



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Buffalo Days sets up with pandemic precautions

Cruise the Loop, Hide and Seek highlight weekend

By Lori Sorenson

For decades Luverne has kicked off the official start of summer with its community Buffalo Days celebration, with a Friday Night Cruise-In, Buffalo Days Parade and Arts in the Park with its signature vendor booths, carnival food and live entertainment.

And it always involves crowds of people closely gathered to enjoy each other's company.

Since March, however, the coronavirus pandemic has changed the face of community celebrations worldwide, and in Luverne, Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere is looking for creative ways to be optimistic without spreading the virus.

"I do believe that there is sadness and apprehension about what the future holds," she said.

"In observing the news coverage this past week with the terribly horrific George Floyd event and all that has happened, I have talked to people that think life is just too short and they are moving forward, pandemic or not."

Instead of completely canceling the Buffalo Days weekend, organizers and volunteers are restructuring events to comply with social distancing.

Friday night 'Cruise the Loop'

For example, the popular Friday Night Cruise-In that typically brings cars and people together downtown will instead showcase classic and

Buffalo Days preview/see page 5



Lori Sorenson photo/0604 memorial benches boyenga

Luverne Public Works employees Robin Stratton and Cory Schmuck attach reflective plates to concrete dividers in the parking spaces near Sterling's restaurant, which intends to use the street space for outdoor dining, which is now allowed under the governor's plan to partially reopen business statewide. It's a welcome move for an economy that's suffered under closures prompted by efforts to stop the coronavirus pandemic.

Restaurants, businesses partially reopen

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne City Council members on Tuesday took action to streamline permitting processes for businesses to begin offering outdoor services on June 1.

On May 20, Gov. Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-56 that allows for bars and restaurants to open on June 1 for outdoor service, as long as social distancing measures are maintained.

To serve customers outdoors, restaurants will need permits to operate in parking spaces, on sidewalks and public rights of way, which require a permit.

Outdoor business spaces will still need to be permitted, but city leaders indicated Tuesday they are ready and willing to help business owners with the red tape.

"Recognizing the negative impact COVID-19 has had on local businesses and potential negative impact that may continue because of lack of outdoor space, there is a need to provide flexibility for businesses to request additional space such as sidewalks and parking spaces," City Administrator John Call said Tuesday before the council unanimously approved the resolution.

"We need to streamline the process to keep things going in the right direction."

It essentially makes the permit process available online in a shorter timeframe.

Businesses will need to show documentation of insurance and a map of the new outside operating space.

Mayor Pat Baustian suggested that concrete jersey barriers, possibly with reflective striping, could be used in streets to protect customers from traffic, depending on county highway approval.

Businesses partially reopen/see page 5

District taps brakes on spending and hiring

By Mavis Fodness

Anticipating lower revenues this fall, the Luverne School Board encouraged staff to curb spending as the district prepares for the 2020-21 school year.

Board members encouraged administrators at the Thursday night, May 28, meeting to look at absorbing a recent teacher opening instead of immediately hiring a replacement.

Board member Colleen Deutsch suggested the conservative approach due to the recent legislative session ending without a school funding

proposal. Also weighing on Deutsch's suggestion is the recently revised Luverne budget that indicated an estimated \$500,000 deficit at the end of the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Other board members agreed with Deutsch.

"We are in an unprecedented downturn," said Vice Chairman Eric Hartman. "We are going to have to think strategically."

At the state budget level, the coronavirus pandemic turned a \$1.5 billion budget surplus to a projected \$2.4 billion deficit since March. School

officials are anticipating a reduction in state funding.

The local budget concern has board members evaluating upcoming improvement projects.

Members split on a 5-2 vote on parking lot improvements at the district's bus barn.

Members Reva Sehr and Katie Baustian wanted to postpone the project due to the doubling of the project's cost.

The proposals to extend the cur-

School spending/see page 8

Luverne Community Ed names new director

Nath becomes third director in 42-year history of Luverne Community Education

By Mavis Fodness

A love of learning propelled Lisa Nath to the helm of Luverne Community Education, which views education as a lifelong activity.

Nath is the third director to head the program that began in 1978 with Gregg Gropel, who laid the groundwork for the then new program. Karen Willers filled the position from 1999, when Gropel retired, until she decided to retire this spring.

Nath embraces the scope that is community education.

"I have a genuine love for children, families and learning," Nath said. "My goal is to encourage and motivate lifelong learning and help them reach their full potential."

Community Education offers early childhood classes for infants to age 5 and their parents and continues learning by offering year-round youth and adult enrichment classes. Nath has been the Luverne ECFE educator for the past 12 years.

Family is what led Nath into an education career and ultimately to Luverne Community Education.

She grew up on a farm near Platte, South Dakota.

"My parents were very influential in my life," she said. "My dad



Mavis Fodness photo/0604 Lisa Nath

Lisa Nath is the new director and only the third person to hold the position at Luverne Community Education since its inception in 1978. Previously Nath worked as a parent educator with Community Education's Early Childhood Family Education program.

was a farmer and my mom was a teacher. Three important things they taught me were to work hard, help others and a love of learning. I knew from a young age that I wanted to be a teacher."

Early experiences in babysit-

Community Ed/see page 3

Families memorialize loved ones with benches

By Lori Sorenson

Elmer Bartels spent a good share of his final days gazing out the dining room window at Tonto Park across the street from his home in the northwest part of Luverne.

Homebound for 18 months, he found joy in watching families and children play on the equipment and enjoy the outdoors, Eunice said about her late husband.

"We watched little kids and especially day care providers," she said. "That was really good for him and for me, too."

After Elmer died last fall, Eunice and her children — Rebecca, Rachel, Timothy and Jim — decided to donate a bench in his memory.

With help from Luverne public works supervisor John Stoffel, a black metal bench now bears a bronze nameplate. "In memory of Elmer Bartels."

Today, Eunice said it brings her joy to watch from the dining room

Memorial benches/see page 13



Lori Sorenson photo/0604 memorial benches boyenga

Megan Boyenga and her children are frequent visitors to The Lake in Luverne where they donated a bench on the beach in memory of their late husband and father, Anthony Boyenga, who died last summer in a drowning accident in Iowa. Pictured Monday afternoon on their dad's bench at The Lake are (from left) Levcy, Hazyl, Bronly, Megan, Rayden, and Coyer.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Beaver Creek Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 8, in the township hall.

Vienna Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 9. Call Brad Skattum, 507-920-9553, with questions.

Grand Prairie Cemetery Association annual meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, at the Grand Prairie Cemetery. In case of rain, the meeting will be in the office room of Orv and Son Plumbing in Ellsworth. Social distancing will be observed. Call 507-290-0368.

History Center partially reopens

The Rock County History Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday starting June 2. Some safety precautions — with masks and gloves available — will be in place to protect against the spread of coronavirus. The phone number is 507-283-2122.

H-BC summer rec 2020 canceled

Hills-Beaver Creek Community Education summer recreation for grades 3 and up has been canceled. All activity fees will be refunded. Personal checks will be destroyed and cash payments will be credited to the family lunch account. Notify the elementary school secretary if a refund check is desired, 507-673-2541.

Community Ed Summer Brochure

Luverne Community Ed is taking registrations now with payment - Use drop box to left of outside door or mail to 709 N. Kniss.

School of Fish - June 12, page 8 for students who have completed second grade and older, with or without a parent - moved to Elementary Commons for social distancing.

Coffey Contemporary Arts Classes page 11
Paint & Plant; Story Writing & Illustrating; Cool Off & Paint

Free Technology Classes page 12 ... iPhone/iPads, Live Streaming, Computer Safety, Emotions and Money
Play Dates in the Park page 8 NEW START DATE June 15

Refresher Class Defensive Driving on June 25 see page 17

Wait to register for summer rec (Pages 20-33) and other Com.Ed Classes (pages 8-17) that are not mentioned above. Larger group activities will not be held in June. T-ball, baseball, softball and possibly a few other activities will be offered July 6-31, along with soccer in August. Registrations will begin the week of June 22, if allowed. Watch Facebook, website, local radio and newspaper for updates and any revised class dates.

These classes are canceled: Morning Rec, Missoula Children's Theatre, Science Day Camp, Garden Tour, Twins Trip & Music Man Trip.

Things may change. Community Education will be following the state/school guidelines. Watch for future announcements on website, Facebook, newspaper and radio.



Mavis Fodness photo/0604 Camping Resumes

Blue Mounds State Park manager Chris Ingebretsen removes barricades Monday morning from the main campground entrance. Camping has been prohibited due to the coronavirus pandemic. The cart-in campgrounds opened May 22. The tipi campground remains closed.

Overnight camping resumes with some limitations at Blue Mounds State Park

By Mavis Fodness

Overnight camping resumed Monday north of Luverne at Blue Mounds State Park, with officials following coronavirus guidelines outlined by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

"All of our (72 main campground spots) met space requirements ... so we were able to open them all up," said park manager Chris Ingebretsen. "Anyone with reservations on June 1 or later will be honored."

Signs around the campground remind campers of

the new pandemic guidelines of not gathering in groups of more than 10, observing cleaning protocols, and practicing social distancing from other campers — even outdoors.

Ingebretsen said some restroom areas have been closed to meet the six-foot social distancing requirements, and some areas, such as the picnic shelter, the group campsite, and the prairie and bison tours remain closed until further notice.

"Unfortunately that tour vehicle is pretty big but not

big enough (to meet social distancing guidelines)," Ingebretsen said.

The park closed to overnight stays in mid-March and until May 22 had only been open to day hiking.

The park's 14 cart-in or walk-in sites (where visitors carry in all supplies to remote camping areas) opened for Memorial Weekend.

However, the number of campers during the normally busy camping kick-off weekend was sparse.

"(Prior to the pandemic) the reservation system was full

for regular camping months ago," Ingebretsen said.

Campers whose reservations had previously been canceled were notified first of the carry-in sites' availability. However, not many people accepted the offer and many sites went unused.

"Most had already made other plans because they didn't know if they were going to be able to camp," Ingebretsen said.

Occasional Memorial Day rain showers also didn't make for pleasant camping conditions.

Volunteers still needed for 'Minnesota Responds'

Minnesota Responds is a partnership of local and statewide volunteers to assist healthcare systems in emergencies that can overwhelm hospitals and clinics and improve overall response capabilities.

Minnesota Responds is recruiting medical (RNs, LPNs, CNAs) and others with medi-

cal type backgrounds, such as veterinary, dental, chiropractor and others.

Non-medical volunteers are also needed to contribute skills and expertise during the COVID-19 crisis.

We are looking for individuals that are working or retired and willing to offer assistance. An individual DOES

NOT HAVE to be in the health care field. Anyone interested in helping the community is encouraged.

To register, have your personal information, licenses, certifications, competencies, and contact information available.

Contact the Minnesota Responds Volunteer Coordi-

nator, Jen Nelson, at Southwest Health & Human Services at 507-829-0227.

To register on-line, go to mnresponds.org and click on "Register Now."

For the organization information, click on the county in which you live and select SWHHS MN Responds Volunteer Group.

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

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

#StaySafeMN

➔ Retail stores, malls, and other main street businesses can reopen if they have a safety plan and operate at no more than 50 percent occupancy.

Gyms remain closed.

➔ Minnesotans may gather with friends and family in groups of 10 people or less.

Social, civic, community, faith-based, leisure, or religious gatherings are prohibited for groups over 10 people.

