



# Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, June 18, 2020

## Premium Minnesota Pork starts Monday

*Production to ramp up to full capacity over next six weeks*

By Lori Sorenson

Premium Minnesota Pork will begin processing hogs Monday, June 22, starting at half capacity and ramping up to 2,500 head per day within six weeks.

President Dan Paquin said Thursday that the management team has been hired, and plant employment is at more than 150 of the anticipated full employment of 250.

"Hiring is going well," he said. "We had a good turnout of applicants and we have a real good mix of people coming in here. We have a good cross section of skill here to help us get started, and the rest we'll train."

Premium Iowa Pork bought the former Gold'n Plump property in 2018 and has invested \$30 million in plant improvements and retrofits.

The company, owned by Lynch Livestock, operates an antibiotic-free pork plant in Hospers, Iowa, and the Luverne plant falls under the same management.

Scott Johnson, plant engineer for both Luverne and Hospers facilities, will be Luverne's plant manager. He has also been involved in hiring Luverne employees.

"These are seasoned veterans in this industry; they're people with experience in this line of work," Johnson said.

"They're good management people, and I'm just really excited about being part of the management side of the business."

Paquin said starting a plant amid the coronavirus pandemic is a concern, but he said it has had a minimal effect on the Hospers operation, and he said he hopes it won't affect Luverne's plant.

"We are working with CDC recommendations," he said. "But our folks have more space to work, and we're cleaning and sanitizing, as always."

Construction is nearing completion as the plant gears up for the June 22 production startup.

"There's a flurry of activity as we test and clean up," Paquin said. "Now it's preparation for startup and electrical hookup to all the equipment."

Workers recently processed a run of carcasses to test cut floor equipment, such as conveyors and saws, and this week they will test a production run from live hogs to final output.

Paquin said the cleanup crew has been working nearly nonstop to stay ahead of construction dust

Premium Minnesota Pork/p. 3



Straps are released from the second of four 93,000-pound, 106-foot-long concrete beams that were lifted into place by a crane Thursday morning, June 11, during construction on the County 52 bridge west of Beaver Creek. The new structure replaces the wooden bridge that burned in 2017.

## Bridge beams lifted into place over railroad tracks

Photos and text by Mavis Fodness

Eight concrete beams were lifted into place Thursday, June 11, for the new County 52 bridge over the railroad tracks west of Beaver Creek.

A crane operator from the Barnhart crane division and crews from Prahm Construction of Slayton worked between train passings to set the beams into place in one day.

Four 106-foot-long concrete beams weighing 93,000 pounds each were lifted into place above the Burlington Northern Sante Fe railroad.

Four other concrete beams were also lifted from semitrailers and put into place for the south side bridge approach. The north side had previously been completed.

Preparations are now underway for decking on the project that has been delayed for months.

Most recently, county officials waited three months for permission from BNSF to lift the concrete beam bridge forms into place.



Balancing on the concrete bridge beams, Prahm Construction workers make measurements for the concrete decking that will cover the beams that stretch over the railroad.

County 52 bridge construction/p. 12



Above, workers guide a large concrete beam that the crane places over the BNSF railroad. At right, Prahm Construction workers attach the 106-foot-long concrete beam into place as the operator from Barnhart crane division waits to lift the second of four beams into place.



## Volunteers sidelined by pandemic report missing fulfillment of their assignments

By Jason Berghorst

"I really miss seeing those people."

That's how Luverne's Dolly Talbert described being away from her volunteer work at the Sanford Luverne Clinic since March.

"I really enjoy working at the front desk, greeting all the people who come in," Talbert says. "It's fun to see so many people, sometimes people I haven't seen in years come in."

Talbert is one of many local retired residents who volunteer in the community through A.C.E. of

*"Our most valuable population is also our most vulnerable. There will never be another generation like this one; they are priceless."*

— Linda Wenzel, A.C.E.

Southwest Minnesota-Rock County. Most of those volunteer opportunities have been put on hold since

the coronavirus pandemic stay-at-home orders began in March.

Care facilities, the medical center, schools and other locations that rely heavily on volunteers have been temporarily closed or restricted from having visitors.

"It's really been hard," said Linda Wenzel, Aging and Volunteer Service Coordinator for A.C.E. in Rock County.

"These volunteers really look forward to helping out and often the people they go to see need that

Volunteers sidelined/see page 2

## Trailhead building open for use

By Lori Sorenson

The former Casey's convenience store on East Main Street in Luverne is the new trailhead building for the Blue Mound Trail and Rock River water recreation.

Luverne contractor Tom Nergaard recently completed the \$125,000 project, which also includes handicap-accessible public restrooms that are now open for use.

Exterior siding was removed and interior walls were gutted. A new entrance was built with an exterior blend of architecture with exposed rock and dark trim.

The city of Luverne acquired the property from Casey's Corporation

for \$1 in January 2019.

Since then, city leaders have been considering the best use for the property as a trail head building, considering its location on the bike trail and near the river.

"We're planning whatever we can do to enhance our outdoor quality of life," Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian said during 2019 discussions.

"It could be something that rents bikes, canoes and kayaks, and possibly a bike repair shop and other services."

On March 31, 2017, Casey's closed its East Main Street location,

Trailhead building/see page 2



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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Meetings

**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.

**Kenneth Cemetery Association** will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 27, in the Kenneth Community Center.

