



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, January 14, 2021

'It's music to my ears. It's been so lonely in here with the tables put away. Just being able to have people in here is wonderful.'

Restaurants, bars reopen for in-person business

By Lori Sorenson

Lunch customers at WildFlowers Coffee Boutique chatted across tables and sipped coffee between bites of salad and sandwiches.

"It's music to my ears," said restaurant owner Tracy Wieneke. "It's been so lonely in here with the tables put away. Just being able to have people in here is wonderful."

Monday was the first day since Nov. 18 that restaurants have been able to serve customers indoors for in-person dining.

Last week Gov. Tim Walz announced a loosening of restrictions in response to COVID-19 case numbers slowing.

According to his new order, indoor dining at bars and restaurants can open at 50 percent capacity, with a maximum of 150 people.

Parties of no more than six people must remain six feet from other parties; bar seating is open to parties of two; reservations are required; and establishments must close dine-in service by 10 p.m.

Wieneke said COVID-19 restrictions on restaurants have been hard on her bottom line, especially since she purchased WildFlowers in July of 2019 just before the pandemic hit.

"It's hard for me to compare losses to a normal year," she said. "But the community has been so supportive."

She said customers have been loyal about ordering take-out meals from WildFlowers and she said the city of Luverne has offered generous grants to its businesses affected by the pandemic.

"I'm not worried about tomorrow," Wieneke said.

Restaurants reopen/see page 10



Lori Sorenson photos/0114 loosened COVID restrictions wildflowers WildFlowers Coffee Boutique owner Tracy Wieneke (pictured at right) said the chatter of customers in her restaurant was music to her ears Monday after being closed to indoor dining since Nov. 18. In the photograph above, WildFlowers Boutique employee Jayda Walgrave works at the counter following the Monday lunch hour.



Vaccine distribution continues in Rock County

By Lori Sorenson

The COVID-19 vaccine continues to be administered to Rock County people in the first phases of the rollout.

As word gets out about local distribution, Jason Kloss of Southwest Health and Human Services is asking for public patience.

"We understand that many are looking forward to receive the vaccine and don't want to miss out on their chance," he said.

"As vaccine supplies increase, we will be working with local partners to distribute the vaccine to the public, according to the guidelines set by the Minnesota Department of Health."

He said Phase 1a distribution is nearly complete. That included health care personnel and other front-line workers.

"All people in this first phase have been given the opportunity to receive the vaccine by the end of January," Kloss said.

"We will likely be given the go-ahead to vaccinate people in Phase 1b sometime in February."

Priority groups in Phase 1b include teachers, grocery store workers, fire, food processing, day care workers, correctional workers, public transit and postal workers as well as 75 and older population.

So far Sanford Luverne has delivered 241 first doses and 92 second doses. Another 100 first-round doses and 43 second doses will be administered later this week.

City approves \$100,000 for business pandemic relief

By Lori Sorenson

More help is on the way for Luverne businesses that lost revenue due to pandemic restrictions.

The Luverne Economic Development Authority approved \$100,000 for a grant program to assist the hardest hit local small businesses.

"Restaurants were feeling a big pinch," Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian said at the Monday morning LEDA meeting. "This will help them get their employees back and get their feet under them."

According to the resolution that was approved unanimously, grants

will be awarded monthly from January through April based on each business's city utilities costs

The identified businesses already received CARES Act funds through earlier programs, and all they have to do is sign an acknowledgement verifying the following:

- they are small businesses located in the city of Luverne that sustained costs due to required pandemic closures.
- they were operating during the 12 months prior to March 1, 2020.

City grants/continued on page 3

County approves new round of COVID-19 relief grants for hardest-hit businesses

By Mavis Fodness

Twenty-three businesses in Rock County are targeted for a second round of coronavirus aid grants.

Commissioners received \$250,000 from the state in additional pandemic relief, and a distribution plan was approved at their Jan. 5 meeting.

Targeted are bars and restaurants and other business entities most affected by Governor Walz's Emergency Executive Order 20-99.

The order required a four-week "dial back" on in-person dining and other social activities in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The county's more focused approach is meant to assist local bars and restaurants along with bowling alleys, events and fitness centers that were adversely affected by the second round of business closures.

Counties are charged with distributing the funds locally. No additional dollars were allocated to cities, as in the first round of coronavirus aid.

"What they (state officials) want us to be is a gap filler for that executive order, I believe," said County Administrator Kyle Oldre.

State legislators approved a plan to automatically compensate businesses that experienced more than a 30-percent decline in sales.

Oldre said some affected businesses in Rock County did not meet that threshold because they adjusted how they do business to lessen the loss.

"They believe they are not going to get money from the executive order, but they still have a pretty

County COVID-19 grants/continued on page 3

Luverne teen honored for life-saving action

By Mavis Fodness

A Luverne teen received a Christmas Eve gift when Lincoln County Sheriff Chad Meester drove from Ivanhoe to thank her for her help during a June 4 boating accident.

"I want to thank you with this certificate of appreciation and thank you for all you did that day," he said to Zoe Wek. "You really took the initiative. If you did that naturally, you're going to go places."

Wek, who plans to become an emergency medical technician, was overwhelmed by tears during the unexpected sheriff's visit.

"I was happy but sad," she told the Star Herald last week. "It brought back a lot of memories."

The accident happened while Wek, her parents, Tim and Kim Haraldson, and her sister, Kaidence, were fishing from a boat near the shore of Norwegian County Campground north of Lake Benton.

Just after Wek sat down with her pole, a boat pulling a girl on an inflatable tube motored past and the tube and its rider struck the front of the Haraldson boat.

The girl was unconscious when Wek reached down to grab the life jacket to hold

Luverne teen honored/see page 3



Submitted photo

On Christmas Eve, Lincoln County Sheriff Chad Meester (left) drove from Ivanhoe to Luverne to present LHS sophomore Zoe Wek with a certificate of appreciation for her role in a positive outcome from a June 4 boating accident near Lake Benton.

Klobuchar seeks input from southwest Minnesota mayors

By Lori Sorenson

U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar hosted a conference call Friday with southwestern Minnesota mayors from Luverne, Marshall, Pipestone and Worthington.

During the informal phone conversation, Klobuchar offered updates on legislative developments in Washington, D.C., and asked the mayors to brief her on the current economic state of their communities.

"Joe Biden is committed to another (economic relief) package, and I want to hear what you think is most helpful and what's needed in your communities," she said.

In addition to Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian, the call included Pipestone Mayor Myron Koets, Worthington Mayor Mike Kuhle, Marshall Mayor Bob Byrnes and several members of local media.

They talked about ways to help local businesses suffering in the pandemic economy, especially on the borders of Iowa and South Dakota



U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar visited by phone with southwest Minnesota mayors Friday afternoon.

where bars and restaurants weren't closed.

Klobuchar outlined the latest round of federal aid targeted to individuals and families, extension of unemployment benefits, targeted

Klobuchar and mayors/see page 2



COVID CORNER

County	Total Cases	DAILY average in last 7 days	Percent Change
Rock	1,074	5	+2.9%
Pipestone	911	4	+3.1%
Nobles	3,624	11	+2%
Minnehaha (SD)	25,972	91	+2.5%
Lyon (IA)	1,312	6	+3.3%

14-day case rate in Rock County per 10,000 people:

Date Range	11/22-12/5	11/29-12/12	12/6-12/19	12/13-12/26
Rate	200.79	151.92	96.67	47.81

Vaccine Status: Phase 1a

- Health care personnel
- Long-term care residents

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

School Status

LUVERNE - Elementary: In-person | Middle/High School: HYBRID
HBC - Elementary: In-person | Secondary: In-person/HYBRID

Current data as of January 12, 2021. Sources: MDH & The New York Times

Sponsored by: Rock County Emergency Management

Luverne civic leader dies

By Lori Sorenson

A Luverne man credited with bringing a stable water supply to the city has died, leaving behind a legacy of leadership.

Lennis “Red” Arndt of Luverne was an original board member of Lewis & Clark when it was incorporated in January 1990. He became vice-chairman in 1994 and then chairman in 2006.

Troy Larson, Executive Director of the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, issued a statement following Arndt’s passing.

“Red has been a driving force in his relentless and tenacious support for bringing critically needed drinking water to the tri-state region,” Larson said. “He was a visionary who understood this is a legacy-type project that will have a profound impact on the region for many generations to come.”

U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar also issued a statement. “Minnesota lost a friend and dedicated public servant,” she said.

“Red worked tirelessly to bring safe and reliable water to Lewis & Clark member communities. He saw the project’s transformative potential. And he was right. ... I feel fortunate to have worked with him to make this project a reality, but even more fortunate to have called him a friend.”



Klobuchar/continued from page 1

relief for businesses and help for people at risk of losing their homes. The mayors talked about ways their cities are helping those who need it, but they all agreed the economy won’t turn around until COVID-19 is halted by the vaccine.

“We know the vaccine is out there, and I keep saying that the vaccine can’t be parachuted to the middle of Luverne,” Klobuchar said. “I keep using Luverne as an example with national media because I’m trying to make the point poignantly that it’s a lot different in rural America than it is in urban areas.”

She said that’s especially true of the Pfizer vaccine that needs to be transported in ultra cold storage, and not all rural areas have access to the right equipment that preserves the vaccine.

“The point is we have to make sure the vaccine gets to everyone, and I know that we just put a bunch of money into vaccine distribution. But we also have to make sure the economy is ready to rebound as soon as the vaccinations are done.”

The mayors also were in agreement that the vaccine rollout hasn’t gone well on a national level.

“I’m still looking for the parachute of vaccine,” Baustian said.

“Getting the vaccine out quicker has to happen. They’ve had plenty of time to do that. As a world power we’ve had plenty of time to devise a plan. It’s about logistics. Big companies do that every day, but I think they’re failing miserably.”

While front-line hospital workers and residents of some nursing homes in the region have received their first doses of COVID-19 vaccine, other vulnerable residents have yet to get theirs.

“The high-risk populations we’re looking at, the elderly and those in nursing homes and congregate care, most of the private populations haven’t received it,” Baustian said. “And that’s just not acceptable.”

During Friday’s call, Klobuchar briefly commented on the violence in Washington on Jan. 6, when a mob of protesters stormed into the Capitol.

“I was horrified by what happened,” she said, but added that senators later came together in support of the nation.

“It was one of those moments when people decided their country was bigger than their party. ... If people didn’t cherish their democracy before, after all this they’ll never forget it.”

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Township meeting

Battle Plain Township Board will meet 9:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 18, at the home of Eric Sas.

Compassionate Friends meet Jan. 18

The Compassionate Friends Support Group will meet in person at 6:30 p.m. Mon, Jan. 18, in the Luverne Area Community Foundation office at 102 E. Main Street in Luverne.

The meetings are for anyone in the area who has experienced the death of a child — a son or daughter, brother or sister or grandchild of any age and from any cause. For information, email pat.saum@gmail.com.

Free food Jan. 21

New Life Celebration Church will offer free food at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, 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 with questions.

Free food for seniors Jan. 21

Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors 60 and older, sponsored by A.C.E. of SW MN will be from 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, with drive through distribution in parking lot at 319 E. Lincoln, Luverne.