Continue to follow these safe practices:

- Wash your hands often
- Get tested if experiencing symptoms
- Maintain social distance
- Wear a mask
- Stay home when able



Maintain social distance

mn.gov/covid19

MINNESOTA

Governor Walz's Executive Order for JUNE 1ST

1. Restaurants, bars, brewery's

- Outdoor dining only
- 6 feet between tables
- 50 total people
- Party size limited to 4 unless single family, then 6
- Reservations required
- Workers must wear masks
- People dining strongly encouraged wear masks, especially when ordering
- *Ask cities to be creative to find out door seat space if businesses don't have outdoor patios or decks



2. Personal services, hair salons, barber shops

- Inside at 25 percent capacity
- Wear masks
- Appointment only

3. Campgrounds

- Campsites must practice social distancing
- Details on DNR website

*The City of Luverne will work with local Restaurants and Bars to help them with outdoor seating where possible.

Symptoms of Coronavirus

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported — ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

This list is not all possible symptoms. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

WHEN TO SEEK EMERGENCY MEDICAL ATTENTION

Look for emergency warning signs* for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

Information from CDC.GOV

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.

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

Luverne
MINNESOTA
Love the life!

Sincerely,

Mayor Patrick T. Baustian

Community Education hires Nath as director/from page 1

ting and teaching at church led Nath to complete a double major in elementary education and special education from Dordt University in Sioux Center, Iowa.

She began her teaching in the fall of 1996 in Marshall.

For three years she taught first- and second-graders. She married Tom Nath in 1997 and the couple moved to Luverne two years later.

Nath taught preschoolers for two years in Sioux Falls until a desire to work in special education led her to Worthington, where she worked in the middle school special education program for six years.

Her dad's ALS diagnosis in 2006 prompted her to teach closer to home.

"My dad passed away in 2007, and that same day our daughter Emma was born," Nath said.

"After seeing someone you love go through a terminal illness like that, you never look at life the same way. Having a 2-year-old (Ethan) and a newborn, I decided I wanted to look for something in my community that would keep me involved professionally but keep my focus on my family."

She became the part-time ECFE parent educator beginning in the fall of 2008. She also coordinated early childhood screenings for Luverne schools.

As a teacher, Nath focused on bringing creativity and technology into her instruction with parents, a child's first teacher, to build the foundation that learning can be fun.

"Being a parent is complex, and parents need programs, support services and resources offered to them to increase their confidence in raising healthy children," she said.

A shared enthusiasm for learning was generated when parents passed lessons on to their children.

"When you see your students love learning as much as you do, you see that 'aha' moment, when it just clicks for them and they light up and you know they understand," she said.

As she taught parents during the day, Nath

earned an online parent education degree from St. Cloud State University. She later became a family support coordinator (2008-2013) for the Family Connections Collaborative, where she supervised home visitors and day care story-hour visitors between Luverne Public Schools and Rock-Nobles Public Health.

At the same time, Nath also coordinated the Rock County Big Buddies program (2013-2019).

For her community education director's licensure, Nath will complete online classes from Minnesota State University-Moorhead.

"In a leadership role, I feel it is crucial to encourage, support and motivate your team," she said.

Nath will have a team to work with in her new role as head of community education.

In addition to the early childhood family education program and the youth through adult enrichment classes, Nath will also oversee programming for Adult Basic Education, Discovery Time Preschool, and child care for the Family U program and English as a second language classes.

Nath's various positions prepared her for juggling various responsibilities.

"Efficiency and prioritizing are strong skills for me," she said. "Planning ahead allows me to enhance my productivity and initiate new ideas, which also maximizes learning for others."

She said the COVID-19 pandemic, however, is causing her to pause in how she plans to move the local community education programs forward, but she is on the lookout for new ideas for the youth and adult enrichment classes.

She begins her new position on Aug. 1.

"I am thinking that many people have had opportunities to revisit some hobbies and maybe start some new hobbies as well," Nath said.

"I bet we have a lot of hidden talent that we could encourage to teach classes through Community Education."



Mavis Fodness photo/0604 H-BC TOY 2020 Klumper

Megan Klumper displays a message for her students during a teacher parade conducted through the Hills-Beaver Creek School District communities in April. Klumper was selected as the 2020 H-BC Teacher of the Year.

H-BC honors Teacher of Year, Friend of Education

By Mavis Fodness

H-BC staff repeatedly used the words "above and beyond" to describe the 2020 Hills-Beaver Creek School District Teacher of the Year and Friend of Education.

Teacher Megan Klumper and paraprofessional Lexi Moore were recently honored during Teacher Appreciation Day last month.

They were recognized again May 22 at the H-BC outdoor commencement, which they did not attend, due to the pandemic social distancing measures.

Megan Klumper is Teacher of the Year

Klumper is a fifth-year English teacher at H-BC High School in Hills.

"Megan goes above and beyond for all her students," read her nomination form.

"You will see her offering extra support to her students before school, during prep and study hall, and after school. It is evident that her students see her as a teacher they can trust and come to with questions."

A college class turned the former psychology major toward a teaching career.

"I took an Introduction to Education class and knew



Lori Sorenson photo/0604 H-BC friend of ed

Friend of Education Lexi Moore hands out cookies to families during the May 28 drive-by farewell.

that I had found my place," Klumper said.

She hasn't forgotten about adult learning either, as her peers regularly turn to her for tips to incorporate technology into the classroom.

"Megan also goes

above and beyond in the technology area of teaching," the nomination form stated. "She has helped pave the way for effective distance learning by offering her sup-

H-BC honors staff/see 5

Some churches reopen to in-person services with many precautions

By Mavis Fodness

Area churches opened the doors to in-person services Sunday, with one church, St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne, saying goodbye to its pastor.

Pastor Gary Klatt delivered his last sermon May 31 to a socially spaced congregation of 75 people, about a quarter of normal church capacity.

Klatt retires after 35 years serving in the ministry, 18 years in Luverne.

Parishioners worked to develop a plan to safely congregate under new coronavirus guidelines that limited the number of people attending each service and a cleaning regimen to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Efforts have members adjusting to a new routine.

"It was nice to get back to normal, whatever that is now," said Tom Fick, St. John Lutheran Church congregational president.

Since late March, congregations like St. John Lutheran, have stayed at home viewing services virtually as religious



Photo courtesy of Jessica Blocker

Pastor Gary Klatt delivers his last sermon before retirement at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne on Sunday. Area churches are gradually reopening to in-person services under various health guidelines including limiting the number of congregational members at each service and non-family members sitting at least six-feet away from each other.

leaders spoke to a handful of people who operated the recording equipment.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, St. John Lutheran was one of the first churches in Rock County to conduct in-person services.

More churches have since reopened with measures in place to limit people's potential exposure to the virus.

At St. John Lutheran, members call the church office to make service reservations in order not to exceed the 75-person limit, a number that allows families to sit the recommended six feet apart from each other.

"Hand sanitizer is available everywhere in the church," Fick noted.

Handshakes, hugs or the gatherings for coffee and socializing before or after services are discouraged.

The wearing of facial masks and protective gloves are encouraged and, at some churches, ushers spray hand sanitizer on each person's hands as they enter the building.

Many church services

Emergency funding secured for southwest Minnesota

An emergency grant from the Minnesota Housing Partnership will help families in Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Cottonwood, Jackson, Nobles, Rock, Murray and Pipestone counties keep their homes.

The \$50,000 grant, secured by MHP from the National Low-Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), will go toward emergency rental assistance support for families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic who have lost income, or are otherwise unable to meet rent obligations, are at risk of homelessness, or currently homeless.

Greater Minnesota Housing Fund has agreed to act as fiscal agent for the grant as part of its state-wide COVID-19 emergency rental assistance fund, and United Community Action Partnership Inc., a social services nonprofit that serves southwestern Minnesota, will get the funds to people that need it the most.

"The Worthington area is so hard hit by COVID-19 and we want to make sure we are helping to prevent homelessness of workers who are sick or are finding themselves without income for significant stretches of time and can't pay their rent," said Anne Mavity, executive director of Minnesota Housing Partnership.

"We want to make sure resources are there as quickly as possible while we work with state legislative leaders to pass much needed housing assistance to help more families here in southwestern Minnesota and around the state."

For residents in the previously mentioned counties seeking rental assistance, contact the UCAP office closest to you or call the corporate office in Marshall at 507-537-1416 to be connected to UCAP's dedicated staff members.

Not all people may be eligible for services, as eligibility differs for each program, and all assistance is subject to availability of funding.

Roundup? Cancer?
 Diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma?
 Regular user of Roundup?
 Give us a click or call - we can help you get compensation

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 INJURY LAWYERS
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 PATTERSONDAHLBERG.COM

LOCAL MINNESOTA LAW FIRM

Happy Birthday!
Mike Uithoven
 will be celebrating
 his 90th birthday
 on June 7th, 2020

We invite you to celebrate with him
 via cards sent to the Vets Home:
 1300 N. Kniss Ave. Luverne, MN 56156

Join us for a
Drive By Baby Shower
 honoring **Allison Verhey**

When: June 13th, 1-3pm
 Location: Tom and Kelly Dohmann's back garage
 1205 South Kniss,
 Luverne MN

Registered at:
 babylist.com

Please join us at an
 Open House
Bridal Shower for Hallie Baker
 Bride to be of Logan Crosby
 on
Saturday, June 6
 9:30am
 at the
Reformed Church of Steen
 Hallie and Logan
 are registered at Target

There are no words ... In a world where so much is bad, 'be the good'

More than once in the past several days, I've opened my mouth to say something profound, but stopped short, realizing that words aren't enough.

There simply are no words to describe the occurrences of the past week in Minneapolis and their ripple effect statewide and now in cities across the nation.

There are no words to explain why a police officer would lean on the neck of an already handcuffed and unarmed man.

There are no words to describe the sickening realization that the victim was yet another person of color dying at the hands of a white officer.

... at a time when an ever-growing disadvantaged population is becoming increasingly outraged by injustice and despair.

There are no words.

There are no words to make sense of the looting and destruction of properties and businesses ... in the name of restoring social injustice, of all things.

It's beyond all human decency and logic, and certainly beyond words to explain it.

There are no words to describe the middle-of-the-night scramble in homes across outstate Minnesota when State Troopers from all districts were ordered to help.

"Which agency will you assist?" I helped my husband pack his bags at 3:30 a.m.

"I don't know."

"What will be your role?"

"I don't know."

"Whom will you answer to?"

"I don't know."

"Where will you stay?"

"I don't know."

I was fearful ... but tried



ON SECOND THOUGHT

By Lori Sorenson, editor

to keep perspective. When the squad left the driveway, my thoughts turned to Mom in 1964 when she bid farewell to her groom, drafted into the unknown jungles of Vietnam.

There are no words to describe the sobering realization that all these peace officers were still not enough to contain the urban rage, which required a historic mobilization of the full Minnesota National Guard.

... which required more loved ones in uniform to dispatch to a situation that was rapidly resembling a war zone.

There are no words to quiet angry voices, soothe troubled souls and heal grieving spirits.

There are no words, despite an endless social media feed of opinions. Words aren't enough.

At times like this, it might be prudent to remember actions speak louder than words.

... actions like Twin Cities residents immediately picking up garbage, scrubbing off graffiti and mobilizing to rebuild torched neighborhoods.

... actions like Good Samaritans offering bottled water and snacks to officers on their feet for hours at a time in the heat of the day to protect their safety and property.

There are no words to adequately prepare our graduating seniors for a world that appears to be falling apart.

