



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, March 25, 2021

County to get \$1.8 million in new round of COVID aid

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County will receive an estimated \$1.8 million over the next 12 months as part of the American Rescue Plan passed earlier this year.

An additional \$1 million will be divided among the county's cities and townships, according to the plan.

Rock County Commissioners learned of the allocations at their March 16 meeting after preliminary figures were released by the National Association of Counties and the League of Minnesota Cities.

Now they're seeking guidance on how the money can be spent.

Previous coronavirus aid dollars were designated for personal protection equipment, monetary relief to businesses or additional salary costs associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

Last year Rock County received \$1.144 million as part of the CARES Act, along with an additional \$250,000 from the state earlier this year in dedicated business relief.

With the latest round of COVID relief, government officials will have almost three years to spend the funds, according to County Administrator Kyle Oldre. "We have until Dec. 31, 2024, to spend the money," he said.

"What we are waiting for is better guidance on what we can spend the money on," in addition to the three categories outlined in the previous aid packages.

Cities and townships are in line to receive the following estimated dollar amounts in aid:

- Battle Plain Township, \$22,093;
- Beaver Creek (city), \$31,886;
- Beaver Creek Township, \$42,819;
- Clinton Township, \$30,748;
- Denver Township, \$19,246;
- Hardwick, \$20,840;
- Hills, \$74,136;
- Kanaranzi Township, \$27,559;
- Kenneth, \$7,516;
- Luverne (city), \$515,990;
- Luverne Township, \$54,662;
- Magnolia, \$23,687;
- Martin Township, \$42,818;
- Mound Township, \$28,584;
- Rose Dell Township, \$22,890;
- Springwater Township, \$28,014;
- Steen, \$18,790;
- Vienna Township, \$17,196.



Incoming 2021-22 kindergartners listen to teacher Haley Tollefson as she explains procedures they will need to follow when they begin full-time classes this fall. Paraprofessional Eve Burgers is also pictured in the background of the classroom near the window.

H-BC Class of 2034 in 'kindergarten for a day'

By Mavis Fodness

Seventeen 4- and 5-year-olds enthusiastically decorated coffee filters with colored markers in Haley Tollefson's classroom Friday as they became "kindergartners for a day."

In a twist to the school's traditional Kindergarten Round-Up, the incoming 2021-22 kindergartners experienced a day in the kindergarten classroom as a first-time, daylong event organized by teachers.

Preschool teacher Macy Ellingson said her students were used to waiting their turn,

completing activities and forming lines, but lunch and recess were new.

Tollefson led future kindergartners in the coffee filter coloring with art instructor Tyler Johnson.

They made starch "pots" from the filters sprayed with starch and took them home as a reminder of the day in the classroom.

"It is kind of nice to get to know students before the school year," Tollefson said. "It will ease the transition into kindergarten."

Previously H-BC's Kindergarten Round-Up consisted of an evening parental meeting

and students participating in about 90 minutes of story time activity and a snack.

Many kids were disappointed that the time "going to school" was short.

The current kindergarten students had Friday off, as the incoming students took their place in the classroom to experience the all-day Monday through Friday program for one day.

Last year the coronavirus pandemic canceled the round-up.

The incoming kindergartners will officially begin classes Sept. 8.



At left, art instructor Tyler Johnson sprays starch on Maybrie Bush's paper pot. Center, Nathan Opheim follows instruction for making coffee filter pots. Above right, Kaylee Teune carefully outlines the edges of a coffee filter with a marker Friday during Hills-Beaver Creek Public School's Kindergarten Round-Up.

Poplar Creek hosts first family visits

Facility is among a rare few that kept COVID away from tenants, staff

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne World War II veteran Bill Holling saw his family Friday for the first time in over a year when his daughters and their husbands visited him at Poplar Creek apartments.

"This was such a joyous occasion," his daughter Patricia Jones said Monday morning. "I'm still on a high now."

She and her husband, Bryan, drove more than five hours from Shenandoah, Iowa, Friday to meet her sister, Priscilla and Randy Pater, to celebrate their dad's 98th birthday, which is March 25.

They expected restrictions of one person at a time, but they were all allowed to come in.

"They told us we could all see him, and guess what? We could



Submitted photo
Bill Holling meets his great-granddaughter, Eden, through his apartment window last winter. Pictured here, Eden's parents, Amber (Pater) and Andrew Top, Omaha, visited Holling along with Eden's brother, Jonah.

April 5 is deadline to comment on state park plans for former interpretive center building

By Lori Sorenson

April 5 is the deadline for public comment on the Minnesota DNR's plans for the Blue Mounds State Park former interpretive center area.

The architect's proposal includes three drawings for the trailhead site that incorporate remnants of the former Fred Manfred home, along with new trailhead amenities.

The proposals are on the DNR's website, which also provides background and a link to a survey for public comment.

Go to www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/blue_mounds/eagle-rock-vista-re-development-project-content.html.

Background

Built by Luverne author Fred Manfred in 1961, the state purchased the house in 1972 for use as an interpretive center and paved a long driveway down the hill to County Road 8.

Moisture seeping into the structure's Sioux quartzite north wall routinely flooded the building's lower level and created maintenance difficulties for park staff who annually ran a sump pump to preserve the structure.

The building remained a central gathering point for community author readings and live music, despite its

State park plans/see page 8



COVID CORNER

County	Total Cases	DAILY average in last 7 days	Percent Change
Rock	1,184	1	+0.8%
Pipestone	1,035	3	+1.4%
Nobles	3,897	1	+0.1%
Minnehaha (SD)	29,067	58	+1.7%
Lyon (IA)	1,484	1	+0.3%

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

Date Range	1/31-2/13	2/7-2/20	2/14-2/27	2/21-3/6
Rate	13.81	7.44	7.44	12.75

Vaccine Dashboard: ROCK COUNTY

- People with at least one dose: 2,363
- People with completed series: 1,377

Data as of 03-21-2021

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: In-person
 HBC - Elementary: In-person | Secondary: In-person/HYBRID

Current data as of March 23, 2021. Sources: MDH & The New York Times

Sponsored by: Rock County Emergency Management

Poplar Creek evades COVID, open for visitors/from page 1

hug and hold hands," Pat said. "Dad's not a hugger, but there definitely were hugs."

Holling's family members were the first visitors allowed inside Poplar Creek since the doors closed March 11, 2020, to protect the 26 tenants from COVID-19.

Living in "lockdown" wasn't easy, but it paid off, according to Amy Dispanet VerSteeg at Poplar Creek.

"Only essential caregivers were allowed in," VerSteeg said. "I've seen so many people languish for lack of family ... but we did it. We never had COVID in the facility, and now everyone's been vaccinated."

Those sacrifices made Friday's first visit all the more poignant, she said.

"Seriously, I had happy tears for them," VerSteeg said.

"Bill's granddaughter got married and he couldn't go to the wedding. He had a great-granddaughter born, and he had to see her through his window. It's how everything had to be."

Patricia said she and her family understood the restrictions.

"We would never have wanted to give someone COVID," she said. "And we were just so grateful for how wonderfully Poplar Creek was taking care of Dad. They were protecting their residents."

Priscilla was considered an essential caregiver for her dad, which meant she was able to see him when she ran errands for him, but she said he missed the group.

"I know he loves me, but it was just nice for all of us to be able to have a conversation together," Priscilla said.

She and Randy farm near Pipestone, and her dad is a retired farmer from the Hardwick area.

"He enjoys talking about farming," Priscilla said. "I tried to tell him what was going on, but it's not the same for him as talking with Randy."

"Dad loves his sons-in-law as much as he loves us," Patricia said.

As senior housing facilities are slowly reopen-



Submitted photos
 Poplar Creek tenant Bill Holling (center) celebrated his 98th birthday with his daughters Priscilla Pater (second from right) and Patricia Jones and their husbands, Randy Pater (far left) and Bryan Jones. They were the first family allowed to visit as a group in Poplar Creek since the facility closed March 11, 2020, amid the pandemic.

"They told us we could all see him, and guess what? We could hug and hold hands. Dad's not a hugger, but there definitely were hugs. This was such a joyous occasion. I'm still on a high now."

—Patricia Jones
 Bill Holling's daughter



Poplar Creek tenant Bill Holling is a World War II veteran and retired Hardwick farmer. He's pictured with a bulletin board that shares his family history, photographs and interests, which include regular exercising, solving word games and playing Bingo (he plays four cards at a time).

ing after pandemic closures, long-overdue reunions are playing out in families nationwide, especially after vaccination rates continue to improve.

Director Elena Heronimus said Poplar Creek is seeing an uptick in visitors since pandemic restrictions lifted.

"Everyone is just glad to do this," she said Monday. "I'm glad, too. It's been a long time coming."

VerSteeg said she and other health care workers are finally able to exhale after a long year of pandemic fears.

"It's been such a crazy year where anyone in the health field has been called

upon to anything and everything," she said.

VerSteeg's job title at Poplar Creek is "senior living and recreational coordinator," but in the past year that has included "mask reminder, temp and health question screener, distance reminder, iPad runner, meal deliverer, mental health barometer and cheerleader, tenant and family support provider and peeling people off the walls when the walls were caving in."

But she added that

she's not the only one who assumed new roles in the past year. "I'm guessing not a single job description in the world hasn't been modified," VerSteeg said.

Poplar Creek visitors will need to be screened at the door and will be required to wear masks and socially distance from those outside their family group.

Also, visitors are encouraged to call 24 hours in advance of a visit in order to prevent large gatherings. The phone number is 507-283-1996.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Six-week Grief Support Group

Sanford Luverne Hospice will offer a six-week Grief Support Group from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, April 5 through May 10, at Sanford Luverne Medical Center. This group is for anyone grieving the death of a loved one, whether involved with hospice or not. Meetings are free and led by Jill Roemen, licensed social worker. Register at 507-283-1805.

Rock the Edge seeks projects

Rock The Edge Youth's Service Over Self will be June 21-25, and the group is seeking community projects, such as painting, cleaning, organizing, yard work or other projects. Call 507-227-1978, 605-261-4000 or email rocktheedgemn@gmail.com

Community Ed pitching clinic

Community Education will offer a four-session pitching clinic led by JJ Olson. Meet in the small gym at the high school from 7 to 8 p.m. March 22, March 29, April 5, and April 12. Bring someone along to be your catcher. Fee is \$50. Questions: call 283-4724.

Lutheran Women Spring Rally

LWML Spring Rally - Pipestone Zone will be Saturday, April 10, at St. James Lutheran Church in Holland. Registration is at 9 a.m. and the rally starts at 9:30. Rev. John Grein will present "Living As A Christian In A Secular World." Gifts of the Heart monetary donations will benefit Pipestone County Food Shelf. No lunch will be served

Community Education

Luverne Community Education will offer the following activities. Call 507-283-4724 to register.

Maximize Your Memory – attend by Zoom or in person on March 24. Learn when to be concerned and techniques to improve your memory! Register with your email. Fee is \$5.

Preschool Fun Time on March 30 for parents with children ages 0-5. Registration required, no fee.

Learn how to keep your yard looking fresh from George Bonnema at the **Pruning Shape Up** class on April 13. Fee is \$10.

Using glaze, heat, flames and cooling, you will transform a pottery piece into an **Amazing Raku Treasure** on April 17. Fee is \$5 plus pick out a piece of pottery ranging from \$10 - \$30 at the studio.

Tax help for Rock County people

United Community Action Partnership offers free online virtual tax assistance for residents living in Rock County and surrounding communities. For details see <https://www.unitedcapmn.org/services/community-family-services/tax-clinic/> Make an appointment and get intake forms at 507-537-1416 ext. #2163. Or email Courtney Newgard at Newgardcourtney.newgard@unitedcapmn.org.

H-BC robotics team earns 'best robot design'

By Mavis Fodness

The Hills-Beaver Creek Secondary School was named Robot Design Champion at the First LEGO League challenge competition March 13 in Sioux Falls.

Judges selected the H-BC team named H.E.L.P. Heroes for their innovation in designing their LEGO robot named Pistachio.

"This team used outstanding programming principles and solid engineering practices to develop a robot that is mechanically sound, durable, efficient

and highly capable of performing challenge missions," organizers wrote on the competition website.

H.E.L.P. Heroes was the only team from Minnesota that competed at the in-person Sioux Falls event out of the 28 schools participating. Three schools were from northwest Iowa and the rest from South Dakota. Six schools competed virtually.

This is the first year of competition for the H-BC team. "I was shocked to win in that category," said Ava Steinhoff, a sixth-grader. "I

am happy that we did; we all participate in that."

In addition to Steinhoff, team members include students Mazzi Moore, Bailey Spykerboer, Gracie Fagerness, Rebekah Swenson, Gavin Voss, Carielynn Merson, Ava Steinhoff, Tatyana Williams and AJ Foote.

Lexi Moore is the adult adviser. "It was a great surprise to win for robot design," she said.

Judges remarked on the H-BC team skills on the scoring sheet.

"Each (H-BC) teammate

knew about the process and outcomes — great use of many teammates," they said.

"... great engineering notebook — the documentation and decision-making process was outstanding. The kids knew the robot's advantages and limitations."

In the three robotic game competitions, H-BC scored 125, 200 and 170.

"The maximum points our robot could have earned, if everything went perfectly, would have been 240," Moore said. "So 200 was an outstanding run."

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County approves abatement request for Rock River Ag

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County Commissioners approved a 10-year abatement of county taxes March 2 for Rock River Ag Properties LLC south of Luverne. Owners Brad Bergman and Joshua Renault requested abating 100 percent of taxes on the six acres in Clinton Township. It's the site of a combined warehouse, seed storage and office facility recently built at the intersection of Highway 75 and 61st Street.

Five jobs will be created with the new agronomy sales facility, according to the abatement application.

The county assessor determined the improvements would add \$2,958 to the county's current tax base annually or \$29,577 over 10 years.

No one from the public attended the public hearing for the abatement consideration.

Commissioner Stan Williamson questioned making decisions for future commissioners, whose four-year terms would include honoring a decision they made in 2021.

"That's two-and-a-half in terms of change of commissioners," he said.

Instead of 10 years, commissioners unanimously approved five years of tax abatement at 100 percent or \$2,958 annually with a 20-percent reduction each year over the remaining four years.

Future hearings

Commissioners also agreed at their March 2 meeting that all future abatements hearings will take place at the last commissioner meeting of each quarter.

For 2021 those meetings will be June 22, Sept. 21 and Dec. 21.

However, two abatement applications have already been submitted and commissioners agreed to conduct the public hearings April 6.

Ross Van Hulzen submitted a tax abatement for a new home in Battle Plain Township, and a business tax abatement was submitted by Kelly and Tammie Leuthold in Martin Township for a salon and spa.

