



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, May 14, 2020

ACLU files lawsuit against Rock County Sheriff and deputies

By Lori Sorenson

The Rock County Sheriff's Office has retained legal counsel through the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust in defense of a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union of Minnesota.

The suit, filed May 6 in U.S. District Court, names Rock County Sheriff Evan Verbrugge and deputies Dallas Hamm and Shelley Douty in the case of Kelli Jo Torres v. Dallas Hamm et al.

It accuses the county of violating Fourth Amendment prohibition

against unreasonable searches and seizures, as well as state law.

In particular, it alleges that in November 2018 the deputies tried to forcibly conduct a vaginal search on the side of a public road in below-freezing temperatures.

The sheriff's office, county attorney and county administrator all said they had no knowledge of the lawsuit until the ACLU announced through a media released that it had been filed.

"Contrary to the way it is represented in the complaint, there was no strip search or body cavity search



Dallas Hamm



Evan Verbrugge

performed on the side of the road," said attorney Joe Flynn, who is representing Rock County.

"A female sheriff's deputy performed the initial pat down over the clothing of Ms. Torres. The search in which the pipe was discovered in the body cavity of Ms. Torres was performed by a nurse at the hospital to minimize any intrusion."

He said any further response to these allegations will be made in court.

According to the complaint, Deputy Hamm pulled a driver over in Luverne on the I-90 entrance ramp in November 2018 for a dangling air freshener from a rear-view mirror.

The report alleges he searched the driver without probable cause and that he and Douty instructed Torres, the passenger, to stand next to Hamm's squad car. It was 9 degrees and she wasn't wearing a coat while the two deputies questioned her and attempted a body cavity search.

The ACLU in its press release last week points out that federal law prohibits strip searches and body cavity searches of people detained for traffic offenses without probable cause.

ACLU sues county/see page 5

Schools plan virtual grad ceremonies

Parking lot events, parades highlight commencements

By Mavis Fodness

Area high school seniors are graduating on their original commencement dates, but the ceremonies won't be in gymnasiums or on football fields.

Instead graduation events will be conducted remotely as recommended by the Minnesota Department of Education in order to prevent the spread of coronavirus within communities.

"Remember that COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus that is fatal, especially for the elderly and those with underlying conditions, and is still spreading throughout Minnesota," the MDE release stated.

"Staying home is a crucial way to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to collectively protect our communities."

Schools were given options to delay commencement ceremonies, but the four school districts in the Star Herald coverage area will graduate seniors as originally scheduled.

The area graduation ceremonies are set as follows:

- Luverne, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 24, virtual online ceremony followed by a parade through Luverne.

- Hills-Beaver Creek, 7 p.m. Friday, May 22, parking lot ceremony

- Adrian, 7 p.m., Friday, May 22, parade. A online virtual ceremony takes place Saturday, May 23.

- Ellsworth, 7 p.m. Friday, May 29.

Each school is tailoring ceremonies to comply with social distancing guidelines and with plans to provide a meaningful experience to students, parents and the public.

Events could change as the state's Stay-Home order is set to expire on Monday.

Luverne and Hills-Beaver Creek are considering two different options suggested by the MDE.

Graduation plans/see page 5



Mavis Fodness photos/0514 Fish Release



Ready for summer

Proceeds from February's Get Hooked Fishing Derby raffle were used Tuesday morning to stock 725 hybrid bluegills in The Lake west of Luverne. John Chambers (above left) with 10,000 Lakes Aquaculture of Osakis delivered the 4- to 6-inch fish to Luverne and placed the young fish into buckets to be released into The Lake.

The hybrid bluegill is a hardy fish meant for repeated catching and releasing without compromising the fish's health. A fast-growing fish variety, the bluegills will be 10 inches long once they mature. Fishing derby committee members recommend the catch and release of the bluegills for the next couple of years so all anglers can enjoy a fishing experience in Luverne.

Above, John Chambers releases the young bluegills into the lake with (from left) Summer Aning, Jeremy Wallenberg (back), Dustin Aning, Emmalee Wallenberg and Danny Aning.

Premium Minnesota Pork moves startup date to June 8

By Lori Sorenson

Pork processing plants in Sioux Falls and Worthington closed a month ago when coronavirus outbreaks spread among workers.

Meanwhile, Premium Minnesota Pork has been plugging away at the \$30 million overhaul of Luverne's former Gold'N Plump facility to

serve as its latest antibiotic-free pork processing plant.

May 4 was the planned date for 250 workers to start processing 2,500 hogs per day, but company president Dan Paquin said it will open when it's safe to do so.

Last week he said the plant's opening is delayed until June 8, with

full production anticipated sometime in July. "We're doing everything we can to keep our workers safe," Paquin said.

"We're following protocol for every new hire and following CDC and Department of Health recommendations."

He said the company is filling its

management positions in Luverne and taking applications for all areas of work in the plant.

"There is no good news in the pork industry right now, and I think it's good news that we're opening," Paquin said. Antibiotic-free pigs

Premium Minnesota Pork/see 3

Meat packers suspected of price manipulation

By Lori Sorenson

Despite high consumer demand for meat in the coronavirus economy, livestock farmers are receiving lower prices for their products than before the pandemic.

Meanwhile, four companies — Tyson, JBS, Cargill and National Beef — control 85 percent of U.S. beef processing and are achieving sizeable profits.

That's why Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison joined attorneys general in 10 other states to request a U.S. Department of Justice investigation into price fixing by multinational meat companies.

"... live cattle futures recently hit 18-year lows, while the price of boxed beef and consumer demand remain healthy, especially as consumers



"It's frustrating on a lot of levels. The system is broken and has been for a long time. ... We don't have very many cattle negotiated anymore; it's all contracted on a formula."

— Grant Binford, livestock producer

navigate these unprecedented times," the attorneys wrote in a letter to U.S. Attorney General William Barr.

"In this highly concentrated industry, meat packers have achieved sizeable profit margins. Cattle ranchers, however, who for generations have supplied our nation's beef, are squeezed and often struggle to survive."

Rock County livestock producer Grant Binford said he welcomes the support, but he said it's important to keep perspective.

"It's frustrating on a lot of levels," he said Monday. "The system is broken and has been for a long time. ... We don't have very many cattle

Beef price manipulation/see p. 3

Luverne Dollars For Scholars reaches \$5 million milestone

By Lori Sorenson

The Luverne Dollars for Scholars chapter hit a milestone Monday night during the Luverne High School awards program, which was shared via YouTube.

Midway through announcing the list of 68 seniors who received scholarships, chapter president Don Klosterbuer paused to recognize that the program had awarded \$5 million to 1,943 LHS graduates since it began in 1984.

The video inserted animated celebration of Peanuts characters dancing amid balloons and confetti as a replacement of sorts for applause from audience that was viewing online.

By the end of the night, Klosterbuer said the total amount of scholarships awarded was \$5,066,225.

This year alone, Luverne's Dollars For Scholars awarded 68 scholarships totaling \$457,000.

"Congratulations to all of you," Klosterbuer said. "We look forward to hearing of your success and following your achievements."

Since its inception, the Luverne Dollars for Scholars program has been the benefactor of 269 perpetual scholarships with a total endowment of over \$9 million.

A volunteer board of 21 trust-

Dollars for Scholars/see page 2



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H-BC finishes in Top 5 of data competition

By Mavis Fodness

When the coronavirus pandemic canceled this year's NCAA Men's March Madness Basketball Tournament, it also canceled Hills-Beaver Creek High School's participation in the data analysis competition.

Or that's what H-BC secondary mathematics teacher Nora Wysong thought. But she learned the teams of Whitney Elbers and Sadie Fuerstenberg calling themselves the "Fluffy Hedgehog" and Joslyn Birger and Annie Boss (team name Boss) placed in the top five out of more than 100 student teams who entered the March Madness Data Analytics Battle.

"It was not fun to have the tournament canceled," Wysong said. "But the students enjoyed the process and application of statistics that took place."

Organizers at the Dordt University mathematics department in Sioux Center, Iowa, decided to test the students' submitted algorithms using game results from the 2012 NCAA tournament.

"The 2012 tournament was selected because the students had already created their algorithms based on the 2013-2019 data," said Valerie Zonnefeld, associate professor of mathematics. "Choosing a year within their training set would have skewed the results. The year does make a difference, but only highly predictive algorithms have a chance to be competitive for the top algorithm."

Students used Google spreadsheets to select 10 men's college teams based on the algorithms they de-

veloped. They could use as many of the 31 different data categories as they wanted when developing their algorithms.

The student teams earned points based on how many games their 10 chosen teams won during actual tournament play.

A team from Western Christian High School in Hull, Iowa, won the regional contest with the top score of 206.

Fluffy Hedgehog scored 197 points followed by Boss with 183 points.

Thirteen H-BC teams entered the battle with other participating high schools in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota. A team from Southwest Minnesota Christian High School in Edgerton placed second.

Fluffy Hedgehog member Fuerstenberg said she and Elbers weighted three variables — rebounds, turnovers and three-point percentage — to select their top 10 teams.

"We chose these because we thought they were important statistics," Fuerstenberg said.

As for the team name, "It was just a random thing that popped into my head while in class," she said.

Zonnefeld said the best stats to use for the 2012 tournament were rebounds, three-point percentages and wins against top 25 opponents.

"Many teams received good scores as the winner of the tournament, Kentucky, was a great statistical team in most areas," she said. "However, Missouri was probably the next best statistical team, but was upset in the first round."

The university plans to offer the data analytics battle again in 2021.



Elbers



Fuerstenberg



Obsolete grain elevator demolished in Hardwick



An excavator made quick work of the former wooden elevator at Chandler Feed Co. in Hardwick Thursday afternoon, May 7.

According to manager Miles Brown, the small grain storage structure hadn't been in use recently and its age (estimated to be one of the early structures built at the city's founding in 1892) and small size made the structure obsolete.

Now the open area exists between the feed company's office and bagged feed warehouse.