Dental clinic in Luverne Jan. 28

The next dental clinic for adults and children of all ages will be Thursday, Jan. 28, at Rock County Health and Human Services. Call 612-746-1530 to schedule an appointment or stop by Rock County Health and Human Services for assistance in scheduling.

General exams and services will be provided. All forms of insurance accepted. The service is organized by #Luv1LuvAll’s Rock County Oral Health Task Force.

School of Fish Feb. 6

School of Fish with Mike Frisch, TV show host and pro angler, will be Feb. 6 for students grades 3 through high school. Participants get a rod and reel, tackle box with tackle, gift card, snack pack and workbook. Each participant may bring an adult fishing buddy. Fee is \$30. Dress for the weather.

The event takes place at The Lake. Participants will be ready to compete in Luverne’s Ice Fishing Derby on Feb. 20.

Call the Luverne Community Education office, 507-283-4724, for registration information.

Community Ed offers activities

Call the Luverne Community Education office, 507-283-4724, for registration information.

Defensive Driving 4-hour refresher classes are scheduled for Jan. 21 or Feb. 11.

Distance Learning with Clay – for all ages (1-101). Pick up a chunk of clay the week of Jan. 25 and in your own home, with instructions from Jerry Deuschle, build your creation. To then apply paint and for drying and firing, make appointment at the studio. Fee is \$20.

Register for Student Driver Education. Luverne school students grade 8 and older may register for February or June session for \$340, which includes 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction.

The February option begins on Feb. 1 and will be virtual, so list your child’s school gmail address when you register.



Luverne High School opened the 2021 mock trial season Thursday with a win against Rochester Century High School. The season will be completed using Zoom, and Luverne’s team members participated individually from home. Pictured are John Miller (top, left), Kaitlin Anderson, Lauren VerSteeg, Simon Boyenga, (third row) Ainslie Robinson, Griffen Jarchow, Luke Thorson, Xavier Carboneau, (second row) Ella Lanoue, Parker Carboneau, Chance Tunnissen, Ross Bergman, (bottom row) Jadyn Hart and Solveig Tofteland. Not pictured is Cedar Viessman.

First high school competition begins

Mock trial adopts virtual format in reorganized student activity

By Mavis Fodness

The first school extra curricular activities since mid-November got underway last week.

Luverne and Hills-Beaver Creek high schools competed in the first of five rounds of mock trial competition.

The law-related education program introduces students to the American legal system and is organized through the Minnesota Bar Association (MBA).

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the weekly competitions, including a potential state tournament, will be conducted virtually and won’t be open to spectators.

According to the MBA, virtual competitions are a national trend and state organizers worked with other state associations to ensure students could still have a meaningful season.

Normally mock trial competitions were hosted in person at area courtrooms in front of judges and scorers.

This year, competitions are conducted via Zoom with participants staying in their offices, homes or schools.

With no travel involved,

area schools will face opponents they have never competed against. Luverne and H-BC are now members of the 12-school Super Region 4-6.

Luverne posts first win, H-BC’s three-point loss

Luverne posted its first win Jan. 7 of the 2021 season against an opponent team members never competed against — Rochester Century High School.

All students participated from home via Zoom.

“The trial lasted about three hours, which is a long-time for competing students and judging adults to be sitting at a computer,” said fourth-year adviser Jason Berghorst.

“There were just a couple of times that WiFi issues interrupted things, but those incidents were pretty quickly resolved.”

Luverne’s defense team earned a 229-221 win.

Senior John Miller said, “I don’t like it as much as in person, but the Zoom trial went way better than I expected.”

H-BC competed as a team social distancing in a classroom and wore masks.

The first-time Zoom meet

went well.

“We had to repeat things for clarity,” she said. “A student on the other team had to stop because his dog was barking.”

The H-BC defense team went against St. Peter High School. Judges gave the St. Peter team a three-point prosecution win.

Practices been innovative for students, adults

Luverne, six-time state tournament qualifiers, practiced in small student hybrid-learning pods when the season opened in October.

When the school moved to distance learning in November, team members turned to Zoom for practices.

Virtual practices are “not ideal,” Berghorst said, but there are benefits from competing against schools not normally in the same region.

“The kids are making the most of it and are still working really hard to prepare,” he said.

“The opportunity to compete against larger schools, including two schools from our (athletic) conference (Waseca and Fairmont) is a benefit of the virtual competitions.

“The case is especially

interesting and very relevant as restrictions on restaurants, etc., have returned while we prepare the case,” Berghorst said.

The case and the players

The case, “Payton Knox versus Nixon Lodge & Catering,” focuses on contract law.

Knox booked an elaborate July 4, 2020, wedding and reception at the Hibbing, Minnesota, business prior to the coronavirus pandemic restrictions went into effect in March 2020.

The planned 250 people in attendance was over the state’s executive orders, and when Knox could only have 75 people in attendance, plans for the wedding stopped.

Knox sued for the return of the deposit, which totaled over \$69,000.

The Lodge countersued for the additional contract payment of \$18,300.

Plaintiff witnesses include:

• Payton Knox, one half of the wedding couple, who resided in New York and primarily corresponded via email

Mock trial/see page 10

Dial-a-Specialist

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• Chiropractic

Walleye Wind hearing draws 120 interested area participants

By Mavis Fodness

The first of two Walleye Wind Farm public hearings took place Jan. 5 online and by conference call.

The hearing allowed verbal comments to be recorded for Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and their upcoming decision on whether a site permit and a certificate of need should be granted for the wind farm to be operational in Rock County.

Comment period is open until Jan. 26 through written means.

The Jan. 5 hearing for verbal comments was conducted by the state Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis unit which will prepare an environmental assessment for the project.

The EERA provides technical expertise and assistance to the PUC including the environmental impacts of energy facilities such as those of the Walleye Wind Farm.

Suzanne Steinhauer is the EERA environment review manager.

She said her unit is responsible for engaging the public to identify potential human and environmental impacts should be studied, are there alternatives systems better for the area than a wind farm, and if there are any unique characteristics within the project area that should be considered.

The EERA doesn't handle the examination of the location of turbines or their transmission lines.

Hearing draws 120 to virtual hearing

Fifteen individuals spoke at the public hearing conducted virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Thirteen people indicated support for the project with two expressing concern.

No one spoke directly against the project.

Two residents who live just across the state line in South Dakota recently heard about the project and questioned notification requirements for residents who live in another state.

Steinhauer said she was unsure of how or if neighbors bordering the state line were notified, but public notices were published.

Walleye Wind Farm Project Manager Mike Weich said the company has been in verbal as well as written contact with landowners and residents within the wind farm's footprint, including those within the turbine setback requirements.

Adverse noise and other negative health issues from wind turbines will be studied.

Steinhauer said various studies required with the submitted permit application, including noise, are examined as part of the environment assessment process.

The 13 other people who provided input at the public hearing included current union employees who have worked at previous projects and local residents who support the economic development the wind farm will bring to the area.

Timeline for environmental assessment completion is April followed by another public hearing in May through an administrative law judge.

The judge's report should come in July followed by the PUC decision in September.

When EERA Energy Facilities Planner Michael Kaluzniak closed the hearing, he stated that 120 individuals connected to the virtual hearing. "That's a pretty good turnout," he said.

Written testimony accepted until Jan. 26

Additional comments to be included in the permanent

Walleye Wind/see page 10



Submitted photos

Members of the Hills-Beaver Creek High School football team donated some of their time by demolishing walls in the former New Vision Co-op in Hills. The building will become an office and structure for Game Plan 4 Hope and will be named "Team-E Fieldhouse of Hope," organized by Jeff and Missy Bass and Aaron and Heather Erickson.

Fieldhouse in the works for Game Plan 4 Hope

By Mavis Fodness

A year after organizing, Game Plan 4 Hope is expanding and needs community help to reach its goal.

Donations of money, materials and construction expertise are sought to make "Team-E Fieldhouse of Hope" a reality.

Organizers kicked off the efforts on Jan 1, including Jeff and Missy Bass, and Aaron and Heather Erickson.

"We figured the start of the year would be good as people always look for what charities they want to support," Missy said.

"We realize it's probably too late to get the end-of-year donors, so we will start fresh with 2021."

A goal of \$135,000 will establish an office, workshop, meeting room, storage and public fitness center in the former New Vision Co-op on East Third Street.

The Fieldhouse is named after Ethan Erickson, 12, who lost an 18-month battle with Burkitt's Lymphoma/Leukemia on Oct. 13, 2019.

Supporters of 12-year-Erickson

became known as "Team E" in the Hills area.

Ethan's parents, Aaron and Heather Erickson, said they're honored by the lasting tribute to their son.

"This is such an amazing way to remember Ethan and honor his fighting spirit, his selflessness and his willingness to help others," Heather said.

"This building embodies all the characteristics that Ethan possessed, and we are so happy to remember him by making a difference in the lives of others."

Interior demolition started over the Christmas and New Year holiday break when same Hills-Beaver Creek High School athletes started cleaning and removing walls.

Remodeling the former Hills co-op building is expected to take four months with a completion date of April 1 established.

Pledge cards for donations of money, materials and/or time are on the group's website, Gameplan4hope.org. The Bass and Erickson families said

they organized the non-profit to return kindnesses they received shortly after the life-changing events and the information shared toward their journey to a new normal life.

Trenton Bass, son of Missy and Jeff Bass, played football for H-BC, and a defense tackle on Sept. 8, 2017, left the then H-BC senior a quadriplegic.

Trenton is currently a junior at South Dakota State University in Brookings, majoring in mechanical engineering.

He is also actively involved in Game Plan 4 Hope's outreach to families.

"He talks to the injured patients that are in a similar situation as him, and that means a lot to them," Missy said.

In its first season in 2019-20, Game Plan 4 Hope touched 27 families in five states.

They delivered 21 bags of hope, gave out more than \$16,000 in gift cards and equipment, and gifted 18 Christmas packages. The group was assisted by 22

Fieldhouse of Hope/see page 7

City help for businesses/ continued from page 1

•they continued to operate as allowed by COVID-19 restrictions.

•they can demonstrate COVID-19 related losses since March 1, 2020.

According to the LEDA resolution, restaurants and other businesses required to be closed for four weeks during November and December 2020 will receive a grant payment equal to the actual utility costs for that business during the month of December 2020 and billed in January 2021.

Initial checks will be processed in January following receipt of the signed certification letter. Grant payments

will be made monthly through April 2021 until the allocation is used in full.

Other small businesses that were affected to a lesser degree by pandemic-related closures can receive grants equal to 50 percent of their utility costs.

Luverne Finance Director Barb Berghorst said she expects 10 businesses will receive grants equal to 100 percent of their utility bills, and another 41 businesses will receive grants equal to 50 percent of their utility bills.

She said the city previously paid \$97,442.73 to 74 businesses for the EDA Stop

Gap Loan. The city also distributed \$355,985 in CARES Act funds to 52 businesses who certified they had direct COVID-19 losses to their business.

The \$100,000 city grant funds were moved to the LEDA from the city's electrical utility funds.