It's a good thing our LHS Class of 2020 were equipped with the words from their senior class motto:

"I cannot do all the good that the world needs, but the world needs all the good that I can do."

'Stay Safe Minnesota' doesn't mean the virus will be safer

It's been a long three months of social distancing and cautious avoiding of public spaces for fear of transmitting or contracting the highly contagious and sometimes deadly coronavirus.

Hyper focus on disinfecting and disconnecting has been effective in our little part of the world, and for that we can be proud. Our community has been spared a widespread and sudden outbreak of the disease. Is it because we did what we were supposed to do to slow the spread? Or are we just charmed? We may never know.

That's the thing about prevention; if it works the way it's supposed to, nothing happens, which is precisely the outcome we hope for in a pandemic. And because we've had time to prepare for a possible spike in cases (acquiring personal protective equipment and other resources), we have some wiggle room in case that still happens.

True social distancing has been isolating and socially exhausting, so StaySafeMN will seem liberating compared with StayHomeMN (for

those who actually followed the state order the way it was intended).

So, Star Herald readers, enjoy your burgers and beer on the sidewalk downtown and belt out a hymn from your pew in church on Sunday. You've earned it.

But please, please remember the pandemic isn't over. The virus is still circulating, and it's still randomly knocking some on their backs for weeks while others get by with a headache. And, yes, it's still killing people.

Until an effective vaccine is developed, it's still a danger worth avoiding — if not for ourselves, then for those around us.

Keep a six-foot distance from others, wear a mask, wash your hands, stay home if you're sick, and do your part to keep the virus at a minimum

in our community.

Please support local voices with a subscription

On a side note, the Star Herald has worked hard to cover the pandemic and its effects on our community, and because much of the news was so important and timely, we offered it for free online.

We hope that over the past three months readers — both new and current — have seen the pride that goes into gathering and reporting local news and appreciate the value of being informed.

As our pay wall returns to starherald.com this week, we hope the community continues to support our work with new and continued subscriptions.

Stay safe, Rock County. Stay informed.

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Voice of our Readers: 'How low can you go?'

To the Editor:

When I heard Premium Pork was coming to Luverne, I was excited. I thought I heard \$20 plus per hour — good deal! Someone finally to take the place of Mid-Pack and IBP in the early days.

Then, in the '80s we had a union-busting president, poor farming economy, and social justice went

down the drain.

Now fast-forward -- \$13 an hour. Come on, guys, how low can you go? I don't know what Sioux Falls pays, but I hear Worthington is \$16.80 per hour.

We all know bosses need more than workers, but \$13 an hour will only bring more free food lines, empty food shelves, more free school lunches and higher welfare taxes for

Luverne and Rock County.

Business leaders like Bill Gates and Mark Cuban are asking businesses to raise wages as workers can't make it.

Luverne is not a free labor camp. You get what you pay for. Think about it. Time will tell.

Leon Pick
Luverne

Relay becomes 'Stronger Together'

To the Editor:

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Relay For Life of Rock County will be participating in a statewide Stronger Together alternative campaign.

Cancer patients are some of the most vulnerable to COVID-19. By having the opportunity to support the Relay For Life of Rock County online, it allows everyone — including cancer patients, survivors and their caregivers — to safely join with others to celebrate, remember and fight back.

With our local Relay For Life and other events that fuel the American Cancer Society's mission altered drastically due to COVID-19, the fight against cancer is at risk. But it's a fight that can't be canceled, postponed or rescheduled. Cancer won't stop. So neither can we.

The Relay For Life of Rock County joins others from across Minnesota in

fundraising and activities from June 1 - Aug. 1. Our Leadership Team is also working on other ways to safely "Celebrate, Remember and Fight Back" in our area communities, so watch our media sources including Facebook at Relay For Life of Rock County MN.

Cancer patients are counting on the American Cancer Society more than ever. Funds raised through Relay For Life help the American Cancer Society continue programs that are critical to cancer patients now and in the future.

That includes being available day or night at 1-800-227-2345 and the "COVID-19 and Cancer" resources at cancer.org/coronavirus.

Support cancer patients in our community at RelayForLife.org/RockCountyMN by getting registered today.

Lisa Ehlers, Chair
Relay For Life of Rock County

Maplewood Cemetery needs mowing, care

To the Editor:

What happened to the Maplewood Cemetery grounds/caretaker this year during the Memorial Day weekend? In over 50 years I've never seen it looking like it did — long grass, dandelions, weeds and what-not-all.

I realize the COVID situation is an issue; however, I didn't think it had anything to do with running a mower!

I visited three other cemeteries that day, and each of them had been nicely mowed. In addition, I didn't see many lawns within Luverne that hadn't been mowed. Thank you.

Virginia von Holt
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

More thankful than usual with 'new abnormal lifestyle'

I wear my coronavirus mask more often than not, but not 100 percent of the time, which I probably should.

I kind of relate the habit of wearing the mask to wearing my seatbelt in the car. When the recommendation to wear your seatbelt first came out, it was done so as a way to save lives. Wearing one's seatbelt was voluntary at first, and very little compliance was the result of said recommendation.

Then it became a law to wear your seatbelt and there was slightly more compliance, but not much. Then a \$25 fine was added to the law and compliance spiked a little, but the \$25 didn't seem to be enough to get people's attention, so the fine jumped to \$100 and compliance soared.

So, at the end of the day we weren't crazy about wearing our seatbelts to save lives, but to avoid a \$100 fine we buckled up. For most



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager,
Tollefson Publishing

of us it's just a habit now.

I certainly don't want to see another law added to the books, much less a possible fine. Do I think wearing a mask will become the new norm? I doubt it and I hope not. But for now I do want people to consider that wearing a mask is like making a healthy lifestyle choice.

Frankly, when I am wearing my mask I do so for my protection, not yours, and I really don't mind if you don't wear one. Just don't invade my

personal space, which is now 6 feet.

Remember when your personal space used to be self-determined? It didn't bother me to stand shoulder to shoulder to someone, but if you're that close to me face-to-face, that causes my uncomfortable meter to redline.

So, for now I'll mask up, sanitize often, wash my hands for 20 seconds, stay 6 feet apart, and go about my new abnormal lifestyle and be thankful that's all I have to complain about.



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ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

May 22
 •Complainant on Main Street in Hills reported trespassing.
 •Report of an open door at location on W. Edgehill Street.
 •Complainant on Rowe Drive reported a shop fire.
 •Deputy assisted Sioux Falls police department.
 •Complainant on S. Ross Street, Hardwick, reported suspicious activity.
May 23
 •Report of erratic driver on Interstate 90, mile marker 4, near Beaver Creek.
 •Complainant on County Highway 4, Valley Springs, reported an accidental firearms discharge.
 •Complainant on W. Main Street reported suspicious activity.
May 24
 •Outage was reported at location.
 •Complainant on N. Ross Street, Hardwick, reported firearms.
May 25
 •Complainant on W. Warren Street reported a party; noise complaint.
 •Complainant on E. Crawford Street reported threats from her neighbor.
 •Complainant on Interstate 90, near Magnolia, reported it looks like a semi truck driver is falling asleep.
 •Complainant on N. McKenzie Street reported problems with husband.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested to speak with a deputy about an active HRO.
May 26
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported missing meds.

•Road closed for repairs on 40th Avenue, near Hills.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested we check for people with warrants.
 •Complainant on E. Crawford Street reported her neighbor threatened her dogs again.
 •Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 8, near Beaver Creek, reported a possible drunk driver.
 •Complainant westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 15, near Luverne, reported a board on the interstate.
 •Complainant on E. Barck Avenue reported a found purse.
May 27
 •Complainant on 171st Street reported drug paraphernalia.
 •Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, between mile marker 2 and 3, near Beaver Creek, reported a vehicle fire.
 •Complainant on 31st Street, Hills, reported a man sleeping on beach.
 •Complainant on 80th Avenue and 71st Street, Beaver Creek, reported an accident.
May 28
 •Complainant on W. Crawford Street reported a scam call.
 •Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek, reported a grass fire.
 •Complainant westbound on Interstate 90, near mile marker 20 overpass, Luverne, reported a possible suicidal female.
 In addition, officers responded to 6 escorts, 25 ambulance runs, 2 parking violation, 2 paper services, 4 animal complaints, 12 burn permits, 1 gas drive-off, 2 purchase and carry permits, 5 traffic stops, 10 abandoned 911 calls, 2 tests, 1 welfare checks and 1 follow-up.



Mavis Fodness photo/0604 County Resumes In-Person Meetings

Commissioners resume in-person meetings

Rock County Commissioners met Tuesday morning in a face-to-face meeting for the first time since March due to the coronavirus pandemic. Tables were spaced six feet apart and the number of people in the county meeting room was limited to 10. The public is encouraged to view the meeting from the Zoom link on the county website. The agenda included a closed session about the county's court summons from Econolodge and Super 8 who are challenging property valuations. Also, the board discussed the ACLU lawsuit against the Sheriff's Office for its handling of an arrest in December of 2018. The Star Herald will follow up on these stories next week and online at www.star-herald.com.

Businesses reopen/from page 1

"Mark Sehr (highway department engineer) has said he'll approve anything with common sense attached to it," Baustian said.
 "He said he won't stand in the way of what we're trying to do."
 Call said other communities, including those in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area, are already making accommodations for businesses

to operate outdoors.
 "In these times that are completely unprecedented, even MNDOT is working quickly to help businesses," he said. "It's a very unique time, and I think people are looking to our government leaders to help out in this time of need."
 The city's resolution will be in place until the peacetime emergency for the pandemic expires.

H-BC honors staff/from page 3

port in these areas as well."
 Klumper, who has been teaching for 15 years, said she turned to the computer platform "Schooly" to enhance student learning.
 "Assignments are never lost, and we are saving on paper," she said. "Also, I can give students feedback way faster than when I was correcting a pile of papers every night."
 Schooly became the go-to delivery tool for H-BC when distance learning began in March and lasted through the end of the school year in late May.

computer to kindergarten through sixth-grade students located in Hills and Beaver Creek.
 Moore also assists with a variety of other student activities including elementary yearbook, district newsletter, grades 3-5 Horizons program, elementary positive behavior interventions and supports team, and next year the middle school robotics team.