HBCS begins plans for Friendship Days, seeks volunteers

By Mavis Fodness

The Helping Building Communities Stronger (HBCS) club will meet later this month to plan the 2021 Friendship Days.

"There are never enough hands," said HBCS president Howard Vis.

The planning meeting will be 7 p.m. Monday, March 29, at the Hills Legion Hall.

Vis made the announcement at the March 9 Hills City Council meeting.

He said current coronavirus pandemic guidelines will be easy to follow for the Saturday morning parade, but club members will need

to review guidelines for the community meal at the city park along with the children's activities including the soapbox derby.

"We'll have some activities. We just don't know what they will be," he said.

The March 29 meeting will choose a 2021 parade marshal and a possible parade theme. Community letters about the event will be sent this month, Vis said.

The 2021 event is scheduled for the second weekend in June with activities slated for Friday, June 11, and Saturday, June 12. Events were canceled in 2020 due the pandemic.



Lori Sorenson photos/0325 st. patricks day parade

The 2021 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Luverne was the largest and most festive anyone could remember in recent history. Many reasoned that it timed with a turning point in the pandemic as many people are getting vaccinated against COVID-19 and it's safer to be outdoors in gatherings of people. In the inset, Chantel Connell prepares for the parade.

Luverne hosts stand-out parade

By Lori Sorenson

St. Patrick's Day parades aren't typically a big deal in Luverne, but this year it was different.

A first-ever marching band of Edgerton students led the procession of green-colored parade entries, and crowds lined the parade route in numbers not seen at a Luverne St. Patrick's Day Parade in decades.

More than anything, the celebration was festive, like a normal community celebration, something not experienced since before the pandemic canceled gatherings over a year ago.

"The last parade in Rock County was for the Band Festival in 2019 so we have had a long dry spell," said Luverne Area Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere.

To entice more parade entrants, the



The Edgerton Public School marching band plays "Smoke on the Water" for their parade-leading ensemble. It was the first time in recent history that Luverne had a marching band in its St. Patrick's Day parade.

Chamber offered a gold dollar coin to each participant at the end of the parade route.

"Like the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow," Lanphere said.

The event attracted out-of-town entrants and spectators who said they were seeking St. Patrick's Day celebrations and couldn't find them in Sioux Falls or other area towns.

"We came here from Valley Springs, because South Dakota didn't have anything," said Ardel Johnson, who wore a flashy green outfit with her similarly dressed daughter, Kasey Johnson, to enjoy Luverne's parade.

More photographs are online at www.star-herald.com.



Albert Van Belle (far right) and his grandchildren traveled the parade route in an umbrella-covered hydraulic-driven picnic table that his nephew, Jeff Parker built. Pictured are (left side, front to back) Avalynn with Bryson on her lap, Brecken, (right side front to back Albert with Kasyn on his lap, Katelynn, and Aubrey, all with the last name Van Belle. Daughter-in-law Allyson Van Belle is in the center in back.



From left, Colt Siebenahler, Joseph Bullerman, Hadee Bullerman and Raelyn Siebenahler scramble for candy thrown from an entry.

COVID-19 community vaccination events planned in Marshall and Worthington

The state of Minnesota's COVID-19 Community Vaccination Program is expanding further this week, with temporary vaccination events in Marshall at the MERIT Center and Worthington at the Worthington Event Center.

Vaccine will be administered at the Marshall and Worthington events to currently eligible Minnesotans, including frontline workers in food processing and agriculture this week.

"Across the state, we continue to build an expansive network of providers to bring vaccines directly to Minnesotans in their communities," Gov. Tim Walz said.

"These new opportunities in Marshall and Worthington will help us reach even more people in southern Minnesota, including hard-working folks in food processing and agriculture."

The temporary Marshall and Worthington one-time events join seven permanent, large-scale community vaccination sites in Minneapolis, Duluth, Rochester, Bloomington, Saint Paul, St. Cloud and Mankato as part of the Community Vaccination Program.

"We need broad community protection before we are able to rein in COVID-19 and get back to the many normal parts of life we all have missed,"

Walz said. "And the way we get there is by getting as many people vaccinated as possible, as quickly as possible."

Minnesotans who have not received a vaccine should sign up for the Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector, which will notify them about vaccine opportunities nearby.

Users currently eligible for the vaccine may be randomly selected for an appointment at a Community Vaccination Program location.

Minnesotans may be contacted directly if they can make an appointment. Minnesotans can sign up at <https://mn.gov/vaccineconnector>.

Minnesotans unable to sign up online or who require translation assistance can call 833-431-2053 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday to sign up over the phone. In addition to the Vaccine Connector, Minnesotans can contact their local providers to schedule a shot when appropriate.

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Submit bids to **Lowell Bonnema** 1161 21st St Steen, MN 56173 507-855-2380 bids will be opened

Monday, April 5 at 8 p.m. at the Township Hall Lowell Bonnema, Clerk

NO Annual Winter Carnival

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April 5

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Random acts of positivity can and do have power to uplift our spirits

If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all.

That old "rule" seems to be forgotten on social media.

It seems like negative, divisive, and/or false information is posted or shared much more than positive or uplifting content.

You know what I mean.

The same few people who constantly produce posts that are either bashing one political party, sharing false information or generally complaining about something.

Maybe that's why one recent post made such an impression on many people.

I was looking through Facebook on a Saturday morning and came across a post about the Luverne at Windom boys' hockey game the night before.

It appeared to be from a Windom fan or parent.

I expected something negative.

And I was totally wrong.

It turns out, the lengthy and heartwarming post was about a positive experience the author witnessed after the game.

And it was all thanks to the actions of a Luverne player, goalie Shaid Shearer.

The Windom mom noticed that, after losing to Windom in the last regular-season game of his senior season, Shaid skated over to congratulate the Eagle players on their win.

The author was profoundly moved by this gesture of sportsmanship by Shaid.

To paraphrase the post, she wrote that she could not stop thinking about how selfless his actions were and how much Shaid's display of sportsmanship meant to her.

She went on to share how



IN OTHER WORDS

By Jason Berghorst, reporter

this experience reminded her how valuable high school sports can be and how the emotional moment brought her to tears.

She even wrote of how she was so moved that she sought out Shaid's mom after the game and even stood outside the Luverne locker room waiting to thank the Cardinal goalie for his actions.

After reading this post, I felt really good.

I felt good for Shaid, for his parents, and for this Windom parent who was so moved that she typed such a positive post and shared it with the world.

I also thought of how Shaid's sportsmanship, the impact it had on this parent and her willingness to share it, had all taught me something.

I also reflected on how much I enjoy being a fan of high school sports and how blessed I am to work with so many kids like Shaid every day as a teacher.

And all of this because of a post from a random stranger whom I will never meet.

Just imagine if more social media posts could have such a positive impact on others.

What if more people typed uplifting words that made others feel proud and grateful, instead of negative or resentful?

What if we could all show the kind of sportsmanship online that was demonstrated by both Shaid and the Windom mom?

Maybe it's time for a modern version of the old rule:

If you don't have anything nice to post, don't post anything at all. ... But if you can say (or post) something nice, by all means, please do.

DNR responds: Manfred legacy to be honored, but structure cannot be saved

We appreciate the opportunity to clarify the Minnesota Parks and Trails project to redevelop Eagle Rock Vista at Blue Mounds State Park.

First, it is important to note for context that the Frederick Manfred house site is an important and valued area within Blue Mounds State Park. It reflects the contributions of a famous American author to the community of Luverne and his family's legacy.

As part of the redevelopment project, DNR has assessed the potential for saving the house. However, the extensive damage and environmental hazards caused by the quarried cliff being incorporated into the building has resulted in the conclusion that the building is unsafe and unsustainable.

The full "Existing Conditions Assessment of the Frederick Manfred House" is now available on the DNR website. The report goes into great detail about the considerable structural deficiencies and public safety issues associated with the structure.

Further, because of the design of the structure incorporating the quarried cliff and the resulting persistent water intrusion, saving the structure in its current form is not only costly, but impossible.

Due to the ongoing water intrusion over the years, the only feasible way the building could be made sustainable would be to rebuild the facility functionally separated from the cliff wall and would likely cost over \$2 million.

And finally, if it were rebuilt, it would no longer reflect the original

architecture of the building.

It is also important to point out that during the 2017 Blue Mounds State Park Citizen Advisory Group process, group members learned about the state of the building and generally agreed the site needs to be repurposed for a different use in the future.

The name "Eagle Rock Vista" was suggested by a wayfinding group from the Luverne Economic Development Office, because the large rock in the immediate vista area is named "Eagle Rock," and is rumored to have been named by the Manfred family.

Because the focus of the area will shift from a visitor center building to more of an interpretive, reflective site and trailhead location – the name "Eagle Rock Vista" was recommended.

To effectively honor Frederick Manfred's legacy while enhancing the natural landscape and space for public use, education and appreciation, the DNR Parks and Trails Division requested proposals for professional architectural, site design, and engineering services to redevelop the Manfred House-Eagle Rock Vista trailhead area at Blue Mounds State Park

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Bob Welsh, Resource and Asset Management Section Manager; Division of Parks & Trails, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The resulting concepts that are being reviewed today effectively retain the footprint, foundation and stone face that were prominent in the structure while also celebrating the splendor of the rare natural plant communities in the area along with the spectacular views from the exposed cliff for which the site is known.

The DNR has undertaken a lengthy process of engagement of stakeholders including a series of group meetings in the community to discuss a variety of issues pertaining to the park, including the Manfred house.

Among various outcomes, the citizen advisory group requested that they be engaged in considering alternative options culminating in the current opportunity for public comment on the design concepts.

And there have been multiple communications with advocates for saving the Manfred house about the condition of the house and plans to redevelop the area into a trailhead dating back to at least 2019.

The assessment, performed by licensed architects and engineers, substantiated the expectation that the house would need to be deconstructed.

Kracht: 'Some questions for us to think about'

To the Editor:

I have put together some questions for us to think about. Here they are in no particular order.

Isn't hating this country like hating your parents and living in their basement?

Has anyone seen the testing numbers for Covid lately? I mean the number of tests administered. Six months ago that was reported daily. Do you think that this is why the positive test numbers are going down?

There are always studies being done. The study I would like to see

is how many people who wear face diapers got Covid compared to the people who got Covid who didn't wear them. That would be interesting, wouldn't it?

What is really going on at Fort Pelosi (Washington D.C.)?

Other than weathermen, has anyone been wrong more than Dr. Fauci and still kept their job?

Why is out city government in the real-estate business?

Wouldn't it make more sense to not have us pay taxes instead of the government sending us money they don't have? Then the hard-working

people would get rewarded and the freeloaders wouldn't.

Remember the days of common sense and people not getting offended by it?

Where did the flu go?

Has anyone seen the numbers and whose money was spent on the Tru-Shrimp debacle?

Why are they calling this a Covid Relief Bill? Less than nine percent is directed to Covid relief. Shouldn't they just call it what it is?

Regardless of your political

Kracht, continued on page 5

Parade breathes life back into normalcy

The St. Patrick's Day parade that made its way down Main Street last week may pale in comparison to other event parades, but this year's St. Patrick's Day parade was the best parade of the year by non-traditional measures.

The parade itself was kind of a coming out party for life having a little bit of normalcy.

For 10 years or more, the Star Herald has participated in the parade, and I would say it was one of Luverne's bigger St. Patrick's Day parades.

Hats off to Jane and Angela from the Luverne Area Chamber for once again organizing a great local event.

In addition to the nice turnout for the parade, two of the coolest things in this year's parade were that the Edgerton Public School band led the



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, Tollefson Publishing general manager

parade, and if memory serves, that was the first band to participate during my parade tenure.

The second thing on the parade entry cool list was the mobile picnic table. Albert VanBelle and his grandchildren rode on some sort of gas-powered, wheel-driven picnic table complete with a green umbrella.

The crowd lining the

five-block parade route was larger than past years as well, and there was plenty of candy handed out along the way.

All in all, the St. Patrick's Day parade is simple – maybe even a little cheesy, but considering the year and all we've been through, it was spectacular and hopefully a sign of better days ahead.

Radisewitz: Donate stimulus checks

To the Editor:

What a blessing it is to live in Rock County. We have so much to be grateful for each day. Wonderful schools, facilities, parks, neighbors and friends.

One friend of our area is The Luverne Area Community Foundation (LACF). The mission of the LACF is to develop and allocate financial resources to support community needs. In other words, they assist organizations in our community to help

those in need.

If you just received your \$1,400 stimulus check and want to put it to good use, consider sending \$1,400 to the Luverne Area Community Foundation, PO Box 623, Luverne, MN. You'll get credit for a donation to a nonprofit and you'll be helping volunteer organizations in our area to assist those in need.

Cary Radisewitz, Luverne

Meinerts: Stimulus not so stimulating

To the Editor:

Trillion – a figure we hear a lot from our Washington bureaucrats. Does anyone even understand how big that number is? A million seconds is 11.57 days, a billion seconds is 31 years and a trillion seconds is 31,688 years.

The 1.9 trillion dollar stimulus package that those nitwits in Washington passed would give every man, woman and a child in America \$5,722 if they actually

gave it back to the hard-working people they pillaged it from. Every man, woman and child's share of the national debt is \$78,313. Think they are doing you a favor?

Did anyone get a \$5,722 check? I didn't, but maybe it's because I'm still using a mailbox and not one of those new gender neutral boxes. Mr. Potato Head, your tater tots are safe with us.

God Bless America!

Todd Meinerts, Luverne

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

March 12

- Complainant on 171st Street and N. East Park Street reported a trespassing issue.
- Complainant on W. Mead Court reported loud music at location.
- Harassing communications were reported at location on S. Fairview Drive.
- Complainant on 241st Street reported vagrants squatting at location.
- Report of debris in roadway west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne.
- Accident was reported at location on E. Veterans Drive.
- Deputy checked on vehicle on U.S. Highway 75.

March 13

- Deputy reported suspicious vehicle on S. Kniss Avenue.
- Complainant on E. Main Street reported door damaged at location.
- Complainant on W. Fletcher Street reported harassment via text message.
- Complainant on E. 3rd Street, Hardwick, reported garbage being thrown in recycling shed.
- Report of ticket booth vandalized at fairgrounds.
- Deputy reported an open storage door on S. Kniss Avenue.

March 14

- Complainant on W. Luverne Street, Magnolia, reported a juvenile runaway.
- Complainant on W. Luverne Street, Magnolia, reported a juvenile runaway.
- Complainant in Luverne reported an unlicensed driver.
- Complainant on County Road 7 reported someone suspicious at location.

- Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 3, Beaver Creek, reported a vehicle off the roadway.

