth-place on the bars (7.725) and tied for 11th on the floor (8.5), Amira Cowell ninth on the bars (7.475) and tenth on beam (7.875), and Hailey Como tied for fifth with teammate Tiana Lais on the vault (8.9).

Individual stats
Vault: Reisdorfer 9.05, Winter 9.025, Mann 8.875, Cowell 8.35, deCesare 8.3, Como 8.9, Lais 8.9, Kendra Thorson 8.4,
Bars: Reisdorfer 8.475, deCesare 7.725, Cowell 7.475, Como 7.0, Mann 6.65, Winter 6.1, Thorson 6.6, Reagan Gangstad 6.3,
Beam: Reisdorfer 8.35, Cowell 7.8, Winter 7.65, Como

7.35, deCesare 7.05, Mann 6.7, Thorson 6.55, Lais 6.5.

Floor: Reisdorfer 8.65, deCesare 8.5, Mann 8.45, Cowell 7.875, Winter 7.7, Gangstad 7.7, Como 7.55, Gabbie Nath-Huls 7.3.

All-round: Reisdorfer 34.525, deCesare 31.575, Cowell 31.5, Como 30.8, Mann 30.675, Winter 30.475.

Luverne 127.1, RWV 125.6

Luverne returned a healthy team to competition Jan. 6 after a three-week layoff over the holiday break. Freshmen Amira Cowell and Hailey Como returned to the varsity lineup after sitting out the team's last meet on Dec. 16.

The freshmen helped the Luverne Cardinals to another win, this time in a close dual at home over the Redwood Valley Cardinals, 127.1 to 125.6.

Luverne won the vault (35.8 to RWV's 34.125) and the floor exercise (33.225 to 32.10) on their 1.5-point victory. RWV took the uneven bars (30.15 to 29.675) and the balance beam (29.225 to 28.4).

Individually, Luverne won three of the four events.

Freshman Ella Reisdorfer posted the highest scores in three events, the beam (8.5), floor exercise (8.875), and vault (9.25) and captured the all-around title with a score of 34.8.

RWV's Avery Wilson won the uneven bars with a score of 8.6.

Luverne earned top four finishes from Cowell in the bars (7.65, third), floor (8.55, third), vault (9.15, second) and all-around (32.125, third).

Kianna Winter placed fourth on the floor with an 8.2 and tied for third with teammate Tiana Lais with an 8.7 on the vault.

Sarah deCesare was fourth in the all-around, 29.55.

Luverne's junior varsity team won over RWV 108.5 to 102.15.

Individual stats
Vault: Reisdorfer 9.25, Cowell 9.15, Winter 8.7, Lais 8.7, deCesare 8.625,
Uneven bars: Reisdorfer 8.1, Cowell 7.65, deCesare 7.525, Como 6.4, Addyson Mann 6.15,
Balance beam: Reisdorfer 8.5, Cowell 6.775, Winter 6.625, Mann 6.5, deCesare 6.0,
Floor exercise: Reisdorfer 8.875, Cowell, 8.55, Winter 8.2, Mann 7.6, deCesare 7.4,
All around: Reisdorfer 34.8, Cowell 32.125, deCesare 29.55.

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Rock County **STAR HERALD** Luverne **ANNOUNCER**



Rock County STAR HERALD

Help Wanted

SPORTS REPORTER

The Rock County Star Herald in Luverne, Minnesota, is looking for the right person to help navigate the fast-paced world of community sports reporting.

Our weekly award-winning newspaper covers two local districts and their high school sports teams, along with community outdoors and recreational activities.

We're working to enhance our daily presence with social media posts, sports column/blog and occasional streamed coverage with athletes, coaches and fans.

Our vision is to be on the local scene of whatever sports-related news is happening — whenever and wherever it occurs — and share that experience with sports fans to read and watch on social media and to enjoy in print and online pages.

If you share the same vision of a local sports news presence, and if you're passionate about sports with the ability to write about it and share it with others, you may be the person we're looking for.

We're accepting applications now for this full-time position. Sports reporting and photography experience is preferred, along with some knowledge of InDesign, PhotoShop and social media platforms.

Email cover letter, resume and work samples to Rick Peterson, general manager, at rick@star-herald.com.