"We are so lucky to own our own electrical utility," Baustian said Monday. "It gives us an edge in being able to participate in something like this."

A review committee will consider requests or applications from other businesses not originally determined to be eligible for the latest round of city pandemic relief.

Luverne teen honored/ continued from page 1

the girl's face above water. Her dad helped lift the girl into their boat.

Blood filled the water. "She had a huge gash on her neck and that's what caused so much blood," Wek said.

A nurse from the other boat stemmed the bleeding until their boat got to shore.

Meanwhile, Wek cut — with her teeth — the three fishing lines that became entangled with the tube to prevent others from being entangled.

Once the boat reached the shore, Wek comforted the injured girl's sister.

"If that was my sister, I would want someone to make sure I was OK," she said.

Wek also jogged down the remote road leading to the lake

to make sure first responders found the right location.

Sheriff Meester said last week he understands how overwhelming accident scenes can be and people often freeze.

But he said Wek was at the right place at the right time with the right attitude, playing a positive role with emergency personnel.

"You never know when you're going to be called to step up," he said.

Wek's mom contacted Meester to explain what happened that day.

"I believe the fast actions Zoe took this day, when she found the girl first, could be a huge reason she is still here today," Kim wrote in her June 4 social media post.

Wek's preparedness came

from CPR and other safety lessons at Luverne High School where she is a sophomore. Her role in the June 4 water rescue gives her confidence for her future career.

"It makes me think — after this happened — of what I can do to help people," Wek said. "My family and I think I was put on the boat for a reason."



Mavis Fodness photo/0114 New Commissioner Chair 2021

Williamson is County Board chairman for 2021

Rock County Commissioner Stan Williamson (right) accepts the gavel Tuesday, Jan. 5, from fellow commissioner and outgoing chairman of the board Gary Overgaard during the commissioners' first meeting of 2021. Commissioner Jody Reisch is vice chairman for 2021.

County help targeted at businesses/ continued from page 1

substantial need," he said.

One business owner told Commissioner Jody Reisch that community support has been tremendous through take-out orders and generous tips.

In the first round of business grants, applicants could apply for up to \$5,000 from the county.

In the second round, no monetary cap was established.

"The problem you're going to have is that you don't have enough money to make everyone whole again," said County Attorney Jeff Haubrich.

After filling out the application, discussions between business owners and committee members will determine exact losses and division of the grant dollars.

2021 'chore chart' requires seeking truth, washing ceiling fans

I raised my kids with "chore charts" so it's no surprise that my oldest daughter's oldest daughter is carrying on the tradition.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

She's five. Nothing makes her happier than a timeline, a calendar or a chore chart.

Her daily duties include the "pick up toys" and "brush teeth" requirements one expects of a five-year-old.

She was so excited about her own chore chart that she made one for her three-year-old sister.

Item one is "wash ceiling fan."

When asked how exactly a three-year-old washes a ceiling fan, the girls explained, "We put a laundry basket on the bed and stand on it so we can reach."

And what do they clean with?

"We just dip a little toilet paper in some water."

(I should probably mention these little girls are parented by their stay-at-home dad while their engineer mother goes to work.)

Apparently they work as a team, which is encouraging.

They recently employed teamwork to pull a loose tooth.

"Dad tied the string to my tooth. I stood still and she just took off running with the string

and it flew out," explained the five-year-old as the three-year-old proudly displayed the string.

The girls' notion about checklists and teamwork has inspired me to write my own checklist for 2021.

- Make chore charts for other people. — Let someone know you think they are capable of doing great things. Let someone else know they need to "knock it off."

- Wash ceiling fans. — Look for the dirt in your own house before you worry about dirt in someone else's. Clean out the nooks and crannies.

- Stand on laundry baskets. — Take a few risks. Maybe you will fall and break an arm. Maybe you will bounce on a soft, fluffy bed. Sometimes you have to reach for the ceiling to see what happens.

- Employ teamwork. — Be willing to run with the string. Be willing to stand still. Everybody has a job to do.

And finally ...

- put these on your 2021 chore chart: Seek truth. Find common ground. Express gratitude.

... And don't forget to pick up your toys and brush your teeth.

Getman shares sports column comparing athletes, demonstrators

GUEST OPINION

Some of you know that one of life's joys that I take pride in is my athletic career long ago on the championship football and basketball teams in Luverne.

These memories, if verbalized, honor the coaches who were men of active faith who cared deeply for those of us who played for them. They focused more on character building than on winning, and as a result were perennial champions as winners in more ways than in just the "win/loss" column. I count them as people who shaped our lives and decisions.

So I share today an insightful column from the sports page of my local daily newspaper, the Washington Post, by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Sally Jenkins about how "real power" is illustrated and managed. Her Jan. 8 column about the Jan. 6 mob attack on our great citadel, the Nation's Capitol, is an analysis of sportsmanship and how we manage ourselves in the arena of street politics.

— Thomas Getman, Washington, D.C.

Athletes know what rioters don't: Real power is discipline, not unchecked rage

The difference between an athlete-champion activist and a mere street rioter is that one is an expert in real power and voluntary constraint of it, while the other is an aggrieved raver with an instinct to break down something because he is too weak to build up himself. What separates an activist from an arsonist is the difference between using a platform and lighting someone else's on fire.

These raggedy snarlers miss the exercise of power entirely. The most powerful thing athletes do with their muscle is not run or rampage. The most powerful thing they do is stop... when they reach that sideline, they stop. They reel in all of their uncoiled energy in an instant act of will to

preserve not just themselves but their opponents. That, my friends, is real, honest-to-God power, and it's a marvel to watch and admire.

When a football player hits someone out of bounds or attacks a ref, what happens? He is thrown out. And the reason is, sports really aren't about violence but about real violence averted. Arenas and stadiums are circumscribed spaces — rotundas if you will — with miniature societal compacts, and when you lack self-management in that space, you get ejected. It's a very useful tool, ejection.

But here's the most interesting thing: Competitors abide by it. These mentally and physically strong men and women willingly accede to this ethos and recognize it as a higher authority. Otherwise, you aren't a competitor; you're just an uncontrolled hacker or jacker. When an umpire jerks a finger at the exit, the player leaves, voluntarily, no matter how aggrieved or unjustly wronged he may feel

... With that understanding, any American sports observer surely has been struck by what he or she has witnessed in the political arena over the past four years: the steady normalization of naked aggression and destruction of rules. The steady attempt to circumvent conventions, to redefine what people will accept, the continual fouls until officialdom is all but numb to offenses, the steady descent into uncontrolled brawl.

On Wednesday, the rioters were all about trashing the arena itself, stomping on every ordinance and protocol, crashing through gates and bashing in doors and windows. Richard "Bigo" Barnett of Gravette, Arkansas, pushed his way into the

Capitol, broke into House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office, stole her mail, and left her a note that said, "Bigo was here, you b —," and bragged that he had rubbed his crotch while he was at it. This was his idea of a power grab: a trespass, a brief foul boot across the boundaries of real strength.

How pathetic.

Our sports are not perfect, but one of their worthiest qualities is they still recognize and honor covenants. ... to limit behaviors for common good.

Take away the covenant, and there is no game. There is not even a floor or a field. Boxing can exist only if you agree not to hide a knife or a gun in your glove. Without the covenant ... there is only an empty space of naked aggression, suspicion, instability, violence. Paranoia gaming.

And the only reason, you figure, that these people broke into the Capitol and broke the covenant is that they were interested less in competition than in destruction. If you are so comfortable yet utterly aggrieved that you have to wear a race-baiting slogan or flag over your paunch and storm the Capitol because you think you aren't getting your due from crooked pervert politicians, well, nothing and no one can help you.

Bigo, he's got nothing but a brag. He and his folks, they don't trust themselves to excel inbounds, so they ignored the rules and, eventually, got themselves ejected. The arena still stands.

(This piece was edited for space. The full version can be read on the Washington Post website.)

Hunting success goes beyond reaching limits

With the start of the New Year, the pheasant hunting season came to an end. Because the New Year's Day holiday fell on a Friday, the season extended through Sunday, Jan. 3.

The season for me was a success in so many ways, and none of the success was because of the number of birds I harvested. In fact, I missed more roosters than I hit, and that means there were a lot of birds to take aim at.

My dogs and I hunted 12 different wildlife management areas (WMAs) in addition to Touch The Sky Prairie, a national wildlife refuge.

The WMAs were located throughout southwest Minnesota including six in Rock County, three in Nobles, two in Cottonwood and one in Pipestone County. I was never more than 60 miles from home, and most of the time the dogs and I were within 10 miles of our home.

We probably hunted a total of 20 or so times during the season, usually a couple of hours each time.



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

We saw birds every time we hunted, sometimes only hens, sometimes only a rooster or two, but most of the time we saw both.

One of the most satisfying things I noticed this year was the increase in the number of hunters in the field. Every time out, I saw other hunters, and that has never happened before.

It just reinforces the belief that the efforts of Pheasants Forever chapters across the state and particularly in southwest Minnesota are making a difference.

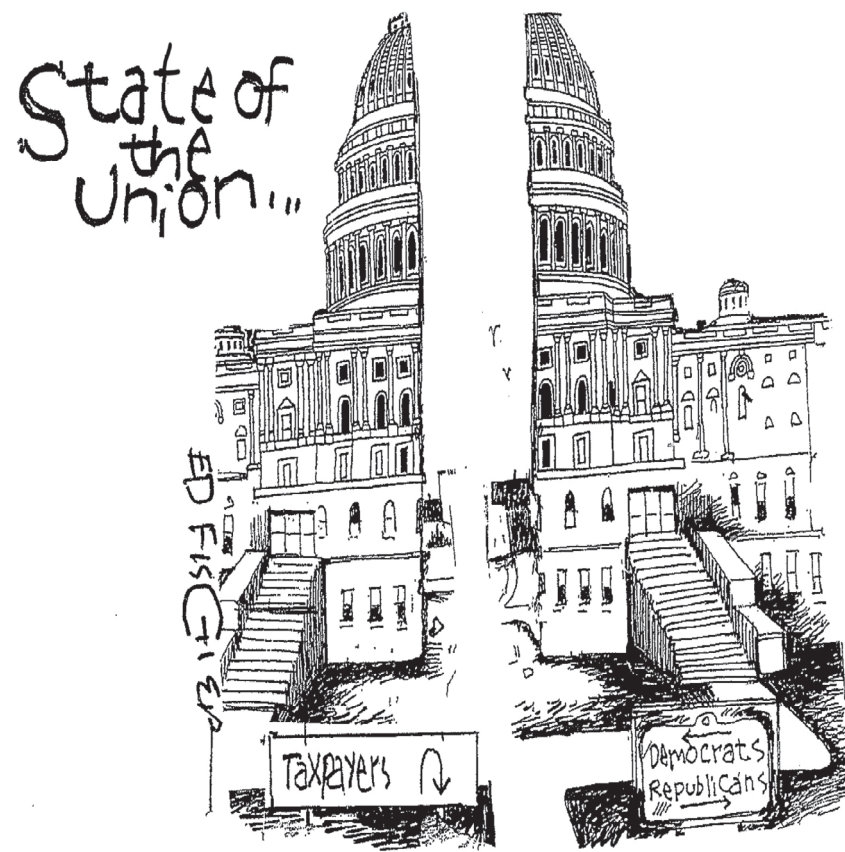
The increased pheasant population and the increased numbers of hunters can be attributed to

Pheasants Forever's focus on habitat, habitat, habitat.