March 15

- Complainant on Cedar Street reported a parking issue.
- Complainant on N. McKenzie reported snow blocking the driveway.
- Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported he is locked in city hall building.
- Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne, reported debris on the road.

March 16

- Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 3.5, Beaver Creek, reported a vehicle rollover.
- Complainant reported subject with Rock County warrant.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.
- Complainant on Warren Street reported a suspicious phone call and delivery situation.
- Complainant on S. Freeman Avenue reported a rental issue.
- Complainant on 251st Street, Jasper, reported a disorderly male at location.

March 17

- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested a hotel room voucher.
- Assistance from another department was conducted on 251st Street, Jasper.
- Extra patrol was requested at location on Railroad Avenue S., Jasper.
- Complainant northbound on 20th Avenue, Hills, reported erratic driver at location.
- Roadside assistance was provided

- on Main and Kniss Avenue.
- Dispatch confirmed at Rock County warrant.

March 18

- Complainant on W. Maple Street, Luverne, reported an open door at location.
- Complainant on Northview Drive reported a Minnesota unemployment scam.
- Complainant on 100th Avenue, Hardwick, wanted information on how to pay a citation.
- Complainant on W. Main Street reported losing a wallet.
- Complainant on N. McKenzie Street reported a hit and run accident.
- Complainant on S. Anna Avenue, Hills, reported a social security scam.
- Complainant at Avera Behavioral Health, reported stalking activity.

March 19

- Deputy was out with vehicle on County Road 8 and 161st Street, Luverne.
- Complainant on County Road 6 and 161st Street, Luverne, reported an accident to property.
- Complainant on W. Bishop Street reported possible theft occurring.
- Train blocking roadway at location on 41st Street, Hills.

In addition, officers responded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 5 vehicles in ditch, 1 transport, 7 escorts, 20 ambulance runs, 1 paper service, 6 animal complaints, 4 fingerprint requests, 22 burn permits, 1 vehicle impound, 1 alarm, 4 drug court tests, 5 purchase and carry permits, 2 stalled vehicles, 21 traffic stops, 7 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 1 welfare check and 2 reports of cattle out.



Mavis Fodness photo/0325 Coin Toss Bid Award

At the Rock County Board of Commissioners meeting March 16, vice chairman Jody Reisch (left) tosses a coin in the air to decide which company would receive the road striping bid. Two companies submitted identical bids and with the coin landing "heads" side up (verified by county attorney Jeff Haubrich, right) the bid was awarded to Traffic Marking Services Inc. of Maple Lake.

Rare coin toss decides pavement marking bid

By Mavis Fodness

The Rock County Board of Commissioners decided a tied bid for highway striping with the flip of coin at their March 16 meeting.

Traffic Marking Services Inc. of Maple Lake won the coin flip in what was a first-ever tied bid-letting process for Rock County engineer Mark Sehr.

"Both quotes were identical at \$71,294.40," he said.

"After discussions with (County Administrator) Kyle (Oldre) and the county attorney's office, it was determined we will use a coin flip to determine who to award the bid to."

Before the board meeting Traffic Marketing Services was assigned the "heads" side of the coin, and AAA Striping Service of St. Michael was "tails."

Vice chairman Jody Reisch flipped the coin with County Attorney Jeff Haubrich as witness.

Company representatives and Commissioner Gary Overgaard watched the process via Zoom as the coin landed on "heads."

Board chairman Stan Williamson was absent.

Sehr commented after the meeting that the two striping contractors have experienced tied bids in the past, since they use the same paint.

The bid called for 3,159 gallons for 4-inch-wide white reflectorized edge line markings and 1,792 gallons of yellow 4-inch-wide reflective centerline paint to stripe roads throughout the county this summer.

Sehr has been the Rock County Highway Department engineer since 1996.

Rep. Hagedorn doesn't like social media questions

To the Editor:

Have you checked out Representative Hagedorn's Official Facebook page?

Apparently our congressman doesn't like to be criticized or questioned about his voting history or want to hear from his constituents.

There have been a lot of unhappy constituents who have voiced their

concerns to him on his Facebook page. He filters and hides negative posts. It often says "12 comments," but there are none to see. He blocks constituents who persist to get their questions answered.

The congressman seems to be the only elected official who operates his Facebook page this way. What is he afraid of? Can't he take

criticism? Doesn't he want to hear from his constituents? Will he unblock them?

Congressman Hagedorn represents all citizens of CD1 and should respect and listen to all of us.

If he can't take the heat, maybe he should get out of the kitchen!

**Cathy Buxengard, Deb Meyer
Worthington**

Rust: Auditor's office fails at property tax notifications

To the Editor:

I love being blasted in the newspaper for the Rock County Auditor's office failing at their job. I have homes in three states and recently had my name drug through the mud over \$241 in taxes owed on my property in Magnolia.

The county workers made no additional effort to contact me for my taxes other than a single letter that went to my last address in Virginia

that did not make it to my new location in Texas.

Even better my relative works in the courthouse and his father-in-law is my property manager. (Don't people actually talk to one another anymore?)

What's worse is they do not take payment by phone (it's 2021) and the notice was sent only once by mail to an old address. I'm currently on my 20th address in 25 years due to

military service. We know the mail system is not foolproof, especially after COVID. So, the fact that I didn't get that notice by mail doesn't mean I blatantly disregarded my property taxes.

Thanks for nothing, Rock County Auditor's Office.

**Ret. MSgt Nathan Rust,
USAF,
Cibolo, Texas,
formerly of Kenneth**

Kracht/continued from page 4

beliefs, does anyone think killing tens of thousands of jobs, buying oil from people who want to kill us, and welcoming thousands of illegal immigrants into our country unchecked is a good idea?

Does anyone report the news anymore? Or is it just a twisted form of political opinions?

What is the reason for being against voter verification? Wouldn't it make sense for all political parties?

Do you find Mr. Potato Head and Dr. Seuss offensive? Why?

Where is the President? Other than a few words mumbled here and there, we

VOICE OF OUR READERS

haven't heard much from him.

What has the World Health Organization done for you? Why are we paying them \$500 million?

Do you think these masks are cutting off too much oxygen from people's brains? That would explain a lot!

Has anyone checked out the new election bills being proposed in Congress? Do you want our federal government controlling elections? They have that system in

place China and Russia.

Isn't it amazing how the Covid vaccine was made so quickly? And how it is being distributed and people are getting vaccinated. This was all put into place nine months ago. Who is getting the credit for this?

Why are we seeing Biden T-shirts on illegal aliens?

States that shut down have huge budget deficits, and are raising taxes on their residents. The Covid infec-

tions have been about the same to state per capita. Is letting the people make their own decisions on safety a good idea?

Energy prices soaring, auto plants moving to Mexico, fighting in the Middle East again, taxes being raised, other countries laughing at the U. S., illegal aliens from every country pouring into the country, thousands of jobs killed off! How is build back better going for you?

Do you enjoy your freedoms, or do you want to depend on the government for everything?

**Marlin (Mert) Kracht
Luverne**

GRAVEL BIDS: MAGNOLIA TOWNSHIP

Magnolia Township will be accepting gravel bids for gravel to be applied on township roads by July 1, 2021. Bids must be received by April 12, 2021.

Send to: Magnolia Township
1581 121st St.
Luverne, MN 56156

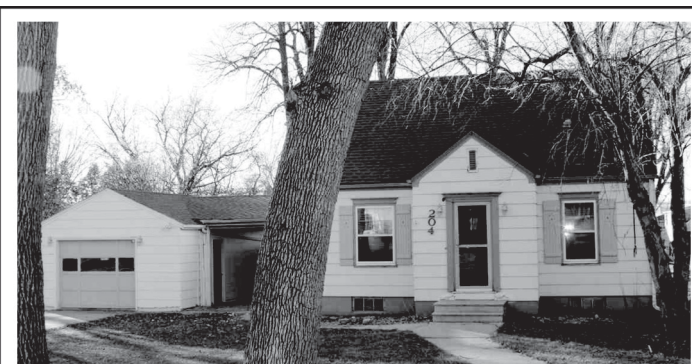
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Star Herald

Luverne speech team talks itself to top of Big South Conference; individuals honored

By Mavis Fodness

The Luverne speech team beat its competition in the small schools division March 18 during the Big South Conference virtual meet.

Nine Luverne students on the first-place team also received individual honors.

Earning all-conference speech honors by placing first or second in their category were Luke Thorson, Chance Tunnissen, Burke Johnson, Brianna Kinsinger and Bethany Behr.

Honorable mentions (earning third place) were Xavier Carbonneau, Destiny Matthiesen, Mia Wenzel and Josie Golla.

"We are so proud of them and how they have adapted and worked hard to achieve their goals and represent Luverne Public Schools and their community," said Caroline Thorson, who co-coaches the team with Gavin Folkestad.

Local students competed alone in front of Chromebooks set up in various rooms at Luverne Middle-High School as students from the other eight schools competing in the small school division met at their own home schools also in front of computers, due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Students competed virtually in three competitive rounds with multiple judges.

"Sixteen Cardinal speakers competed and 13 advanced to the final round of competition," Thorson said.

Students competing in dramatic duo, however, are not competing in hybrid competi-



The Luverne High School speech team finished first out of nine teams March 18 in the Big South Conference virtual competition. Students reaching the final round for the school's winning effort in the small schools division include (front, left) Zoe Perkins, Brianna Kinsinger, Roselyn Hartshorn, Maddy Schepel, Destiny Matthiesen, (back) Chance Tunnissen, Burke Johnson, Xavier Carbonneau, Parker Carbonneau and Luke Thorson. Not pictured are Mia Wenzel, Josie Golla and Bethany Behr.

tions as students in other categories. They pre-record a single performance for the judges to watch.

The following students placed in the final round:

- Dramatic duo: Brianna Kinsinger and Bethany Behr, second; Mia Wenzel and Josie Golla, third.
- Extemporaneous reading:

Destiny Matthiesen, third.

•Discussion: Burke Johnson, second; Maddy Schepel, fifth.

•Extemporaneous speaking: Chance Tunnissen, second; Parker Carbonneau, fourth.

•Storytelling: Xavier Carbonneau, third; Roselyn Hartshorn, fifth.

•Serious poetry: Zoe Perkins, fourth.

•Humorous: Luke Thorson, first.

"The students have competed every weekend through February and March and we will begin subsection competition on April 6," Thorson said.

"The students have persevered through a very different season of hybrid and virtual competitions."

CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

Curtis and Mary Smook will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, March 26. Greetings may be sent to them at 212 N. Washington Street; Magnolia, MN 56158.

Fred Cook will celebrate his 80th birthday on Saturday, March 27. Greetings may be sent to him at 720 S. Donaldson; Luverne, MN 56156.

Sylvia Niessink will celebrate her 80th birthday on Monday, April 5. Greetings may be sent to her at 1005 N. Jackson Street, Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Monday, March 29: Chick-fried steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, fruit.

Tuesday, March 30: Baked chicken, au gratin potatoes, peas, dinner roll, bar.

Wednesday, March 31: Beef roast with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, California Normandy, bread, bar.

Half-Price Day sponsored by American Reformed Church.

Thursday, April 1: Barbecue pork on a bun, coleslaw, fresh fruit, gelatin with whipped topping.

Friday, April 2: Fish, baked potato, carrots, dessert.

Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9846 to arrange to pick up a dinner or delivery.

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

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2011)

•Blue Mounds State Park manager Rick White has been retired since December, so he's had some time to reflect on his 34 years in the state park system.

"I enjoyed the buffalo," he said. "If you have a prairie and no buffalo, you really don't have a natural prairie."

Under White's tenure at the Blue Mounds, the buffalo herd grew from 40 to more than 100 animals, and their grazing area grew from 100 to 550 acres of prairie.

"So it was a real natural setting that allowed the buffalo to interact with the prairie," he said. ...

He also said he enjoyed springtime at the Blue Mounds and the enthusiastic return of park visitors.

"That spring interaction with families as they came back to the park..." he said. "Especially the kids – and with a name like 'Ranger Rick' how could that not be fun? The kids were always enthused about nature."

25 years ago (1996)

•Several of the guidance counselors surveyed for this comparison of local schools' ACT test scores for 1994-95 said ACT test scores are a very poor analysis of how well a school district academically challenges its students.

Luverne High School Guidance Counselor Craig Nelson said, "The ACT is not a very good judge of your school system."



KNOW IT AND GROW IT

By George Bonnema
Luverne Horticulturalist

It's time to rejuvenate indoor plants

Spring is a transition between winter and summer, and this week we have been transitioning.

The snow added some much-needed moisture to our top soil and that gives me confidence after last year's prolonged dry season.

Today I will remind you that now is a good time to rejuvenate your indoor plants if they are needing that attention. Taking cuttings from old plants to get new plants is the best way to get energy into a plant that is looking "tired." The longer hours of daylight give plants more energy; consequently, those cuttings root faster than in the short days of winter.

Getting new plants start-

ed now means that you should have great specimen plants next fall to give your indoor space much-needed "living green" for the winter. Several types of propagation get employed here: leaf cuttings, stem cuttings, dividing or air layering.

Leaf cuttings are how we propagate African violets. Remove one of the larger leaves from the base of the plant by pulling it to the side so it snaps off the stem. Place the stem in a container with one inch of water and set it in the same place as the mother plant is growing. You should have roots on the bottom of the stem in about three to four

Plants, continued on p.8

It's a voluntary group of students who take the test, not the entire graduating class. It would be better to use a test that all students take. Also, score results can vary greatly from year to year. A five-year analysis would give you a better picture of a school's performance.

"I would agree with Craig," said H-BC Guidance Counselor Dan Ellingson. "There are two groups of students who can take the ACT test. The group of students who are college-bound is called the 'core' group by the ACT program. Sometimes students not intending to go to college take it, so the scores might go down. It depends on which group of students takes the test and which set of results is announced."

50 years ago (1971)

•A Luverne high school team this week will be playing basketball in a state tournament for the eighth time since 1913.

In those eight appearances in state competition, Luverne won the championship once, in 1964.

Planning for this year's tournament, the first where separate meets are held for Class A and Class AA schools, was in marked contrast to the first meet in the state in 1913, in which Luverne also had an entry.

75 years ago (1946)

•Among students at the University of Minnesota school

of agriculture to win the gold letter "A", the school's highest awards were Ruth Lowe, Beaver Creek, Curtis Gibson, Beaver Creek, and Donald Gewecke, Jasper.

Only 14 members of the student body received the award, it being given on a point basis for participation in extra-curricular activities and for scholastic standing.

100 years ago (1921)

•A comparison of taxation figures of cities in southern Minnesota of approximately the same size as Luverne discloses that while taxes in Luverne are high, they are not as high as in some other cities in this section. In fact, of five cities in those of the fourth class section – Luverne, Pipestone, Worthington, Marshall and Fairmont – the per capita tax for Luverne is next to the lowest.