"It looks a whole lot better," Brown said. "Cleaned it (the area) up quite a bit."

Premium Minnesota Pork postpones opening to June/from page 1

that were growing in barns across the tri-state area were intended for Luverne at the start of May, but PMP's parent company, Lynch Livestock, operates Premium Iowa Pork in Hospers, Iowa, where most of the product ended up.

Those employees are temperature-checked at the start of their shifts and regularly cleaning their work areas — in addition to taking hand sani-

tizer home to their families. "Everybody's working on staying safe," Paquin said.

In addition, he said the Hospers plant has been diligent about not allowing visitors or vendors in the building, and employees' temperatures are taken as they show up for their shifts.

He said the Smithfield Foods coronavirus spread is taken seriously in his industry,

but for smaller operations, prevention is more manageable.

"We have 400 employees — not 3,700 — that's a huge difference. Our groups are pretty intimate, so we are better able to visit with our employees," he said. "If you don't feel well, don't come to work."

He said coronavirus has delayed the start of processing in Luverne, but many

management employees are already hired.

He also said he's not worried about hiring 200 employees on short notice. "There will be plenty of people looking for jobs," he said. "And we have good-paying jobs."

Job seekers can get applications at the plant on County Road 4 west of Luverne or through the website, premiumiowapork.com

Beef price manipulation/from page 1

negotiated anymore; it's all contracted on a formula."

But he agreed that the pricing doesn't make sense.

"When grocery stores started clearing out products shortly after restaurants closed, we saw boxed beef at \$2.08 for choice beef, and today it's at \$4.50," Binford said.

The price producers receive for live cattle, however, has cratered to historic lows.

For easy figuring, Binford used the May 8 comprehensive beef box price of \$3.91 per pound for a 900-pound beef carcass and compared it to the current \$1.60 per pound for the same 900 pounds.

That means the packing company is getting \$3,500 and the cattle producer is getting \$1,440.

"There's a lot of country between those two numbers," Binford said.

He recognized the variables (such as costs of production for processors) that are factored into pricing, but the supply and demand for-

mula isn't adding up.

"I'm going to be fair about this and point out that we're part of a cyclical business," Binford said.

"The packer has leverage when supplies are up, and other times when we don't have as many numbers, the leverage comes back to us because the shortage is in our favor."

The coronavirus closures of meat processing facilities, he said, has created market disruptions the industry hasn't seen before. "The problem now is that demand is good, but we can't get the product to consumers," Binford said. "We've harvested about 35 percent fewer animals in the past week with the packing plant disruptions."

He added that government shelter-in-place measures have gone too far and lasted too long.

"We need to change course and get stuff opened up again," he said. "And the rest of us need to get over

this and get out there again."

But it's not just the farmers affected by the current market setup, according to the attorneys general requesting a federal investigation into meat packers manipulating prices.

They said consumers are negatively impacted as well, particularly amid economic challenges posed by the new coronavirus pandemic.

"Given the concentrated market structure of the beef industry, it may be particularly susceptible to market manipulation, particularly during times of food insecurity such as the COVID-19 crisis," the attorneys general wrote.

"[W]e would suggest that regulatory strategies should be explored to promote competition, address market manipulation and protect consumers."

As of Monday, President Trump said he supported the investigation and would consider forming a task force to look into the allegations.

Planting nearly a month ahead of last year

By Mavis Fodness

Crop producers across the state are nearly a month ahead of schedule in corn planting, according to Monday's crop progress and condition report.

At 89 percent complete, corn planting is two weeks ahead of schedule, due to the continued mild weather conditions.

Radiothon/cont.

businesses right now," she said.

If all the money from the "Share the Luv" fund isn't spent, another sales drive will be organized for later June, July, August etc. until all the funds are gone.

Peterson said he was pleased, but not necessarily surprised, by the generosity of donors to the "Share the Luv" fund. "I would never expect it, because it's a lot of money," he said.

"But I'm seeing how people are stepping up for the Community Foundation's campaign for non-profits, and I've seen how people are supporting the graduation banners and signs."

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NEW LISTING

519 N Cedar St. Luverne, MN \$122,500

This home is one of those rare gems that you find! The home features over 1300 square feet of living space on the main level with 2 full size bedrooms and a 3rd Laundry room/craft area/office all on the main floor. It is possible that in some rooms Under the carpeting you will find hardwood floors. The Master Bedroom has a 3/4 bath attached and a large Walk-in closet. The upper level offers a spacious bedroom with a retreat area. The kitchen is an eat-in kitchen with solid birch cabinets with ample storage options. The basement offers tons of possibilities for a family room, additional bedrooms and bathroom potential. There is an awesome back entry that you could set up for entertaining. The home does need updating so bring your vision when you preview this one. Recent updates include but are not limited to New windows and vinyl siding that were installed in 2011 and the property has an updated service to breakers as well. Detached 2 stall garage accessed from the paved alley.

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Long bangs result in unclear vision of the future: I need a haircut

My vision for the future is unclear, mostly because I can't see through my bangs.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

Zoom and long bangs have made me realize I have one hair segment that grows opposite its neighbors. Concentrating on the topic at hand is difficult while obsessing about my unruly hairline.

have one hair segment that grows opposite its neighbors. Concentrating on the topic at hand is difficult while obsessing about my unruly hairline.

With no lock-down end in sight, I've thought about just going with the long bangs.

I tried the swooped-back Elvis look. I tried the "cleaning lady with a kerchief" look.

I tried the headband, the baseball cap, the gel and the bobby pins. I even just held back my bangs with one hand until I realized I was touching my face.

I know no one can clearly see the future. I just hope I don't have to see it with hair in my eyes.

'This May is genuinely like no other May before'

Local experts are here to help with feelings of hopelessness, stress and depression

GUEST OPINION

By Luke Comeau,
Southwestern Mental Health Center interim executive director

when sick with a virus, but they equally need to know issues like stress, depression, and feelings of hopelessness are reasons to seek help, just like a virus.

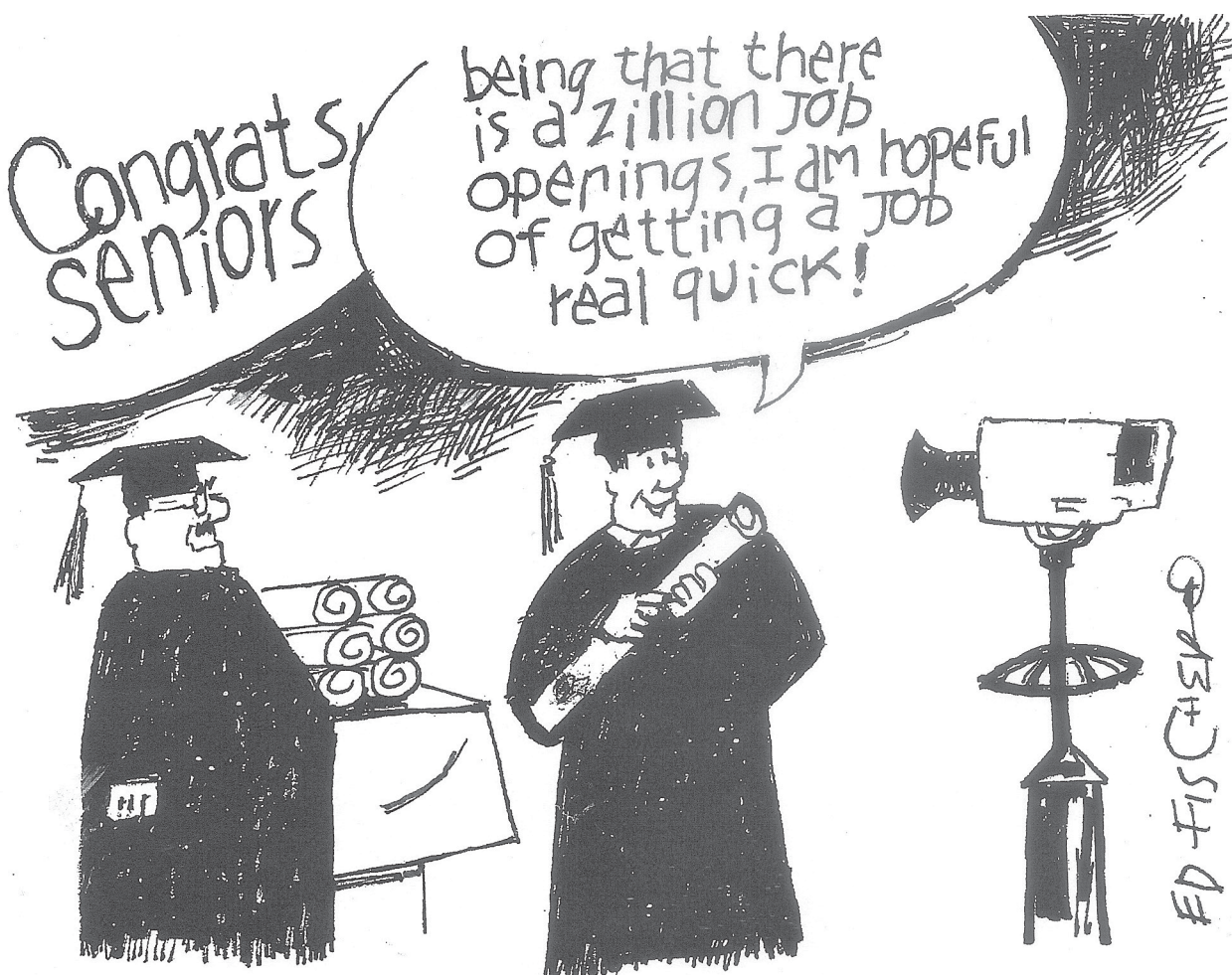
May is also known for Mental Health Awareness Month, and this message is critical during this challenging season. At Southwestern Mental Health Center, we provide a variety of mental health services to the southwest corner of Minnesota. We strive to promote mental health and total wellbeing for our community members, ensuring respect and dignity during all aspects of care.