COVID-19, like with darn near everything else, has had an adverse effect on the ability of local chapters to raise money to fund their habitat efforts.

Annual Pheasants Forever fundraising banquets were canceled across the state in 2020, so as you can imagine, that was a serious hit to the bank accounts.

Hopefully this year the local chapters will be able to hold their annual fundraising banquets so they can continue to do what they do best — provide and preserve habitat.



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Phone: 507-283-2333 Fax: 507-283-2335

Published Thursdays by Tollefson Enterprises
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to 117 West Main, P.O. Box 837, Luverne, MN 56156. Periodicals postage paid at Luverne, Permit #33 and at additional mailing offices.

General manager: Rick Peterson **News staff:**
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Rock County
STAR HERALD
Rock County's newspaper since 1873

(ISSN 0889-888X)
SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$74 per year in Rock County; \$91 per year all other areas. Single copies \$1.25

Entire contents copyrighted by
Tollefson Publishing Roger Tollefson, publisher

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Star Herald SPORTS

Limited number of spectators approved for Minnesota High School prep sports

By Brennen Rupp

Youth sports return in the state of Minnesota after a nearly two-month delay due to COVID-19 on Jan. 4, as teams across the state started practicing for the upcoming winter sports season.

The first competitions are scheduled for Jan. 14.

When the doors open for competitions, there will be a limited number of spectators allowed inside facilities.

Indoor venues must limit capacity to 25 percent with a maximum of up to 150 people.

The first contests in Rock County will occur on Thursday, Jan. 14, when the Luverne boys' hockey team plays host to Windom Area.

The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots boys' basketball team will host Red Rock Central to open their season.



Mavis Fodness photo/0114 HBC Girls Practice

The Hills-Beaver Creek High School girls' basketball team completes conditioning exercises Monday night in the school gym. As part of the coronavirus pandemic requirements, all players and coaches wore masks. Masks are also required during games occurring this week.

Minnesotans fish free with kids Jan. 16-18

Take proper ice precautions

Take a Kid Ice Fishing Weekend is this Saturday, Jan. 16, through Monday, Jan. 18.

During the weekend, Minnesota residents 16 or older can fish or dark-house spear without an angling or spearing license if they take a child younger than 16 fishing or spearing.

"Ice fishing is lots of fun and is another way to enjoy the outdoors," said Benji Kohn, volunteer mentor program coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

"If you're looking to start ice fishing, check out our helpful information online."

Additionally, the DNR's Becoming an Outdoors Woman program is presenting an ice fishing webinar from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14.

During the webinar, pro angler Mandy Uhrich will teach the basics of ice fishing and demonstrate the equipment and techniques used for this winter tradition.

The webinar is free, open to the public and registration is required. Visit mndnr.gov.

Ice conditions vary and there is no such thing as 100 percent safe ice.

H-BC's Wysong and Bork named to All-State Nine-Man Team

By Brennen Rupp

The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots enjoyed one of the best seasons in program history in 2020. The Patriots finished the shortened season as section champions and with a perfect 7-0 record.

Since the season ended, the Patriots have raked in the accolades.

They were named the AP Nine-Man State Champions.

Rex Metzger was named Coach of the Year by the Minnesota Vikings, and Gavin Wysong earned All-State honors recognition on the Vikings' annual all-state team.

Those accolades keep pouring in for the Patriots.

H-BC seniors Gavin Wysong and Tyson Bork were named to the 2020 All-State Nine-Man Team. The dynamic duo joined 22 athletes state-wide to receive the honor.

Tory Knobloch and Chase Bosch both earned all-state honorable mention.

Wysong finished the shortened 2020 season with 1,068 rushing yards and 17 rushing touchdowns. Wysong also passed for 505 yards and seven touchdowns.

On the defensive side of the ball he recorded 36 tackles, two tackles for loss and one interception.

"Being named all-state



Brennen Rupp photo/0114 All State photo

Hills-Beaver Creek's Gavin Wysong (above) and Tyson Bork were recently named to the 2020 All-State Nine-Man Team.

is a huge honor for me," Wysong said.

"I appreciate them giving me an opportunity to be in that position and appreciate everyone who has been in my life during the process. I also appreciate my teammates and how they stuck through everything and how they pushed me to be the best I could be day in and day out."

Fellow senior Bork finished his final season as a Patriot with 1,117 rushing yards and 17

touchdowns. The senior running back averaged an astounding 12.6 yards per carry.

As a receiver out of the backfield, Bork caught six passes for 109 yards and two touchdowns.

On the defensive side of the ball Bork recorded 22 tackles.

"It's a great honor to receive and it feels great to get, especially after the year we just had," Bork said.

"It makes me feel like the work we put in has been worth it when you get this kind of recognition."

Lottery dollars make Minnesota the envy of many other states

When is the last time you bought a lottery ticket? For some it is at least a weekly occurrence and for others the answer might be never.

I am not a big gambler by any means, but I do buy a Powerball ticket every once in a while. I have no doubt that I will never win any money, but the Minnesota lottery does do some very good things with the money I spend.

When the lottery started in Minnesota, the citizens voted to amend the state constitution in 1988 to create the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

The dollars raised by a portion of the lottery that are deposited in this fund can only be used "for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife and other natural resources."

It was managed by the LCMR — the Legislative Commission of Minnesota Resources. This was a small group of elected officials, six I think, that as a group decided what the money was spent on. The Trust Fund has dispersed about \$500 million since 1998. That averages out to about \$20 million per year, but the totals annually in current years are much higher.

The citizens who voted for the Trust Fund's creation were not all that happy about how those dollars were being



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, Outdoors columnist

spent. This brought about the creation of the LCCMR — Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources. They added a large group of citizens that then became involved in the process of deciding what got funded and what did not. I cannot back up this claim, but I was told that one year many years back, they paved some trails in Metro parks and bought some bicycles so people could more easily engage in appreciating the outdoors in Minnesota. Not cool!

The addition of citizens to the group was a great improvement to the process, and the results have been shown to be positive. If you think about the ads you see and hear on the television and the radio, they always have Minnesota's common loon singing in the background. It was the intent of the supporters to better the waters and woods of the state, and the fund does a lot of good work today.

They still do some things I don't like. The University of Minnesota has been a huge

benefactor of the money from this fund. Much of it has been used for research projects on issues I don't think have the highest priority.

I believe that night crawler research in northern Minnesota forests got some money one year. Another was a big sum to research common loons in Louisiana to see how the BP oil spill affected our state bird. In the end, the results of this expenditure did not change the outcome for our common loons. If we had waited a year or two, we would have known.

The direction of expenditures has greatly improved, and they fund the Minnesota DNR and many large conservation organizations. They do enhancement work on public lands, they acquire selected parcels for fee title acquisition as well, and do conservation easements.

In the end the Trust Fund lottery dollars provide a large influx of cash to do what other states only wish they could. Minnesota is the envy of many other states.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Jan. 1

- Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Beaver Creek, reported a pedestrian.

- Complainant on E. Dodge Street reported a scam call.

- Property damage was reported on S. Cedar Street.

- Complainant on 20th Avenue, Hills, reported a hit and run.

Jan. 2

- Theft was reported at location on S. Kniss Avenue.

Jan. 3

- Theft was reported at location on W. Interstate Drive.

Jan. 4

- Complainant had questions about security cameras.

- Complainant on Hill Avenue S., Jasper, reported fraud.

- Complainant reported internet blackmailing.

- Complainant on S. East Park Street reported a parking issue.

- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported property found.

- Complainant on 140th Avenue, Ellsworth, reported an injury.

Jan. 5

- Complainant on 41st and 50th Avenue, Hills, reported a railroad malfunction.

- Complainant on N. Summit Avenue, Hills, requested to speak to a deputy.

- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported they need to speak to a deputy.

- Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported prop-

erty damage.

- Complainant on Cedar Street and Carol Street reported a suspicious person.

Jan. 7

- Complainant on E. State Street, Magnolia, reported heavy smoke smell.

- Complainant four miles west of Luverne on County Road 4 reported someone walking on railroad tracks at location.

- Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Valley Springs, reported vehicle with no headlights on.

- Complainant in Maplewood Cemetery reported a suspicious pickup at location.

- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.

- Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported a parking violation.

- Complainant on N. Oakley Street reported a broken out window.

- Complainant on Walnut Avenue reported a window shot out.

- Complainant on W. Mead Court reported vandalism.

In addition, officers responded to 2 deer accidents, one vehicle in ditch, 8 escorts, 23 ambulance runs, 12 paper services, 2 animal complaints, 60 burn permits, 2 vehicle impounds, 1 background check, 3 alarms, 19 purchase and carry permits, 4 stalled vehicles, 3 traffic stops, 6 abandoned 911 calls, 4 tests, 1 welfare check, 1 report of cattle out, 1 OFP and 5 follow-ups.

Rock County man injured in snowmobile accident

By Lori Sorenson

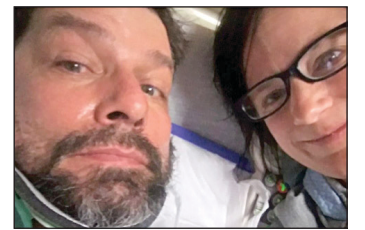
A Rock County man is recovering from injuries he received in a snowmobile accident on Jan. 4.

Wayne Kruger was driving his snowmobile to pick up his son at the bus stop when he hit a bump in the ditch and was thrown from the machine.

According to his daughter, Justine Miller, he was found 45 minutes later lying in the ditch unable to move.

He was airlifted to Avera Hospital in Sioux Falls where doctors stabilized his head and neck and ran imaging tests that revealed a contusion to his second and third cervical vertebrae.

In a Jan. 9 social media post, Miller wrote that doctors confirmed "severe



This photo of Wayne Kruger in the hospital, along with his wife, Amy, is on the Go Fund Me page organized to help offset medical costs.

nerve damage" that may prevent feeling or movement in his arms for possibly up to a year.

Kruger, a self-employed contractor, will be unable to work while medical bills come in, so a Go Fund Me Page has been set up to collect donations.

Iowa pursuit ends in arrest in Rock County

The Rock County Sheriff's Office assisted Iowa authorities Sunday with a pursuit that ended with the arrest of two individuals.

At 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, the Rock County Sheriff's Office received a call from the Lyon County Iowa Sheriff's Office requesting assistance with a vehicle pursuit that was entering Rock County south of Hills.

Lyon County deputies were pursuing the vehicle after it fled from them while they were investigating a report of two people passed out in a vehicle.

The pursuit went through Hills and then east on 41st Street.

The chase ended near the intersection of 41st Street and Highway 75 after a Lyon County deputy laid stop sticks that deflated a tire on the suspects' vehicle.

The driver drove the vehi-

cle into a field southeast of the intersection of 150th Avenue and 41st Street where it came to a stop after getting stuck.