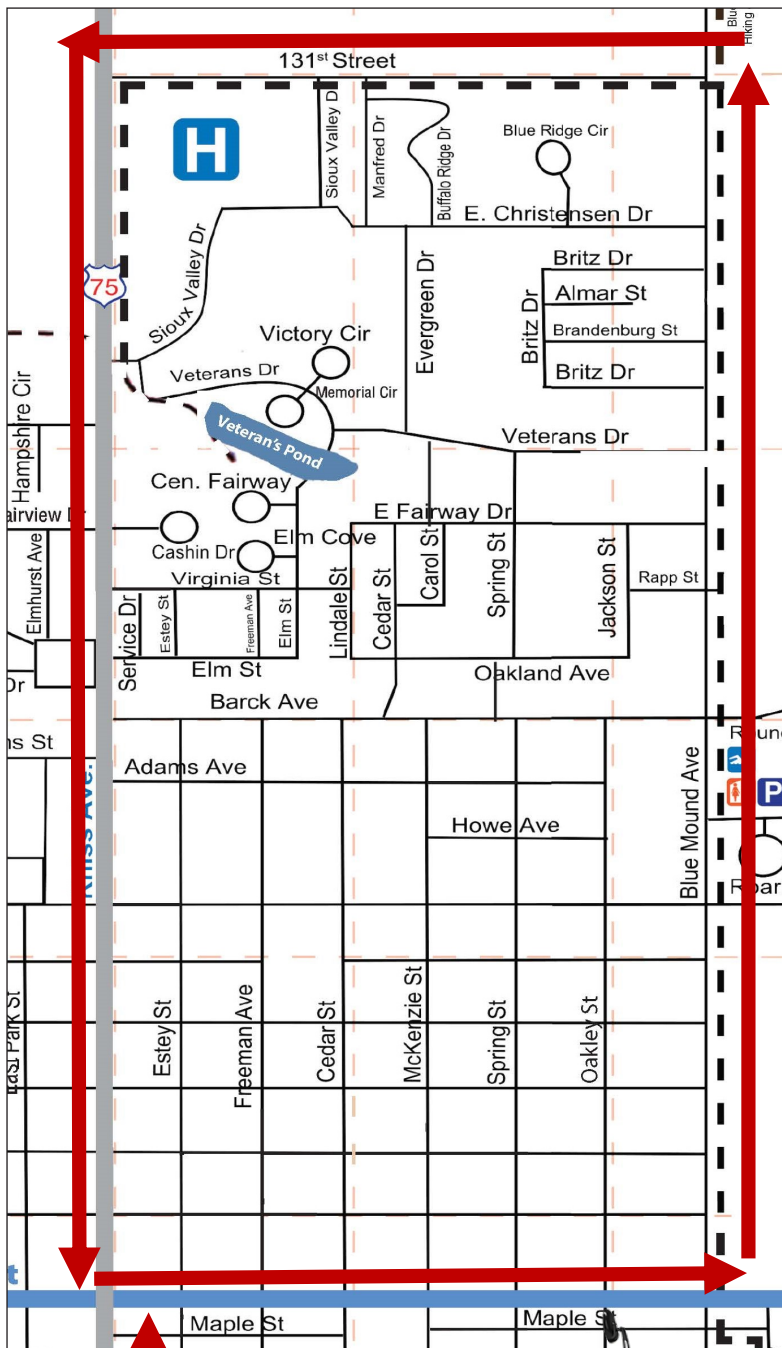
Klumper frequently experimented with the new ideas learned at workshops or from her online research.
 "When lessons become tedious, the students don't learn as well," Klumper said. "Trying new ways to learn makes the lessons more interesting and engaging for the students and for myself."
 This fall Klumper added adviser of the school's Mock Trial team to her resume.
 "When the previous coach said she was retiring, I knew that H-BC had to keep Mock Trial going for those students."
 Under her tutelage, the team won a first match, the first win in several years for the school, announced secondary principal Molly Schilling at a recent school board meeting.

"Mrs. Moore goes above and beyond her role as a paraprofessional," read the nomination form. "She creates lessons for our students and also helps in a variety of ways throughout both buildings. Also, she's always more than happy to assist in any project."
 The improvement of reading skills is Moore's primary focus.
 "It is an incredible feeling to help young students to find a series (of books) that turns on their love of reading. One week they hate it and suddenly 'BOOM,' they are hooked," she said.
 "I also really enjoy helping my older students cultivate what type of reader they will be."

Lexi Moore assists in all media needs
 Lexi Moore's broad media interests led her peers to recognize her as the H-BC School District 2020 Friend of Education.
 Moore is a paraprofessional at both H-BC elementary and secondary schools, beginning in the position seven years ago.
 She oversees both school libraries and teaches

H-BC students also learn basic technology skills from Moore.
 "Computer class with my youngest students is a blast. They are easily amazed by the 'magic' a computer has to offer," she said.
 Her co-workers have noticed the impact Moore has with students.
 "She is always more than happy to assist with projects ... not only with help, (but) she always seems happy and excited about it. Mrs. Moore seems to truly love the district and, more importantly, all the kiddos in it."

Buffalo Days sets up with social distance/continued from page 1



hot-rod vehicles on a parade route.
 Drivers can continuously loop the parade route going east on Main Street, north on Blue Mound Avenue, west on 131st Street (past the hospital) and south on Highway 75 back to Main Street.
 Bars and restaurants that were allowed on June 1 to offer outdoor patio service will be open along the route, and auto enthusiasts are encouraged to park their lawn chairs anywhere along the route to view the vehicles.
 Drivers are asked to remain inside their vehicles, and everyone is encouraged to keep a safe distance from each other to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Buffalo Days 5K Run and Walk
 The annual Buffalo Days 5K Run and Walk will also be loosely organized and socially distanced.
 Instead of staging runners to start in a pack, interested participants are encouraged to run the loop on their own time, anytime between June 5 and 8.
 They'll photograph themselves with the Buffalo Days 5K photo board at the History Center, where the route starts and ends, and text the image to win Luverne logo gear with Print Express \$15 gift cards.
 The photos will be shared on the Chamber's Facebook page. The activity is sponsored by Sanford Luverne and the Chamber and Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Buffalo Days Hide and Seek
 The traditional Buffalo Days Parade and Arts in the Park will be replaced by a game of hide and seek with Main Street businesses from Freeman to Blue Mound Avenue.
 Fifteen buffalos are hiding in the windows of downtown businesses. To win a gift card prize from Dragonfly and Firefly, seekers are challenged to discover the buffalos, write down their names and submit your entries.
 Entry forms are available on the Luverne Chamber Facebook page or website, and answers are due by noon on Monday, June 8, in the Chamber Office drop box near the east door on McKenzie Street.
 The Chamber office can be reached at 507-283-4061, or luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us.

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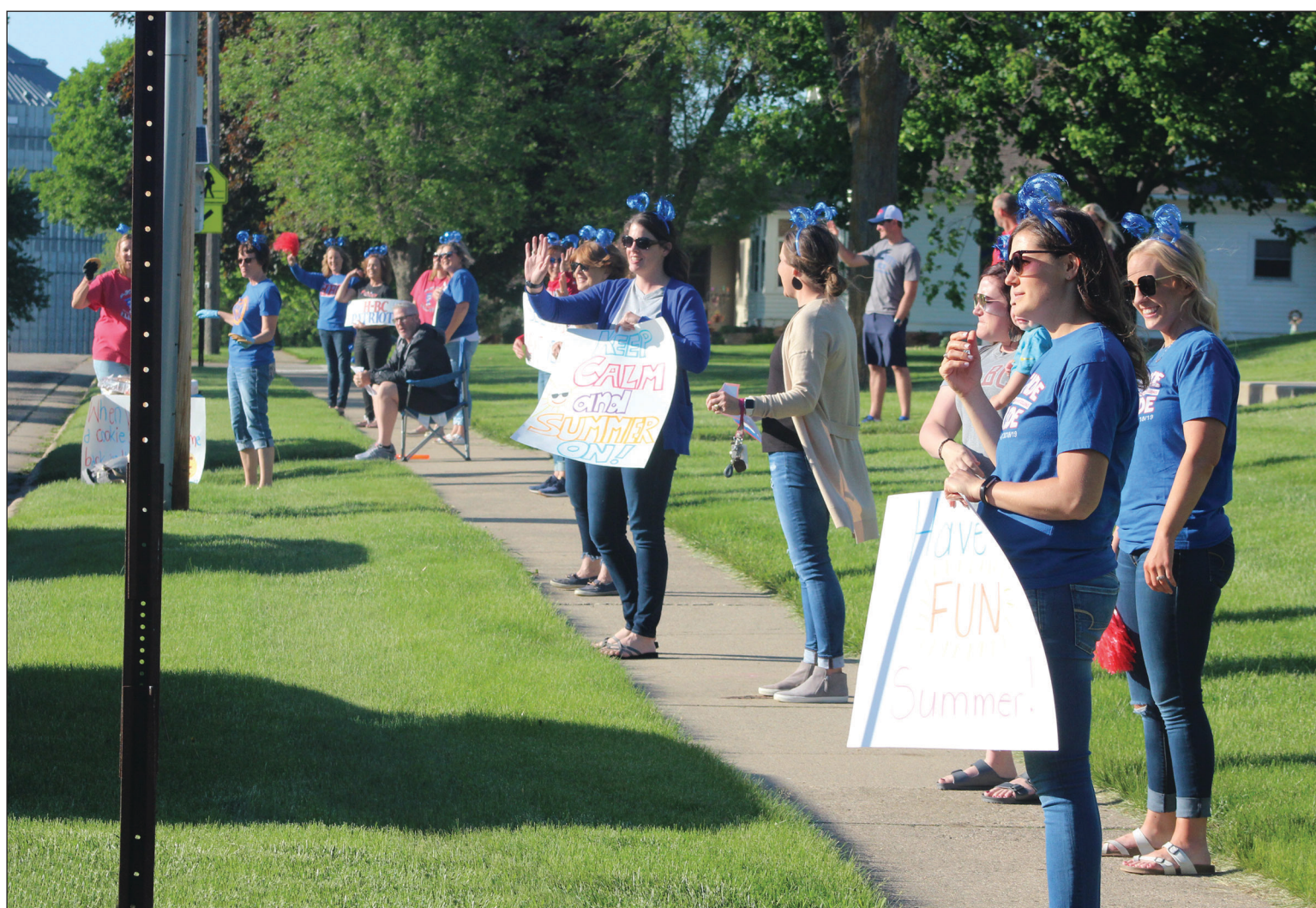
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Lori Sorenson photos/0604 hbc drive-by farewell

Teachers and staff line the sidewalk of the Hills-Beaver Creek Elementary School in Beaver Creek Thursday night, May 28, to bid farewell to families and students that they hadn't seen face-to-face since distance learning began in March.

H-BC Elementary bids 'drive-by farewell'

Hills-Beaver Creek families and students bid farewell to H-BC Elementary staff Thursday night, May 28, by driving around the elementary school in Beaver Creek where teachers were standing on the west lawn. They gave special attention to fifth-grade teacher Jason Blosmo and paraprofessional Ashley Syndergaard, who are leaving the district.

Participants stayed in their vehicles, some of them carrying signs, some in open utility vehicles and golf carts, and drove by slowly to greet friendly faces they hadn't seen during the pandemic distance learning and to accept a cookie.

Below: At left, paraprofessional Sherry Paulsen holds a sign that says, "When you give a kid a cookie ... They'll come back in the fall." As families drove by for the May 28 school farewell, they received cookies as parting gifts.



Carrielynn Merson holds up a sign directed at Jason Blosmo who is leaving the district. He is affectionately known by district families and staff as "silver fox."



A golf cart loaded with well-wishers included (front, from left) Briggs Metzger, Claire Boeve, Erin Metzger; (back) Mallorie Boeve, Brooks Metzger and Brodie Metzger.

Folkestad named Speech Coach of Year

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne High School speech coach Gavin Folkestad was selected by his peers as the 2020 Section 3A Speech Coach of the Year.

This is the first time the 10-year veteran coach has received the honor.

"I was surprised when I heard I got the award," Folkestad said. "We have a large number of great veteran coaches in our section who all would be well-deserving of being Section 3A Speech Coach of the Year."

Luverne assistant speech coach Caroline Thorson was not as surprised.

"He is a calm, thoughtful leader-coach who allows his speech students to find their own voice and helps them capitalize on their individual strengths," Thorson shared on social media.

Folkestad will be presented with a certificate this fall at the Communication and Theater Association of



Minnesota gathering.

"Or (it) will be mailed in the event that the event is hosted virtually," Folkestad said.