Star Herald CHURCH

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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/stcluverne/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.luverneccrc.com – office@luverneccrc.com

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

Ann Zastrow, Pastor
Dave Christenson, Interim Pastor

Thursday, Jan. 13: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Sunday, Jan. 16: 9 a.m. Worship Service with Kindergarten Milestone. 10 a.m. Coffee fellowship. Sunday school. 5 p.m. Worship Service. 6:30 p.m. Worship practice. Monday, Jan. 17: Grace Notes deadline. Tuesday, Jan. 18: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Jan. 19: 7 a.m. Men's Bible study. 8:15 a.m. Caring Visitors meeting. 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible study. 3:15 p.m. Faithweavers. 5 p.m. Youth supper. 5:30 p.m. Bells rehearsal. 6:15 p.m. 6th and 7th grade Confirmation. 7:15 p.m. 8th grade Confirmation. 8:15 p.m. 9th grade Confirmation. Thursday, Jan. 20: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online: Sundays 9 a.m. on the church website www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church

720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834

Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well (at els.org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

American Reformed Church

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

Friday, Jan. 14: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible study. Sunday, Jan. 16: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 10:50 a.m. Sunday school. 2 p.m. Middle School Gathering. Tuesday, Jan. 18: 12 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Jan. 19: 5:30 p.m. Midweek Meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Club. 6:30 p.m. Jr. and Sr. High youth groups. Thursday, Jan. 20: 9 a.m. Cookie Crew. 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes. Services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

Rock River Community Church (formerly First Assembly of God)

1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4
Ph. 612-800-1255; email info@rockrivercommunity.church
Bob Junak, Pastor; Annette Junak, Assistant Pastor

Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday school; 10 a.m. Worship service. Children's church for ages 3-6th grade and nursery for ages 0-3 provided during our services. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Worship service. All services are in-person and all are welcome.

United Methodist Church

109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529

Saturday, Jan. 15: AA meeting. Sunday, Jan. 16: 9 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 9:15 a.m. Coffee. 10:30 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible study. 6:30 p.m. ALIVE Youth Group. Live streamed on Facebook and radio.

First Presbyterian Church

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

Sunday, Jan. 16: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 10:30 a.m. Sunday school. Wednesday, Jan. 19: 9:15 a.m. Circle. 1:30 a.m. Circle. No bell or choir. 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
Rev. Dr. Phil Booe, Pastor

Saturday, Jan. 15: 5:30 p.m. Worship Service. Sunday, Jan. 16: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible class; Sunday School. 11:15 a.m. Junior Choir rehearsal. Monday, Jan. 17: Newsletter deadline. 1 p.m. Quilters. 7 p.m. Parish Planning Council. Wednesday, Jan. 19: 9:30 a.m. Bible study. 6:30 p.m. Kids for Christ; Confirmation. 7 p.m. Senior Choir. 7:30 p.m. High School Youth Group. 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
Billy Skaggs, Pastor

New Life Celebration Church

101 W. Maple, Luverne
Ph. (605) 368-1924; email: newlifecel@iw.net
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, Jan. 16: 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.
igtvlb@WOW.net
Bill Bates, Pastor

First Lutheran Church

300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Mark Eliason, Pastor

Sunday, Jan. 16: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10 a.m. Sunday school. Tuesday, Jan. 18: 7 p.m. First Lutheran Church council meeting. Masks are strongly recommended, but not required, even if fully vaccinated. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

Palisade Lutheran Church

211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 – firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Mark Eliason, Pastor

Thursday, Jan. 13: 1:30 p.m. Palisade WELCA meeting. 7 p.m. Palisade council meeting. Sunday, Jan. 16: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Worship service. Thursday, Jan. 13: 1:30 p.m. Palisade WELCA meeting. Masks are strongly recommended, but not required, even if fully vaccinated. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

First Presbyterian Church

201 S. 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

Sunday, Jan. 16: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. 9 a.m. Sunday School. 7-8:30 p.m. Youth group meets. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org. Tuesday, Jan. 18: 2 p.m. Tuff Home Bible study. 3:30 p.m. Tuff Village Bible study. Wednesday, Jan. 19: 9 a.m. Quilting. 6 p.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Social/dessert time. 7:15 p.m. Wednesday night worship service.

Hills United Reformed Church

410 S. Central Ave., Hills
Office Ph. 962-3254
hillsure@alliancecom.net
Alan Camarigg, Pastor

Who is my neighbor?