A municipal reference bulletin issued by the extension division of the University of Minnesota gives a table on comparative taxation in Minnesota cities and furnishes the data for the comparison referred to.

Complaint is made by Luverne taxpayers that the assessed valuation is too high, but a comparison of valuations fails to bear out the charge. This is particularly evident when one considers the apparent and recognized wealth of Luverne. Of the five cities named, Marshall has the lowest assessed valuation, and Luverne comes next.

1892: Monday storm damages crops; one fatality

The following appeared in *The Rock County Herald* on June 24, 1892.

Death and Disaster

One Death in the County and Serious Injuries to Buildings and Crops Occasioned by the Storm Monday Evening

Between four and five o'clock last Monday afternoon one of the severest storms of wind and hail ever known in this section swept over a narrow strip of country in the southern part of the county and did great damage to buildings and the growing crops. The loss to individuals in the destruction of property in many cases is very serious but everything fades into insignificance beside the sad calamity which befell the family of Ole Nelson Toppol, in Martin township, and resulted in the instant death of his wife and serious injuries to one of her twin daughters, two years of age. The family lived about six miles northwest of Hills. When the storm



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president
Rock County Historical Society

came on, they felt the house giving way and attempted to escape to the barn, the father taking the two other children and the mother and the twins. Just as they got outside, the wind carried the woman against the side of the house and a moment later the building went over, burying the victim in the ruins. When the body was rescued it was found that the head had been crushed and that death must have been instantaneous.

The first reports of the storm were received from Manley, on the west line of this county. As nearly as its course can be traced, it appears that the storm passed from that point in a southeasterly direction, over portions of Martin, Clinton, and Kanaranzi townships. After

leaving Manley the storm seems to have divided, and a distance of about half a mile can be traced between the two tracks in which but little damage was done. One section of the storm swept diagonally across the center of Martin township, but this branch seems to have been accompanied by less hail and did less damage to the crops. The other section extended as far north as Mr. A. Engels's farm in the northeast corner of Martin township but missed the German church in the adjoining corner of Luverne township. No damage of importance is reported beyond a mile west of Mr. Engel's farm. From that point southeasterly, through a strip from two to three miles wide, extending as far north

as T. Johnson's place on section 7 in Kanaranzi, and as far south as Ash Creek, great damage was done by the hail. As the storms passed southeasterly, it appears to have increased in severity.

Considerable damage was done at Manley and in the surrounding country. J. L. Helm, of this place, was a passenger on the belated Omaha train Monday evening, and is quoted by the Sioux Falls Press as follows:

"The open prairie between Valley Springs and Beaver Creek was in one place a perfect lake of water, horses in the pastures being knee-deep in the water. At Valley Springs numberless chimneys were laid low. We were able to get a view of Manley from the train as we passed by. The roof of the Great Northern depot was blown off and the north end knocked out. The leading mercantile house was swung around and the store front was completely ruined. Every house in the town seemed

Bits, continued on p. 7

OBITUARIES

Grace Boeve

Grace Adrianna Boeve, 95, Luverne, died Saturday, March 20, 2021, at the Sanford Luverne Hospital.



Public visitation was Tuesday, March 23, at Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. A private family funeral service was Wednesday, March 24. Burial followed at Memory Gardens Cemetery near Luverne.

Grace Burgers was born to George and Wilma (Zeistra) Burgers on Sept. 18, 1925, on a farm near Larchwood, Iowa, where she was raised and attended country school. Upon completion of her education, she helped on her parents' farm.

On March 8, 1943, Grace married Dick Boeve in Rock Rapids, Iowa. Following their marriage, the couple resided in Rock Valley, Iowa. In 1959 they moved to Luverne, where Grace was employed as a custodian for Luverne High School for a few years. She also worked as a custodian for Terrace Park Dairy. In 1992 she and Dick moved to Pipestone, where they lived until 1998, when they moved to Jasper. In 2007 the couple moved to the Centennial Apartments in Luverne. Dick died on March 17, 2011. Grace later moved to the Good Sa-

maritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

Grace was a member of the United Methodist Church in Luverne. She enjoyed fishing, gardening, reading, crocheting and playing games. Many evenings were spent playing Rummikub and bingo.

She is survived by two children, George (Janet) Boeve of Rapid City, South Dakota, and Donna (Richard) Christianson of Longville; four grandchildren, Tambray Boeve, Rick (Angie) Boeve, Amanda (Christopher) Ball and Jessica (Rey) Drees; eight great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Dick Boeve; a son, Wilbur Boeve, age 3; three brothers, Weber, Neal, and George Burgers; and six sisters, Bertha Van Engelenhoven, Nellie Vanden Hul, Tillie Olson, Minnie Van Den Top, Jennie Clark and Wilma Koedam.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquist-funeral.com.

(0325 F)

Claudette Thone

Claudette Jean Thone, 85, Mission Viejo, California, died Sunday, March 14, 2021, at her home.



A funeral service was Saturday, March 20, at the First Baptist Church in Luverne. Burial was in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Luverne.

Claudette Selness was born on Feb. 23, 1936, in Minneapolis. She graduated from St. Louis Park High School in 1953 and then attended the University of Minnesota where she took pre-med courses.

Claudette married Lowell Thone on March 5, 1955. In their first years of marriage they farmed near Beaver Creek. They also lived in Great Falls, Montana, Mountain Lake, and the Minneapolis suburbs. After retirement, they returned to the family farm for 13 years. They then moved to Mission Viejo to be near family.

Claudette was a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Luverne and also Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie. She served in the Missionary Society, as a Sunday school teacher and as a

nursery volunteer. She loved being a homemaker, wife, mother and grandmother. She also enjoyed gardening and travel, especially a trip to the Holy Lands.

Claudette is survived by her husband, Lowell Thone; three daughters, Lynette (DeVon) Wiens of Trabuco Canyon, California, Marcia (Dale) Hummel of Chanhassen, and Sherri (Ron) Alden of San Juan Capistrano, California; nine grandchildren, Amber (Kevin) Grant, Amanda (Nick) Bockelman, Laura (Jeff) Senters, Benjamin (Sarah) Hummel, Bethany (Pablo) Lozada, Timothy Hummel, Brett (Lauren) Alden, Aubree Alden, and Spencer (Jessica) Alden; 16 great-grandchildren; siblings Sharon (Edward) Green of Plymouth, Susan (Randall) Williams of Plano, Texas, and Wayne (Lana) Selness of Los Angeles, California.

She was preceded in death by her parents. Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquist-funeral.com.

(0325 F)

Bits by Betty/continued from page 6

wrecked except Lasche's bottling works and that seemed to have escaped uninjured."

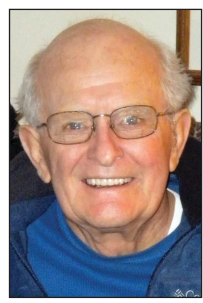
All along the entire course of the storm most of the window lights exposed to the storm were broken. In some cases the sash was broken, wire window screens were cut and curtains were torn. At Ash Creek a wagon was blown against Mr. Baker's house and the wagon tongue was driven its entire length through the wall. E. A. Brown's wind mill was blown down, and windows in all the buildings were broken. Wm. Spracher's windmill on section 6 in Clinton was blown down and his crops were badly damaged.

It is impossible to give anything like an approximate estimate of the losses sustained by reason of injury to the crops. On some farms it is claimed that the crops are totally destroyed, while on others the injury is confined to portions of the crop. It is hoped, however, that the

injured crops will recover to a large extent and that the loss will not be so large as at first seemed to be certain. Among those who have suffered loss are A. Engel, John Lynch, Ed. Maloney, James Fitzgerald, James McCeon, C. Webster, Linnel Brothers, George Griffith, L. B. McColum, J. W. Johnson of the Eau Claire farm, L. Appleby,

Arlen Olson

Arlen B. Olson, 85, White Bear Lake, died Monday, March 15, 2021.



A memorial service was Monday, March 22, at South Shore Trinity Lutheran Church in White Bear Lake. A private family interment was at Lakeview Cemetery in Mahtomedi.

Arlen Olson was born on Nov. 13, 1935, to Bennett and Edith (Hultgren) Olson in Luverne. After graduating from Luverne High School in 1953, Arlen served in the Air Force for four years and then went on to Augustana University. He earned his Master of Education at the University of Minnesota. He was a beloved teacher in the White Bear Lake School District.

After teaching, he traveled throughout the U.S. with his wife, selling his artwork. He is an internationally known automotive art-

ist with dealers in Europe, Canada and across the U.S. Arlen loved golfing, restoring old cars, and most of all, time with his family.

Arlen is survived by his wife, Martha; three children, Kim Thommes, Rebecca (Mark) Christiansen and Marc (Kim) Olson; grandchildren Jacob (Sherin), Emily, Nicholas Thommes, Cassandra, Samantha, Katelyn Christiansen, Jordan, Erin and Elizabeth Olson; two sisters, DyAnn Emery, and MaReese Cragoe; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Donna and Hal Paulson; along with many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers-in-law.

Arrangements are provided by Honsa Family Funeral Home, 651-429-6172. (0325 F)

Virgil Schutz

Virgil Nickolas Schutz, 93, Luverne, formerly of Adrian, died Sunday, March 21, 2021, at his home.



A funeral Mass was Wednesday, March 24, at St. Adrian Catholic Church in Adrian. Burial, with full military honors provided by the Adrian American Legion, was in the St. Adrian Cemetery.

Virgil Schutz was born on Oct. 26, 1927, to John and Ann (Finke) Schutz in Adrian. He spent most of his life in Adrian, graduating from Saint Adrian Catholic School in 1945. He was an active member of St. Adrian Parish. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduation from high school and served aboard the destroyer R P Leary during World War II. After serving in the Navy, he attended college at Worthington Community College.

In February 1951 Virgil was drafted into the U.S. Army and served for two years. In June of 1952 he requested a leave and came home to marry Mary Ann Schraad. They lived in Enterprise, Alabama, until his discharge in 1953. Returning home to Adrian, Virgil worked for his father at Schutz Hardware. He purchased the store in 1959 and continued his career there until 1992.

Virgil was a lifelong member of the Saint Joseph Society and Knights of Columbus. He was also an

active member of the American Legion. He was an original member of the Nobles County Park Board and served on the Adrian Fire Department from 1948 until his retirement. Virgil was also a member of the Adrian State Bank Board of Directors.

He loved to hunt, fish, travel and execute elaborate pranks. He has visited all fifty states in the United States as well as New Zealand and many trips to Europe. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were a great joy to him in his later years. Virgil and Mary moved to Luverne in 2006 and became members of Saint Catherine Church.

Virgil is survived by his wife, Mary; children Cheryl (Mike) Cox of Luverne, Judy (Mark) Barlow of Rochester, and Tom (Karla) Schutz of Prior Lake; 10 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and special daughter Anja and her family in Germany; brother Jack (Liliane) Schutz of Edina; and sister Beverly Knips of Bloomington.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Kathleen; a son, Mark; and a grandson, Brian Cox.

Memorials are preferred to the Preservation of St. Adrian Catholic Church Fund, 512 Maine Ave., Adrian, MN 56110.

Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (0325 F)

Darlene Ruud

Darlene Opal Ruud, 88, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, formerly of Hills, died Friday, March 19, 2021, at Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls.



A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 25, with visitation beginning at 9:30 a.m., at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. Masks will be required and social distancing will be observed. Burial will follow at Flowerfield Cemetery in Hills.

The link for the live-streamed funeral service is www.hartquistfuneral.com

Darlene Ellefson was born on Jan. 16, 1933, to John and Della (Lewis) Ellefson in Hardwick. Darlene was raised on the family farm. After completing eighth grade of country school, she began working on the farm. She later obtained her GED. Darlene received her confirmation on Oct. 6, 1946.

On Dec. 30, 1951, Darlene married Robert Ruud at Bethany Lutheran Church in Luverne. While her husband, Robert, was in the Air Force, the couple lived in Gulfport, Mississippi, Columbus, Ohio, and Merced, California. After Robert was discharged from the Air Force in 1954, they moved to Worthington and then to Minneapolis. They moved around frequently through their adult lives due to Robert's employment with IBM. Residences included Marquette, Michigan (1958-1960), Sioux City, Iowa (1960-1964), Mahopac, New York (1964 - 1991), White Plains, New York (1991-2005), and finally back to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to be closer to family (2005-2021).

Darlene spent much of her life as a housewife, raising their six children. When their two youngest children were in high school in the mid 1970s, Darlene joined the workforce as an account administrator with Sears and IBM Employees Federal Credit Union.

Darlene was a founding member of Grace Lutheran Church in Jefferson Valley, New York (1964-2005). She sang in the choir, taught Sun-

days school, and was a member of the administration. She was actively involved as a member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls (2008-2021) where she participated in Bible study and volunteered in various capacities.

Darlene volunteered at the senior service center, was a donor to the Humane Society, and was involved with Sons of Norway since the mid-'70s. She sponsored children from Honduras and families through Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

She enjoyed bird watching, crossword puzzles, embroidery, crochet and maintaining her houseplants. She also enjoyed puzzles on the computer while listening to audiobooks or her daily devotions, and she loved pets.

Darlene enjoyed socializing with friends and taking road trips with her family. She visited 49 states (only missing Hawaii) with her husband, Bob. She eventually traveled to Hawaii with her youngest son, Eric, and his family.

Darlene is survived by her children, Joel (partner Elizabeth Nicholson) Ruud of Atlanta, Georgia, David (Janis) Ruud of Holmes, New York, Stanley (Lisa Rae) Ruud of Edina, Jason (Mary) Ruud of Plymouth, and Eric (Melissa) Ruud of Savage; 14 grandchildren, Jeffrey, Cali, Andrew, Holly, Kirsten, Karly, Evelyn, Dana, Christopher, Vincent, Grace, Kayla, Jessica, and Jacob; four great-grandchildren; sister Jessie Wenzel of Luverne; sister-in-law Beverly (Ruud) (Bill) Simpson of Sioux Falls; and brother-in-law Stuart (Kay) Ruud of Brooklyn Park.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Robert Ruud; daughter Rhona Ruud; sisters Mattie Petersen and Ruby Dibbern; infant sister LaVon; and parents-in-law Elmer and Irene Ruud.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne. (0325 F)

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mike Bonnema

A memorial service for Mike Bonnema will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 27, with visitation at 2 p.m., at the Steen Reformed Church in Steen.