The coronavirus ended the 2020 speech season in mid-March, about a month short of the state speech tournament. This season Folkestad and Thorson led 40 seventh- through 12-grade students on the team.

10 years ago (2010)

•Philo Hawes is credited as being the founder of Luverne, but until now his name wasn't on the monument marking his family grave in Maplewood Cemetery.

That bothered Rock County Historical Society President Betty Mann. "He's the founding father of Luverne, and his name wasn't even on the monument," she said.

After enlisting the help of former Maplewood caretaker Vance Walgrave, they determined that Philo and his wife were indeed buried there, but their names weren't marked.

"Their son, daughter and their spouses are on the stone, which I never understood, because they would have to have died before their children," Mann said.

"We have proof in the paper that they were buried out there, but it's never been established there."

In order to change a gravesite marker, state law requires that immediate family authorize it, so Mann set out to find the Hawes descendants.

About two years ago she made contact with Dick Hawes in Washington and received permission to mark the stone. "He was very excited about it," Mann said.

25 years ago (1995)

•The Luverne baseball team will make its fifth appearance in the Minnesota State Tournament after wrapping up the Section 3A championship in Springfield this week.

The Cardinals beat Windom 7-0 in a winner's bracket play Saturday to earn a shot at the title. Lac Qui Parle Valley came out of the loser's bracket and handed the Cards their first loss of the double-elimination tournament Tuesday afternoon, but

Luverne gained revenge with a 4-2 victory in the must-win game which followed Tuesday night.

The 20-6 Cardinals open state tournament play Tuesday against the Section 5A champion at Dick Putz Stadium in St. Cloud.

50 years ago (1970)

•Luverne's country club building will be rebuilt this summer, the board of directors decided Monday night.

Their newly completed building was destroyed by fire early Sunday, just one day after the painting contractor completed his work. The club had been used on a limited basis for about three weeks.

Loss of the building and contents was fixed at \$56,000. Insurance is expected to cover the building loss, but not all the contents.

Vernon Hansen, Hardwick, discovered the blaze and called the fire department. Hansen has a Minneapolis Sunday Tribune rural carrier route and was driving on the north-south blacktop, about a quarter of a mile west of the golf course, when he noticed flames coming through the roof near the chimney. He awakened the Henry Klosterbuer family, who live on U.S. 16, just north of the golf course, and firemen were called from there. He said he had just heard the time announced on the car radio. It was 5:35 a.m.

75 years ago (1945)

•Cancellation of all plans to hold the Rock County Fair here this year was announced by L.D. Long, president, and J.B. McRobert, secretary of the fair association.

The fair board held a special meeting Saturday night to consider the advisability of going ahead with fair plans, in view

CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

•Mike Uithoven will celebrate his 90th birthday on Sunday, June 7. Greetings may be sent to him at 1300 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne, MN 56156.

•Loren and Jan Reese will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday, June 6. Cards may be sent to 725 Kentucky Ave., Adrian, MN 56110.

Bridal showers

There will be an open house bridal shower for Hallie Baker, bride-to-be of Logan Crosby, at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, June 6, at the Reformed Church of Steen.

MENU

Monday, June 8: Egg bake with sausage, cheesy hashbrowns, peaches, coffee cake.

Tuesday, June 9: Taco salad with taco meat, cheese, salsa, lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream, corn chips; fruited gelatin.

Wednesday, June 10: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, stewed tomatoes, fruit cup, bar.

Thursday, June 11: Goulash, coleslaw, garlic breadstick, pudding.

Friday, June 12: Chicken and noodles, carrots, dinner roll, sherbert.

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

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

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

SCHOOL NEWS

Local creative writers receive recognition

Three Hills-Beaver Creek students and one from Luverne Middle School placed in the 2020 Southwest/West Central Creative Writing Contest.

H-BC seventh-grader Mazzi Moore placed first in non-fiction writing about Woodrow Wilson as "Most Influential President."

Kamron Kellenberger, an H-BC third-grader, placed first in poetry for "Robbers and Thieves."

A second-place finish was given to Brooklynne Hubbard, a H-BC fifth-grader, in non-fiction writing for "On Small Farm."

Makenzie Pap with LMS was selected third in fiction writing for the seventh- through eight-grade age group.

A virtual awards ceremony honored the 256 students in third through twelfth grade who submitted entries in one or more of the three categories: poetry, fiction and non-fiction.

First-place winners were awarded \$20 gift certificates to Barnes and Noble.

REMEMBER WHEN

OBITUARIES

Steven Nelson

Steven Mark Nelson, 66, Hawarden, Iowa, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, in his home.

A small celebration of life will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 13, at the Big Sioux Shelter House, 4051 Cherry Ave., Hawarden. Due to COVID-19, please practice social distancing; only 20 people will be allowed at one time in the shelter.

Steven was born on July 13, 1953, to Richard and June Nelson in Trent, South Dakota. He graduated from Dell Rapids High School and resided in Dell Rapids, South Dakota, for many years before moving to Luverne, and in his later years to Hawarden,

Iowa.

Steven was a hard-working man who took the time to teach others what he knew. He had a passion for taking care of animals and spending time outdoors. Steven also loved listening to country music and was an avid Waylon Jennings fan.

Steven is survived by four children, Samuel Nelson (Eliza), Jessica Feldick (Christopher), Brennan Nelson (Ava), and Quintin Nelson; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Arrangements are provided by Porter Funeral Home in Hawarden, porternfunerals.com

(0604 F)

Barbara Vander Poel

Barbara Mary Vander Poel, 96, Luverne, died Monday, May 25, 2020, at Bethany Meadows in Brandon, South Dakota.

A private family funeral mass was Saturday, May 30, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne.

Barbara Bauer was born Oct. 16, 1923, to Lambart and Mary (Fink) Bauer in Eden, South Dakota. She graduated from Lake City High School in Lake City, South Dakota.

Barbara married Bertus Vander Poel on Jan. 28, 1953, at St. Joseph Cathedral in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After their marriage, the couple farmed the family farm where Bert grew up. In April of 1992 the couple retired and moved to Luverne.

She was a member of St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, the outdoors, and

visits from her family.



Barbara is survived by her son, Larry (Kathy) Vander Poel, Oakdale; five grandchildren, Jennifer (Steven) Silvera Lindemer, Forest Lake, Cynthia Vander Poel, Minneapolis, Deanna (Jim) Ekholm, Richfield, Adam (Lori) Vander

Poel, Minneapolis, and Sarah Vander Poel, Minneapolis; twelve great-grandchildren, Ashlyn, Evan, Cajsa, Onie, Jordan, Madelynn, Ian, Janaeyah, Nevaeh, Lamar Junior, Joseph, Andrew; and a sister, Sally Osiecki, Hartford, South Dakota.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bert; a grandson-in-law, Shawn Silvera; and six siblings. Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com.

(0604 F)

Marlene Madison

Marlene Faye Madison, 80, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, died Friday, May 29, 2020, at Ava's Hospice Home in Sioux Falls.

A private family service for Marlene will take place at Heritage Funeral Home in Sioux Falls.

Marlene Harmon was born on Jan. 12, 1940, to Ronald and Doris (Dean) Harmon. She grew up in the Spirit Lake, Iowa, area. She moved to Luverne in 1956 and graduated from Luverne High School in 1958.

On Dec. 7, 1958, Marlene married Virgil Madison at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. They remained in Luverne for a short time before moving to Cherokee, Iowa. In 1985 they moved to Mesa, Arizona, where they lived until November 2019 when they moved to Sioux Falls due to Marlene's deteriorating health and to be closer to family.

Marlene had a strong Christian faith and was an

active member of Victory Lutheran Church in Mesa.

Marlene is survived by her husband, Virgil; a son, Mark (Sherri) Madison and grandson Hunter of Sioux City, Iowa; a sister, Marilyn Kreisel, Aurelia, Iowa; brothers Mel (Jo) Harmon, Mesa, Dean Harmon, East Moline, Illinois, and Larry (Colleen) Harmon, Cherokee; and many nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors. She is also remembered by her church ladies group (God's Golden Girls) in Mesa who were all extremely special to her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ron and Doris Harmon; her infant grandson, Justin; her sister and brother-in-law Karen (Ron) Brown; sister-in-law Jan Harmon; and brother-in-law Dick Kreisel.

Arrangements were provided by Heritage Funeral Home in Sioux Falls, heritagessd.com.

(0604 F)

1889: Townsite of Hills undergoes surveying

The following appeared in The Rose History in 1911.

Rock County Village of Hills (continued from 5-28-20 edition of the Star Herald.)

The farmers residing in the vicinity were given the privilege of christening the new town. They chose the name Oslo, but before the site was platted, late in October, it was learned that there was a town of the same name in Marshall county, Minnesota, and those interested decided on Grant for the name. That name was also short lived, for when the local passenger tariff of the new road was issued early in December, the new station was listed Anderson, in honor of Goodman Anderson, then a resident of Martin township, now of Hills. The station was known by this name until the following spring.

The townsite was surveyed in November, 1889, by O. C. Pitkin. The dedication was made February 17, 1890, by E. W. Skinner, and the instrument was filed for record May 31 of the same year.³ The track was laid to and beyond the site of the town in the fall of 1889, and before the first of the next year a depot, section house, windmill and tank were erected. No one made his home there, however, and prior to the year 1890 Hills



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

(or Anderson, as it was then called) did not have a single inhabitant.

³The original plat consisted of sixteen blocks. North and south the avenues were named Main, were numbered First to Sixth. Additions to Hills have been platted as follows:

Lars O. Kolsrud's, by Lars O. Kolsrud and Andrew Gunderson, July 21, 1893; surveyed by W. N. Davidson. F. C. Finke's, by Frederick C. Finke, May 12, 1893; surveyed by W. N. Davidson. County Auditor's Outlots, by County Auditor, October 16, 1909; surveyed by W. N. Davidson.

The first inhabitant of Anderson was Olaf Nordby, who came in January, 1890, as section foreman. The section house was occupied by one of his men who had a family, and Mr. Nordby boarded with them. Early in February B. F. Heastand came to Anderson as agent for the Sioux City & Northern and opened the station. The matter of selecting a permanent name for the

town-to-be became a live issue early in the year and the matter was argued in the year and the matter was argued for several weeks before any business enterprises were started.⁴ On March 1 a public meeting was held, at which the name Hills was decided upon. This was given in honor of Frederick C. Hills, who was at the time the president of the Sioux City & Northern railroad.⁵

⁴"The parties interested in the new town of Anderson in Martin township are having a little squabble over the name." — Beaver Creek Newsletter, February 21, 1890.

⁵Frederick C. Hills was born in England January 23, 1842, and came to America with his parents at the age of seven years. He served three months in the Civil War, being discharged because of physical disability. He located in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1864, was one of the organizers of the Sioux City & Northern, and for seven years served as president and general manager of that road. He

died from poisoning in Sioux City, November 23, 1899.

In the spring of 1890 Hills became a town in fact as well as in name. Several business enterprises were started, and before the close of the summer season there were quite a number of stores, shops and warehouses, the greater number of which had come in their entirety from the neighboring village of Bruce. To William Thompson, who lived on his farm adjoining the townsite, and Orval E. McClarey belong the honor of being the first to engage in business in Hills. In March these gentlemen erected the first business house in the town, on Main street, one block from the depot, and on April 28 opened a grocery and hardware store, also engaging in shipping livestock.⁶ While Thompson & McClarey were establishing the first business house, others were putting up buildings in the new town, and immediately after the pioneer store was started other business enterprises were founded.