"A man was going from Jerusalem to Jericho..." So begins one of Jesus' most popular stories, The Parable of the Good Samaritan (found in Luke 10:25-37). Being a parable, the events described didn't actually take place, but the story served as an illustration, in this case, answering the lawyer's question, "Who is my neighbor?"

In the parable, the traveler was robbed, beaten, and left for dead. Two religious leaders came upon him and passed by, giving him wide berth. Then a (hated and despised) Samaritan came along, tended to his wounds, and provided for his continuing care. Who was the neighbor? "The one who showed him mercy."

We all have been each of the characters in the story. Each of us has been hurt in some way at the hands of others, perhaps physically beaten up, teased, excluded, lied about, etc. Each of us has turned a blind eye to those we see who are hurting, not wanting to get involved for whatever reason – we don't know them personally, their skin color or beliefs are different from ours, we don't want to get dragged into their mess, we think they somehow deserve their situation, etc. We have even been the robbers, causing harm to those around us, sometimes intentionally, sometimes inadvertently. Hopefully we have also been the Samaritan, the person who saw someone in need and did what they could to help.

I have had times where I was the traveler. A couple of times I was literally lying hurt on the side of the road (sidewalk), and "Good Samaritans" assisted

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Ann Zastrow
Grace Lutheran Church, Luverne

me, bringing me to the hospital, or looking after my needs in other ways. Other times, friends and acquaintances lent an ear, shared a meal, or helped with a project. While I was out on medical leave this past summer, folks brought food, sent cards, made phone calls, and dropped by for visits. Some of these many helpful and compassionate people I knew, others I didn't. But each one was a neighbor to me, showing kindness and mercy.

The world is in a lot of hurt right now. Covid is still a thing. Christmas is over, and the rest of the long winter stretches out ahead of us, complete with frigid temperatures, strong winds, and winter blahs. Prices on everything are rising, but paychecks are no larger. Mental health is more fragile than usual, for all ages. Tempers are short. We all need a break, and we can't seem to catch one. I'm sure we can all add to this list!

As Mr. Rogers asked in his television show theme song, "Won't you be my neighbor?", how can we be neighbors? What can we do to show mercy, kindness, or compassion to those around us, whether we know them or not? How can we make our corner of the world a better place? I challenge you to think about these questions, and act with mercy, kindness and compassion. Won't you be my neighbor?

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

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Rock County operation budget for 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following is a summary of the operation budget for the 2022 fiscal year for the County of Rock. This summary is published in accordance with Minnesota Statute 375.169. The detail for the County Budget is on file in the Office of the County Auditor-Treasurer at the Courthouse and may be reviewed during normal hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

COUNTY SUMMARY BUDGET

	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
REVENUES		
County Portion of Tax Levy	\$ 6,345,106	\$ 6,533,370
Other Taxes and Penalties	883,593	976,943
Special Assessments	332,953	269,017
Licenses and Permits	29,060	46,795
Shared Revenues	1,808,301	2,118,084
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	80,000	80,000
Local Grants	137,584	140,843
State Grants	200,871	174,320
Federal Grants	20,800	23,000
County Program Aid	562,744	556,975
Charges for Services	1,883,401	2,074,285
Fines and Forfeitures	5,000	5,000
Investment Earnings	130,200	121,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	209,550	205,940
TOTAL REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES	\$ 12,629,163	\$ 13,326,072
EXPENDITURES		
General Government	\$ 2,344,790	\$ 2,418,398
Public Safety	2,411,313	2,675,646
Highways & Streets	3,168,120	3,502,495
Human Services	1,508,191	1,559,647
Sanitation	769,815	773,805
Health	16,800	32,246
Culture & Recreation	500,818	506,071
Conservation of Natural Resources	605,594	642,487
Economic Development	2,000	2,000
Intergovernmental	246,953	297,666
Debt Service	943,207	1,100,974
Capital Outlay	75,000	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	\$ 12,592,601	\$ 13,511,435

(01-13)

Titan Truck & Trailer Service assumes name

MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true ownership of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: Titan Truck & Trailer Service
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
411 West Gabrielson Road, Luverne, MN 56156 USA
NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name: Titan Machinery Inc.
Address: 644 East Beaton Drive, West Fargo, ND 58078 USA

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Signature : /s/ Dawn Doyel
MAILING ADDRESS: 644 East Beaton Drive, West Fargo, ND 58078
EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: dawn.doyel@titanmachinery.com
(01-06, 01-13)