Rock County deputies arrived on the scene around this time. The driver, James Skoglund, age 36, from Ashton, Iowa, was arrested for fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle.

The passenger, Kimberlee Browne, age 38, from Vermillion, South Dakota, was arrested on a warrant out of Brookings County in South Dakota.

Law enforcement later learned the suspects were wanted for questioning in a Sioux Falls shooting.

A warrant has since been issued for Skoglund's arrest for aggravated assault, commit or attempt to commit a felony with a firearm and possession of a firearm by convicted felon.

Both parties were being held at the Nobles County Jail.

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CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

Alvin Boomgaarden will celebrate his 98th birthday on Friday, Jan. 15. Greetings may be sent to him at 415 W. Dodge Street, Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Monday, Jan. 18: Chicken noodle casserole, mixed vegetables, peaches, cookie.

Tuesday, Jan. 19: Baked ham, boiled cabbage, sliced carrots, dinner roll, brownie. Half-Price Day sponsored by Minnwest Bank.

Wednesday, Jan. 20: Roasted turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, sage dressing, pumpkin bar.

Thursday, Jan. 21: Tator tot casserole, green beans, dinner roll, peaches.

Half-Price Day sponsored by American Reformed Church.

Friday, Jan. 22: Smothered pork chop, diced potatoes, peas, bread, lemon bar. LSS Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals.

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

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

1871: Second post office placed in Ash Creek

The following appeared in *The Rose History* in 1911.

Rock County Village (continued from 01-07-20 edition of the Star Herald)

Ashcreek

The little village of Ashcreek, the first station south of Luverne on the Doon extension of the Omaha railway, is one of the two Rock county hamlets in Clinton township. The platted town is on section 23 of that precinct. Though it has never assumed proportions that would warrant its being set off as an independent municipality, Ashcreek for many years has justified its existence as a trading point and grain market for a rich farming community.

The building of the Doon branch and the subsequent location of a station on section 23, Clinton, were conditions undreamed of when Ashcreek was first placed on the map as a country postoffice, the second postoffice established in the county. The southern part of Rock county, especially Clinton and Martin townships, was an early field for settlement. By the summer of 1871 the population of these two precincts exceeded that of all the rest of the county, and a demand was made for better postoffice facilities. The only office in the county at that time was located at Luverne, and the trip to that point was much of an undertaking for a majority of the settlers living in southern Rock county in the days when ox teams were practically the only mode of conveyance.

The agitation for a second postoffice bore imme-

diately fruit. Out of several applicants for the position of postmaster, Mrs. L. B. Kniss was chosen and the office was established on the George W. Kniss homestead, one half mile distant from the future Ashcreek station. The office was named for the creek flowing near by. To members of the pioneer Estey family was given the naming of this stream. The incident of the christening, which occurred on Christmas day, 1867, has been told in Colin J. Estey's own words:

In the afternoon Byron and I went to tend our traps. He had one set for a fox near where Saint's Rest now stands, and on that day he caught a coyote. Byron was about eight years old then. As we went out to look at the traps we crossed Rock river at a point about where M. C. Smith's ford was eventually located and followed up what is now known as Ash creek. Byron, boy-fashion,

Bits, continued on page 7



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society



Big fish tales

Luverne High School senior Hunter Baker reeled in a 38-inch northern pike Jan. 6 in Schoneman Pond south of Luverne. That was right after Baker's brother, Brody Kopp, caught a 37-inch northern.

Submitted photos

Luverne brothers capture two large northern within minutes on Schoneman Pond

By Mavis Fodness

A brief stop at Schoneman Park netted more than a fish story for brothers Brody Kopp and Hunter Baker. It filled a freezer.

Late in the afternoon on Jan. 6 Kopp and Baker reeled in 37-inch and 38-inch northern pikes, respectively, from the man-made pond located south of Luverne.

"I knew they were out there, but I didn't know we would get that lucky," Baker said.

The brothers had a few hours available that late afternoon between school and evening church activities. Baker is a senior at Luverne Middle-High School and Kopp is a sixth-grader.

It was Kopp's first ice fishing experience and Baker's first time fishing at Schoneman Park.

Stopping at the south pond, Baker set up a windbreak and augered a hole into the ice. The two then sat down for a couple of hours of fishing and a memorable time together.

The experience became more memorable when Kopp felt a nibble on his line baited with a minnow.

"He thought it was a little perch at first," Baker said.

All thoughts of perch left the boys' minds when they saw the northern's identifiable pointed mouth.

After a quick picture with Kopp holding his 37-inch fish, they settled back to fishing.

Shortly afterward it was Baker's turn for excitement. About 10 minutes later he slowly reeled in the 38-inch northern.

"I knew it was big but not that big," he said.



Brody Kopp holds the 37-inch northern pike he caught ice fishing with his brother Jan. 6 south of Luverne.

'I knew they were out there, but I didn't know we would get that lucky.'

— Hunter Baker on catching a 38-inch northern pike at Schoneman Pond Jan. 6

With the sun setting, the brothers headed home to clean their catch.

Their mother, Teri Baker, received plenty of proof of her sons' ice-fishing adventure.

"They were two excited boys — kept sending me pictures all evening long

with smiles on their faces," she said.

"It also makes me so happy that they enjoyed their time together, just the two boys doing what they love — memories that they will have forever."

While the Kopp and Baker fish are large, they don't break records, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website. The record for the largest northern pike caught in Minnesota is 45.25 inches.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2011)

On Saturday, Feb. 12, the Rock River Shivers will plunge into the polar-cold Minnesota water, and they are looking forward to "freezing" for a reason.

That reason is to raise money for Special Olympics Minnesota. Shiver team members Evan Verbrugge, Daryl Fuerstenberg, Dan Nath, Chris Harnack and Michael DeJong will participate in the 14th annual Polar Bear Plunge when they leap into Hallet's pond in St. Peter.

DeJong's first Polar Plunge experience was in 2008; he jumped in on a negative-four-degree day.

"The water was actually warmer than the air," he said.

Even though the team joked about DeJong's willingness for a second jump, all agree that the plunges into freezing water are worth the significant funds raised for Special Olympics Minnesota.

The Rock River Shivers are making pledges for their upcoming jump, and they have so far raised \$505 with the goal of \$750 before the event.

25 years ago (1996)

Luverne School Board members have signed a contract with Millennium Communications Inc., Minneapolis and Rochester, to provide Internet relay service to Luverne schools. The district plans to be on-line by the end of the month.

The school will have a T-1 connection that will enable to sell space to other school districts, the county and the city. The district had considered a smaller 56K line, but, according to Superintendent George Maurer a 56K line would not meet the needs of the district.

"With 75 people, we'll pay for (T-1) equipment and break even after one year," Maurer said.

By signing the contract, the district has agreed to pay \$15,784 for installation, hardware and the first six months of service. Following that time, the district will pay for service on a month-to-month basis. The monthly fee to MillComm is \$899.

50 years ago (1971)

The year 1970 may have been a recession year generally, but the publicized money shortage is not reflected in the deposits in Rock County's seven banks.

Deposits jumped \$3,769,769 from January 1, 1970, to Dec. 31, 1970, to bring the total on deposit in the banks up to an all-time record of \$33,670,056, according to figures in published statements of condition in this week's Star-Herald.

During the same time period, loans increased \$1,060,153 to hit the \$19,023,456 mark.

Depositors weren't just putting their money into checking accounts, the figures show. They had more in savings accounts, denoted in the statements as time deposits, than they had in demand deposits. Time deposits accounted for \$19,549,443 while demand deposits totaled \$14,120,612. Demand deposits were higher than they were a year ago by \$2,008,114, while time deposits went up by a smaller margin, \$1,256,659.

75 years ago (1946)

Jasper—(By Jacqueline Tweeton)—A loud rumble heralded the fall of the stone facing from the entire west and part of the

north sides of the frame building owned by Dr. E. D. Merkley, Jasper veterinarian, about 4 p.m. Friday. The east wall of Zenor's Pool Hall, west of the Merkley building was bent inward by the force of the falling stone.

Dr. Merkley and another man had just entered Merkley's office in the building when they heard the rumbling noise start in the back structure. It is thought that the freezing and thawing of the last few days caused the stone to loosen and fall. The Arlen Holiens who live upstairs were out of town at the time. A new facing is being planned for the Merkley building, which was not basically harmed.

100 years ago (1921)

At a meeting of the directors of the Luverne Co-Operative Live Stock Shipping association held Tuesday afternoon, Fred Lutgens, for eleven years live stock buyer for Herman Fitzer, was elected manager of the shipping association.

Eight votes were cast in the selection of a manager, and Mr. Lutgens was elected on the first ballot, five votes having been cast for him, two for A. J. Leech, and one for W. E. Loose. Following the action of the directors Mr. Fitzer announced that he would retire from the live stock market in so far as buying hogs is concerned, if Mr. Lutgens could be induced to accept the appointment.

It was also voted that the association would transact its business at the Farmers National bank, and that if shippers desired their checks placed elsewhere, they should so instruct the manager.

Mr. Lutgens has accepted the managership of the shipping association and will assume his new duties next Monday.

OBITUARIES

Burdell Willers

Burdell Dunruf Willers, 95, Beaver Creek, died Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, of natural causes at his son's home on Blind Lake.

A funeral Mass was Monday, Jan. 11, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. Burial with full military honors provided by the Luverne American Legion and VFW was at St. Catherine Cemetery in Luverne.

Burdell Willers was born Aug. 18, 1925, to Alex and Nellie (Kothe) Willers in rural Beaver Creek. He graduated from Beaver Creek High School in 1943. He then served in the Army from April 1945 until December 1946. On their way to Japan, his unit learned that the war in Japan was declared over. They were relieved of their guns and became occupied forces. Burdell was baptized and joined the Catholic Church in August of 1946 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yokohama, Japan.

Burdell married Angeline "Angie" Deitermann on Sept. 7, 1949, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. The couple moved to the family farm near Beaver Creek where they lived for the next 45 years. After retiring from farming, they lived in Beaver Creek and Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Burdell was an active member of St. Catherine Catholic Church for 73 years, serving in many capacities. Burdell was also a Hospice

Foundation Board member and volunteer. After moving to Sioux Falls, he enjoyed establishing new friendships at Holy Spirit Catholic Church and the Avera Fitness therapy pool. Burdell and Angie enjoyed traveling domestically and abroad. Burdell loved being surrounded by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also enjoyed watching the geese and the ducks and the loons on Blind Lake. He kept up with all the farming developments. He also enjoyed watching all sports; football and basketball were his favorites.

Burdell is survived by his nine children, James (Jill) Willers of Luverne, Steven (Nancy) Willers of Fairmont, David (Cheryl) Willers of Beaver Creek, Robert (Annetta) Willers of Aitkin, Theresa (Dale) Hoozeveen of Carver, Bryan (Denise) Willers of Elkhorn, Nebraska, Lisa (Roger) Hoff of Steen, Mary (Roger) Turner of Vermillion, South Dakota, and Jeffrey (Lana) Willers of Waunakee, Wisconsin; 27 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Bonnie.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Angie, on June 17, 2018; and a sister, Darlene.

Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (0114 F)

Jean Barclay

Jean Barclay, 98, Luverne, died Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, at the Good Samaritan Society — Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

A private graveside service will take place at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne, per Jean's wishes.

Jean Erickson was born on June 21, 1922, to Melvin and Edna (Hallsten) Erickson in Sheyenne, North Dakota. She spent her childhood years in Sheyenne. At age 14, she moved with her family to Bismarck, North Dakota. She graduated from Bismarck High School in 1940. She attended Bismarck Junior College for two years and then studied at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, where she earned her bachelor's degree in education. She worked for a couple of years at a government school in North Dakota before moving to Magnolia, Minnesota, for a teaching job.

Jean met Pat Barclay at the local café in Magnolia, and they were married on June 27, 1946, in Sheyenne. They lived in Luverne, where Pat had a plumbing and heating business and Jean was a homemaker.

When Pat retired, the couple enjoyed spending the winter months in Florida and their summers at home

in Luverne. Following Pat's death in 1988, Jean continued to spend winters in Florida for the next 14 years.

Jean was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne, where she taught Sunday School and Bible Study and was a part of Luther League. Jean was an avid reader and enjoyed playing bridge with friends. One of her passions was travel. Her travels included many U.S. states as well as trips to Africa, Australia, Russia, Central America and Europe.

Jean is survived by her son, John David (Vicki) Barclay of St. Charles, Illinois; her son-in-law, David Gaona of Bluffton, South Carolina; two granddaughters, Patricia and Camille Barclay; a brother, Donald Erickson of New Rockford, North Dakota; a special brother, Robert Cook of Fargo, North Dakota; and other family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Pat; her daughter, Barbara Barclay; and a brother and his wife, Mayo and Elaine Erickson.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0114 F)

Marlys DeVries

Marlys DeVries, 85, Luverne, died Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Due to concern for the public's health, a private family graveside service will be at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Marlys G. Wulf was born Oct. 18, 1935, to Harry and Irene (Reese) Wulf in Garretson, South Dakota. She grew up in Beaver Creek and graduated from Beaver Creek High School.

Marlys married Delmar DeVries on March 19, 1955. They farmed west of Beaver Creek for a few years, then northeast of Kenneth for a short time, until they bought a farm west of Luverne where they lived and farmed until moving into Luverne in 2005.

In addition to helping on the farm, Marlys also had other occupations over the years including grocery clerk, dental assistant, custodian at a local bank, and Luverne School District bus driver for 25 years. Marlys loved gardening, sewing, baking, cards and crafts. Her love of gardening led her to start a

vegetable farm, "Del-Mar Gardens." Marlys' artistic flair was evident in the wood and floral creations she sold at local craft fairs.

In retirement she continued to enjoy vegetable gardening, quilting and baking. She also enjoyed cards and learned to play Texas Hold'em. She played in many local and state tournaments.

Marlys survived by her husband, Delmar DeVries; three daughters, Jacqueline DeVries of Champlin, Jolene (Alan) DeVries-Johnson of Blaine, and Jeanette (Ajay) Hatle of Luverne; one grandson, Nicholas Johnson; and two great-grandchildren, James and Melanie Johnson.

She is preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Betty Ann (Wulf) Matus and Marian Wulf.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Macular Degeneration Research, www.support.brightfocus.org/macular/donate.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0114 F)

Lennis 'Red' Arndt

Lennis "Red" Arndt, 72, Luverne, died Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021, at Ava's Hospice House in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A time of fellowship will be from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne. A memorial service will be at Grace Lutheran Church at a later date. A private burial of remains will be at St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery in Springfield.

Lennis Arndt was born May 1, 1948, to Edwin and Edna (Beilke) Arndt in Springfield. He graduated from Springfield High School in 1966. He also attended Worthington Junior College.

In 1983 Red married Lisa Marie Turbes. They raised a family together and were married for 26 years, remaining each other's closest friend for the remainder of his life. Red started working for Springfield Public Utilities in 1967 as a power lineman and later line foreman. He was on the Springfield Fire Department and served as the fire chief for three years. He served on Springfield's Planning and Zoning Commission for five years and on the Board of Education at Springfield Public Schools for three years. He moved to Fairfax, where he was the city manager from 1986 to 1989. He managed the electric, water and wastewater utilities along with other city services and facilities. Red moved to Luverne in 1989 to be

the city's utility superintendent. In 1990 Red was instrumental in the design and construction of the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, serving in many vital capacities including board chairman from 2006 until his death.

Red was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. He enjoyed fishing, the Minnesota Twins and Vikings, spending time with his granddaughters, family, and friends, traveling, time in his man cave, and feeding the squirrels.

Red is survived by the mother of his children, Lisa Arndt; three sons, Joshua (Tamara) Arndt and their children, Rebecca and Leah of Dickinson, North Dakota, Justin (Katie) Arndt and their children Cassidy and Lucy of Richmond, and Jacob Arndt of Nashville, Tennessee; two sisters, Sandie Mielke of Sioux Falls and Paulette Levasseur of Sartell; a brother-in-law, Tasissa Moti of Brooklyn Park; and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Geraldine Moti; a brother, Douglas Arndt; a sister-in-law, Donna Arndt; and two brothers-in-law, Larry Levasseur and Richard Mielke.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (0114 F)

DEATH NOTICES

Sandra Boyenga

Sandra Boyenga, 57, Mankato, died Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021, at Parkview Manor in Ellsworth while under hospice care.

A funeral service was Monday, Jan. 11, at the First Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, Iowa. Interment was at Ebenezer Stateline Cemetery in Luverne Township, Rock County.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0114 DN)

Lillian Gruis

Lillian "Kitty" Gruis, 78, Slayton, died Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, at Our House Hospice Home in Slayton.

Arrangements are provided by Totzke Funeral Home of Slayton, totzkefuneralhome.com. (0114 DN)

Marvin Rozeboom

Marvin M. Rozeboom, 95, Leota, died Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, at the Edgebrook Care Center in Edgerton.

A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, with visitation one hour prior to the service, at the Ebenezer Christian Reformed Church in Leota. Burial will be in the Leota Community Cemetery.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home (dingmannandsons.com) and the Leota Burial Association. (0114 DN)

JoAnn Van Engelenhoven

JoAnn Van Engelenhoven, 90, Luverne, died Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at the Good Samaritan Society — Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

Arrangements are pending with Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0114 DN)

Bits/continued from page 6

asked the name of the creek, and I told him it had no name and that he might name it. He looked the surroundings over carefully and said, "Well, there is a lot of small ash growing at the mouth, so I guess we will have to call it Ash creek." Next summer when the government surveyors were sectionizing Rock county we gave the name in to them and the stream has been so called ever since.

The Ashcreek postoffice was located on the mail route connecting Luverne with Doon and LeMars, Iowa, which was first operated by Sam Bellesfield. Mrs. Kniss continued in charge of the office until 1873,⁸ when she removed from the locality and was succeeded as postmistress by Mrs. Susan M. Brown, who held the office seven years.

So, Ashcreek, which nominally came into being in the early seventies, advanced no further than the country postoffice stage until about a dozen years later. Then it was through the agency of the railroad that it was enabled to assume a more pretentious air.

The branch road from Luverne to Doon was built in 1879, the first trains being operated in November. The rudiment of a station was established on what then was the Kniss & Brown farm, on section 23, Clinton, which was to develop gradually, but with a certainty, into the village of Ashcreek. The initial improvement in the town-to-be, and the only one recorded for

the year 1879, was a small grain warehouse erected by Traux & Co. This firm had extensive farming interests in the immediate vicinity, and the warehouse erected was solely for the purpose of taking care of the products of its own farms.

⁸Mrs. Kniss has given some interesting statistics relating to this early day postoffice:

"Our local paper was then the Jackson Republic, as those who wished to prove up on their claims had to go to Jackson, the nearest land office, and so their names and their witnesses were published in the paper. A paper was also printed at Rock Rapids. There were six subscribers to the paper and nine to the Jackson Republic. The total number of regular subscription papers was twenty-three and one magazine was taken by a patron of the office, although a great many were sent by friends in the east.

"The receipts for stamps sold during the quarter ending September, 1872, were \$6.47, and that was when postage on a letter amounted to three cents. Notwithstanding the fact that the postmistress was expected to be at home any time a patron should happen to call, the department paid the munificent sum of \$12.00 a year for services rendered."

The story of the village of Ashcreek will continue in the Jan. 21 edition of the Star Herald.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iw.net.

Fieldhouse of Hope/continued from page 3

volunteers.

The Team-E Fieldhouse of Hope will bring all aspects of the organization under one roof and expand service to families.

Fieldhouse includes community fitness center

The building for Team-E Fieldhouse of Hope is 60-by-125 feet with a 22-by-38-foot wheelchair-accessible fitness center.

"We thought the health of the community and tying it in with the sports theme we have for Game Plan 4 Hope would be a fun way to promote fitness and also honor Ethan's memory by naming the building after him," Missy said.

In addition to the fitness room, the Fieldhouse will include:

- a central place for the donated medical

equipment, which has been stored in personal garages over the past three years.

- a display room and a fitting room for families seeking specialized equipment.

- a place for small group gatherings to accommodate speaking engagements and learning opportunities.

- an office for Game Plan 4 Hope.

- a garage for a handicap-accessible van for affected families.

- an area for volunteers to assemble packages.

"We are very excited about this new building and how it will enable our organization to better serve our 'Game Plan' families and give back to our community at the same time," Heather said.



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Hills-Beaver Creek Public Schools

I.S.D. #671

Open Enrollment Deadline: January 15th

January 15th is the deadline for nonresident students to apply for open enrollment to the Elementary School in Beaver Creek or the Secondary School in Hills, District Office or online at www.hbc Patriots.com. Open enrollment forms may be picked up in the district office of the Hills-Beaver Creek Public Schools from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.



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- Learning enhanced by a low ratio of student to teachers
- Staff maintain an inclusive environment to meet needs of individual students
- Staff know students as individuals and are determined to help students succeed.

Hills-Beaver Creek School provides a student-centered environment that encourages individual talents and differences.

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star-herald.com

Star Herald CHURCH

Page 8 January 14, 2021

The Star Herald reached out to churches for their worship information in the absence of in-person worship services, due to coronavirus social distancing. Those that responded are listed here. Those that would like to have information posted here should call the Star Herald or email editor@star-herald.com.

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

Public mass will be celebrated with a limit of 50 percent capacity of the church. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. Friday and 8:30 a.m. Sunday. No mass, communion service or rosary at care centers at this time. 5 p.m. Saturdays and 8:30 a.m. mass will be live streamed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stccluverne/videos/>. Visit www.stscl.org for more information.

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

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

First Baptist Church
1033 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne
Ph. 283-4091; email: fbcluv@iw.net — 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

Thursday, Jan. 14: NO Missions in Action. Saturday, Jan. 16: 5:30 p.m. Worship service with Communion. In-person worship service in Sanctuary. Sunday, Jan. 17: 9 a.m. Worship service with Communion and 1st Grade Milestones. 9:15-9:45 a.m. Drive-thru Communion. 10-10:45 a.m. Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom. Monday, Jan. Wednesday, Jan. 13: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 7-7:45 p.m. Confirmation for 6th-8th grade. 8-8:45 p.m.: 9th grade Confirmation. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are still 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. — NEW TIME! Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 507-449-0291 or 605-215-9834
pastorapalmquist67@yahoo.com
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor

Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well. Monday, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne). Also visit els.org with our sister churches for online worship opportunities.