The story of the village of Hills will continue in the June 11 edition of the Star Herald.

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

DEATH NOTICES

Delores Dressen

Delores M. Dressen, 98, Ellsworth, formerly of Magnolia, died at the Parkview Manor in Ellsworth on Sunday, May 31, 2020.

A memorial talk via Zoom conferencing platform will take place in the near future.

Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0604 DN)

Annalene Van Iperen

Annalene Della Van Iperen, 83, Pipestone, died Sunday, May 31, 2020, at the Good Samaritan Society in Pipestone.

A funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 4, at the Worthington Christian Reformed Church with visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be in the Holman Township Cemetery in Sibley, Iowa. The service may be live-streamed at http://www.facebook.com/DingmannFH.

Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Worthington, dingmannandsons.com. (0604 DN)

Joshua Winselman

Joshua Lynn Winselman, 34, Adrian, died Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A memorial service was Friday, May 29, at the Adrian Cemetery. Burial of remains followed at the Adrian cemetery.

Arrangements were provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Adrian, dingmannandsons.com. (0604 DN)

Remember When/from page 6

of the damage done to the fair association buildings at the fair grounds by Thursday night's wind storm. At that time, the grandstand, built in 1938 at the cost of \$4,300, was destroyed, and considerable damage was done to the main livestock barn. The 4-H building was twisted on its foundation, but was not severely damaged, and board fences around the race track were blown down, the wreckage being strewn over a wide area.

The board carried \$8,000 insurance on the livestock barn, which will amply cover the cost of repairing the structure. They carried \$3,000 worth of insurance on the grandstand. All other buildings and board walls were also insured against windstorm damage.

Although no definite arrangements have been made, it has been suggested that an "achievement day" be held for the 4-H members in the county, at which time their projects can be judged, and representatives to the various state 4-H competitive events can be useable for that purpose.

100 years ago (1920)

•Memorial day was most appropriately observed in this city, at Beaver Creek and at Hills by a large number of the people of Rock county, who eagerly took advantage of the opportunity to pay respect and reverence to the Grand Army veterans — both living and deceased.

In Luverne the exercises started shortly after nine o'clock at the Central school grounds, where the school children had assembled. Here a short address was delivered by Ivan O. Hanson, Esq., interspersed with singing by the children and parade lines were then formed for the customary march to the Palace theatre where the principal exercises of the day were held.

At the theatre the program consisted of an address by Dr. J. E. Bowes, of Mankato, and the singing of a number of songs by the audience with Rev. H. Hugh Gower as leader.

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Trikes available in fleet of wheels to borrow on Loop Trail in Luverne

By Lori Sorenson

Two adult trikes will join the fleet of free bicycles available through the borrow-a-bike program operated by the local Roll On Luverne Program.

Two more will be given to residents at The Oaks and Poplar Creek senior housing as part of Minnesota's Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP).

The agency informed the Luverne Chamber on May 6 that the community had been awarded a \$2,200 grant to expand the borrow-a-bike fleet with the trikes.

SHIP will purchase the equipment — Raleigh Tristar 3-speed trikes — and have them delivered to Luverne.

The Roll On Luverne program already has eight adult bikes and four youth bikes available to use free of charge 24 hours a day. The GrandStay Hotel &



The trikes available for borrowing along the Loop Trail will have 24-inch wheels in the front and the two 20" rear wheels and a front brake lock for safe stopping.

Suites on South Highway 75 serves as the bike loan headquarters where bikers sign a waiver at the hotel front desk and leave a driver's license or

credit card while borrowing equipment.

The trikes have 24-inch wheels in the front and the two 20" rear wheels and

a front brake lock for safe stopping.

The Chamber Office will announce when the trikes arrive and are available for use.

District spending/ from page 1

rent 4-foot wide concrete apron to 44-foot wide ranged from \$66,900 to \$101,000.

The proposals also included a concrete swale to funnel water away from the front of the bus barn's overhead doors. The concrete apron and swale replace the asphalt surface that excessive water drainage has eroded.

District officials budgeted \$300,000 for parking lot improvements.

Hulstein Excavating of Edgerton was awarded the bid with the low \$66,900 proposal. The project is expected to be finished in late July.

The split vote came after the board unanimously supported spending \$32,300 to place drainage tile around the two baseball fields on the school campus.

The tile will be buried around the outside of the two playing fields to funnel excess moisture away from the perimeter fencing. The water has pushed the perimeter fence posts out of the ground, causing a safety hazard.

Reker Construction of Adrian submitted the only project proposal. The project is expected to be finished in July followed by the fence repairs.

Board members tabled updating an employment contract with Superintendent Craig Oftedahl.

Revised budget shows deficit

Board members approved a revised 2019-20 budget at their April 23 meeting. The revision reflected a deficit of \$539,000 in the general fund.

Business manager Marlene Mann presented the revised budget of \$18 million. Mann said a decline in enrollment is the main contributor to the deficit.

"Our enrollment this year is at 1,202 and last year it was at 1,229," Mann said. "When you have that kind of reduction it makes quite a difference in your basic formula."

School districts receive a basic formula allowance of \$6,438 per average daily membership.

For the 2020-21 school year enrollment is projected to remain steady.

Mann assured board

members that the district can cover this year's projected deficit, but cautioned future budgets may not have the same flexibility.

"You need to keep in mind, you get a snowball effect, and if you don't stop the snowball, it gets bigger faster," she said.

Outside of the general fund, overspending is expected in food service and community service of \$61,000 and \$86,000 respectively. However, the continued expenses and decrease in revenue in these areas due to the coronavirus pandemic could increase the deficits.

Since the pandemic closed schools and students turned to distance learning, the district continued to prepare meals for students free of charge and provided day care for essential medical workers.

Community education continued school readiness classes distantly but no tuition was charged.

This summer the district will continue a food service program into June for the first time in school history.

School districts may be reimbursed for the added expenditures due to the coronavirus; however, no decisions have been made at the state level. Minnesota legislators next meet June 12 in special session.

In other business, the school board:

- Accepted the resignations of Deb Hoogendoorn as middle school girls' tennis coach effective May 1, Jodi Rops, middle school basketball coach, effective May 12, David Rysdam, social studies teacher, effective May 27, and Barb Antoine, middle school boys' tennis coach, effective May 19.

- Revised the salary of Ann Rigney, food service director, from 200 to 220 days to accommodate the summer food service program through June. The total salary for 2019-20 will be \$40,500.

- Approved the maternity leave request for Kelsie Rivas, paraprofessional, from Aug. 28 to Nov. 19.

- Accepted the retirement of Todd Mann, custodian, effective Aug. 28.

- Approved hiring Lisa Nath as community education/ECFE/school readiness director. Salary for the 2020-21 contract year is \$60,000.

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CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be on either wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be 20 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload or faster to qualify.

A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain a Lifeline discount can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-855-954-6546 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.



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Terms: Cox Realty & Land Services, LLC will be accepting sealed bid offers for the said property until 5:00PM on Wednesday, June 23, 2020, along with a 20% earnest money check down. Offers may be mailed in or dropped off at Cox Realty & Land Services, LLC, 102 E Pearl St, Ste. 103, Adrian, MN 56110. Cox Realty & Land Services will then invite all who have submitted an offer, to the Adrian American Legion Post 32 building on Maine Street in Adrian, MN, at 10:00AM, Thursday, June 25, 2020. At that time all offers will be announced and each offeror will have the opportunity to bid on the said property starting with the highest offer presented. The bidding process will continue until one remains. The successful bidder, will then be required to sign a Purchase Agreement with 20% earnest money down, with the balance due upon closing. Closing will be October 1, 2020. Possession will be after the 2020 crop removal.

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Submitted photo/0604 Luverne Trap 1

The 2020 Luverne High School trap shooting team includes (front, from left) coach Scott Loosbrock, AJ Ossefoort, Jacob Henning, Chase Overgaard, Cheyenne Schutz, Leah Wynia, Gunnar Oldre, Grant Wieneke, coach Rich DeSchepper; (second row) Justin Dohlmann, Hunter Ahrendt, Marshal Dammann, Cooper Arends, Tryg Gangestad, Colby Crabtree, Carter Loosbrock, Austin Watts-Boll; (back row) JT Remme, Camron Kopp, Peter Baustian, Eric Somnis, Austin Henning, Colton Schutz, and Mason Wenzel. Missing are Mitchell Schomacker and coaches Doug Deutsch, Joe Loosbrock and Delbert Gangestad.

Plans for summer baseball moving forward

By Jason Berghorst

With all high school spring sports canceled due to pandemic concerns, local sports fans are curious about plans for summer sports.

Luverne baseball teams have, so far, been unable to begin play due to continuing coronavirus regulations.

In May the board that oversees American Legion baseball in Minnesota canceled the 2020 season statewide.

Local leaders and coaches are looking at other options to give athletes who would have played on the Legion and Junior Legion teams the opportunity to play abbreviated seasons outside of sanctioned Legion baseball.

Jon Schomacker, summer recreation director for Luverne Community Education, said as state guidelines continue to evolve, he's optimistic that local youth will be able to play a modified season.

"Our plan is to have 18U, 16U, and 14U teams to replace the normal Legion, Junior Legion and seventh/eighth grade level teams when we are able to," he said.

Schomacker said school district facilities will be available for use starting June 15, and he expects games to be scheduled after that.

"We'll certainly be following all the guidelines related to the virus, but we think we can still play safely later this summer" he said.

Community Education minor and major league youth baseball and T-ball teams are taking registrations and hope to begin July 6.

The Luverne Redbirds amateur baseball team has also faced a delayed start.

Redbirds Coach Brooks Mauer said the Minnesota Baseball Association is waiting for word from the governor's office on when amateur games can begin in the state.

The MBA has given teams the go-ahead to play games in other states for now.

Mauer said his team is scheduling a number of games in South Dakota and will open their season tonight (Thursday) in Valley Springs.

Trap team opens delayed season

By Jason Berghorst

After a nearly two-month delay, the Luverne High School trap shooting team opened a modified spring season May 18.

According to coach Scott Loosbrock, many changes have been made to the season because of concerns related to the coronavirus.

"We're glad the full season wasn't canceled, but there will be no state or national tournaments this year," Loosbrock said.

Instead, the team was given the option to shoot a five-week season locally and submit scores to the league to determine the team's placement and recognize top shooters.

Loosbrock said social distancing requirements have impacted the team in a number of ways.

"We waited to start until the stay-at-home orders were lifted and are scheduling the kids to shoot in small groups 15 minutes at a time," he said. "And of course we already shoot outside and six feet apart."

There are also no team practices this spring, only the five competitive shooting sessions.

This year's team includes seven seniors who were freshmen when the Luverne program began with twelve members in 2017.

"They are a great group of kids and have been great leaders for the team," Loosbrock said.

"They had a good chance to go to state, too," he said. "They have been shooting real well already this year."

The team has completed three of their five regular season shoots and will complete the season the week of June 18.

"The state league will then calculate all the scores and place teams in conferences after the season to determine how the team places.

"It'll be different, but I'm glad we got to have some kind of season for the seniors," Loosbrock said.

The top shooters from the first three weeks of competition are listed at right.



Members of the Luverne High School trap shooting team began their competitive season May 18. Pictured are (from left) Colby Crabtree, Chase Overgaard, Marshal Dammann, Austin Watts-Boll and Cooper Arends.