RENTALS

For Rent: One-bedroom apartment for rent. No pets; no smoking. Call 507-283-9720. (tc)

House for Rent: Larger home for rent in Luverne. Two baths, both with shower. Double garage, air conditioning. NO pets! Call 283-8151. (1.13-1.29)

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EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is accepting applications for a Paraprofessional. Applications can be found on the school website: <https://www.ellsworth.mntm.org/district/district-vacancies.cfm> or by calling the school at 507-967-2242. (12.24-1.13)

Ellsworth Public School is accepting applications for an Assistant Cook. Applications can be found on the school website at: <https://www.ellsworth.mntm.org/district/district-vacancies.cfm> or by calling the school at 507-967-2242. (1.08-01.27)

EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is accepting applications for a Covid & Learning Loss Coordinator. To apply for this position, submit a letter of interest, resume & references to: Ellsworth Public School P.O. Box 8, Ellsworth, MN 56129. Or this can be emailed to darcey.groen@ellsworth.mntm.org (1.08-01.27)

Oasis Care Home in Luverne is hiring for a part time Home Health Aide. Pay is \$15/hour. Call for more details. 507-449-6156. (12.31-1.20)

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of Pipestone is under construction and is searching for a variety of dental and business professionals to join our successful organization. The new Clinic is located at 301 - 11th Street NE and we hope to have staff in place in the spring. Caring Hands serves all people of all ages with high quality, award winning dental care and education.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE: LICENSED DENTAL ASSISTANTS

All fulltime positions enjoy very competitive wages, based on experience and benefits including paid BLS, CE, Licenses, dues, scrubs, vacation, health insurance subsidy, PTO, family dental care and matching IRA. Some positions offer a nice sign-on bonus too! No selling services just provide great care. Caring Hands strives to provide a comfortable family friendly work atmosphere for its staff. If you like people, are professional and want to enjoy a 4 day work week please apply in confidence to: Al Olsen, CEO at al@caringhandsdc.org.



FULL TIME HEALTH AIDE

Luverne Public Schools is accepting applications for a full time (school year) health aide.

- Assist school nurse with direct student care
- Medication management
- Medical documentation
- Oversee management of student health plans
- Staff wellness program
- Help coordinate and cover health needs during school transportation

An LPN or RN license required. Previous work experience in health care preferred.

Application form available at www.isd2184.net. Submit letter of application and application form to

Craig Oftedahl, Superintendent,
709 North Kniss Avenue, Luverne MN 56156.
Open until filled.

Our growing Research Team is searching for a

Research Site Manager

- Oversee the daily activities of Research Barns
- Collect data
- Maintain health and biosecurity
- See the website for a full job description.

Go to www.pipestone.com to apply or for information. Call 507-825-2532 with questions.

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We're Hiring Nursing Assistants

Tuff Memorial Home is looking for hard working, caring individuals to assist our residents.

We have Day and Evening Nursing Assistant shifts available for full time and part time

\$17 Starting Wage AND \$2500 SIGN-ON BONUS!

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- Paid Time Off
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- Medical, Dental, Vision Insurance
- Referral Bonus
- Scholarship Opportunities

Contact Us

507-962-3275
Online application @ www.tuffmemorialhome.com
Pick up an application @ 505 East 4th St. Hills, MN

MANAGER WANTED



Luverne Country Club is currently seeking interested individuals for the Clubhouse Manager position for the 2022 season. Specific duties for this position include, but are not limited to:

- Managing the restaurant and bar
 - Manage the ordering, storage, preparation, and serving of food and drinks
 - Organize and train staff, as well as recruit staff based on need
 - Manage and maintain daily deposits
 - Manage the website and social media accounts
 - Manage events and tournament schedule at the course
- Interested individuals should send a cover letter, resume and three (3) references via email or hard copy by Jan. 14th, 2022.

Scott Remme
Board President
PO Box 853
Luverne, MN 56156
Or email to:
golf@luvernecountryclub.com

Luverne Country Club • 1520 11th St, Luverne, MN • 507-283-4383

We're Hiring Care Providers

Tuff Village Assisted Living is looking for hard working, caring individuals to assist our tenants.

We have various Care Provider shifts available for full time and part time! Shifts include every other weekend and every other holiday.