We are still open and serving new and existing clients across our region. Our service delivery has

changed to a telemedicine model for the foreseeable future. Telemedicine allows clients to receive professional mental health services from the comfort of their homes by using the Zoom teleconferencing platform on their phone, tablet, or computer.

Southwestern Mental Health Center is committed to providing access to mental health services for everyone. Please call 507-283-9511 if you or a loved one would like to learn more about the many services offered by Southwestern Mental Health Center.

Our business hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or you can call our 24-hour crisis hotline at 1-800-642-1525.



'Scott Rall does Winnie the Pooh' is story behind raising first hunting puppy

We're in the process of getting a new puppy, and it reminds me of the very first hunting dog puppy I ever had. I grew up with lap dogs, but this was a yellow Labrador named Scout, the first puppy from the first breeding at the newly created Round Lake Kennels around 1996.

I knew about as much as nothing when it came to formal training, so I made all of the amateur mistakes a person could make.

I call this story, "Scott Rall does Winnie the Pooh." My puppy was about two months old and my wife bought a bag of dried pigs' ears that were sold as chew treats at the time.

She fed Scout one ear and in two minutes it was gone. So, if one is good, then the entire bag must be better. The dog was sure happy.

It was about 2 o'clock in the morning and my wife elbowed me in the ribs and said, "What is that smeeeeeeell?!" It was my puppy so the inspection was my responsibility.

It was obvious that the dog had



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, columnist

an accident in the plastic dog kennel she was sleeping in. I figured the first order of business was to get the dog out of the cage and cleaned up. The energetic puppy burst from my grasp and headed across the nearly white carpet on its way to the door. I caught up to her on the steps, and it was to the basement shower for a complete washing.

I tied her to a basement post and then went back to the task at hand. There were distinct liquid poop tracks from the second floor all the way to

the basement.

It took 90 minutes with the carpet cleaner to fix that issue. What I did not know at the time was that it had dripped liquid poop from the second floor all the way out the back door. This started the carpet cleaning process all over again. It is now about 4 a.m.

It smelled really bad, as in "take your breath away" bad. I got two rolls of paper towels and a garbage can and reached in and made the first swipe. All went well. I would take a

deep breath and then move in for the swipe and exit before I had to inhale again. This went fine for the first few attempts. As I was working my way to the back of the cage, I took a breath and moved in deeper. This is where the tragedy started.

I got stuck in the kennel opening, and as I tried to back out, the cage just came along with me. I was running out of air and soon had to take a breath. I stuck my nose into one of the ventilation slots in the cage with the limited hopes of breathing fresh air and not the toxic gas that occupied the space inside.

My efforts failed. I felt like Winnie the Pooh who had stuck his head in a rabbit's hole and while there, ate too much honey and was then unable to exit. Trauma was my only successful outcome. There I was at 4 a.m. with no help in sight. I covered about 12 feet across the carpet before I was able to free myself and, in the process, had knocked over the trashcan with

much of the contents again landing on the almost white carpet.

I was actually going backward on this new dog owner effort. Well, it is now about 6 a.m. and I am out of carpet cleaner and paper towels — and new puppy owner excitement. Just as I was finishing up, my wife woke up for work and asked me what had happened.

If only I had taken the whole apparatus, the cage and the dog to the basement before I started, this crisis could have been avoided. Did I mention I was a new dog owner?

There is a moral to this story. Never buy dried pigs' ears as chew toys, and if you must, never give the dog more than one per day.

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

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ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

April 30

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported property damage.

May 1

•Complainant on County Road 4 reported a stolen vehicle.

•Complainant on 11th Street, Hills, reported increased traffic speeding due to road construction.

•Complainant on Church Avenue and 2nd Street, hills, reported children riding 4-wheelers.

•Complainant on W. Main Street reported a possible intoxicated driver.

•Complainant on Warren Street and Fassett Street, reported minor accident with property damage.

May 2

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported she was rear-ended.

•Complainant on N. Spring Street reported a man needs help getting to his apartment.

•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker, 5, Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested assistance at location.

May 3

•Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 18, Magnolia, reported an accident at location with no injuries.

•Complainant at Rez Park in Hills reported 4-wheelers and golf carts at Rez.

•Deputy patrolled area along the Minnesota/Iowa state line for traffic violations.

•State Trooper requests assistance south-bound on County Road 4 from Interstate 90, Beaver Creek.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported theft and property damage.

•Complainant on US Highway 75, Luverne, reported damage to a vehicle tire.

•Report of a warrant in Iowa.

•Complainant on 141st

Street, Luverne, reported a civil money issue.

•Trespassing issue was reported at location on 141st Street, Luverne.

•Complainant on S. Second Street, Beaver Creek, reported someone is intentionally trying to make him sick.

May 5

•Complainant on W. Bishop Street reported burglary.

•Complainant reported property found.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported an unruly guest.

May 6

•Complainant requested property be returned to his former employer.

•Complainant in Hills reported a scammer contacted his father.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Street requested a deputy to verify VIN.

•Complainant on Central Lane reported a subject shooting a pellet gun in town.

•Complainant on W. Lincoln Street reported threatening behavior.

May 7

•Complainant at Blue Mound State Park reported vandalism.

•Complainant on W. Bishop Street reported someone went through his garage.

•Complainant requested assistance.

May 8

•An inspection for a warning ticket was conducted.

•Deputy assisted motorist on County Road 13, just west of Hills.

•Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported a civil issue.

In addition, officers responded to 2 deer accidents, 9 escorts, 26 ambulance runs, 9 papers services, 4 animal complaints, 18 burn permits, 1 vehicle impound, 3 alarms, 4 purchase and carry permits, 1 traffic stop, 12 abandoned 911 calls, 4 tests, 1 welfare check, 3 follow-ups and 1 report of cattle being out.



Lori Sorenson photo/0514 walleye wind soil testing

Matt and Roger Hanson, working with the Sioux Falls office of American Engineering Testing, St. Paul, drill for a soil sample Wednesday, May 6, on 131st Street just west of Highway 23. The geological testing company is working for NextEra Energy Resources to test road quality for future construction of Walleye Wind Farm turbines in western Rock County.

Wind company tests Rock County road quality

By Lori Sorenson

Flagged wooden stakes along road shoulders in western Rock County mark areas where soil borings are testing road quality for the upcoming Walleye Wind Farm construction.

The 100-megawatt wind farm will have 36 turbines

in Beaver Creek and Martin townships along with portions of Rose Dell, Springwater, Luverne and Mound.

NextEra will focus on selecting turbine sites in the townships, and exact locations of potential turbines will be determined later this year.

The company will apply

for a site permit and certificate of need from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, a process that may take up to 12 months to complete.

Meanwhile, Rock County Commissioners on April 7 approved two conditional use permits to erect meteorological towers in Beaver Creek

Township.

The towers, located in sections 6 and 35, record wind speeds, direction, pressure, temperature and other assessments for the development of a potential wind farm.

Construction on the new Walleye Wind turbines could begin in the fall of 2021.

Districts plan graduation ceremonies/continued from page 1

Luverne

Luverne High School Principal Ryan Johnson indicated in a memo last week to seniors and their parents that hours of discussions have taken place on how to handle graduation ceremonies.

Ideas included postponement, a football field venue, a parents-only audience, students-only ceremony and a drive-in commencement.

Ultimately it was decided that a virtual ceremony was the safest option for the school's 92 graduating seniors and their families.

The virtual ceremony will be watched from home, but it will feature many of the same

components as an in-person ceremony.

"We are planning on recording the many pieces of graduation, editing them and pushing them together for families/friends/teachers/other to watch online," Johnson wrote.

A graduate parade will take place following the May 24 virtual event. A designated route is currently being developed.

A Senior Night is potentially planned for later this summer for the graduates to have one final time together.

The tentative date is Aug. 1. Johnson wrote that nothing specific has been planned,

and in order to happen, the current social distancing guidelines would need to be loosened.

A virtual baccalaureate service for Luverne seniors is planned for 2 p.m. Sunday. The event is organized by the local ministerial association.

Hills-Beaver Creek

Hills-Beaver Creek Secondary Principal Molly Schilling told board members Monday night, H-BC's parking lot graduation will have each household in a separate car, where they stay at least six feet apart.

The ceremony itself will be virtual and watched together.

"We are making sure we are following the governor's and Department of Education's guidelines and setting a good example," H-BC Secondary Principal Molly Schilling told board members Monday night.

Schilling met via Zoom Tuesday morning with the 17 graduating seniors who will help finalize details.

Baccalaureate ceremonies were canceled for H-BC. A prom event is temporarily scheduled for June, but details are not yet in place.

"It won't be a traditional prom, but it will be something meaningful," Schilling said.

ACLU sues Rock County Sheriff and deputies/continued from page 1

Deputies had none, the lawsuit said.

On dash-cam audio, Torres can be heard refusing to allow the search on the roadside and repeatedly requesting that they continue the process indoors — at the sheriff's office or the hospital.

"I'd appreciate it if you wouldn't put your hands all up in me," she said. "I don't think you can do that to me" and that "it feels like you're grabbing my crotch."

Hamm is heard offering to shine a flashlight to aid in the body cavity search and telling Torres she had lost her privilege to be warm.

The search eventually did produce paraphernalia, but charges were later dismissed.

In the ACLU press release Torres said she hopes the deputies get fired to prevent this from happening to other women.

"I feel very violated by the whole situation," she said.

"I repeatedly asked them to do the right thing. It makes me not trust law enforcement."

ACLU-MN staff attorney Ian Bratlie also was quoted in the press release.

"The action by Rock County's deputies clearly shows that Kelli Torres' dignity did not matter, and they believed they could treat her however they wanted in violation of the Fourth Amendment," he said.

"They used a dangling air freshener as an excuse for stopping the vehicle and

had no excuse to search the passenger, let alone conduct a body cavity search on the side of a public road in below-freezing temperatures. This conduct is shameful and must be greeted with training, discipline and policy changes to avoid this situation in the future."