Lunch will be provided following the service. (0325 MS)

DEATH NOTICE

Ted Lingen

Ted G. Lingen, 55, Jasper, died Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A funeral service was Monday, March 22, at St. Leo Catholic Church in Pipestone. Burial followed at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Jasper.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home in Pipestone, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0325 DN)

HEARTLAND MUTUAL Insurance Company

Notice of **ANNUAL MEETING**

All policyholders are invited

Thurs., April 8, 2021

1:30 pm registration
2:00 pm meeting

To be held at the **AMERICAN LEGION HALL**

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KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

March 31, 2021
Hills Christian School

Students attend from 8:10-2:50
Parents are welcome to attend chapel at 8:30 and spend time with your child. Please call to register your child. We hope to see you there!

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501 CENTRAL AVE
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597.962.3297
www.hillschristianschool.org

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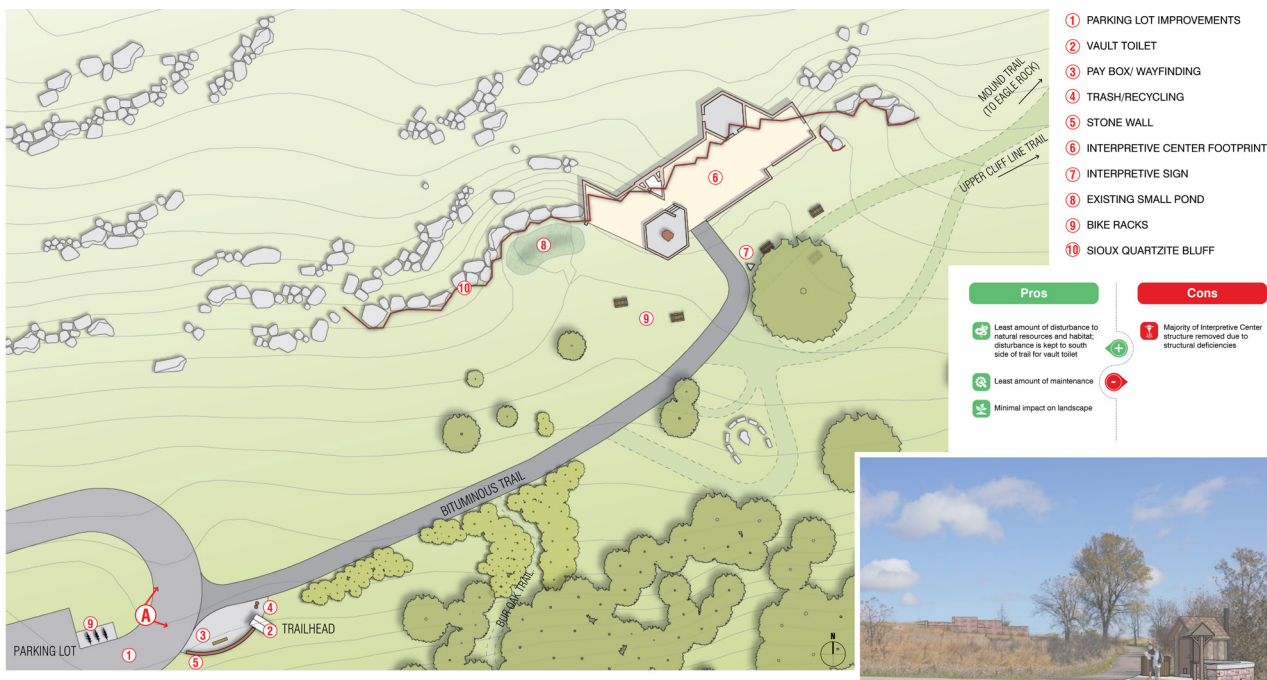
If you pick up at Bills Water, price is \$6.50 per bag

Bags may be picked up April 10 at 606 E. Dodge St.

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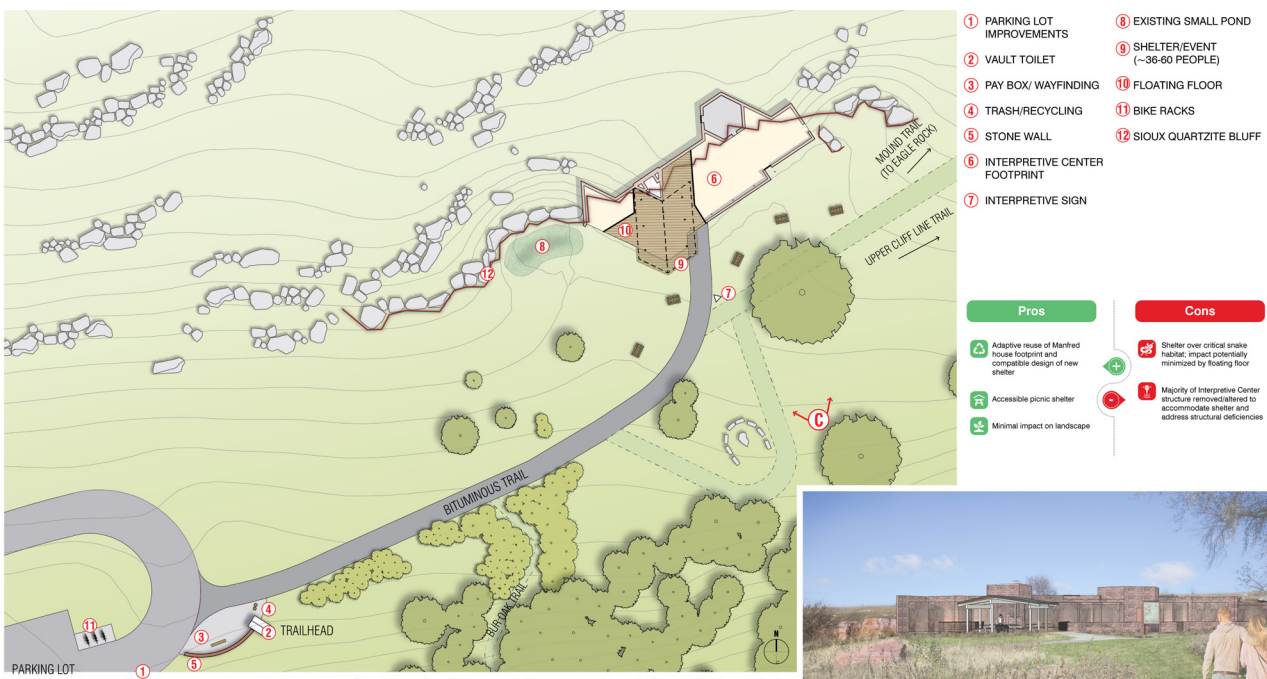
Pre order & prepay on or before April 10

You may stop at Bill's Water Conditioning or Call Bill's Water Conditioning at 283-4448 or Coach Wenninger at 220-0110 or Coach Mauer 320-212-0041



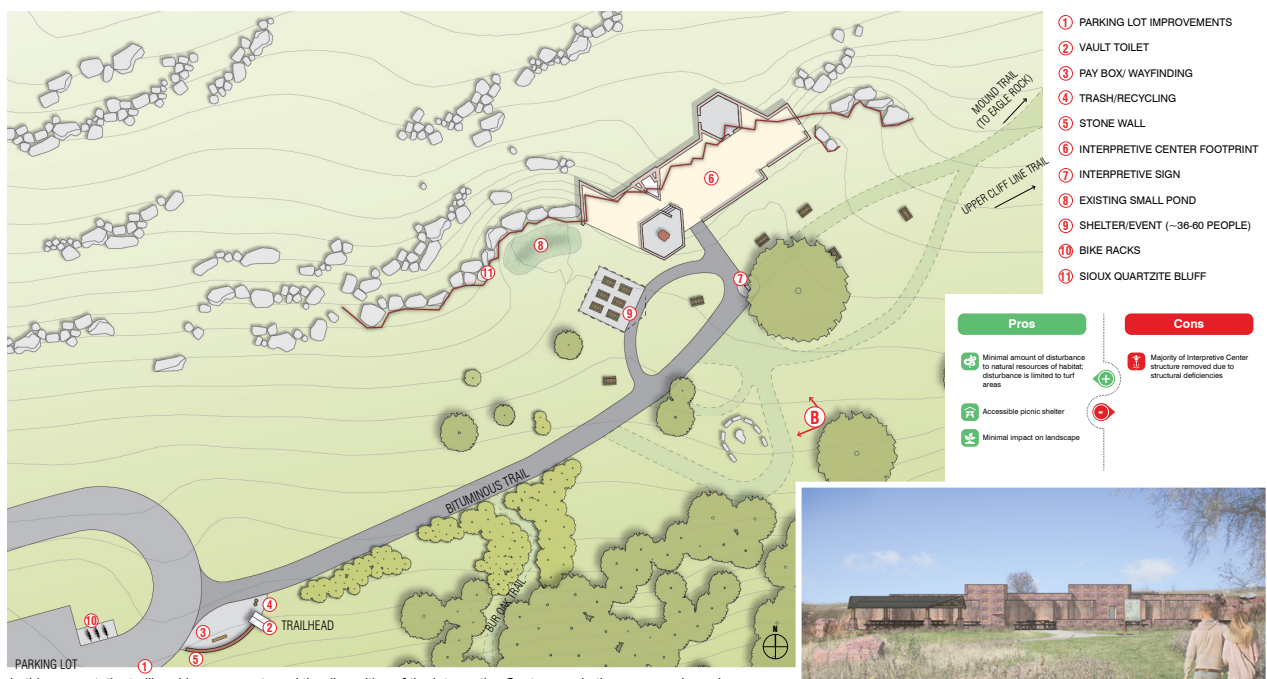
In this concept, the Interpretive Center is mostly removed except for the stone retaining walls that can be safely preserved. The Department will resurface the parking lot and add trailhead amenities like a vault toilet, seating, and bike racks. These amenities are placed close to the parking lot and out of the viewshed from the picnic area and Eagle Rock Vista.

EAGLE ROCK VISTA TRAILHEAD | CONCEPT 01: TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENTS
BLUE MOUNDS STATE PARK
02.23.2021



In this concept, the trailhead improvements and the disposition of the Interpretive Center remain the same as shown in Concept 01. A new picnic shelter has been added to the Interpretive Center footprint in the location of a former sunken living room. The location takes advantage of the same vantage point as the living area and incorporates the triangular fireplace. A new floor for the shelter would be built over the existing building slab to cover the heaving slab and provide an accessible, uniform surface.

EAGLE ROCK VISTA TRAILHEAD | CONCEPT 03: TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENTS + INTEGRATED SHELTER
BLUE MOUNDS STATE PARK
02.23.2021



In this concept, the trailhead improvements and the disposition of the Interpretive Center remain the same as shown in Concept 01. A new picnic shelter has been added to the southwest of the building footprint. The shelter is oriented to highlight the views to the south and take advantage of the protection offered by the Sioux Quartzite bluff directly to the north.

EAGLE ROCK VISTA TRAILHEAD | CONCEPT 02: TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENTS + SEPARATE SHELTER
BLUE MOUNDS STATE PARK
02.23.2021

State park plans/continued from page 1

doors being closed to the public.

In 2015 a primary support beam was found to be rotten by moisture, and mold had formed throughout the building, so DNR personnel began contemplating its future.

As part of an overall Blue Mounds State Park improvement plan, a local citizens' advisory committee was formed to consider options, in light of limited funds.

Would they support rehabilitating the structure at the expense of other park needs, such as the flood-destroyed lake and a highly sought after bison touring vehicle?

After lengthy discussion and research, the general consensus of the advisory committee was that rebuilding the former Manfred home wasn't a prudent investment.

However, the group insisted that portions of the building be salvaged as a historic reminder of Manfred's literary and cultural contributions.

Early in 2019, the state sought bids from architects for trailhead development at the site that would make the area more functional while still honoring Manfred's legacy.

Of eight architect firms that bid on the project, TKDA was chosen for having the best proposal for public consideration.

'Save the Manfred House' opposes all three proposals, demands structure be saved

While the DNR heard ample feedback in 2017 when the advisory groups were meeting, a new round of support formed in 2019 to save the former Manfred home.

"Our interest is in seeing that the DNR's plans be suspended until a more thorough review can occur and all reasonable funding and preservation options can be considered fully," the group states on its website.

Save the Manfred House, Inc. was organized in late 2019 by the author's daughter Freya Manfred, her husband Thomas Pope, and former Luverne resident Tom Brakke because they feared that the DNR would remove the house without fully exploring alternatives to preserve it for future generations.

"We asked the DNR to support listing the house on the National Register of Historic Places," Manfred said, "but they declined to do so. We call for a more public review of the decision process that led the DNR to its conclusion to raze the house."

She and the group asserts the DNR hasn't maintained the structure properly and neglect led to its

current condition.

Brakke said the DNR didn't undertake a full review of the alternatives for the house, "which would include consulting with historic preservation experts. Instead, we believe the DNR set up the process to result in the solution that it favors."

Further, he said the DNR hasn't committed to honoring Manfred's history in its recent proposals. "We believe that the DNR did not undertake a full review of the alternatives for the house," Brakke said, "which would include consulting with historic preservation experts."

The group makes similar assertions on the website, savetemanfredhouse.org.

DNR defends process that involved 'lengthy process of engagement of stakeholders'

In response to the group's public outcry, DNR resource and asset manager Bob Welsh offers information that appears as a guest editorial on this week's opinion page.

He reaffirms the state's commitment to honoring Manfred with the new trailhead options.

"It is important to note for context that the Frederick Manfred House site is an important and valued area within Blue Mounds State Park," Welsh writes. "It reflects the contributions of a famous American author to the community of Luverne, and his family's legacy."

And he also defends the process for arriving at the current proposals.

"The DNR has undertaken a lengthy process of engagement of stakeholders including a series of group meetings in the community to discuss a variety of issues pertaining to the park, including the Manfred house," Welsh said.

"And there have been multiple communications with advocates for saving the Manfred house about the condition of the house and plans to redevelop the area into a trailhead dating back to at least 2019."

Blue Mounds State Park manager Chris Ingebretsen also weighed in recently.

"We understand the attachment that some people feel toward Frederick Manfred's former home," he said.

"However, its very unique design made it susceptible to water intrusion, which severely compromised the building's structural integrity over many years, to the point that restoration isn't feasible."

Know it and Grow it — time to rejuvenate indoor plants for spring/continued from page 6

weeks. Plant the cutting in potting mix in a small pot and keep it in the same bright light. In a few weeks you will notice little leaves pushing up through the potting mix, and those are the newbies...yes, babies.... There are usually several new plants. Once they are large enough to determine each individual plant,

separate the plants and pot them singly in small pots. The reason for small pots is that violets will bloom sooner and better if they are root-bound. Growing with a large pot will give lots of leaves and you will wait much longer to get flowers.

Leaf cuttings are also the most common way to propa-

gate most succulents. However, here you just remove the leaf and stick about half the length directly in a small pot of growing mix and keep the mix just slightly moist. They root quite quickly and often have the same multiple plantlets.