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

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. indoor service. Worship 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.

First Assembly of God Church
1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luverneumc@iw.net

Thursday, Jan. 14: 1-3 p.m. Food Shelf curbside. Saturday, Jan. 16: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday Jan. 17: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Worship service — SD In-house worship service — Services held on radio and live on Facebook. YouTube will also have services posted. 4:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible Study with safe distancing. Monday, Jan. 18: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Tuesday, Jan. 19: 6 p.m. Trustees meeting. 7 p.m. Church council meeting. Wednesday, Jan. 20: 6:15 a.m. FUEL. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Thursday, Jan. 21: 1-3 p.m. and 5-6:30 p.m. Food Shelf curbside.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net — www.fpcluverne.com
Jason Cunningham, Pastor

Worship services in-person and through Facebook Live Sunday 10:15 a.m.* Our Facebook page can be found under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne. We are also on the local Luverne cable station at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Thursdays.

St. John Lutheran Church
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316; email: stjohn@iw.net
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org
Rev. Dr. Phil Booe, Pastor

10:30 a.m. DCE meeting in Sioux Falls. Saturday, Jan. 16: 5:30 p.m. Worship service. Sunday, Jan. 17: 9 a.m. Worship. 10:15 a.m. Sunday school; Bible study. 7 p.m. Online Bible study. Worship service is 75 people. Services will be available on the Vast channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website, cityofluverne.org. Monday, Jan. 18: 1 p.m. Quilting. 7 p.m. Parish planning council; newsletter deadline. Tuesday, Jan. 19: 6:30 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Jan. 20: 6:30 p.m. Kids for Christ; Catechism. 7:30 p.m. HS Youth group.

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

New Life Celebration Church
110 N. Oakley, Luverne
Ph. 449-6522; email: newlifecelibration@gmail.com

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. (507) 669-2855; zionoffice@alliancecom.net
Jesse Baker, Pastor

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

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Laura Phillips, Pastor

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
Laura Phillips, Pastor

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

Thursday 10 a.m. worship service on VAST and Mediacom. 7 p.m. Sunday 10:15 a.m. worship service viewed live on First Presbyterian Church Facebook page. Tuesday 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship service on VAST and Mediacom.

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. 17: 10 a.m. Worship service at Bethlehem. 10 a.m. Sunday school. 6 p.m. 8th-9th Grade Confirmation class. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org.

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

The sheep of the Lord

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Rev. Dr. Phil Booe, Pastor
St. John Lutheran Church, Luverne

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

Is there a more iconic Christian image than Jesus as the Good Shepherd and his people as his sheep? It's in Psalm 23, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want." You can find it in Revelations 7, "The Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd." And in the Gospel of John 10:27, Jesus teaches, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Why do you suppose this image is so powerful? Perhaps it's because in a world beset by so much trouble, people connect sheep and shepherds together with peace and quiet. Psalm 23 says, "He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters." It's that peaceful setting people imagine when they contemplate sheep and shepherds. Think of a sheepskin rug or blanket. The wool is soft and clean and fresh. So surely the animal that gave it must be like that: soft and gentle, clean and fresh. It's a peaceful image: Jesus the Shepherd and his people, the sheep of his pasture.

The problem is that if more people knew how sheep really behaved, they may not like being called sheep. Sheep's wool may seem clean and fresh, but that thick wool picks up a lot of dirt as the sheep goes about its day. What comes to us as clean and soft starts out as filthy and muddy before it's sheared. Sheep are also prone to wander from the flock. All it takes is the sight of greener grass and they wander until they find themselves far away. Sheep can also be stubborn, headstrong and willful creatures.

Just like sheep in the field, Christians have an amazing ability to pick up dirt from their surroundings. How often do you find your thoughts

and words reflecting those of your non-Christian neighbors! Are you sometimes tempted to wander to what seem to be greener pastures? Perhaps worldly concerns have coaxed you away from the flock of God. If so, you're not alone. Isaiah said it well: "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us turned to his own way." Isaiah 53:6

All people are sheep: dirty, lost and stubborn. And so serious is the problem that God took a radical step to solve it. — How? The Lord, the Shepherd of Israel, became the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. When you were lost, without hope and without God in the world, he wandered far from his heavenly home in search of you. His search took him to a lowly virgin in Nazareth, to a humble manger in Bethlehem, and finally, on a dark and lonely Friday afternoon, to an accursed tree. All for you.

Jesus says, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Return to the Lord your Shepherd who calls you in love and waits for you with open arms.

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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Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

Rock County operation budget for 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following is a summary of the operation budget for the 2021 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

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget
REVENUES		
County Portion of Tax Levy	\$ 6,190,169	\$ 6,345,106
Other Taxes and Penalties	862,143	883,593
Special Assessments	330,600	332,953
Licenses and Permits	32,410	29,060
Shared Revenues	1,777,253	1,808,301
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	80,000	80,000
Local Grants	119,943	137,584
State Grants	271,474	200,871
Federal Grants	20,800	20,800
County Program Aid	562,319	562,744
Charges for Services	1,817,634	1,883,401
Fines and Forfeitures	10,000	5,000
Investment Earnings	121,982	130,200
Miscellaneous Revenue	208,000	209,550
TOTAL REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES	\$ 12,404,727	\$ 12,629,163
EXPENDITURES		
General Government	\$ 2,342,439	\$ 2,344,790
Public Safety	2,347,774	2,411,313
Highways & Streets	3,116,753	3,168,120
Human Services	1,468,121	1,508,191
Sanitation	752,507	769,815
Health	16,800	16,800
Culture & Recreation	466,069	500,818
Conservation of Natural Resources	582,070	605,594
Economic Development	1,940	2,000
Intergovernmental	235,831	246,953
Debt Service	945,294	943,207
Capital Outlay	75,000	75,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	\$ 12,350,598	\$ 12,592,601

(01-14)

Mortgage foreclosure sale set for March 10

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 11, 2018
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$145,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Traci Ann Scholl, a single woman
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 101040121113923470
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Flanagan State Bank
SERVICER: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 18, 2018, Rock County Recorder, as Document Number 193663

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC;
Dated: December 9, 2020, filed: December 22, 2020, recorded as document number 198798

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
A tract in the W1/2 of Section 24, Township 104 North, Range 47 West of the 5th P.M., Rock County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the North west corner of the NW1/4 of Section 24, in said Township and Range aforesaid as the place of beginning, thence East 1320 feet to the Northeast corner of the W1/2 of the NW1/4; thence South 1100 feet; thence Northwesterly 720 feet to a point which is 1060 feet South of the North line of the NW1/4; thence South 200 feet; thence West 200 feet; thence South 260 feet; thence West 400 feet; thence North along the West side of the NW1/4 1520 feet to the point of beginning; excepting there from a strip or piece of land 200 feet wide extending across the Northwest corner of the described parcel granted by right of way deed dated April 23, 1888 to the Willmar and Sioux Falls Railway Company
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2178 20th Ave, Jasper, MN 56144
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 10-0215-000
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$152,964.32

THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 10, 2021, 10:00 A.M.
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, West Side Sheriff Dept, Front Step, Luverne, MN 56156

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 12 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on March 10, 2022, or the next business day if March 10, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
Dated: January 4, 2021

Specialized Loan Servicing LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP
BY
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Joseph M. Rossman - 0397070
Attorneys for Mortgagee
LOGS Legal Group LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
(01-14, 01-21, 01-28, 02-04, 02-11, 02-18)

EMPLOYMENT

New Prairie Insulation of Beaver Creek has full time insulation installer positions available. Monday-Friday; Health insurance, vacation pay, holiday pay, retirement plan, bonus, opportunities; will train. Call 605-376-3006. (tc)

HELP WANTED: Looking for a fun and rewarding job? Palisades State Park and Big Sioux Recreation Area are accepting applications for summer seasonal positions and Internships. Several positions available, salaries start at \$10.17/hr, and 40 hour work week (part-time could be considered). For job information and application please visit <https://bhr.sd.gov/job-seekers/seasonal/>. Applicants must be age 17 by date of hire. Interviews will begin in March, so get your application in quickly as possible. For questions, email palisadespark@state.sd.us or call 605-594-3824. EOE (12.19-1.14)

HELP WANTED
Age 55+ workers needed for part-time custodial work at the Adrian & Beaver Creek rest areas on I-90
Contact Green View
651-639-1913

EMPLOYMENT

HOME HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT

We're looking for a passionate care assistant to assist with the daily needs of a quadriplegic. As part of the team, you'll help maintain a strong standard of living by helping with daily care and household needs. From big life events to everyday moments, you'll be responsible for care that helps living life to the fullest a reality.

What you'll do:

- Implement an established morning (and possible night) personal hygiene routine
- Assist with regular personal and household needs
- Assist with medical appointments and errands
- Work closely with the family to maintain high standards of care

What we're looking for:

- You're passionate about providing reliable and stable long-term care
- At the core, you're a hard worker who wants to perform and be rewarded in return
- You're known as someone who shows up on time every time
- Come with a desire to learn. No specialized training is necessary. Training will be provided.
- You're able to lift up to 50 lbs.
- As a plus, you love to travel to neighboring states, the East Coast, or abroad

Benefits include:

- Highly competitive hourly wages
- Flexible hours
- Paid Time Off
- Pleasant work environment with no drama
- Potential of employer-provided housing for Care Assistant (and dependents)

For more information call
507-472-8448



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HELP WANTED

ENVISION COOPERATIVE

of Rugby/Mohall ND is seeking a qualified CEO/General Manager. This full service energy, agronomy, and farm supply cooperative with sales of \$70 Million and four branch locations located in Central ND. A background in finance, communication, and personnel management is desired. Send resumes to: Larry Fuller, 5213 Shoal Drive, Bismarck ND 58503 or larry.fuller@midco.net

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Two great new offers! Ask how to get the new iPhone 11 or Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e on us with AT&T's Buy one, Give One offer. While supplies last! Call 855/332-0464

DONATE YOUR CAR

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

RENTALS

Apartment for rent: One-bedroom, ground floor apartment with garage. No pets; no smoking. 507-283-9720. (tc)

For Rent: Two-bedroom house now available for rent with single garage; stove and refrigerator furnished. No smoking; no pets. Call 507-283-4095 or 507-290-1948. (tc)

START THE NEW YEAR IN A NEW HOME! CENTENNIAL APARTMENTS 1 Bedroom

For those 50+ or Disabled Includes ALL Utilities!
507-283-2652
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EMPLOYMENT

CARDS OF THANKS

Thanks to all my relatives and friends for the blessings and good wishes for my 80th birthday. It was greatly appreciated.
John D. Thies
(1.9-1.14)

I wish to thank you for all your prayers, cards, telephone calls and best wishes for my 90th birthday.
God Bless, John Brands
(1.9-1.14)

Thank you for all the thoughts, prayers and cards while I was at the Mayo Hospital and during my recovery.
Dan Boltjes
(1.9-1.14)

MISCELLANEOUS

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

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

- MDS Coordinator/RN charge nurse
- FT- Overnight Charge Nurse
- PT- Overnight Charge Nurse -every third weekend
- PT- Day Shift Nurse
- PRN -LPN/ RN
- FT- CNA-3-11 pm shift
- PRN-CNA's
- PT-Laundry Aide- will work Tuesdays/Thursdays and every other weekend

For more information on these positions, please contact:

Parkview Manor
Call 507-967-2482

New Position

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

5- 10 hrs early AM hours per week working M-F. Flexible hours working with a female client. Must be able to pass a background check. This is a new position, qualified individuals must be dependable and reliable.