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- Flexible Scheduling
- Paid Time Off
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Contact Us

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EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT



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 - Laundry Aide
 - Full-time Cook and Dietary Aides
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Buggy finds new home/continued from page 6

to learn it had a story with it ... I learned that the company had dealership in Sioux Falls at the turn of the century, so this couple probably bought it there."

The maker's plate under the floor mat identifies the buggy as being manufactured by the Emerson-Brantingham Carriage Works Company in Rock Island, Illinois.

The serial number on a white tag under the buggy seat matches the serial number on the plate.

The Metzger family traveled to McCrossan Boys Ranch on Dec. 30 to see the buggy in its new home.

"The boys there had spent hours cleaning it up," Kathy said. "We couldn't believe how great it looked."

McCrossan Boys Ranch is a private, nonprofit school for boys ages 9-20 who have experienced conflict in their lives. It's been in operation since 1955 northwest of Sioux Falls.

"We're a working ranch with horses, cattle and sheep, and we use that as part of our treatment program to try to help," Geis said.

He said the Metzger



Kathy Metzger's great-grandparents, George and Augusta Leubecher, reportedly bought the buggy in 1871 for their honeymoon. The couple homesteaded the farm where Kathy's late father, Rex Leubecher, lived at 69th and Sycamore in Sioux Falls.

buggy is in driving condition, but a couple of spokes in a wheel will be tuned before hitching it to a horse.

After that, the buggy

will likely make regular appearances in parades, wagon rides and other events.



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



Now that the holiday season has passed we find ourselves in the midst of the cold and flu season. Unfortunately COVID has changed the way we look at the flu season. We need to take a much more serious approach as to how we consider ways to prevent various strains of the COVID virus. Nearly 32% of Minnesota kids ages 5 to 11 have gotten vaccinated and more and more are doing so each day. In Rock County, that number is only 12%. I think most of us would agree keeping kids safe, healthy and in school is a top priority and getting our children vaccinated helps to stay that course. Let's do our part to help keep our kids and community safe. EVERYONE should call to schedule an appointment today!

HELP SAVE A LIFE



NEXT RED CROSS BLOOD DONATION TIME
in Luverne is Tuesday, February 22
at Living Rock Church
12 pm - 6 pm
1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

Red Cross urging communities to donate blood

National blood centers such as the American Red Cross, the Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies (AABB), and America's Blood Centers are all calling for eligible individuals to donate blood due to a national shortage.

In a joint statement, the organizations wrote, "The blood supply in the United States has reached one of its lowest levels in recent years. Blood centers across the country report they have less than a one-day supply of blood on hand - a dangerously low level. If the nation's blood supply does not stabilize soon, life-saving blood may not be available for some patients when it is needed."

January is National Blood Donor Month, a time to celebrate the impact of blood and platelet donors during one of the most difficult times of year to maintain a sufficient blood supply. Schedule an appointment to donate, visit www.redcrossblood.org or www.mbc.org.

EVERYONE 12 AND OLDER SHOULD GET A COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOT

PFIZER VACCINE	MODERNA VACCINE	JOHNSON & JOHNSON VACCINE
<p>✓ Everyone 12 and older should get a booster shot 5 months after their second dose.</p> <p>FIRST DOSE → SECOND DOSE → 5 MONTHS → BOOSTER SHOT</p>	<p>✓ Everyone 18 and older should get a booster shot 6 months after their second dose.</p> <p>FIRST DOSE → SECOND DOSE → 6 MONTHS → BOOSTER SHOT</p>	<p>✓ Everyone 18 and older should get a booster shot 2 months after their second dose.</p> <p>SINGLE DOSE → 2 MONTHS → BOOSTER SHOT</p>
<p>'Mixing and matching' COVID-19 vaccine boosters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All adults 18 and older: You can choose your COVID-19 booster, regardless of what vaccine you originally received. • 12-17 year olds who got the Pfizer vaccine should get a Pfizer booster shot. <p>STAY SAFE MN</p>		

CDC Updates and Shortens Recommended Isolation and Quarantine Period for General Population

Given what we currently know about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation for the public. People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

Additionally, CDC is updating the recommended quarantine period for anyone in the general public who is exposed to COVID-19. For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days. Alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person wear a well-fitting mask at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure. Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure. For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

More information on isolation and quarantining can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html> or scan the QR code to the right.



STRONGER-HEALTHIER TOGETHER

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



Sincerely,
Patrick T. Baustian
Mayor Patrick T. Baustian