Stem cuttings are the method of propagating plants

like ivy, geraniums, hibiscus, dieffenbachia, and similar house plants. The stem of the cutting should have four to five leaf nodes. Remove a couple of the lower leaves, dip the cut stem in rooting powder if you have it, and put the cutting in a container with an inch of water. Set the container in bright light.

To help prevent the stem from rotting, you may have to change the water if it starts to get cloudy. The rooting process can take three to six weeks, depending on the plant.

Air layering is a bit more complicated. That is how we propagate larger plants like rubber plants, fiddle leaf figs, dracaena, and similar plants that grow with a harder stem.

It is not hard but requires wet sphagnum moss for the root ball to form into. The process is pretty fool-proof and is the safest way to propagate from a large plant.

If you want to try it, there are lots of YouTube videos that will coach you through the process, and pictures are easier to

follow than words.

Division is the way to propagate plants with a multiple crown like ferns or peace lilies. Here you remove the root mass from the pot, use a knife or similar tool to cut the crown into the number of new plants you want and repot the divisions.

I mentioned succulents earlier and this is a category of plants that have become amazingly popular in the last couple of years, largely because of the vast number of new and interesting varieties available. They are low-maintenance but specific in what they need to survive indoors.

The most important requirement is bright light. In low light, the plant will gradually decline because insufficient light will not give the plant the energy it needs to grow. Second specific is amount of moisture... they store water in their "leaves"... that's the reason they are called succulents. Overwatering will result in the plant rotting; underwatering will result in plants with shriveled leaves. To maintain the wonderful color on these plants, very bright light is an absolute necessity.

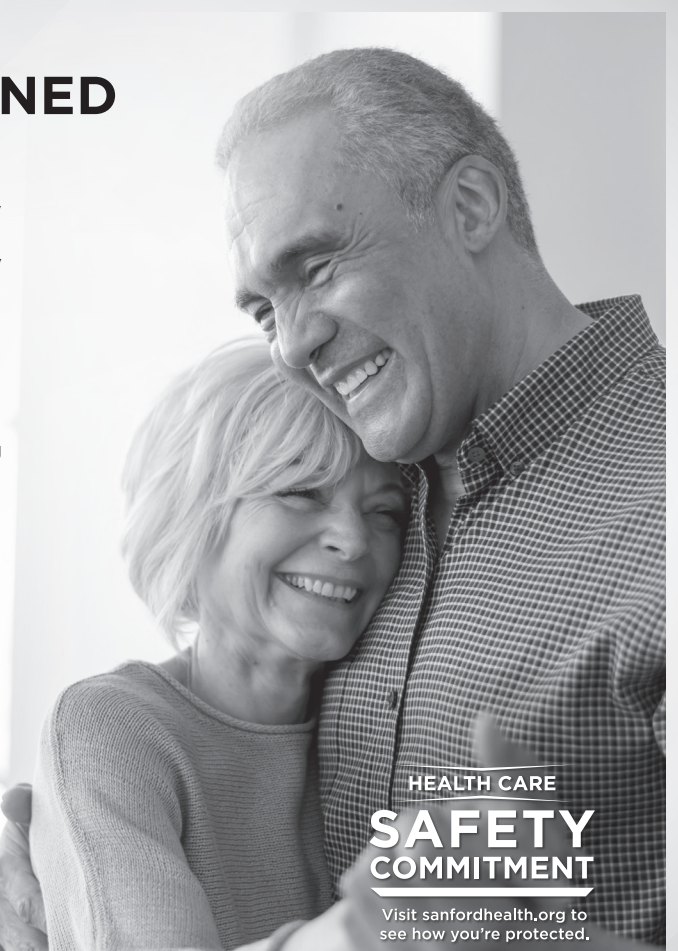
The benefit of indoor plants is being realized and is appealing to younger generations. Those of us who have always appreciated the "life" they give to our indoor environment understand how stark a space looks without them. I'm not saying that Grandma's philodendron growing up the wall and over the window is the look they will appreciate... but who knows?

Bonnema is a gardening enthusiast and former greenhouse owner. He can be reached at flowersgb@iw.net.

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Luverne Cardinals hockey girls win section championship, advance to state tournament for second straight year

By Brennen Rupp

For a second straight year, the Luverne Cardinals girls' hockey team is heading to the Xcel Energy Center for the Class A State Tournament.

On Friday, March 19, the Cardinals punched their ticket to the state tournament by defeating Mankato East 7-2.

"To win a section championship on your home ice is pretty cool," Luverne head coach Tony Sandbulte said. "It's never been done before. It has to be a special feeling for those girls to leave this rink."

It was a battle for the Cardinals just to get to the section championship. With the COVID-19 pandemic, it was unclear if there was going to be a winter sports season. If there was a winter sports season, it was unclear if there would be postseason play.

The Cardinals put their nose to the grindstone and took care of what they could control. That hard work resulted in the Cardinals finishing the regular season with a 14-4 record to earn the No. 1 seed in the section tournament.

"We knew coming into the season that everybody was going to be after us,"



Submitted photo/0325 LHS GH

The Luverne Cardinals pose for a photo after winning the section championship on Friday, March 19. Pictured front row (from left) Brenn Siebenahler, Rylee Gee, Regan Feit, Sophie Holmberg. Second row, Mallory Von Tersch, Shelby Kracht, Roz Oye, Cheyenne Schutz. Third row, Zariah Holmgren, Mallory Nelson, Kamryn Van Batavia, Brynn Thier, Anika Boll. Fourth row, assistant coach Ellen Wenninger, Reghan Bork, Payton Behr and coach Tony Sandbulte.

Sandbulte said. "Everybody was going to want to beat us because we were the team that went to state last year."

He said the team did a good job staying on course. "You get yourself to the point where you're the No. 1 seed," Sandbulte

said. "You did everything right. We just stayed on it and finished through to the end."

Mankato East scored

the game's first goal to take a 1-0 lead over the Cardinals.

Kamryn Van Batavia scored a power-play goal

to even the score at 1-1. Reghan Bork and Shelby Kracht both recorded assists on the goal.

Mankato East scored the first goal of the second period to take a 2-1 lead.

Bork scored the equalizer four minutes later to tie the game at 2-2. Van Batavia and Brynn Thier both recorded assists on the goal.

With Mankato East on the power-play, Van Batavia scored a short-handed goal to put the Cardinals up 3-2. Following Van Batavia's second goal of the game the Cardinals never looked back.

"We didn't make a lot of adjustments," Sandbulte said.

"We liked where our game was. Mankato East is a really good team. It was back and forth there. We just stayed with it. We were down 1-0. We were down 2-1. The girls kept fighting. We knew once we got the lead we weren't going to look back."

Van Batavia scored her third goal of the game to wrap up the scoring in the second period to give the Cardinals a 4-2 lead.

Peyton Behr scored the first goal of the third period to put Luverne up 5-2.

Girls Hockey/Page 10

Reisdorfer punches ticket to state gymnastics tournament on the beam

By Brennen Rupp

As a seventh-grader, Luverne's Ella Reisdorfer qualified for the gymnastics state tournament in the bars.

Fast-forward to this year and she qualified for the state tournament on the beam with a score of 8.875. That score was good enough for sixth place.

"It's always such a great accomplishment to make it to the state tournament for any athlete, and to make it two consecutive years is tremendous," Luverne head coach Phoebe Flom said.

"Ella and the rest of the team worked tremendously

hard all season and it paid off for Ella this year.

The competition is fierce in our section and we are proud of Ella's accomplishment. It's exciting stuff."

As a team, the Cardinals finished fifth in the section tournament with a score of 129.550.

"We were just glad to have a season," Flom said.

"The schedule was shortened quite a bit and the girls jumped right in and got things done.

They were always motivated and practices were never dull. Everyone was always moving. We

couldn't be prouder of this squad and all that they accomplished as a team this year."

The Worthington Trojans took home first with a final score of 143.050. The MCA Magic finished second with a score of 133.150. Reisdorfer finished sixth with a final score of 34.550.

Amira Cowell finished 10th with a score of 33.050.

In the floor routine, Cowell and Reisdorfer tied for sixth with Worthington's Addison Gerber. All three gymnasts recorded a score of 8.975.

In the bars, it was

Reisdorfer tying for ninth place with Jackson County Central's Makayla Holzler. Both athletes recorded a score of 7.750.

In the vault, Reisdorfer tied for seventh place with Redwood Valley's Riley Franklin. Both gymnasts recorded a score of 8.950.

Cowell finished in eighth place with a score of 8.925.

The state tournament will be held March, 26 at Champlain Park high school, in Champlain.

Boys' hockey falls in section tournament

By Brennen Rupp

The Luverne boys' hockey team opened the section tournament with a 9-4 victory over Fairmont on Tuesday, March 16, in Luverne.

On Thursday, March 18, the Cardinals ended their season with an 8-0 loss to Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato.

LHS 9, Fairmont 4

Luverne entered Tuesday's opening round in the section tournament having outscored Fairmont 16-4 during their two regular season meetings.

The two teams played to an even 1-1 tie in the

first period before Luverne scored five goals to pull away from Fairmont, 9-4.

The visiting Fairmont Cardinals scored the first goal of the game and held that lead for nine minutes, putting the home crowd inside Blue Mound Ice Arena on the edge of their seats.

With four minutes left in the opening period, Cade Wenninger drew Luverne even by putting one between the pipes. Carlton Oftedahl recorded the assist on the goal.

It was Wenninger

Boys' Hockey/Page 10

SWC Eagles knock H-BC girls out of section tournament

By Brennen Rupp

The Hills-Beaver Creek girls' basketball team and Southwest Minnesota Christian have squared off in the section tournament four straight years.

The Eagles have won all four of those matchups, with the previous three meetings being in the section semifinals.

Those two teams met again in the section semifinals on Monday, March 22, in Edgerton. Once again the Eagles had the Patriots' number, with the home team picking up a 61-54 victory to advance to the section championship.

H-BC senior Abby Knobloch scored the first four points of the game for the Patriots to help them get out to a 4-2 lead.

The Eagles then went on a 6-0 run to take an 8-4 lead.

The Patriots responded by scoring the next five points of the game to take a 9-8 lead. Unfortunately for the Patriots, that would be



Brennen Rupp photo/0325 H-BC GBB

Abby Knobloch drives to the basket against Southwest Minnesota Christian on Monday, March 22.

their last lead of the game.

The home team went on an 18-0 run to build a 26-9 lead.

Taryn Rauk scored a bucket to end H-BC's drought and cut the Eagles' lead to 26-11. The next time down the court Kenadie Fick knocked down a three-pointer to cut the lead to 14.

At the half Southwest

Minnesota Christian led 32-17.

The Patriots showed their grit by opening the second half on a 13-3 run to cut the Eagles' lead to 36-30.

With the Patriots trailing 43-33, Rauk knocked down a three-

H-BC GBB/Page 10

Windom upsets Luverne 63-56 in section tournament

By Brennen Rupp

It's hard to beat a team three times in a season. That old adage rang true Saturday, March 20, when the Luverne Cardinals hosted the Windom Eagles in the section tournament.

Luverne defeated Windom during the regular season, 86-65 and 72-63.

In the third meeting, it was the Eagles coming out on top 63-56 to end Luverne's season sooner than expected.

Gannon Ahrendt split a pair of free throws to open the game to give the Cardinals a 1-0 lead. The Cards held that lead until the second half.

Jayson Rops made the first basket of the game to put Luverne up 3-0. A Bailey Cowell three-pointer put the Cardinals up 6-2.

A Cowell three-point play put the Cardinals up 17-10.

Rops put the



Brennen Rupp photo/0325 LHS BB

Bailey Cowell goes up for a shot during Luverne's section tournament game against Windom on Saturday, March, 20. The Cardinals lost to the Eagles 63-56.

Cardinals up 21-10 after he knocked down a jumper.

An Ethan Beyer three-pointer put the Cardinals up 27-14.

Beyer hit another three-pointer to put the Cardinals up 33-23.

The Eagles hit a three-pointer at the

buzzer to trim Luverne's halftime lead to 35-28.

That three-point shot was part of an 18-4 Windom scoring run that led to the Eagles taking a 41-39 lead.

The Eagles took their first lead of the game

LHS BB/Page 10

Cardinal girls' basketball tripped up by TMB in opening round of section tournament

By Brennen Rupp

The 2020 season ended in heartbreak for the Luverne Cardinals girls' basketball team. Last season the Cardinals were defeated by Windom on a buzzer beater in the section tournament.

Fast forward a year and the Cardinal girls suffered another type of heartbreak.

It was a season that looked like it may never take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Then there was uncertainty regarding the start date of the season. Then there came the mask mandate.

The Cardinals kept hitting every curveball that was thrown their way prior to the start of the season.

They finally took the court and started the season with a 3-3 record when another curveball arrived.

With the Cardinals leading Hills-Beaver Creek in the first half, their leading scorer and floor general, Brooklynn Ver Stegg, suffered a season-ending leg injury.

The Cardinals fell to the Patriots and went 2-5 in their next seven games.

Luverne then found its footing by closing out the regular season on a four-game winning streak.

In the first round of the section tournament, the Cardinals led most of the way against Tracy-Milroy-Balaton.

The Cardinals led 49-41 late in the second half, but unfortunately had nothing left in the tank after a trying season. The Panthers



Brennen Rupp photo/0325 LHS GBB

Averill Sehr drives to the basket against TMB on Tuesday, March 16. The Cardinals lost to the Panthers 56-51.

closed out the game on a 15-2 run to defeat the Cardinals 56-51, ending Luverne's season.

Following a Panthers basket, Averill Sehr knocked down a three-pointer to put the Cardinals up 3-2.

Christina Wagner scored the next five points for the Cardinals to give them an 8-4 lead.

With the Cardinals holding a 10-4 lead, the Panthers went on a 7-0 run to claim an 11-10 lead.

Luverne answered by going on a 10-0 run to take a 20-11 lead.

At the half, the Cardinals led the Panthers 27-21.

The Cardinals opened the second half by scoring the first four points to build a 10-point lead at 31-21.

With the Cardinals holding a 35-26 lead, the

Panthers went on a 9-2 run to cut Luverne's lead to 37-35.

An Emma Beyer bucket gave the Cardinals a 39-35 lead.

A Sarah Stegenga three-pointer put the Cardinals up 46-39 with 8:10 left in the game.

With the Cardinals holding a 49-41 lead, the Panthers closed out the game by going on a 15-2 run to claim a 56-51 victory.

Elise Ferrell led the Cardinals with 18 points.

Sehr reached double figures with 12 points.

Christina Wagner finished with nine points.