The suit asks the court to award damages to Torres and to prevent retaliation against her.

Once paperwork is served, Rock County will file an answer

with the court.

Deputy Hamm started part time with the Rock County Sheriff's Office in 2010 and was hired in 2012 to replace Kyle Kreun, who resigned amid a formal complaint of sexual relations with a minor.

According to Hamm's personnel file, there have not been complaints or conduct resulting in disciplinary action.

Douty left the department in September 2019 when she and her husband moved for his job.

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Participating in the virtual Avera 5K and 10K runs were (in front, kneeling, from left) Caleb Kracht, Allie Kracht, Kynzie Hamann, Reka Meinerts, Bobbi Kracht, Kacie Kracht, Kim Vander Poel, Stella Vander Poel, Kane Vander Poel, Ferlin Vander Poel, (back) James Jarvie, Cade Kracht, Trevor Kracht, Morgan Rachuy, Alexa Chesley, Mela Jarchow, Gavin Reisch, Sandy Reisch, Sandy Wilde, Marsha Fick, Missy Fick, Laura Zwaan, Peggy Nelson, Cade Nelson, Brooke VanderHoek and Harper VanderHoek. Submitted photos

Kracht organizes virtual cancer race in honor of Luverne aunt

By Mavis Fodness

For the past decade, Luverne's Kim Vander Poel found strength among the runners and other cancer survivors participating in the Avera Race Against Cancer in Sioux Falls each May.

Since her successful fight against cancer in 2009, family members would form a team around Vander Poel and complete the 5K race.

This year, however, due to the COVID-19 restrictions and to curb the spread of the virus, Avera canceled the in-person race, which traditionally drew as many as 6,000 participants, and encouraged everyone to run the race at home.

In honor of Vander Poel and to bring attention to breast cancer, her niece Kacie Kracht, a Luverne High School senior, enlisted a small group of organizers to conduct a virtual 5K and 10K event for the Vander Poel team to run Saturday in Luverne.

Eighteen runners and walkers joined Kracht's eight-mem-

ber family team to complete the virtual challenge.

"Kim is such a good inspiration," Kracht said.

"During the race the thing that helped me keep going was knowing I was supporting my aunt and bringing awareness to breast cancer. It was cool seeing all the supporters we met while running."

Kracht completed the 10K, a distance that honored Vander Poel's decade of being cancer free. Her team, some dressed in pink tutus, wore this year's team T-shirt designed by Kracht and friend Kynzie Hamann.

As a fan of the Disney movie "Lion King," Kracht played off the movie's Swahili phrase, "Hakuna matata," by naming the team "Hakuna Ma TaTas" for this year's cancer run.

Saturday's event contained experiences like the real race in Sioux Falls, but in a smaller, social-distancing manner.

Hamann started the event with warm-up exercises to

Virtual cancer race/continued on page 10



Kacie Kracht (left) runs a 10K Saturday as part of the virtual Avera Race Against Cancer in honor of the 10 years since her aunt, Kim Vander Poel, completed breast cancer treatments. Paula Gonnerman mans one of several water stations set up for Saturday's event along Blue Mound Avenue.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2010)

•Just in time for the summer tourism season, Luverne's travel and information center is ready for visitors on South Highway 75.

Vance and Becky Walgrave gave their business, Those Blasted Things, a makeover with a new façade of rustic cedar, reminiscent of a Black Hills lodge.

Along with that, they've been working with the city and the Luverne Chamber to become an information center for visitors entering town from I-90.

"There are a lot of cars that never leave these four corners," said Vance Walgrave, pointing to gas stations and fast food across the street to the east and to the south. "A lot of cars."

He said people looking for information about Luverne might ask a restaurant or gas station, but he and Becky are hoping these people notice Those Blasted Things and stop there.

Attracting visitors will be easier now, thanks to an official green and white "Information" sign going up on the boulevard this week.

25 years ago (1995)

•Residents spend a lot more time in the Mary Jane Brown Good Samaritan Center lounge lately, gazing out the window.

Their attention is focused on construction crews working on

the new addition to their home. If all goes well, Phase 1 of the project will be complete Sept. 1, and MJB administrator Linda Studer is hoping work will begin this fall on Phase 2.

Work for Phase 1 includes a new addition to the south which will allow for a larger physical-occupational-and speech therapy room, a more accommodating residents' lounge and an activity room to allow for more diverse recreation. This activity room will include a kitchenette equipped with a sink, stove and refrigerator.

50 years ago (1970)

•Rock County's total population dropped by 652 persons, according to preliminary population counts announced Wednesday by Carroll Stenson, supervisor of the 1970 census in this area.

The preliminary figure for Rock County is 11,212. This compares with the 1960 count of 11,864.

Only seven of the 18 counties in the district had population increases, but their gains were enough to bring the overall total up to 392,972 as compared to 375,475 in 1960.

75 years ago (1945)

•Roger Oldre, 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Oldre, who reside north of Magnolia, was seriously injured Thursday evening when he was kicked in the head by a vicious horse.

The lad was leading the horse when the animal suddenly wheeled, striking him in the head with his hoof. He suffered a compound fracture of the skull, a fractured nose, and will possibly lose the sight of one eye.

He was rushed to a Sioux Falls hospital where he is being treated by specialists.

Latest reports on his condition are encouraging.

100 years ago (1920)

•Through the purchase last week of Illuminator, an April yearling Duroc Jersey boar, Albert Larson, of Magnolia, is now numbered among the numerous registered swine breeders of Rock county who have sires of outstanding quality at the head of their herds.

Illuminator is sired by Pathfinder Giant, and from a Col. Protection dam, and was purchased for \$1,000 from H. A. Sexsmith, of the Duroc Jersey Bulletin. Mr. Sexsmith raised the hog on his father's farm near Creston, Ia., and he is one of a litter from the top-priced sow at C. P. Dexheimer's sale held a year ago last winter.

Since receiving this hog, Mr. Larson has received an offer of \$1,500 for him, but this was declined as Mr. Larson feels that Illuminator will prove a splendid investment for him at even a much larger valuation.

COLLEGE NEWS

Bosch receives University of Nebraska-Lincoln degree

Cole Bosch of Luverne was among 3,417 graduates who received degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln during a virtual graduation celebration May 9.

Bosch earned a bachelor of science in education and human sciences from the College of Education and Human Sciences.

MSU Mankato conducts spring graduation on May 9

Several area students graduated from Minnesota State University Mankato following the Spring 2020 semester.

Graduates celebrated through a special website that launched Saturday, May 9, the day

on which the University's three traditional graduation ceremonies were scheduled but canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each graduate also received personalized URL video messages by email on May 9, and "commencement-in-a-box" packages were shipped to each graduate the week before graduation.

The following students were among the MSU Mankato graduates:

Adrian: Alyssa Thier, Bachelor of Science RN Baccalaureate Completion.

Luverne: Austin Bauer, Master of Arts, Physical Education; Christina Casazza, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude; Mitchell Muller, Bachelor of Science, Finance; Brooke Nattress, Bachelor of Science, Health and Physical Education, Cum Laude; Thomas Vajgrt, Bachelor of Science, Health and Physical Education.

CELEBRATIONS

Births

A girl, Doris Merecie, was born Monday, March 2, 2020, to **Nathan and Alyssa** (Radisewitz) **Domagala**, Annandale. She joins brothers Archer and Berkley (7). Grandparents are Larry Domagala and Cary and Karen Radisewitz, all of Luverne.

Card showers

Arlene Wynia will celebrate her 90th birthday on Thursday, May 28. Greetings may be sent to her at the Mary Jane Brown Home, 110 S. Walnut Ave., Room #109, Luverne, MN 56156.

1877: Rose Dell Township created

Rock County will celebrate its 150th Anniversary this year. The news will be the history of Rock County, townships, and communities. The following appeared in the Rose History of Rock County, printed in 1911.

County and Township Organization — 1870-1878 (continued from 05-07 edition)

Rose Dell

The petition for the organization of Rose Dell township was presented by W. T. Vickerman and others, and the township was declared created by the country board August 17, 1877. Mr. Vickerman suggested the name, giving it in honor of a rocky gorge, filled in the summer months with beautiful wild roses. The gorge is situated on section 25, of the fraction, a few rods west of Mr. Vickerman's place. The meeting to organize and select the first officers was held at the home of William T. Vickerman on September 4, 1877. Those who received government land titles in Rose Dell township:

William D. Allen (18), Wallace Seales (32), Joseph H. Craig (4), Eugene A. Loomis (36r47), Anton Larson (26), Charles H. Tinkham (32), Charles S. Bruce (20), William T. Vickerman (30), Nels O. Wemark (14r47), Charles H.



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

Vickerman (30), Sherman E. Hawes (34), William E. Stark (4), Jerome T. Daggett (20), Gunder Hanson (12), Martha Gilbertson (26), Frank Walsh (8), Knud K. Steen (14), Thomas E. Vickerman (18), Henry B. Noble (34), Francis Weeliver (10), Horace E. Loomis (26r47), Peter H. Norvold (2), George A. Blanchard (20), John J. Vickerman (6), Thomas McDermott (30), George W. Ganfield (12r47), Joseph Bell (22), Hans Larsen (12), William J. McGowan (2r47), Thorvold O. Holm (10), Olaf T. Engebretson (10), George Carnegie (12r47), Ole G. Twenton (4), Frank

Walsh (22), Wilber H. Spooner (28-32), Thomas Ganfield (14r47), Engebret H. Ellefsen (2), Ellef H. Ellefsen (14), Ole Gulbranson (24), George Ganfield (14r47), Christian E. Lee (24r47), Engebret Lee (24r47), John Milne (2r47), Ludwig Schroeder (10), Lawrence Connelly (6), Merrick E. Kidder (20), Ludvig M. Larson (26), George Bieber (2), Halvor Ellefson (14), Lars Haraldson (12), Anton Larson (26), Wells J. Willyard (24r47), Andrew Olson (12r47), John J. Vickerman (28), Thomas J. Vickerman (8), Howard Boice (24r47), William E. Stark (4), Martin H. Ansen (22), Ellen Halvorson (28), George W. Vickerman (18), James Carnegie (2r47), William H. Storts (14), Josiah Kimble (32), Swain Kittleson (24-28), Isaac A. Vickerman (2), Henry B. Noble (34), Norman F. Phillips (6), Syver Haraldson (12), George H. Carr (8), Marinuis Enger (8), Jane Hendershott (26r47), Jacob O. Tveidt (22r47), Ole A. Olson (12r47), Tollef Knudson (10r47).