Luverne High School Trap Results

Week One		Week Two		Week Three	
Boys					
Hunter Ahrendt	47	Hunter Ahrendt	48	Hunter Ahrendt	47
Gunnar Oldre	47	Gunnar Oldre	47	JT Remme	47
Carter Loosbrock	46	Carter Loosbrock	46	Austin Henning	46
Austin Watts-Boll	46				
Girls					
Cheyenne Schutz	40	Cheyenne Schutz	40	Cheyenne Schutz	42
Leah Wynia	32	Leah Wynia	36	Leah Wynia	41

Arends places second in stock car races at Rock Rapids speedway

By Jason Berghorst

Local dirt track racecar drivers faced a delay in the start of racing season due to coronavirus restrictions.

Rapid Speedway in Rock Rapids, Iowa, and I-90 Speedway near Hartford, South Dakota, opened in mid-May, and Rock County drivers have been competing at the area tracks each Friday and Saturday.

Rapid Speedway

Luverne's Colton Arends led local racers last weekend, placing second in the A Feature of the USRA Stock Car class at Rapid Speedway Friday.

Arends placed third in his heat race before starting the A Feature in third place.

Scott Overgaard of

Luverne finished the same A Feature in third place after starting the race in the No. 6 spot.

Also in the Stock Car class, Luverne's Spenser Kalass finished the feature race in eleventh place and Larry Kracht of Magnolia placed fifteenth in the same race.

In the USRA Hobby Stock class at Rapid Speedway, Luverne's Thomas Kracht won his heat race before finishing fourth in the A Feature Friday.

Cadyn Wessels of Luverne placed eighth in the Hobby Stock B Feature 2 race.

I-90 Speedway

Two Rock County drivers competed at I-90 Speedway Saturday.

Thomas Kracht finished fourth in the Hobby Stock B

Feature race after placing fifth in his heat race.

Wessels also competed in the Hobby Stock class. He started the B Feature in the No. 4 spot before finishing in tenth place.

Rapid Speedway - May 29
USRA Hobby Stocks A Feature
T. Kracht Luverne 4th
C. Kelderman Hills 19th

USRA Hobby Stocks B Feature 2
C. Wessels Luverne 8th

USRA Stock Cars A Feature
C. Arends Luverne 2nd
S. Overgaard Luverne 3rd
S. Kalass Luverne 11th
L. Kracht Magnolia 15th
K. Kremin Kenneth 19th

I-90 Speedway - May 30
USRA Hobby Stocks A Feature
T. Kracht Luverne 18th

USRA Hobby Stocks B Feature
C. Wessels Luverne 9th



Calvin Kroger/Dirtshotz Racing Photos/0604 Racing

Colton Arends of Luverne finished in second place in the USRA Stock Car A Feature race at Rapid Speedway May 29. Arends started the race in third position.

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

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

Public mass will be celebrated with a limit of 25 percent capacity of the church. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. Friday and 8:30 a.m. Sunday. No mass, communion service or rosary at care centers at this time. 5 p.m. Saturdays and 8:30 a.m. mass will be live streams on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stoclouverne/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@luverncrc.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 Altena, Pastor

From 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, June 4, Rock County Food Shelf curbside. 8 p.m. Saturday, June 6, AA meeting. Sunday, June 7, 9 a.m. adult Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. outdoor worship service held in back yard. 8 p.m. Monday, June 8, AA meeting. 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 10, AA meeting. 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 be led by areas leader as shared. Monday 8 pm — AA Meeting. May 6 Wednesday, 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

Worship services Saturday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. Limit is 75 people. Attendees must call the church office prior to noon Saturday. Services will be available on the Vast channel 3 Sunday and online at the city website at cityofluverne.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
email: lari.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

Worship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills will be online only. 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

The plans of God

God said through the prophet Jeremiah, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart." (29:11-13)

This is a difficult article to write because it is my last one as pastor at St. John. It is hard to know what to say. I could reminisce all that we have experienced together for the past 18 years but that is "water under the bridge." We all have different recollections of what was important and what was good or bad.

What I will always cherish is the way that you allowed me to be a part of your everyday life. I was blessed to be there with you at the births of your children, their baptisms, confirmations, graduations, and weddings. You invited me into your hospital rooms, we shared your fears when your health took a turn for the worse, and we shared God's word when loved ones went home to the Lord. I felt like part of your family and was honored to be the one who was able to show you God's love and grace. These memories are priceless and will remain with me forever.

I thank God for giving me this opportunity to be your pastor and His under-shepherd. I have always believed that my life was a gift from Him and that every experience was part of His plan for me. That is why I began this letter with the words from Jeremiah. They have always been a reminder to me that things don't just happen because I want them to. Things, for better or worse, happen according to God's plan. This had its start at creation when God put His plan into motion. I was a part of that plan even then.

The main point of God's plan is that it is always working for my good (and all those who believe). Even when I fail to follow

BUILT ON A ROCK

**By Pastor Gary Klatt
St. John Lutheran Church, Luverne**

His plan, He humbles me and brings me back on board through repentance and forgiveness. He has done this through my parents, siblings, co-workers, and most importantly through His church (my beloved people) as we share His Word and Sacraments in worship. This will all continue until He calls us home to be with Him in heaven.

His plan may be leading us on different paths for a while, but that is OK because all of our personal paths are still a part of His universal path that leads us to the same destination with Him and our Lord Jesus Christ.

I know that He has good things prepared for me that I have not even imagined and that is always exciting. But I know that He has awesome things planned for each of you and also for St. John as His precious church. There is no greater blessing than to know that the Almighty God has His plans for you and that they are always for your good!

Rejoice every day that you are a baptized child of God. Take every opportunity to listen to His Word so that He can remind you of His plan for you and how you can best live it out. The future is bright for all of us because we live in the light of our Savior, Jesus Christ. His love will always unite us as the family of God.

Finally, put your trust in God to provide you with all that you need to get through the changes that come to all of us. God is good and He will be good forever!

Thanks be to God for all His blessings!

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ISD #2184 School Board meets April 23

MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2184,
ROCK COUNTY, LUVERNE, MINNESOTA.

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, ISD #2184, was held via "Zoom" from the District Office on April 23, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Katie Baustian, Jodi Bosch, Colleen Deutsch, Tim Jarchow, Shelley Sandbulte, and Reva Sehr. Absent: Eric Hartman. Also present: Craig Oftedahl, Marlene Mann, Jason Phelps, Stacy Gillette, Ryan Johnson, Karen Willers, Jordan Winter, Caroline Thorson, April Wallace, Jason Berghorst, Marie Atkinson-Smeins, Becky Rahm, Peter Janiszewski, Sue Hup, Amy Sahly, Kara Ahrendt, Stacy Schepel, and Mavis Fodness - Rock County Star Herald.

Chairperson Bosch called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion made by Deutsch, second by Baustian, to approve the agenda. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Administrative reports were given. Motion made by Baustian, second by Sehr, to approve the March 26, 2020, School Board meeting minutes as presented. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl gave a building project update. Business Manager Marlene Mann reviewed the bills with the School Board members. Motion made by Deutsch, second by Sehr to approve payment of the bills as presented in the amount of \$1,413,218.07. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Jarchow, second by Sandbulte, to receive the Student Activity Report showing the balances as of March 31, 2020. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Business Manager Marlene Mann reviewed the revised 2019-2020 budget with the School Board members. It was noted that we have a \$500,000 deficit this year. Motion made by Baustian, second by Deutsch, to approve the revised budget showing revenues of \$18,201,354.00 and expenditures of \$23,159,923.00. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Superintendent Oftedahl requested approval from the School Board to complete the Summer Food Service Program Waiver. This waiver would start May 1 and would allow us to continue the meal delivery of breakfast and lunch as we have done during distance learning. He noted we are serving over 320 breakfasts and 320 lunches each day. Motion made by Sandbulte, second by Jarchow, to approve the Summer Food Service Program waiver. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Business Manager Marlene Mann presented the Blue Cross/Blue Shield health and hospitalization insurance rate increase of 9%. Motion made by Deutsch, second

by Sandbulte, to approve the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Health and Hospitalization insurance. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Sandbulte, second by Sehr, to approve the hiring of Jake Aukes as Elementary Special Education teacher effective with the 2020-2021 school year for a salary of \$42,417. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

There were no committee reports. The upcoming meeting dates were reviewed. Motion made by Deutsch, second by Baustian, to adjourn the meeting. Those who voted in favor: Baustian, Deutsch, Sehr, Jarchow, Sandbulte, and Bosch. Those who voted against: none. Motion carried.

Dated: April 23, 2020

Tim Jarchow, Clerk
(06-04)

H-BC School Board meets May 11

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671
Minutes
May 11, 2020

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:05 p.m. via ZOOM Meeting based on MN Statute 13D.021.

Board members present via ZOOM Meeting were Bosch, Gehrke, Knobloch, LaRock, Rauk, and Wysong. Superintendent Holthaus, Principal Schilling, and Business Manager Rozeboom were also in attendance. Board member Rozeboom 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:

-Carter Hartz and Hannah Fick both received 1st place in their proficiencies (SAE awards) in Region VI. They were scored at the state level in March.

-At the state level, Carter placed 2nd in his category of Fiber and Oil Crops, and Hannah placed 5th in her category of Agricultural Sales.

-March Madness - Data Analytics - Sadie Fuerstenberg and Whitney Elbers teamed up and scored in the top 5 out of more than 100 teams. Their algorithm was tested against the 2012 March Madness Tournament.

-Thank you to the PTO for supporting the teachers with the personalized calendars with pictures of their students and the stuffed Cat in the Hat themed mugs to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week.

-School Nurses Day-Wednesday, May 6 -Mrs. Leenderts.

-Teacher of the year--Megan Klumper, Friend of Education-Lexi Moore.

-School Lunch Hero day was on May 1...Thank you to all of our School Lunch Workers.

Motion by Knobloch, second by Wysong, and carried to approve minutes 4/27/2020. Motion by LaRock, second by Bosch, and carried to approve bills.

PERSONNEL:

Motion by LaRock, second by Rauk, and carried to approve Samantha McGaffee's request for two lane changes from BA 15 to master's degree.

Motion by LaRock, second by Bosch, and carried to approve hiring Cloey Anderson as Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion by Knobloch, second by Wysong, and carried to approve Helen Kraayenhof's resignation as district van driver effective June 30, 2020.

Motion by LaRock, second by Wysong, and carried to approve Resignation of Molly Schilling as Secondary Principal effective June 30, 2020.

DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:

- Secondary Principal Report
- Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report
- Committee Meetings: Staff Development - 5/6/2020
- Legislative Update

Agenda Items for the next regularly scheduled meeting

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Senior Commencement 7pm, Friday, May 22
- Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 26
- Regular Board Meeting, Monday, June 8

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Tamara Rauk,
Clerk

Luverne School District seeks bids for roof project

REQUEST FOR BIDS
LUVERNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Luverne School District is requesting bids for the 2020 re-roofing project as described in the construction documents. Bids will be received by Independent School District No. 2184 until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, June 18, 2020, at the office of the Superintendent of Schools, Luverne, Minnesota.

Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the above time and place. Bids received after 2:00 p.m. will be returned unopened.

Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, marked on the lower left-hand corner "Sealed Bid Enclosed - Roofing" with the name and address of the bidder and the date and hour of the opening and addressed to:

Superintendent of Schools
Independent School District No. 2184
709 North Kniss
Luverne, MN 56156

Each bidder must accompany his bid with a Cashier's Check, Bid Bond or Certified Check equal to 5 percent of the amount of the bid payable to the Owner as a guarantee of prompt execution of the Contract in accordance with the Proposal and Contract Documents and that he will furnish bond acceptable to the Owner covering performance of the Contract.