LHS 27 24 51
TMB 21 35 56

Scoring: Ferrell 18; Sehr 12; C. Wagner 9
Rebounds: E. Wagner 8
Assists: E. Wagner 4

Three LHS wrestlers reach third place match in section tournament

By Brennen Rupp

The Luverne wrestling team competed in the individual section tournament in Redwood Falls on Tuesday, March 16.

Luverne had three wrestlers reach the third-place match in their respective weight classes.

Hunter Baker

Baker opened the section tournament with a pinfall victory over Marshall's Lukas Stelter.

Baker lost the next match by decision (10-3) to Dain Mortenson.

Baker won his next match by major decision (14-3) to earn a spot in the third-place match.

The individual section tournament marked the last time that seniors Cowell and Baker wrestled for the Cardinals. "The experience that they brought to the team will be hard to replace," Luverne head coach Jordan Kopp said. "The way they went at it in the practice room will be missed."

Riley Cowell

Cowell capped off his prep wrestling career by going 2-1 and earning a spot in the third-place match in the section tournament. Both of Cowell's victories were by pinfall.

Cowell opened the tournament by defeating Worthington's Oliver Ortiz Perez by fall.

In the second round, Cowell fell to Fairmont-Martin County West's Jesse Potts by a 9-7 decision.

Cowell defeated Marshall's Brett Regnier by fall to earn a spot in the third-place match.

Braydon Ripka

Ripka opened the section tournament with a 7-5 decision victory over Redwood Valley's Jaxon Lang.

In the next round, Ripka lost to Worthington's Damon Schuts by fall.

Ripka earned a spot in the third-place match by defeating Dawson-Boyd-Lac Qui Parle-Montevideo United's Kadin Huntley by decision (6-2).

H-BC boys bow out of section tournament against HLO/F

By Brennen Rupp

The Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball season came to an end Thursday, March 18, when they lost to Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda 67-51.

The Patriots trailed 37-29 at the half.

H-BC opened scoring in the second half to trim HLOF's lead to 37-31.

Following H-BC's bucket, the Coyotes went on an 8-0 run to build a 45-31 lead.

A Cole Baker three-point play cut HLOF's lead to 45-36.

The Coyotes responded again with a 10-0 run to build a 55-36 lead.

The Coyotes kept their foot on the gas and went on to win 67-51 over the Patriots.

Oliver Deelstra scored 18 points for H-BC. Deelstra also grabbed a team-leading eight rebounds.

Cole Baker scored 18 points and grabbed six rebounds.

In his final game as a Patriot, Zander Wysong scored seven points, grabbed five rebounds, and dished out five assists. It was the type of all-around performance that Wysong was accustomed to delivering during his time on the hardwood for H-BC.

H-BC 39 22 51
HLOF 37 30 67

Scoring: Baker 18; Deelstra 18; Wysong 7
Rebounds: Deelstra 8; Baker 6; Wysong 5
Assists: Wysong 5

LHS girls' hockey/Continued from page 9

"That fifth goal, Peyton Behr buried it," Sandbulte said. "That broke their back. We just went from there."

Van Batavia scored the next two goals for the Cardinals to put the final touches on the section championship victory. The talented sophomore finished the game with five goals and one assist.

"We were really waiting for her to shine against a good opponent," Sandbulte said about Van Batavia. "She showed it tonight. When she's going, watch out."

The Cardinals will open up the state tournament on Friday, March 26, at the Xcel Energy Center against Proctor/Hermantown. The game is scheduled to start at 1 p.m.

Proctor/Hermantown finished the season with an 18-0 record. They won their section championship over Duluth Marshall 6-0.

Reghan Bork and Kamryn Van Batavia celebrate after Van Batavia scored a short-handed goal in the section championship on Friday, March 19.



Brennen Rupp photo/0325 LHS GH

H-BC girls' basketball/Continued from page 9

pointer to get the lead back down to single digits.

A Fick three-pointer trimmed the Eagles' lead to 55-48.

In the end, H-BC's comeback bid fell short, as they fell to the Eagles 61-54.

The loss brought an end to the prep basketball careers for seniors, Rauk, Knobloch, Annie Bos, Allie LaRock and Lauren Tatge.

"This group of seniors have bought into our theme this year of Person over Player," H-BC head coach Kale Wiertzema said. "They became tremendous leaders throughout the year and left the Lady Patriots basketball program better than when they entered. I'm excited to see what's in store for them."

H-BC 57, MCC 39

The Patriots opened the section tournament in Hills on Tuesday, March 16, with a 57-29 victory over Murray County Central.

The Patriots outscored the Rebels 29-17 in the first half. That 12-point first-half lead held as the Patriots outscored MCC 28-22 in the second half.

Rauk led the Patriots with 20 points.

Knobloch finished with 12 points, five rebounds, four assists and four steals.

H-BC 61, RRC 44

The Patriots split the regular-season series against Red Rock Central, with the Patriots winning in Lamberton 45-42 and the Falcons winning in Hills 60-57.

The two Red Rock Conference foes looked like they were in for another nail-biting finish with the Patriots clinging to a 25-24 first-half lead in the section quarterfinals on Friday, March 19.

There would be no close finish in this contest, as the Patriots outscored the Falcons 36-20 in the

second half to pick up the 61-44 victory.

Rauk finished the game with 24 points.

Knobloch scored 16 points, dished out eight assists, and recorded five steals.

Fick scored 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

The Patriots finished the season with a 16-5 record and reached the section semifinals for a fourth straight year.

H-BC 29 28 59
MCC 17 22 39

Scoring: Rauk 20; Knobloch 12; Moser 8; Fick 7; Deelstra 7
Rebounds: Knobloch 5
Assists: Knobloch 4; LaRock 4

H-BC 25 36 61
RRC 24 20 44

Scoring: Rauk 24; Knobloch 16; Fick 13; LaRock 6
Rebounds: Fick 9; Bos 5; LaRock 5
Assists: Knobloch 8; Elbers 4
Steals: Knobloch 5; Rauk 3

LHS boys' hockey/Continued from page 9

scoring the first three goals in the second period for Luverne to put them up 4-1.

Brock Behrend and Oftedahl scored the next two goals for Luverne to give them a commanding 6-1 lead.

Fairmont wrapped up the second period by scoring two goals to trim Luverne's lead to 6-3.

Fairmont opened the scoring in the third period to inch closer at 6-4.

Behrend put the Cardinals back on top with his second goal of the game.

Oftedahl scored his second goal of the game to put the Cardinals up 8-4.

Behrend wrapped up the scoring by recording his third goal of the game to make the final score 9-4.

Shaid Shearer recorded 48 saves for the Cardinals.

LDC 8, LHS 0

Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato used a four-goal second period to pull

away from the Cardinals on Thursday en route to an 8-0 victory.

The Dragons scored two goals in the first period, including a goal with 18 seconds left in the period to take a 2-0 lead into the locker room.

In the second period, the Dragons added three more goals in the first 10 minutes to build a 5-0 lead.

The Dragons added one more in the period for good measure and took a 6-0 lead into the locker room.

The Cardinals scored two more goals in the third period to make the final score 8-0.

The Cardinals finished the season with an 8-12 record.

The game against the Dragons marked the final time seniors Cade Wenninger, Shaid Shearer, Cooper Arends and Carlton Oftedahl took the ice for the Cardinals.

"They truly held us together," Luverne head coach Phil Paquette said. "We relied so heavily on them to be leaders. To be there each and every day. Without them it would have been a huge struggle. Those

Luverne boys' hoops/Continued from page 9

with 11 minutes left in regulation.

An Ahrendt bucket tied the game back up at 41-41. The Cardinals knocked down a three-pointer to go up 44-41.

The Eagles went on a 7-0 run to take a 48-44 lead.

Beyer knocked down a three-pointer to trim Windom's lead to 53-51.

With 50.7 seconds left in the game, Ahrendt knocked down a three-pointer to trim Windom's lead to 59-56.

Unfortunately for the Cardinals that would be the last made basket of the season, as

the Eagles held on to win 63-56.

Ahrendt led the Cardinals with 16 points.

Cowell finished the game with 12 points.

Beyer knocked down three three-pointers and finished the game with 11 points.

Rops reached double figures with 10 points.

With the loss, the Cardinals finished the season with a 14-4 record.

It marked the final game for eight seniors, Cowell, Rops, Beyer, LaShad Smith, Kaden DeSollar, Benjamin Jarchow, and Justin Dolhmann.

"It's rare to have eight

seniors that stick it out all the way through and I'm really proud of all of them," Luverne head coach John Sichelmeier said.

"Some of them played a lot and some played a little, but they were all equally important to our program

They were a really fun group of kids that brought energy and effort every day to practice and games. Most importantly they're all really good kids."

LHS 35 21 56
Windom 28 35 63

Scoring: Ahrendt 16; Cowell 12; Beyer 11; Rops 10
Rebounds: Cole-Kraty 8
Assists: Cole-Kraty 3
Blocks: Ahrendt 3

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. Thursday, April 1: 5 p.m. Mass.

Luverne Christian Reformed Church
605 N. Estey St., Luverne
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982
www.luverneccr.com — office@luverneccr.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, March 25: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Saturday, March 27: 5:30 p.m. Worship service with Holy Communion. Sunday, March 28: 9 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion. 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. Tuesday, March 30: 8:30 a.m. Grace Notes assembly. Wednesday, March 31: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. Thursday, April 1: 5:30 p.m. Seder Meal. 6:45 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** worship with Holy Communion. 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

Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well. Mondays, 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. Thursday, April 1: 6:30 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** worship with Holy Communion.

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

Friday, March 26: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible study. Sunday, March 28: 9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship service. 10:50-11:50 a.m. Sunday school. Tuesday, March 30: 12 Noon staff meeting. Wednesday, March 31: 5:30 p.m. Midweek meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs; Youth groups. Thursday, April 1: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** service with Holy Communion. 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, March 25: 1-3 p.m. Food Shelf curbside. Saturday, March 27: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday March 28: 9 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. Online Children's Auction/MN Hot-dish Take and Bake. Movie Night—Passion of the Christ. Monday, March 29: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Wednesday, March 31: 6:15 p.m. FUEL. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Thursday, April 1: 1-3 p.m. Food Shelf curbside. 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** service.

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

Sunday, March 28: 9 a.m. Sunday school. 10:15 a.m. In-person Worship

service and through Facebook Live Sunday. Our Facebook page can be found under First Presbyterian Church of Luverne. Monday, March 29: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. Thursday, April 1: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday/Good Friday** combined services with Holy Communion. 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

Saturday, March 27: 5:30 p.m. Worship service. Sunday, March 28: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible study. 11 a.m. Junior choir rehearsal. 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, March 29: 3:15 p.m. staff meeting. Thursday, April 1: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** worship with Holy Communion.

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: newlifecelebration@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

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Mark Eliason, Pastor
Sunday, March 28: 9 a.m. In-person Worship at First Lutheran Church. Masks are highly recommended. Thursday, April 1: **Maundy Thursday** service at First Lutheran. Facebook live. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

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

Sunday, March 28: 10:30 a.m. In-person Worship at Palisade Lutheran Church. Masks are required. Thursday, April 1: **Maundy Thursday** service at First Lutheran. 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: lari.firstpres@gmail.com

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. Second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. Session meeting.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Ph. 605-215-3429
email: magnoliannumc@gmail.com
Nancy Manning, Pastor

Sunday, 9 a.m., in-person with livestream available on the church's Facebook site.

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

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship service in-person with livestream available on Facebook and YouTube. Radio worship on KQAD Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, April 1: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** service.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270

Sunday, March 28: 9 a.m. Tuff Chapel service. 10 a.m. Palm Sunday service at Bethlehem; Sunday school students will sing. 10 a.m. Sunday school. 5:30-7 p.m. 9th-12th grade Youth Night. 7-8:30 p.m. 6th-8th grade Youth Night at Bethlehem. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org. Tuesday, March 30: 2 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 2:45 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. Wednesday, March 31: 9 a.m. Quilting. Thursday, April 1: 7 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** worship with Holy Communion.

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

A week like no other

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

These are the words that will ring out in churches in our community on Sunday, as we remember the way Jesus began his last week on earth, riding on a donkey, with hopeful crowds shouting, excitement palpable as he made his way into Jerusalem.

This excitement turns ugly as disappointment and disillusionment emerge when Jesus doesn't turn out to be the person that people thought he would be, as nervous and frightened religious leaders look over their shoulders, as Roman officials and soldiers do what they need in order to maintain order and set an example of what happens to those who dare rabble-rouse.

Jesus, the disciples and other followers have come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover Festival. They prepare the traditional meal, but Jesus changes the meaning from remembering what God has done in the past in rescuing enslaved Israelites from Egypt to what God is doing in the present and will do in the future. Dusty feet are washed. Bread and wine are no longer bread and wine, but body and blood — given for you. A new commandment is given — love one another as I have loved you.

The week ends on a very different note. There are

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Ann Zastrow
Grace Lutheran Church, Luverne

soldiers following orders. There is a rooster who crows during the night. There is an illegal kangaroo court session at night. A Roman governmental official named Pilate gets involved. An innocent man is beaten and tortured, then condemned to death, death on a Roman cross. The followers who hailed Jesus' arrival on Sunday are by Friday either hiding out after running away or watching from a distance as Jesus draws his last breath. His body is removed from the cross and placed in a nearby tomb, its entrance sealed by a stone. He rests for three days.

I encourage you to fill in the blanks of the story this next week by attending worship at one (or more!) of the churches in our community or by watching worship services on VAST Channel 3, on LuvTV through the city's website, or on the various Facebook pages or websites for churches, locally or further afield.

Look for information on service times elsewhere in this edition of the newspaper. This next week will be a week like no other — Thanks be to God!

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

Call Rick or Chantel to place your ad!

283-2333

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Trust in Him



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Mortgage foreclosure sale set for April 30

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: August 02, 2007
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$31,500.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Neale G. Hamann, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Peoples Bank
DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: August 14, 2007 Rock County Recorder
Document Number: 167229

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

•And assigned to: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Dated: August 02, 2007

Recorded: August 14, 2007 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 167230

•And assigned to: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Dated: March 06, 2017

Recorded: March 14, 2017 Rock County Recorder

Document Number: 190262

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 1003445-0001089259-6

Lender or Broker: Peoples Bank

Residential Mortgage Servicer: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corp.