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

Mann welcomes correspondence to mannmade@iuv.net.

Extension cancels Western Heritage competitions

Due to Minnesota 4-H's restriction not to conduct in-person events until July 1 to help slow the spread of COVID-19, organizers last week canceled all competitive Western Heritage events for 2020.

"As we move forward, a team will be looking for potential ways to engage 4-H Western Heritage youth," said Extension educator Renee Kostick.

OBITUARIES

Elmer Veldkamp

Elmer Veldkamp, 93, rural Jasper, died Saturday, May 9, 2020, at the Bethany Home in Brandon, South Dakota.

A public visitation was Tuesday, May 12, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne. A private family funeral is at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, with a public graveside service at 2:45 p.m. Wednesday at the Jasper Cemetery.

To livestream the funeral service, go to <https://www.facebook.com/DingmannFH>.

Elmer Veldkamp was born Feb. 20, 1927, to Aalt and Dena (Ruisch) Veldkamp on a farm near Rock Valley, Iowa. Elmer received his education in a country school through the eighth grade. He then helped his parents on the farm. He was drafted into the United States Army and served his country from October of 1945 to November of 1946. He made his choice to serve God at an early age and remained faithful to that commitment until his death.

On Dec. 21, 1948, Elmer married Greta Verdoorn in Sioux Center, Iowa. Following their marriage, the couple lived and farmed north of Rock Rapids, Iowa. In the spring of 1955 they purchased a farm south of Jasper, where they lived and raised their family.

Elmer retired from farming in 1988, and the couple moved into a new home they built just down the road from their farm. His retirement

years were spent helping his sons farm, working in his shop, and restoring old tractors. Elmer and Greta enjoyed traveling and spent many winters in south Texas. They were able to be in their own home until 2016 when health issues made assisted living care necessary. After spending a few months

in both Palisades Manor, Garretson, South Dakota, and Sunrise Village, Jasper, they moved into Bethany Home, Brandon, South Dakota, in September 2017, where Elmer lived until the time of his death.

Elmer is survived by his wife, Greta Veldkamp; three sons, Jim Veldkamp, Loren (Bonnie) Veldkamp, and Leroy (Denise) Veldkamp, all of rural Jasper; five grandchildren, Jennifer (Dean) Lerwick, Francis, Jolyn, Alex and Keisha Veldkamp; three great-grandchildren, Kate, Ella and Will Lerwick; two brothers-in-law, Harley Rossow and J.C. McKnight; and a sister-in-law, Lorraine Rossow.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Verlyn Veldkamp on March 8, 1975; a daughter-in-law, JoAnn Veldkamp on Aug. 12, 2017; five sisters, Jeanette Beyer, Alice Kracht, Florence Birkhofer McKnight, Dorothy Rossow and Arvilla Veldkamp; and two brothers, Ben and Jim Veldkamp.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com.

(0514 F)

Anna Tilstra

Anna Tilstra, 92, Luverne, died Tuesday, May 5, 2020, at the Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

In accordance with Minnesota Executive Order and CDC guidelines, a private family service was Friday, May 8, at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. The recorded service is available for viewing on her webpage.

Memorials are preferred to Dollars for Scholars - Wayne Tilstra Scholarship Fund or the Luverne School's Angel Fund for lunches.

Anna Bouwman was born Jan. 16, 1928, to William and Hendrika (Boon) Bouwman in rural Alvord, Iowa. She was baptized and confirmed at Lester Bethel Reformed Church in Lester, Iowa.

She spent her childhood with her family on various farms outside of Alvord and Lester. She moved to Lester for her senior year of high school and worked at part-time jobs for her room and board. She graduated from Lester High School in 1946 and then attended teacher's training at Morningside Teacher's College in Iowa. She then taught in Midland School #6 in Iowa.

Anna married Fred Tilstra on Dec. 28, 1948, in Doon, Iowa. They remodeled a school house near Hills for a year while they farmed. They then moved to Fred's grandfather's farm north of Rock Rapids, Iowa, and continued to farm. Anna also taught at Logan #7 country school in Lyon County, Iowa, and then at Hills Christian School.

In 1956 they relocated to a farm southwest of Luverne, where they farmed and raised livestock. Anna was a homemaker and helped Fred with the farming operation. During the 1980s Anna worked as a clerk at Montgomery Ward in Rock Rapids.

The couple retired from

farming in 1991. A highlight of Anna's retirement years was spending 12 winters in Harlingen, Texas, with Fred.

The couple continued living on the farm in retirement until moving to The Oaks apartments in Luverne in August of 2006. Fred died in 2008.

Anna continued living at The Oaks until 2016 when she moved to Prairie Creek Memory Care in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for a couple of years before moving to Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne.

Anna was a member of the American Reformed Church in Luverne, where she taught Sunday school for many years and was active in circle. She was a member of Rock County Extension and the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association Auxiliary. She enjoyed crochet, embroidery, reading, and caring for her vegetable gardens on the farm.

Anna is survived by her children, Harold (Mary) Tilstra of Prior Lake, Karen (Craig) Rollag of Beaver Creek, and Luanne Tilstra (Phillip Smith) of Terre Haute, Indiana; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; brothers Walter (Joan) Bouwman of Artesia, California, A. James (Esther) Bouwman and William (Carol) Bouwman, all of Rock Valley, and John (Paula) Bouwman of Fredericksburg, Texas; sisters Edith (Alvin) Hoogendorn and Angela Faber, all of Sioux Falls; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred; two sons, an infant and Wayne Tilstra; two brothers, Edward Bouwman and Henry Bouwman; and two sisters, Annetta Wiese and Martina Vanden Brink.

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

(0514 F)

Norma Schneckloth

Norma Schneckloth, 91, Luverne, died peacefully on Monday, May 11, 2020, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

In accordance with Minnesota Executive Order and CDC guidelines, a private family service will take place on Friday, May 15, 2020, at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. The service will be recorded and placed onto her webpage for others to view.

Norma Jean Kemerling was born on Dec. 11, 1928, to Henry and Nora (Hamann) Kemerling in Moline, Illinois.

At the age of two, she moved with her family to a farm southeast of Magnolia. Due to the construction of the interstate system, in 1942 the family moved to a farm one mile south of Hardwick. She attended school at Magnolia through the eighth grade and then went to Luverne High School where she graduated with the class of 1946. She met her future husband, Lester Schneckloth, who introduced her to the Christian faith. Norma was baptized and confirmed on June 29, 1947.

On Jan. 12, 1947, Norma married Lester Schneckloth at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne. The couple made their home on the Schneckloth family farm until 1983 when they moved into Luverne. Norma loved being a farm wife and raising her children. She also worked as a cook at Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne until the early 1990s. Lester preceded her in death on Oct. 5, 1995. Norma continued to reside at their home

until a number of years later when she moved to The Oaks and then to Poplar Creek Assisted Living in Luverne.

Norma was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne where she served on the altar guild and was a member of the Ladies Aid.

She enjoyed playing cards, jigsaw puzzles and quilting. She was an avid Minnesota Twins fan and kept notebooks on player stats (even when they should have been taken out of the game). She was a fantastic mother and grandmother, always remembering birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions.

Norma is survived by her children, Deanna (Jeff) Jensen of Odessa, Howard (Cindy) Schneckloth of Watertown, South Dakota, Gloria (Ron) Evans of Pipestone, Thomas (Donna) Schneckloth of Sauk Rapids, Terry (Denise) Schneckloth of Marshall, and Randy (Susan) Schneckloth of Luverne; 21 grandchildren; 40 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; daughters-in-law Marian Schneckloth of Luverne and Paula Petersen-Giles (Dan Giles) of Marshall; her sister, Dorothy Petersen of Luverne; and her sister-in-law, Doris Kemerling of Luverne; and other family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester; and her children, Steven (2015) and John (1993).

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

(0514 F)

Roger Taylor

Roger Taylor, 60, Lakeville, died Sunday, April 26, 2020, after a long battle with cancer.

A memorial service will take place at a later date.

Roger Taylor was born to James and Joan (Madison) Taylor in Luverne. His family lived in Adrian and he attended school in Ellsworth.

Roger was a master wood worker, cabinet maker and furniture builder with product

all over the U.S. and Canada.

He was well known and respected in the Minneapolis area for his quality work and creativity.

Roger married Rachele Birky and they raised two daughters, Maria Taylor of Lakeville and Shannon (Dweezle) Bordeaux of Albert Lea.

Roger is also survived by four grandchildren, Ella, Olivia, Mason and Jenna.

(0514 F)



DEATH NOTICE

David Hansen

David Hansen, 76, Luverne, died peacefully on Friday, May 8, 2020, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

In accordance with the Minnesota Department of Health and CDC guidelines, a private family graveside service will be at St. Catherine Catholic Cemetery in Luverne.

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

(0514 DN)

REAL ESTATE TAXES DUE

The first half real estate tax installment is due **May 15, 2020**. Due to COVID-19 and the Governor's Stay at Home Order, the Rock County Courthouse is currently closed to the public. To avoid penalty, payment may be made by dropping off payment in the drop box located in the Courthouse entry way between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or by mailing payment to the Rock County Auditor-Treasurer **postmarked on or before May 15th**. Please keep in mind the post office deadlines when mailing in payments and remit the appropriate stubs to assure proper credit. Payments postmarked after May 15th will be returned for the tax and penalty due at that time.