Copies of the plans are on file in the District Office.

Independent School District No. 2184, Luverne, Minnesota, reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities in bids.

Tim Jarchow
Clerk
(6-4, 6-11)

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EMPLOYMENT

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General Construction Laborers Needed. Paid vacation and holidays. Competitive wages. Call 605-261-4050 for more information. (5.30-6.20)

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EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted
Hardwick Maintenance Manager
The City of Hardwick will be accepting applications through June 30, 2020 for the position of City Maintenance Manager. This position includes but is not limited to general city maintenance, mowing and snow removal.
This is a permanent part-time position.
Applications and general job summary are available in the city hall lobby or by e-mailing Tammy Johnson, City Clerk at cityofhardwick@alliancecomm.net. Include your name and address, an application will be mailed to you.
Please submit applications to: PO Box 31, Hardwick, MN 56134 OR the City Hall Drop Box before June 30, 2020.

EMPLOYMENT

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;
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Help Wanted: Automotive Service Advisor

Description:
Papik Motors is looking for a full time SERVICE ADVISOR to join our team of auto professionals in Luverne, MN. At our dealership, we are committed to providing an exceptional customer experience and we know that starts with our most valuable resource- our employees. If you want to work in an environment where customer service is our passion- apply today!

Eligibility Requirements:
Papik Motors is known for outstanding leadership and a culture that is distinctively people-oriented. Check out our website at www.papik.com.

Qualifications:
•Experience is preferred, but not required
•Valid drivers license
•Great communication skills

Compensation and Benefits:
•We offer competitive pay that is determined by experience
•Great Benefits Package
•Available 401(k)
•Paid Vacation and Holidays

Essential Job Duties and Responsibilities include the following:
The role of Automotive Service Advisor involves direct communication between the client & the service technician relating information about the client's vehicle. Presenting needed maintenance & repairs to clients and overseeing the client's vehicle from start to finish is the biggest requirement of this position.

Job Type: Full-time
Contact:
Micky Sehr
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605-321-2057, micky@papik.com



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Families memorialize loved ones with benches/

from page 1
window as families, children and seniors make use of the Bartels bench.

"It is really being used quite well," she said. "It makes me feel good."

Stoffel said the city has been asked by other families about donating benches in memory of loved ones, and two others were installed this spring.

Children of the late Esther Vande Hoef several years ago sought Stoffel's help in placing a bench in Prairie Moon Park near Fire Leaf Circle where their mother lived for roughly 20 years.

She, too, had enjoyed having a nearby "pocket" park, which she could clearly see from her home, according to her daughter, Elaine Boeve, Steen.

"That was a great memorial for her to put that bench out there, because she would sit on her deck and watch the neighborhood kids and her own grandchildren and great-grandchildren playing in the park," Boeve said.

She and her siblings were pleased that the city was willing to let them pick out the bench style they wanted (provided it was safe) and public works crews secured it in poured cement.

"He was so helpful," Boeve said about Stoffel. "He helped pick out a nice iron bench, ordered it and secured it to a poured cement base."

The bronze nameplate says, "In memory of our mother, Esther Vande Hoef."

Megan Boyenga considered donating a bench to the park in Iowa where her husband, Anthony Boyenga, died in a drowning accident last summer.

"But we knew we'd probably never go back there, and I wanted it to be somewhere we actually see it being used," she said.

So she decided to place a memorial bench on the beach at The Lake in Luverne.

"We like going down there," she said. "The kids like to swim



(Submitted photo)

Children of the late Esther Vande Hoef (center) donated a park bench in her memory in Prairie Moon Park. Pictured several years ago with her are (clockwise from left) the late Mike Vande Hoef, Elaine Boeve, Steen, the late Diane Thompson, Ladonna Behnke, Rapid City, South Dakota, and Kevin Vande Hoef, Brandon..



Lori Sorenson photo/0604 memorial benches bartels

Eunice Bartels said her late husband, Elmer Bartels, enjoyed watching families and children enjoying Tonto Park across the street from their home. Now she said she enjoys watching park visitors using the bench her family donated in his memory.

there and have picnics." So she contacted the city and Stoffel helped her get it installed.

"They were awesome about it," Boyenga said. "I

wondered if they'd prefer that we use something like ones they already have around town."

But she said she was pleased the city let her select the one she wanted, a recycled material that looked like wood on a black frame.

"I liked the way it looked; it wasn't metal and it's comfortable," she said. "I was thankful we could get that one."

Her husband's name is etched in black letters on the brown background. "In loving memory of Anthony Boyenga."

The families purchased the benches, and the city of Luverne provided labor and installation materials. For inquiries about future memorial benches, the Luverne City Hall can be reached at 507-449-2388.

USDA reminds producers to complete crop acreage reports

The Rock and Pipestone County offices for USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) are currently open to phone and virtual appointments only but can still work with producers on timely filing crop acreage reports. FSA staff can provide assistance over the phone, by email and through virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams.

The acreage reporting deadline for most crops in Rock and Pipestone counties is July 15.

"In order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements, all producers must file an accurate crop acreage report by the applicable deadline," said Eva Kramer, FSA's county executive director in Rock and Pipestone counties. "Our FSA staff is still able to assist producers in completing acreage reports, including providing maps."

The Rock and Pipestone County FSA offices will provide maps to producers with instructions for completing the maps. After planting is complete, producers should return completed maps.

After completed maps and all acreage reporting information is received, FSA will make software updates and contact producers when the completed Report of Acreage form (FSA-578) is ready to sign.

Producers must return the signed form certifying their acreage report to the FSA office by July 15, 2020.

The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:

*If the crop has not been planted by the acreage reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

*If a producer acquires additional acreage after the acreage

reporting date, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

Producers should also report crop acreage they intended to plant, but due to natural disaster, were unable to plant. Prevented planting acreage must be reported on form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA's Risk Management Agency.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP-covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions, please contact FSA's Rock County office at 507-283-2369 or the Pipestone County office at 507-825-5478.

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only and field service will continue with appropriate social distancing.

While our program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone, and using online tools whenever possible. All service center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

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*LACF will publish honor/memorials received through June 24th in the 4th of July issue of the Rock County Star Herald and Luverne Announcer

How to give: Write a check to LACF, include a note with person's name and branch of service and mail to PO Box 623 Luverne, MN or go to www.luvacf.org and place a credit card gift. Go to "donate now", click on the Rock County Veterans Fund and follow the prompts.

We look forward to honoring these special service men and women. Questions please contact Emily Crabtree, Executive Director at emily@luvacf.org or 507-220-2424

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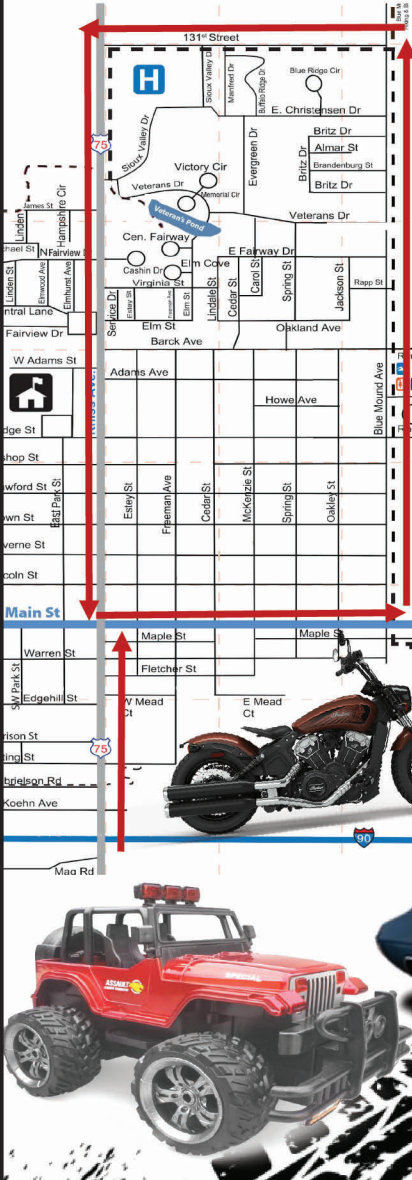


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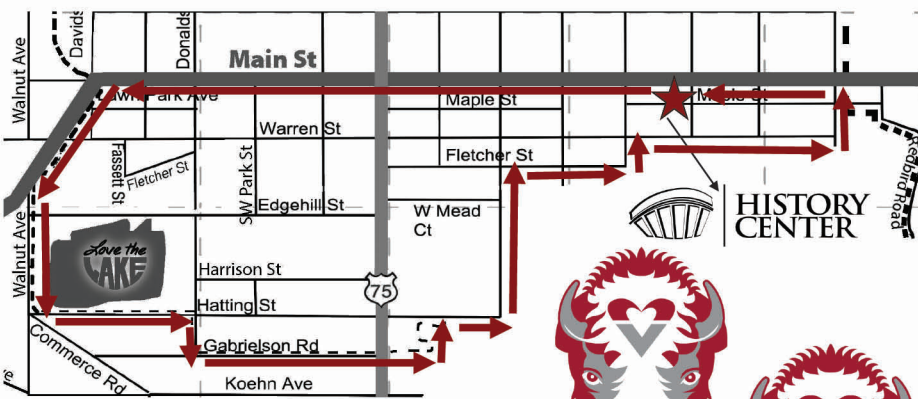


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10 Youth —\$15 Print Express Gift Cards

Photos posted at Luverne Chamber

PRIZES AWARDED JUNE 9TH!



BUFFALO DAYS HIDE & SEEK

WITH MAIN STREET BUSINESSES From Freeman to Blue Mound June 5, 6, and 7

WIN ADULT & YOUTH GIFT CARD PRIZES FROM DRAGONFLY & FIREFLY! 15 BUFFALOS are hiding in the windows of downtown businesses. Discover the buffalo, write down their name & submit your entry!

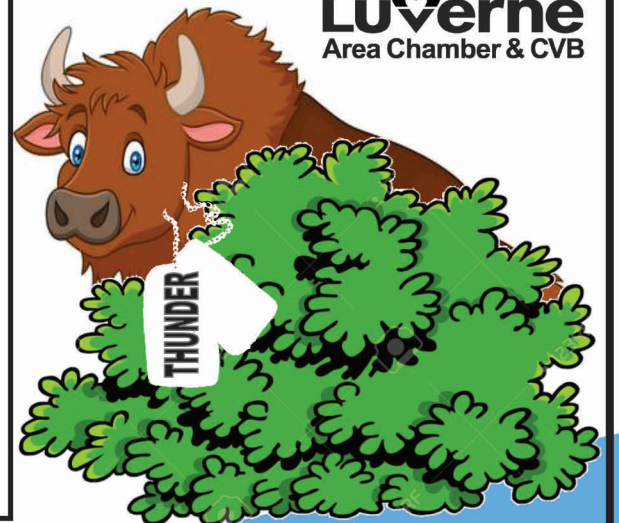
Drop your answers in the CHAMBER DROPBOX by 12 noon, Monday, June 8th! (located by the East Door on McKenzie Street)

5 ADULT & 5 YOUTH PRIZES—\$20 GIFT CARDS

YOUR NAME: _____ PHONE #: _____

NAMES OF THE BUFFALO

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____



Form available at: [Luverne Chamber](#) or www.LuverneChamber.com



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