Mortgage Originator: Not Applicable

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Rock

Property Address: 819 201st St, Hardwick, MN 56134-4048

Tax Parcel ID Number: 10-0122-000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That part of the SW 1/4, Section 25, Township 104 North, Range 46 West of the 5th P.M., Rock County, State of Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest Corner of said Section 25, thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East (assumed bearing) along the South Line of the SW 1/4 of said Section 25 for a distance of 741.29 feet to the point of beginning, thence continuing North 90 degrees 00 minutes and 00 seconds East along said South Line for a distance of 746.44 feet; thence North 01 degrees 21 minutes 41 seconds East for a distance of 689.32 feet; thence North 83 degrees 17 minutes 46 seconds West for a distance of 169.66 feet; thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 03 seconds West for a distance of 184.58 feet; thence South 89 degrees 31 minutes 22 seconds West for a distance of 612.69 feet; thence South 02 degrees 03 minutes 55 seconds East for a distance of 519.59 feet to the point of beginning

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE:

\$10,772.39

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: April 30, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

PLACE OF SALE: Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave.,

Luverne, Minnesota

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

If the Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2021, or the next business day if April 30, 2021 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

Mortgagor(s) released from financial obligation: NONE

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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.

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

DATED: March 12, 2020

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(03-12, 03-19, 03-26, 04-02, 04-09, 04-16)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for April 30, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to June 04, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota, in said County and State.

DATED: April 01, 2020

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(04-23)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for June 04, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to August 27, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota, in said County and State.

DATED: May 29, 2020

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(06-04)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for August 27, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to October 15, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota, in said County and State.

DATED: August 14, 2020

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(08-20)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for October 15, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to February 18, 2021, at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota in said County and State.

DATED: September 10, 2020

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(09-17)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for February 18, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to April 15, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota in said County and State.

DATED: February 08, 2021

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(02-18)

Notice of postponement

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for April 15, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. has been postponed to July 08, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. in the Law Enforcement Center, Lobby, 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne, Minnesota in said County and State.

DATED: March 15, 2021

ASSIGNEE OF MORTGAGEE: Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation

Wilford, Geske & Cook P.A.

Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee

7616 Currell Blvd; Ste 200

Woodbury, MN 55125-2296

(651) 209-3300

File Number: 037264F02

(03-25)

Rock County Rural Water seeks bids by April 7

**FILTER MEDIA REPLACEMENT ROCK COUNTY RURAL WATER
LUVERNE, MINNESOTA
SECTION 00010**

Notice is hereby given that the Rock County Rural Water will receive sealed bids for the construction of a media filter replacement project located near Luverne, Minnesota. The project consists of the following:

- Removal and disposal of existing filter media and air backwash piping for 3 existing pressure filter systems;
- Existing filters were supplied by General Filters from Ames, Iowa (order number 02-1301);
- Furnish and install new filter media, piping and air wash per specification;

The Bids must be prepared on bid forms supplied in the Bidding Documents and submitted at the Rock County Courthouse, 204 East Brown Street, Luverne, Minnesota 56156-0745 not later than 2:00 P.M., Local Time April 7, 2021, at which time and place all Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the presence of the Bidders and their representatives. Bids that will be mailed ahead of time shall be mailed to the following address P.O. Box 507, Luverne, MN 56156. No bids will be received after the specified hour and date, and Bids which are not prepared and filed in accordance with "Instructions to Bidders" may be rejected.

Each Bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope. Each sealed envelope containing a Bid must be plainly marked on the outside as Rock County Rural Water - Filter Media Replacement. The envelope should also bear on the outside the name and address of the Bidder. If forwarded by mail or other delivery system, the sealed envelope containing the Bid must be sealed in another envelope, with the notation "Bid Enclosed" on the face thereof, and addressed to the Rock County Courthouse, P.O. Box 507, 204 East Brown Street, Luverne, Minnesota 56156.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the offices of Banner Associates, Inc. in Brookings, SD. A complete set of paper Bidding Documents will be provided upon request.

The Bidder to whom the contract is awarded will be required to furnish a construction per-form-ance bond and a construction payment bond to the Owner in the amount of one hundred per-cent (100%) of the contract award for each bond, in con-form-ance with the requirements of the Contract Documents. The construction per-form-ance bond and construction payment bond shall remain in full force until the completion of the Con-tract as specified in the General Conditions.

Bids may not be withdrawn after the time fixed for opening them. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any ir-regularities therein.

BY ORDER of the Rock County Board of Commissioners.

Date March 8, 2021

By Rock County Board of Commissioners
(03-25, 04-01)

Weichert, Realtors(r) - The Agents assumes name

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

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

ASSUMED NAME: Weichert, Realtors(r) - The Agents

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:

7505 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57108 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):

Name: Meritus Group Real Estate LLC

Address: 7505 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57108 USA

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

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

Signature : /s/ John Maurer, Owner

CONTACT PERSON: John Maurer

PHONE NUMBER: 605-521-1183

MAILING ADDRESS: 7505 S. Louise Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57108

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: choosetheagent@gmail.com

(03-25, 04-01)

**DEADLINE FOR LEGALS is
MONDAY @ 10 a.m.**



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COMMUNITY EDUCATION COORDINATOR

New London-Spicer Schools. Required: Bachelor's degree and minimal experience in an administrative position, or equivalent combination of education and experience. For more information or to apply please visit, www.nls.k12.mn.us/employment EOE

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

New London-Spicer Schools. Master's Degree or equivalent required. For more information or to apply please visit, www.nls.k12.mn.us/employment EOE

HELP WANTED - DRIVERS

CDL CLASS A

Tanker Truck Driver. Annual compensation exceeds \$80,000.00, home weekends, benefits like no other. We haul our products! Contact Tony 608/935-0915 Ext 16

AUCTIONS

HWY 59 AUCTION SERVICE

Slayton, MN. Equipment and Machinery Consignment, March 29, 10 AM. Now taking consignments. Fair commissions! Call Jess Donkersloot today! 507/370-1912 www.auctionzip.com

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WANTED:

ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES

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EMPLOYMENT

New Position

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

10-15 hrs early AM hours per week working M-F. Every other weekend rotation. 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



EMPLOYMENT

Great Plains Processing in Luverne is looking to hire a Quality Control Technician to work Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Benefits package includes health, dental and vision insurance, PTO, holiday pay, 401k, and more! Wage is DOE and qualifications. Visit us online to fill out an application at www/gpp-co.com/career-opportunities/. (3.6-3.25)

HELP WANTED

Age 55+ workers needed for **part-time custodial/grounds keeper** at Blue Mound State Park

Contact Green View
651-639-1913

RENTALS

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

For Rent in Luverne: Two-bedroom apartment with central air, on-site laundry, includes water, heat and one-stall garage. No smoking and no pets. 507-920-0406. (3.20-4.8)

INDEPENDENT LIVING IN LUVERNE

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Midwest Railcar Repair, Inc. 25965 482nd Ave. Brandon, SD 57005 605.582.8300

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Doug Bork would like to thank family and friends for all expressions of love, prayers and food after his sudden passing. A special thank you to the Beaver Creek fire department, the EMTs and the sheriff department for your prompt response to our 911 call. We extend our appreciation to Pastor Sparks for a memorable service and to the Hartquist staff for their caring and expertise.
Family of Doug Bork
(3.20-3.25)

Thank you for all the support, phone calls and cards following my recent surgery and recovery. Thanks to all the neighbors who stepped up with help and encouragement. To all the staff at Papik Motors, Main Street Financial staff and everyone at Hospice. Thanks to Dr. Spronk, and doctors and staff at Sanford Heart Hospital. What a great city to live in.
Dave Remme
(3.20-3.25)

CARDS OF THANKS

Many thanks to you who were thinking of me, sending comforting thoughts my way, and gently holding me in your daily prayers. I have had a difficult and emotional time since breaking my hip and losing my daughter, Pamela Goeske Kruse, to brain cancer this past year. Your heartfelt gifts are truly appreciated.
Dorothy Goeske
(3.25-3.27)

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, visits, food, cards and memorials you gave us during Ken's illness. Thanks to the medical personnel of Luverne and Sioux Falls hospitals, Hospice and Pastor Ann for her calls and visits. Thanks for the kind words, lit candles and trees on the Tribute Wall. We are thankful that we live in a caring community.
Ardie Bowen
Brad and Judy Bowen
(3.20-3.25)

FOR SALE

For Sale: Landscaping rock 1.5 and 3/4-inch rock. Also do stump grinding. Call Wayne Biever Construction at 507-227-4521 or 507-283-4614. Also have yard dirt. 715 SW Park Street, Luverne, MN. (3.13-4.1)

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EMPLOYMENT

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- Highly motivated for professional growth
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HELP WANTED

Truck Drivers & Plant Help Needed! Spring Season

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- Able to work additional hours to meet business needs

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Manager: Tom Kellen
Contact: 507-449-7679
or Tom.Kellen@Nutrien.com

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ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

THE NEBRASKA PEDAL CAR COLLECTION - BIDDING ENDS APRIL 26, 2021 - 7PM
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CHEVROLET COLLECTOR CARS & MORE - THE PAUL AASEN COLLECTION - SPICER, MN
RARE INDIAN & HARLEY DAVIDSON LITERATURE AUCTION

ONSITE/ONLINE

MAY 15, 2021 - 11AM - SIOUX FALLS, SD EASTGATE TOW YARD AUCTION
JUNE 12, 2021 - PONTIAC COLLECTOR CARS & PARTS - APPROX. 20 TRANS AM'S & HUNDREDS OF PARTS! THE KANSAS COLLECTION - TONGANOXIE, KS
JUNE 26, 2021 - FABULOUS COLLECTOR CARS, PARTS, MEMORABILIA & MORE - THE DICK PELLOW COLLECTION - ST. PAUL, MN
JULY 24, 2021 - HOTRODS, MEMORABILIA, AND HUNDREDS OF EARLY FORD PARTS! THE JACK SLAYMAKER COLLECTION - FOSTORIA, IA
AUGUST 14, 2021 - AMAZING INDIAN MOTORCYCLE HOARD, RACE CARS, COLLECTIBLES & MORE! - THE VERMONT COLLECTION, RUTLAND, VT
AUGUST 21, 2021 - BAXTER CYCLE OPEN HOUSE & MOTORCYCLE AUCTION - CALL TO CONSIGN - MARNE, IA
AUGUST 28, 2021 - 1970'S LINCOLNS, ANTIQUE TRACTORS & MORE! THE ELVIN BEYERS ESTATE - HOLLAND, MN
SEPTEMBER 18, 2021 - AMAZING COLLECTOR CARS, PARTS, ANTIQUE TRACTORS, MEMORABILIA & MORE - THE KRINKKE COLLECTION, SCRATTON, N.D.
OCTOBER 2, 2021 - FABULOUS COLLECTOR CARS, SIGNS & MEMORABILIA & MORE - THE AMAZING LARRY & DAWN MENARD COLLECTION, EAU CLAIRE, WISC.

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Our deadlines for the Announcer and Star Herald are as follows. We appreciate your cooperation in getting us any advertising or legals in a timely manner. Thank you!

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DISPLAY ADS AND CLASSIFIEDS
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STAR HERALD
DEADLINE FOR
DISPLAY ADS, CLASSIFIEDS AND LEGALS
MONDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.




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today, tomorrow & beyond

LUVERNE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31, 2021

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


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

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

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

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

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



Locally COVID-19 positive test results continue to decrease while COVID-19 vaccinations continue to increase. Nearly 22% of Rock County residents have received their vaccine. The Governor continues to relax some of the restrictions that have been in place and each week we see signs of the new normal reemerging. After being canceled last year due to the pandemic, the annual St. Patrick's Day parade made it's way down main street again! Churches are filling up again, plans for proms are underway (albeit with a COVID-19 protocol) and families are talking about summer plans. So as we start to embrace a more active schedule, please keep in mind the precautions and continue to mask up, social distance and wash your hands.

Local rate of COVID-19 vaccination increases

Excerpts from 03/18 Star Herald — Rock County and southwest Minnesota residents are steadily finding increased access to the COVID-19 vaccine, according to local public health officials.

Last week the vaccination priority groups were expanded to the second and third tiers of Phase 1b. Tier 1 of Phase 1b included people 65 years and older, teachers and child care providers. "Expanding to the next two tiers of Phase 1b couldn't have been more timely," said Jason Kloss of Southwest Health and Human Services. "Filling appointments at vaccination clinics was becoming more challenging, especially in our region." He said most people in the previous priority phases that wanted the vaccine have been vaccinated.


Following are the groups included in the next two tiers of Phase 1b. All people in these two tiers and the previous phases are eligible to be vaccinated, Kloss said

Phase 1b, Tier 2 —high-risk populations:
People age 16 or 18 years and older with Sick cell, Down Syndrome, active cancer treatment, immune-compromised from organ transplant, oxygen-dependent chronic lung or heart conditions.
People with rare conditions or disabilities that put them at higher risk.

Phase 1b, Tier 2 —essential workers including:
Employees of food processing facilities.

Phase 1b, Tier 3 —high-risk populations:
People age 45-64 years with one or more underlying medical conditions.
People age 16 or 18 to 44 years old with two or more underlying medical conditions. People age 50 and older in multigenerational housing.

Phase 1b, Tier 3—essential workers:
Agriculture, additional school and child care workers, airport staff, correctional settings, first responders, food production, food retail (grocery), food service, judicial system workers, manufacturing, postal service workers, public transit workers and public health workers.



Kloss said several providers in Luverne now offer COVID vaccinations. "Sanford Luverne is currently offering vaccine to clients that meet the definition of high risk," he said. "Extra doses and open appointments will be offered to those essential workers on their wait list." Lewis Family Drug also provides COVID vaccinations. "Their vaccination schedule is currently full, but they are hoping to get additional doses soon," Kloss said. "There are other pharmacies in our region that are also offering vaccinations."

To be notified of vaccination clinic opportunities, please register using the survey located on our website at SWHHS.com. Eligible people and essential workers will be notified by email of vaccination clinics that we schedule.

BRIGHTER DAYS ARE HERE

Bars and restaurants
75% Capacity*
250 People max
*75% applies to indoors. Outdoor has no percentage limit. Groups must stay 6 feet apart. Bar seating increases to parties of 4.

Social gatherings
Outside
50 People max
Inside
15 People max

Salons and barbers
No occupancy limits.
Social distancing and masks required.

Gyms, fitness centers, and pools
50% Capacity
Social distancing and masks required.

Work from home
Starting April 15:
Work from home will be strongly recommended for those who can.
All employers should continue to accommodate employees who wish to work from home, and must provide reasonable accommodations as required by law.

Wedding ceremonies and religious services
No occupancy limits.
Social distancing and masks required.

Venues, celebrations, and receptions
50% Capacity
250 People max
Starting April 15: Larger venues add additional capacity.
Inside
Non-seated: Add 10% of capacity over 500 people. Max 1,500 people.
Seated: Add 15% of capacity over 500 people. Max 3,000 people.
Outside
Non-seated: Add 15% of capacity over 500 people. Max 10,000 people.
Seated: Add 25% of capacity over 500 people. Max 10,000 people.

Guidance Updates
Start at 12 p.m. on March 15 unless otherwise noted.

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