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Quality & Service

Star Herald CHURCH

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

All Masses, including Sundays, and all church activities at St. Catherine are suspended *until May 15*. In the meantime, we can still be "together as church" as we join Msgr. Gerald Kosse as he celebrates a private Mass that will be live streamed each Sunday at 9 a.m. Visit the link to St. Catherine's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stccluverne/videos/>. Visit www.stscl.org for more information.

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

We are streaming Sunday services live on Roger Sparks' Facebook page at 9:30 am and 6:30 pm. 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 pm on Wednesdays and at 6:30 pm 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

Sunday 10:30 a.m. worship service can be viewed live on Facebook through a link on the website: www.fbcluverne.org or directly on our Facebook page: First Baptist Church of Luverne MN. Services are posted to the website on Tuesday and are available to view, along with past sermons. Vast Channel 3 will also air our service Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Ron Nichols, Pastor / Ann Zastrow, Associate Pastor

Online, TV and Radio Worship. Pr. Ann, Pr. Ron and organist Beryl Haugen will be recording worship services until we can meet together as a group. Each week we will update our recorded1 worship. Online: Sundays at 9 a.m., our worship service can be viewed live from our website at www.graceluverne.org on the Facebook insert, 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 PM and Fridays at 6:30 PM. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 AM.

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

Online worship and devotions at home. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne). Also visit els.org for online worship opportunities with our sister churches.

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

Join us for live online worship Sundays at 9:30 AM at www.arcluverne.org/watch-live/ or on our Facebook page @arcluverne. Services can also be viewed at a later time through these same avenues. Worship services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 PM and Wednesdays at 4 PM. 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
Sunday, 10 a.m. Worship Service — live streamed. **Thursdays 1-3 pm** — Rock County Food Shelf curbside. **Saturday 8 pm** — AA Meeting. **Sunday 10:30 am** - Worship Service - Services held on radio and live on Facebook. YouTube will also have services posted. ALIVE Youth Group lessons will led by areas leader as shared. **Monday 8 pm** — AA Meeting. **May 6 Wednesdays, 6 pm** - Last Day of FUEL and Confirmation. **8 pm** — AA Meeting.

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

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

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

Sunday Morning Service will be recorded at 5:30 p.m. with necessary personnel and will be available on the Vast channel 3 Tuesday at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and online at the chamber website. Pastor Klatt is available for family visits in their homes by invitation or at church for groups of less than 10 for the purpose of worship and prayer.

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

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

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

Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

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

Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFcU4>

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com

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

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

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270
Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Pastor

Worship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills will be online only through the end of March. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills MN Sunday morning at 10:30AM. You can find more info on our website blchills.org.

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

I love to tell the story

By the time this column is printed, I will have moved away from the area and will be just about to begin my new pastoral call. As I write you one last column, I'm reflecting on all the stories I will take with me as I go.

Storytelling is a powerful tool for remembering. Telling stories of loved ones who have gone or of the kids when they were little helps us feel connected to each other and part of something bigger than ourselves.

Monday, May 25, is Memorial Day. This year we will likely observed it without our usual parades and gatherings, and instead, we honored those brave men and women who gave their lives for this country with shared stories and quiet visits to gravesides. Stories help us remember.

In the weeks and months ahead, I will be learning new stories from my new partners in ministry. Yet, I will forever carry with me the stories from my experiences as a pastor in Rock County. They are stories that are precious to me, stories that helped me expand my understanding of God, stories that challenged my faith, and stories that will forever bring me comfort.

In my new ministry I will likely tell parts of these stories as an example of God's goodness alive and at work in our world. I am so grateful my story intersected with yours in whatever way, big or small. Your stories are forever a part of mine, and all of us together are a part of God's story.

The Christian story is the story of death and resurrection. It's the story of unexpected miracles and surprise endings. God's story is the story of love never

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Rev. Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hills

You are a part of that story. When you face grief and sorrow from an ending in your life, know that a new beginning is just around the corner. That's the story of God.

letting go of us, no matter what.

You are a part of that story. When you face grief and sorrow from an ending in your life, know that a new beginning is just around the corner.

That's the story of God. It's the story that we all belong in. It's the story in which I find comfort and hope. God is always making things new and is with you while you wait for the newness to come.

Thank you for sharing stories of new life, second chances, forgiveness and healing with me and each other.

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

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Rock Rapids, IA

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PHONE 507-283-4405
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Alan M. Aanenson, owner
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Luverne, MN Phone 507-283-4716

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Rock County Commissioners
meet April 7

Herreid Board Room 9:00 A.M.
Rock County Courthouse April 7, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chair Overgaard with all Commissioners present. Also in attendance were County Attorney Jeff Haubrich, County Administrator Kyle Oldre, Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum, Mavis Fodness, Star-Herald Reporter, Tom VonBische with NexTera.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and guests.
Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to approve the March 30, 2020, County Board Agenda; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the March 17, 2020 County Board minutes; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to approve the March 30, 2020, Emergency County Board meeting; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the consent agenda; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

1. Appointment of David Owens, Assistant County Attorney
Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims with several additions and Per Diems of \$1,800.00; motion by Thompson, seconded by Williamson, to approve, roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

APRIL 7, 2020 CLAIMS OVER	\$2,000
A & B BUSINESS INC	\$3,625.78
BURLINGTON-NORTHERN/SANTFE RAILROAD	5,010.80
CHOSEN VALLEY TESTING, INC	6,830.00
FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-ADMIN FMR	5,157.26
HERMAN MOTOR CO	6,204.85
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	34,798.71
NOBLES COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	20,880.00
SW MN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD	2,530.00
WEX BANK	2,400.81
85 PAYMENTS LESS THAN	\$2,000
	26,863.06
TOTAL	\$114,301.27

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report; motion by Burger, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the Fund Balance report, roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

The Auditor/Treasurer and Administrator discussed proposed legislation to delay tax collection for certain property classifications until July 15; additional research will be conducted specifically the impact the delay would have for other taxing authorities.

The County Board was in receipt of the 2020 Tax Capacity rates; presented as information only.

The Auditor/Treasurer requested authorization to purchase (4) new ballot machines from Seachange for \$19,643.80; the price quote also removes the (11) AutoMark machines. Kurtz stated that Rock County is in receipt of a grant that covers fifty-percent of the costs. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to authorize the Auditor/Treasurer to move forward with purchasing new election equipment; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote. Rock County's match will be paid from the Elections Reserves account.

The Auditor/Treasurer presented (3) Rock Home Initiatives applications from Greg and Erica Kracht from Magnolia Township, Diane West from City of Beaver Creek and Ronald and Cheryl Hup from City of Hills. Motion by Burger, seconded by Thompson, to include the additional applications to the Public Hearing scheduled for May 5; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded Overgaard, to approve Resolution No. 07-20, Rock County Snowmasters Trail Agreement; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Eric Hartman, Land Management Office Director, presented (4) conditional use permits (CUP) for Buffalo Ridge Concrete for gravel mining at the following locations:

1. Section 28 of Battle Plain Township; motion by Overgaard, seconded by Burger, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.
2. Section 03 of Battle Plain Township; motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.
3. Section 10 of Battle Plain Township; motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.
4. Section 16 of Battle Plain Township; motion by Thompson, seconded by Williamson, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

Hartman presented (3) conditional use permits (CUP) for Northern Con-Ag for gravel mining at the following locations:

1. Section 36 of Mound Township; motion by Reisch, seconded by Williamson, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.
2. Section 19 of Vienna Township; motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.
3. Section 01 of Luverne Township; motion by Overgaard, seconded by Thompson, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

Hartman presented (2) conditional use permits (CUP) of NexTera for the construction of meteorological towers at the following locations:

1. Section 35 of Beaver Creek Township; motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.
2. Section 06 of Beaver Creek Township; motion by Overgaard, seconded by Williamson, to approve the CUP with conditions identified on the permit, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

Tom VonBische, NexTera Project Manager stated that the Walleye Wind project is moving forward as planned.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to approve a professional service agreement with SEH for ground water monitoring at the Rock County Demolition Landfill, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Burger, to approve Eric Hartman as the signature authority for the SCORE Grant agreement with MPCA, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

The Administrator presented COVID-19 update stating that Governor Walz has requested a federal disaster and that Emergency Management is currently planning for peak surge; also provided website links for current updates and resources.

The Administrator provided an update regarding county staff and departmental activities stating all employees are working and that 5-6 individuals are working remotely and that flexible schedules are in place to accommodate social distancing. Currently, some restrictions have been lifted in Licensing Centers and they are developing a plan on how to accommodate certain transactions. The Land Records Office Director is in the process of scheduling virtual Board of Review meetings.

The Administrator informed the County Board that Security Savings Bank has withdrawn their request to amend the current investment agreement; no action was taken.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he had attended the following meetings: City/County Liaison

Commissioner Thompson stated that she had attended the following meetings: Southwest Health & Human Services.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he had attended the following meetings: Prairie Wind Community Fund and that they are currently accepting applications.

Commissioner Burger stated that he had attended the following meetings: Southwest Health & Human Services.

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he had attended the following meetings: Planning & Zoning and City/County Liaison.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to adjourn, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

(05-14)

H-BC School Board
meets Feb. 25

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671

Minutes

February 25, 2020

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:04 p.m. in the District Board Room (301 N Summit Ave, Hills, MN).

Board members present were Bosch, Gehrke, LaRock, Rauk, Rozeboom and Wysong. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Schilling, and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Knobloch was absent. Motion by LaRock, second by Bosch, and carried to approve the agenda. Visitor to the meeting was Mavis Fodness (Rock County Star Herald).

PATRIOT PRIDE:
•School Board Recognition Week
•FFA Week 2/24-2/28
•Girls Basketball perfect finish to Conference Season
•Celebrate Public Schools Week 2/24-2/28
Motion by Wysong, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve minutes 1/27/2020.

Motion by Bosch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve bills.
Motion by Wysong, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Student Accounts.