Call for application
507-337-1101

AUTO MECHANICS WANTED

EARN \$40K TO \$75K PER YEAR AS A MECHANIC AT MID-COUNTY AUTO, TRUCK & TIRE CENTER

WANT TO LIVE & WORK IN THE COUNTRY, BUT BE CLOSE TO THE TWIN CITIES? Full service, well established, auto, truck and tire repair center on Hwy 212 in Cologne, MN is seeking beginning and experienced auto and truck repair technicians. Full-time 40-45 hours, excellent benefits, competitive wage based on experience.



For more information visit midcountycoop.com/mechanic-job to apply contact Mike at (952) 466-3710 or mikeb@midcountycoop.com



City of Appleton NOW HIRING

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Full job description and application can be found at www.appletonmn.com/employment
Application deadline: 5:00 p.m. February 15, 2021.
Submit application via mail or email.

City of Appleton, 323 W. Schlieman Ave., Appleton, MN 56208
cityadministrator@appletonmn.org

Restaurants open for in-person dining/ continued from page 1

Also effective Jan. 11, according to the governor's order:

- Gym capacity remains capped at 25 percent but maximum capacity increases to 150 and classes can increase to 25 people, assuming distancing can be observed. Machines and people must maintain 9 feet of distance. Face coverings are required.

- Outdoor events and entertainment continue at 25 percent capacity, but maximum capacity increases to 250 people. Social distancing is required.

- Indoor events and entertainment – like bowling alleys, movie theaters, and museums – may open at 25 percent, with no more than 150 people in each area of the venue. Face coverings are required, and they may not offer food service after 10 p.m.

- Youth and adult organized sports have resumed practice as of Jan. 4, and games resume Jan. 14 with spectators, following the appropriate capacity limits for indoor or outdoor venues. Inter-region tournaments and out of state play are discouraged.

- Pools opened on Jan. 4 for some activity and may now open, like gyms, at 25 percent



A group of ladies in WildFlowers Coffee Boutique Monday said they enjoyed being able to dine in at local restaurants again. The 1967 Luverne High School classmates (from left) Elaine Boeve, Elaine Boergerhoff, Wendy Grill and Linda Olivier were celebrating Boergerhoff's birthday. "It's just great for us to be together," Olivier said, "visiting each other with face-to-face contact."

capacity.

- Wedding receptions and other private parties may resume with limits. If food and drink are served at the event, then they are limited to two households or 10 people

indoors and three households or 15 people outdoors. If there is no food or drink, they are covered by event venue guidelines. Any related ceremony – like a wedding or funeral ceremony – is guided

by rules for ceremonies and places of worship.

- Places of worship remain open at 50 percent capacity but without an overall maximum capacity.

Walleye Wind public hearing/ continued from page 3

record for the Walleye Wind Farm permitting process can be completed by:

- mail to Suzanne Steinhauer, Environmental Review

Manager Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101.

•mn.gov/commerce/

energyfacilities/#comment.

Include docket numbers 20-269 or 20-384 in all communications.

What does the Walleye Wind Farm project entail?

NextEra Energy Inc., based in Juno Beach, Florida, proposes constructing a 109.2-megawatt wind farm in the Rock County townships of Beaver Creek and portions of Springwater, Luverne and Martin.

The wind farm would consist of 40 to 44 turbines.

Included in the plan is the decommissioning of seven wind turbines in Beaver Creek Township, purchased in 2019 from Renewable Energy Systems.

Economic impact

The \$138 million Walleye Wind Farm is one of five wind farm projects NextEra Energy proposes to construct in Minnesota. The University of Minnesota Extension Economic Impact Analysis Program released a report last month.

Key findings by preparer Brigid Tuck included an estimated \$55.7 million in economic development during construction and \$1.9 million in annual operations.

"The project will support an estimated 400 jobs during construction and 12 during ongoing annual operations. During the anticipated 30-year life of the project, it will generate \$57 million of economic activity in the county," she stated.

Mock trial competition begins/ continued from page 2

with the lodge and catering service.

- Jordan Knox, Payton's parent.

- Riley Swayne, a wedding planner hired by Knox. Defense witnesses include:

- Kris Nixon, owner and chief sales manager for Nixon Lodge & Catering.

- Bobbie Stuart, catering manager for the Lodge.

- Tony Oliva, the Lodge's lead venue planner.

Luverne team members and 2021 schedule

Luverne students on the defense team include seniors Kaitlyn Anderson and John Miller as returning defense attorneys.

They are joined by sophomore Ross Bergman.

Defense witnesses include junior Luke Thorson portraying Payton Knox, sophomore Jady Hart as Jordan Knox, and Xavier Carbonneau as Riley Swayne.

The plaintiff team takes center stage during the second round on Jan. 14 against Owatonna High School.

Plaintiff attorneys include senior Lauren Versteeg and juniors Griffen Jarchow and Chance Tunissen.

Plaintiff witnesses include senior Solveig Tofte land portraying Lodge owner Kris Nixon, senior Ainslie Robinson as Bobbie Stuart, and sophomore Parker Carbonneau as Tony Oliva.

Rounding out the Luverne team are senior Simon Boyenga as an alternate lawyer and sophomores Ella Lanoue and Cedar Viessman as alternate witnesses.

Round 3 competition on Jan. 20 will have Luverne on defense against Waseca High School.

Round 4 will be Feb. 2 as plaintiffs against Fairmont High School White.

Round 5 features the top two teams in each sec-

tion facing each other to compete at the state tournament.

Jeff Haubrich returns as the team's attorney coach.

Luverne students will compete from home.

"This will allow them to not have masks on, use devices they are familiar with," adviser Berghorst said.

The Zoom competition limits the number of participants seen on the screen to only the judge, student attorneys and one witness.

All other team members are on the Zoom call but keep their video off until it is their turn in front of the judge.

Attorneys and witnesses are switched on screen as their time in front of the judge is completed.

Parent night via Zoom is planned for later this season.

Hills-Beaver Creek members, 2021 schedule

This year's H-BC team consists of five seniors.

Allie LaRock, Jacob Sheppard and Abby Knobloch are attorneys.

Prosecution witnesses include ninth-graders Tahliya Kruger as Payton Knox, Kyler Hartz and Payton's parent Jordan Knox, and senior Hannah Fick as wedding planner Riley Swayne.

Defense witnesses are senior Lauren Tatge as business owner Kris Nixon, ninth-grader Madison Gaugler as catering manager Bobbie Stuart, and sophomore Taylor Durst as Toni Oliva, the business' lead venue planner.

H-BC's other competitions include:

- Jan. 14, plaintiff, against Rochester Century High School.

- Jan. 19, defense, Fairmont High School White.

- Feb. 3, plaintiff, Northfield High School Gold.

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



Starting Monday our local restaurants, bars, brewery and other entertainment venues will begin to reopen. Please make every effort to safely support them as they start the process of rebuilding their businesses. In addition to patronizing those businesses, remember to tip your server. I challenge you to consider at least a 25% tip. As Governor Walz said in his Wednesday press conference "now is not the time to let our guard down". I strongly urge us to continue the fight until the end. Considering many of our businesses, churches and schools continue to operate under restrictions we must still take personal responsibility to mask up, stay six feet apart and wash our hands until we are 100% back.



As the COVID-19 situation improves by nearly every metric across Minnesota, Governor Tim Walz announced on Wednesday (1/6/21) measures that loosen restrictions on important parts of daily life. The Governor also urged Minnesotans to protect the progress made over the past month.

"The situation in Minnesota is undeniably better than it was last month," Governor Walz said. "We have reasons to be optimistic, and Minnesotans' sacrifice and commitment to their communities helped change the pandemic's trajectory and saved lives. But we need to protect the progress we've made."

The announcement comes as tens of thousands of Minnesotans have received their first dose of the vaccine, COVID-19 cases are down, hospital bed use is declining, and kids are heading back to the classroom.

"As we cautiously adjust the dials to help Minnesotans return to important elements of their daily lives, we continue to monitor where we stand," Governor Walz continued. "Two months ago the pandemic quickly snowballed from manageable to out-of-control. For our students, our small businesses, and public health, we cannot allow that to happen again."

Active, confirmed COVID-19 cases in MN

Based solely on cases confirmed by the MN Department of Health. Thick line represents average of seven days of data.



Source: Minnesota Department of Health. Graphic by David H. Montgomery | MPR News
Data as of January 5, 2021

MPRnews

Today, COVID-19 is spreading more slowly across Minnesota than two months ago. Recognizing our progress – but understanding we need to remain cautious – the Governor is adjusting the dials and opening more activities and sectors of the economy.

STARTING JANUARY 11

RESTAURANTS

Indoor dining at bars and restaurants can open at 50 percent capacity, with a maximum of 150 people. Parties of no more than six people must remain six feet from other parties; bar seating is open to parties of two; reservations are required; and establishments must close dine-in service by 10 p.m.

GYMS AND FITNESS CENTERS

Gym capacity remains capped at 25 percent but maximum capacity increases to 150 and classes can increase to 25 people, assuming distancing can be observed. Machines and people must maintain 9 feet of distance. Face coverings are required.

OUTDOOR EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Outdoor events and entertainment continue at 25 percent capacity, but maximum capacity increases to 250 people. Social distancing is required.

INDOOR EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Indoor events and entertainment – like bowling alleys, movie theaters, and museums – may open at 25 percent, with no more than 150 people in each area of the venue. Face coverings are required, and they may not offer food service after 10 p.m.

YOUTH AND ORGANIZED SPORTS

Youth and adult organized sports have resumed practice as of January 4 and games resume January 14 with spectators, following the appropriate capacity limits for indoor or outdoor venues. Inter-region tournaments and out of state play are discouraged.

Pools opened on January 4 for some activity and may now open, like gyms, at 25 percent capacity.

WEDDING RECEPTIONS AND PRIVATE PARTIES / PLACES OF WORSHIP

Wedding receptions and other private parties may resume with limits. If food and drink are served at the event, then they are limited to two households or 10 people indoors and 3 households or 15 people outdoors. If there is no food or drink, they are covered by event venue guidelines. Any related ceremony – like a wedding or funeral ceremony – is guided by rules for ceremonies and places of worship.

Places of worship remain open at 50% capacity but without an overall maximum capacity.



STAY SAFE MN



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

Luverne
MINNESOTA
Love the life!

Sincerely,

Mayor Patrick T. Baustian