Motion by Wysong, second by Bosch, and carried to approve donations: \$300 from Alliance Communications for discretionary use to offset fees for students in need.
Motion by LaRock, second by Bosch, and carried to approve Second Reading of Policy 203.6 Consent Agenda.

Motion by Wysong, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Second Reading of Policy 535 Service Animals and Form.

Motion by Bosch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve Secondary School South Window Graphic Application Door #1.

Motion by Wysong, second by LaRock, and carried to approve update of HVAC Controls for Secondary School.

Motion by LaRock, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Revised District Budget for Revenues and Expenses for Fiscal Year 2020.

Motion by Bosch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve rescheduling March 9 Regular Board Meeting to Wednesday, March 11.

Motion by LaRock, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve setting the following items as excess district property: Kitchen Steamer from 2011. Three Kitchen storage containers.

PERSONNEL:
Motion by Wysong, second by Bosch, and carried to approve Chris Harnack's Resignation as Building Grounds and Transportation Director effective at the end of the workday March 31, 2020.

Motion by Bosch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve spring coaching assignments: Golf—Dan Ellingson, Caleb Ellingson as Volunteer Assistant Golf Coach, Track—Rex Metzger Head Coach, Dalton Bass—Assistant Coach, Darin DeBoer—Junior High Coach.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:
•Secondary Principal Report
•Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report
•Committee Reports:
-Community Education 1/29/20
-Personnel Finance 2/25/20
-Staff Development/TAB – 2/5/20
-Building/Grounds – 2/5/20
-Health/Safety – 2/19/20
Agenda Items for next regular scheduled meeting:
•SWWC 2020/2021 Contracts

DATES TO REMEMBER:
•Regular Board Meeting, Monday, March 11
•Regular Board Meeting, Monday, March 23
Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Tamara Rauk,
Clerk
(05-14)

Rock County Highway
Department seeks bridge
bids by June 8

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
GRADING; MILLING; CURB & GUTTER; SIDEWALK & BIT.OVERLAY
SAP 067-611-009 ETC. / BIDS CLOSE @ 11:00 A.M. MONDAY JUNE 8, 2020
LUVERNE, MINNESOTA

Sealed "Bid Packets" will be received by the Rock County Highway Department in Luverne, Minnesota until 11:00 A.M. on Monday June 08, 2020.

READ CAREFULLY THE PROVISIONS FOR THE WAGE RATES AS CONTAINED IN THE SPECIAL PROVISIONS, AS THEY WILL AFFECT THIS PROJECT.

Attention is called to the fact that the Contractor must comply with the Special Equal Employment Opportunity Provisions & Wage Rates as contained in the Proposal.

Proposals will be opened and read publicly in the presence of the Rock County Highway Engineer at the Rock County Highway Building located at 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne, Minnesota immediately following the hour set for receiving bids for the following Rock County Highway work. Bids will be awarded on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Construction of CSAH 11; CSAH 23 (HILLS, MN.); CSAH 24 (STEEN, MN.); CSAH 25 (BEAVER CREEK, MN.); CSAH 27 (MAGNOLIA, MN) & CSAH 28 (HARDWICK, MN.)

The Major Quantities of Work are: 68,813 Sq. Yds. of Mill Bituminous Surface; 10,754 Tons of Bituminous Wear Course Mixture; 16,424 Sq. Ft. of 4 Inch Concrete Walk; 9,589 Sq. Ft. of 6 Inch Concrete Walk & 2,506 L.F. of Curb & Gutter.

Plans, specifications and proposals may be viewed and downloaded on Quest at www.questcdn.com and at the Rock County Highway Department website, www.co.rock.mn.us/highway . Questions may be directed to the office of the Rock County Highway Engineer, 1120 North Blue Mound Avenue, P.O. Box 808, Luverne, MN 56156-0808 / (507) 283-5010.

The non-refundable cost for Plans and one proposal will be \$60.00.
Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or corporate surety bond drawn in favor of the Rock County Treasurer in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the proposal.

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked "PROJECT NO. SAP 067-611-009, Etc.". The Board of Rock County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects therein.

Rock County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
Mark R. Sehr, P.E.
Rock County Engineer
(05-14, 05-21, 05-28)

Rock County Commissioners
meet March 17

Herreid Board Room 9:00 A.M.
Rock County Courthouse March 17, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chair Overgaard with all Commissioners present. Also in attendance were County Attorney Jeff Haubrich, County Administrator Kyle Oldre and Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and guests.
Motion by Thompson, seconded by Reisch, to approve the March 17, 2020, County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Williamson, to approve the March 10, 2020, County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

Representatives from Security Savings Bank Ryan DeBates, Tim Plimpton and Alec Bonander presented a request to temporarily amend the current investment agreement with Rock County due to the current status of the US Treasury; the amended agreement would change the interest rate quarterly instead of annually. After considerable discussion, the County Board tabled action until April 7th to allow the Auditor/Treasurer to research the financial impact it would have for the county.

Doug Bos, Land Management Office Assistant Director, presented details of the 2019 Feedlot Program stating that the number of feedlots has remained constant at 620 throughout the county, although there is a slight increase for new construction

and expansion. MPCA feedlot funding for 2019 was \$52,935 (base funding) and \$13,600 (performance credits). Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch to accept and approve the 2019 Feedlot Report, declared carried on a voice vote.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims; motion by Reisch, seconded by Burger, to accept, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

MARCH 17, 2020 CLAIMS OVER	\$2,000
CENTRALSQUARE TECHNOLOGIES	\$9,400.00
CHS	5,747.17
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	6,384.00
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC	3,292.49
ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INST	6,600.00
ERICKSON ENGINEERING	10,499.00
KETTERLING SERVICES INC	8,928.97
LYON COUNTY LANDFILL	12,498.20
ROCK COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES	2,053.90
SAFEASSURE CONSULTANTS INC	6,510.09
ZIEGLER INC	5,755.71
62 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	21,761.41
TOTAL	\$99,430.94

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report; motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve a liquor license for the Luverne Country Club, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator presented an update regarding local emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic event. Motion by Burger, seconded by Thompson, to approve Resolution No. 05-20, requesting to declare a State of Emergency, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator reviewed plans and procedures for implementing a Pandemic Plan for Rock County; it was determined the county would abide by all federal and state recommendations.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to approve Resolution No. 06-20, authorizing a local declaration for the COVID-19 Pandemic event, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was in receipt of a funding request from the Luverne Area Chamber on behalf of the small cities hosting celebration events throughout the summer honoring the Rock County 150th; it was determined to have those communities come to a County Board meeting to discuss specific requests.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he had attended the following meetings: City/County Liaison

Commissioner Thompson stated that she had attended the following meetings: GEVO Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Rock County Historical Society Trivia event and Chief Elected Officials Board.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he had attended the following meetings: SWCD, GEVO Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, and Southwestern Mental Health.

Commissioner Burger stated that he had attended the following meetings: GEVO Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Southwestern Mental Health, and Community Corrections.

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he had attended the following meetings: Denver Township, GEVO Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, and City/County Liaison.

With no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting was declared adjourned.

(05-14)

Rock County Commissioners
meet March 30

Herreid Board Room 9:00 A.M.
Rock County Courthouse March 30, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chair Overgaard with all Commissioners present. Also in attendance were County Attorney Jeff Haubrich, County Administrator Kyle Oldre and Deputy Administrator Susan Skattum.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and guests.
Motion by Thompson, seconded by Burger, to approve the March 30, 2020, County Board agenda; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Burger, to approve the consent agenda; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

1. Amend Resolution 06-20, Declaration of Local Emergency; purpose of the amendment is to add an end date of May 05, 2020.
2. Amend County Board action of March 10, 2020, scheduling Rock Home Initiative Public Hearing for April 7th and to re-schedule the Public Hearing to May 5th at 9:00 a.m. due to COVID-19 event.

Kyle Oldre, County Administrator and Emergency Management Director presented and update regarding the Governor's Order 20-20 and discussed the impacts it presents to delivering county services. After discussion, motion by Williamson, seconded by Burger, to deem all county employees as "Critical Sector" employees; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

Oldre reviewed departmental plans to continue operations while incorporating safety measures to keep employees safe while at work to include the following: no public access to all county buildings, working from home when applicable, changing work station locations, and flexible work schedules.

Oldre reported that currently there are no COVID-19 confirmed cases in Rock County and provided website resources from Public Health that is tracking the number of cases throughout the state. Currently, Oldre has identified an issue regarding medical licensing reciprocity between Minnesota and South Dakota and is reaching out to AMC about legislation for a temporary solution. Oldre also stated that Jason Kloss is Rock County's Public Health delegate.

Susan Skattum, Deputy Administrator presented an update regarding the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), which requires employers under 500 employees to pay emergency paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19 with an effective date of April 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020; no action was required.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 a.m.; roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on 5-0 vote.

(05-14)

DEADLINE
FOR
LEGALS
is MONDAY
@ 10 a.m.

Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

LAWN & GARDEN

Lawn Care: Lawn aerating, garden tilling, mowing, thatching, lawn edging, hedge trimming; and other odd jobs. Free estimate, 507-227-2445. (4.25-5.14)

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For Sale: Landscaping rock 1.5 and 3/4-inch rock. Also do stump grinding. Call Wayne Biever Construction, 507-227-4521 or 507-283-4614. We also have yard dirt. (4.25-5.14)

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Client Community Services, Inc. is hiring Caregivers in Luverne! Caregivers assist individuals with developmental and/or physical disabilities with daily living skills, housekeeping tasks and more. We have PT, FT and overnight positions available. We offer paid training, benefits and a NEW STARTING WAGE! For more information on specific openings and hours available, please contact Linette at (507)283-2062 or 283-4170. Job postings are available on our website at www.clientcommunityservices.org. CCSI is an EEO/AA Employer. (5.9-5.28)

RENTALS

For Rent: Two-bedroom, ground level apartment with AC available in Luverne. On-site laundry; off-street parking. Close to downtown and Senior Center. No pets; no smoking. Heat/water included in rent. 507-290-0266. (5.7-5.23)

Mobile Home for Rent: Two-bedroom, one-bathroom. water and sewer included; equipped with appliances. 605-366-7695. (5.7-5.23)

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EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED – Program Supervisor. Program Client Community Services Inc., is accepting applications for a Program Supervisor to oversee two of our consumer homes. Applicants must have either a two or four year degree in a field related to service provisions, and at least two years of work experience with consumers with developmental disabilities or related conditions. Applicants must have organizational skills including time management and planning ability, critical thinking and problem solving skills, ability to manage daily operations of each house and duties assigned. The supervisor will be able to write and manage a master schedule for all staff, manage household budgets and household accounts and demonstrate an understanding of Coordinated Service and Support Plans (CSSP). Complete job description is available upon request by calling Virginia Rath, Program Director, at (507) 376-3171 extension 7. CCSI is an EEO/AA Employer. (5.9-5.28)

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EMPLOYMENT

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EMPLOYMENT

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Contact Green View 651-639-1913

Graphic/Product Design/Marketing GURU in Luverne

- Proficiency with Adobe CS software, web applications and e-commerce/media
- 3D visualization skills
- Possess a Creative Confidence

CADD Drafter/Estimator in Luverne

- Analyze and produce technical drawings
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Resumes can be sent to
P.O. Box 837-A Luverne MN 56156



SUMMER
FOOD SERVICE
WORKERS

Luverne Public Schools is seeking applications for 2020 Summer Food Service Workers. These are seasonal positions not intended to last beyond the summer break. Pay will be \$13.50 per hour. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. Application forms are available in the District Office.

709 North Kniss Avenue
Luverne, MN 56156
507-283-8088
EOE



The Tuff Memorial Home is currently hiring a part time **Evening Cook** - 11am-7:30pm; 3 days per week & every other weekend
a part time **Day Cook** - 5am-1:30pm; 3 days per week & every other weekend
a part time **Day Nurse (LPN or RN)**; 1 day per week & every 3rd weekend & every 3rd holiday
full time **Certified Nurse Aids**-all shifts; 8 hour shift every other weekend and every other holiday
benefit eligible position

Tuff Memorial Home is the Home with a Heart. We offer competitive wages, a generous time off policy, double time for holidays and in-house meal program and a compassionate care-giving team.

Please visit our website at
www.tuffmemorialhome.com
to download an application or call
507-962-3275 Ext. 3



Submitted photo

Kacie Kracht (right) organized a virtual Avera Race Against Cancer run in Luverne on Saturday to continue a family tradition of honoring her aunt, Kim Vander Poel, and her successful fight against breast cancer 11 years ago. Helping Kracht organize the event for their families' eight-member team was Luverne High School classmate Kynzie Hamann. Normally the team would have run Saturday in Sioux Falls with about 6,000 other individuals who would have attended the event.

Virtual cancer race/ continued from page 6

music followed by the running of the course, mapped out by Kracht's and Hamann's high school band instructor, James Jarvie, himself a marathon runner. Both the 5K and 10K courses included several water stations.

"I planned a nice, easy 5K and 10K on kind of my usual running routes because they are solid distances that I know well," Jarvie said.

"I stayed away from going up hills and tried to get a gradual uphill if there was one."

Dave Duffy, who's organized community running events in the past, supplied signage for the running route while Lisa Hamann, Jenae Hamann, Marsha Fick and Erin Schneekloth gave planning tips, took pictures and manned the water sta-

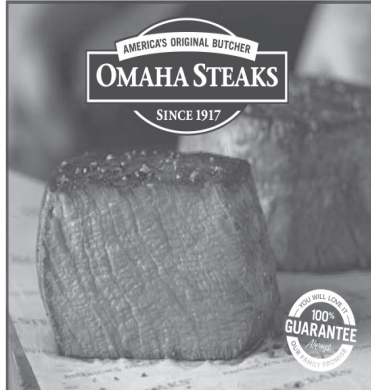
tions.

The virtual event replicated the same hopeful atmosphere as experienced yearly at the actual Sioux Falls event.

Vander Poel, who had a 30-percent chance of surviving breast cancer, reflected on the "moving forward" attitude Kracht and others brought to the virtual event in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Embrace the fight, because life will be different," Vander Poel said.

"Cancer has prepared me for COVID-19 because all of us have a choice whether or not we are winners in this race or not ... choose to be a winner. We have the finish line to look forward to because like fighting cancer, COVID-19 is also a marathon. It's not a sprint."



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- STATE BENEFITS
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- CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS
- NATIONAL GUARD VS ACTIVE DUTY

Veterans Linkage Line

minnesotaveteran.org | 1-888-LinkVet (546-5838)

Help for veterans and families

Help Support the

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Rock County

by calling the Luverne Chamber of Commerce or the Veterans Services Office.

Rock County Veterans Services

507-283-5061

M-F: 8 a.m. to Noon

Rock County Courthouse

*Internet Offer: The advertised monthly price of \$19.99 applies to Access Internet 60 and is good for one year. Thereafter the monthly price increases to the standard rate then in effect (currently, \$29.99). Advertised price does not include standard installation fee (\$99.99, more if special work needed); a one-time \$10 activation fee; or other one-time fees that may apply because of options you select nor does it include the following recurring monthly charges: (i) modem fee, currently \$12.00; (ii) taxes and other amounts required by law to be collected or paid; or (iii) fees for optional services or equipment you may want. All these monthly charges may increase from time to time. After the first year, if our standard rate for your service increases or we institute a new fee for service subscribers generally, we can pass that increase or new fee along to you. *Internet Service Usage Allowance & Speeds: Access Internet 60 is subject to a usage allowance of 60 gigabytes per monthly billing period. 1 GIG Internet is subject to a usage allowance of 6,000 gigabytes per monthly billing period. Excess usage will be billed at \$10 for every increment of up to 50 additional gigabytes used. For example, if usage exceeded the allowance by 51 gigabytes, the additional charge would be \$20. Usage allowances and excess usage charges are subject to change at any time. See <https://mediacomcable.com/usageallowance> for more information about usage allowances. Download and upload speeds may vary, see <https://mediacomcable.com/openinternet> for information on factors that could cause speeds to vary. *99.99% Network Reliability: 2019 Mediacom Executive Summary Outage Exception Report. Offer Availability: Offer may change or be terminated any time without notice. Offer may not be available in all areas, cannot be combined with any other offer, is not transferable and is void where prohibited. Available only to residential customers who have not received any offered service within prior 90 days and meet applicable credit and other requirements. Customer must agree to all applicable subscriber terms and policies. Other terms and conditions may apply. CA Consumers: Visit <https://mediacomcable.com/legal/ccpa-privacy-notice/> to read our Privacy Notice for California Consumers.

Visit us online! Star-Herald.com

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

City parks are now open! Please continue to follow social distancing protocol.

Luverne's Annual Spring Clean Up is canceled for 2020.

Is it COVID-19?

COVID-19 symptoms can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. This may be similar to other illnesses, like the flu and common cold. Many people with COVID-19 have mild or few symptoms, and some may have no symptoms at all.

If you are able to manage your symptoms at home, you don't need to seek care or get a COVID-19 test. Contact your medical provider for any symptoms that are severe. For medical emergencies, such as difficulty breathing, call 911.

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19	FLU	COLD	ALLERGIES
Cough	Often	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fever	Often	Often	Rarely	Never
Body aches	Often	Often	Rarely	Never
Shortness of breath	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely
Headache	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fatigue	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes
Sore throat	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Never
Loss of taste or smell	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely	Rarely
Diarrhea	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Never
Chest pain or pressure	Rarely	Rarely	Never	Never
Runny nose	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Often
Sneezing	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Often
Watery eyes	Never	Never	Never	Often

This list is not all-inclusive.

Help US keep YOU informed!

The City of Luverne occasionally needs to contact customers with important notifications. Please provide contact information so you will receive notifications about City services. You may receive automated messages about changes in City Operations including the City Offices, Liquor Store, Pool & Fitness Center, Refuse and Recycling pickup, Electric, Water & Sewer services as well as temporary water shutoffs, planned electric outages and other important messages. Please update your contact information by completing the online form at www.cityofluverne.org/info.

For Minnesota-specific information on the virus, along with resources about keeping yourself and those around you safe, the MDH <https://www.health.state.mn.us/> website has everything you need. Otherwise, read more from the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/> on how to stay healthy and safe.

Chance of Transmission

Very High

High

Medium

Low

Very Low

Virtually None

Asymptomatic COVID-19 Carrier

Uninfected Person

6+ ft

If you know of anyone in need of cloth masks please let either Barb Bork know at (507) 227-1589 or Pat Baustian, Sewing Basket, at 507-920-7406. We have more masks coming in so please let us know if you can use some and we'll get them to you.

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

Sincerely,

Mayor Patrick T. Baustian

Luverne MINNESOTA

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Bill Korth Auction Service
Blue Mound Auto Glass
Blue Mound Figure Skaters
Blue Mound Hair Salon
Bluestem Catering
Bomgaars
Boutique on the Farm
Brandenburg Gallery
B's Bakehouse
Busse Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning
C & B Operations, LLC
Casey's Gen. Store #1739
Christmas Haus
Cleveringa Construction
Concrete Creations of MN, LLC
Connell Car Care
Conspiracy Tattoo
Country Cupboards
Cowell Construction
Cozy Rest Motel
Cragoe Realty
Creskide Antiques
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Jensen Management Service
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Kemp Electric
Kenneth Bar
Ken's Bike Shop
KQAD/K101
Landscape Curbing
Lewis Family Drug
Loosbrock Electrical
Luverne Ace Hardware
Luverne Announcer
Luverne Body Shop
Luverne Building Center
Luverne Counseling
Luverne Country Club
Luverne Eagles Club
Luverne Family Dental
Luverne Farm Store
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