### Hardwick Jubilee Days canceled

Jubilee Days, the annual summer celebration conducted by the Hardwick Community Club has been canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The parade, community meal, pedal tractor pull, bale toss competition were to be conducted June 27.

### Senior nutrition

Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors 60 and older, sponsored by A.C.E. of SW MN will be from 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the parking lot at 319 E. Lincoln in Luverne. Call Linda Wenzel at 283-5064 for more information, pre-registration required, if not already enrolled.

### New Life Celebration Church offers food giveaway June 18

The monthly food give-away sponsored by New Life Celebration Church will be 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the Generations parking lot at 319 E. Lincoln St, Luverne.

Recipients are asked to stay in their vehicles and drive passed the double glass doors on the building's west side. Volunteers will load the groceries.

Recipients who walk are to go to east side of the building, where volunteers have pre-packed bags for pickup. For more information, call 507-283-4366.

### Projects sought for Service Over Self mission through Rock the Edge youth

Youth and adults in the 2020 Rock the Edge Service Over Self local mission, a mission trip conducted locally consisting of area youth and adults.

The group is seeking outdoor half-day projects to complete for area residents or businesses during the June 22-26 mission week.

The projects must be completed outdoors and can consist of weeding or cleaning activities for groups of 10 student workers.

Contact Wanda Jarchow, 507-227-1978, for more information or to arrange a half-day Service Over Self activity.

### History Center open limited hours

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.

## Geronimo Energy helps Luverne Area Community Foundation top its \$50,000 fundraising goal

Geronimo Energy (Geronimo), a National Grid company, has donated \$5,500 to the Luverne Area Community Foundation (LACF), pushing LACF over its fundraising goal of \$50,000.

LACF's fundraising efforts are focused on its Community Crisis Fund, which was established to help non-profit organizations in Rock County with funding to offset the stresses or demands of COVID-19.

Geronimo is a longtime partner for the Rock County community. Geronimo developed the operating Prairie Rose Wind Farm, a 200 megawatt (MW) wind energy project, and is also currently developing the Elk Creek Solar Project, an 80 MW solar energy project proposed in the local area.

The LACF donation is one of many contributions Geronimo is making throughout the country within its project host communities in an effort to help aid communities during these unprecedented times.

"As a community-focused company, we are committed to the well-being of the residents and organizations who host our renewable energy projects," said Jordan Burmeister, a senior developer and market lead for Geronimo Energy.

"We are proud to support local non-profits and the residents of Rock County with this donation and truly hope it helps their community."

"We are thrilled to have partnered with Geronimo Energy in an effort to help communities in our county get through this difficult time," said Emily Crabtree, executive director for LACF.

Two non-profit organizations LACF supported through the Community Crisis Fund are the Luverne Farmers Market and the Palace Theatre.



Luverne Farmers Market vendors greet shoppers Thursday, June 11, in their lot near Redbird Field. To address safety issues they needed hand sanitizers, table sanitizers, paper towels, yellow caution tape, spray chalk, Q-tips to use on the credit card machine and a small table to use as a hand-washing/sanitizing station. "The budget was not planned for implementing new protocol, but we needed items," said Luverne Farmer's Market organizer Corrine Bonnema. "Thank you to Emily from LACF for mentioning there was emergency funding available. It's a wonderful feeling knowing we have a caring community."

Lori Sorenson photo

### Farmers Market funding

Corrine Bonnema from the Luverne Farmers Market said everything changed for them with the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the items that they had decided to purchase before the opening of the 2020 season, they were suddenly faced with new guidelines from the MN Department of Agriculture, the MN Farmers Market Association and the University of Minnesota Extension with procedures to be followed at farmers markets for the safety of everyone.

The local Farmers Market group came up with a list of items needed to address the safety issues to include hand sanitizers, table sanitizers, paper towels, yellow caution tape, spray chalk, Q-tips to use on the credit card machine and a small table to use as

a hand-washing/sanitizing station.

"The budget was not planned for implementing new protocol, but we needed items," Bonnema said.

"Thank you to Emily from LACF for mentioning there was emergency funding available. It's a wonderful feeling knowing we have a caring community."

### Palace Theatre funded

"Once again, Luverne Area Community Foundation has come through for the Palace Theatre with a grant designed to aid in the struggle against the COVID-19 virus," said Shawn Kinsinger, executive director for the Luverne Palace Theatre.

"With the grant funds awarded to us, we were able to purchase a disinfecting mister that will allow us to quickly, easily and thoroughly sanitize the Palace after every event. This piece of equip-

ment will go a long way in keeping our visitors and staff safe. We are grateful for the assistance from LACF in our journey to reopen and serve our community."

### About Geronimo Energy

Geronimo Energy is a leading North American renewable energy development company based in Minneapolis, with satellite offices located throughout multiple states in the region where it develops, constructs and operates.

Geronimo's local development, the Elk Creek Solar Project, is anticipated to bring significant economic benefit to the local community.

During the first 20 years of operation, it is estimated to contribute \$8.7 million, including new tax revenue, job creation, local spending and charitable funding.

## Trailhead building open for use/from page 1

boarded the windows and removed inventory and equipment.

The pumps and underground tanks were removed and the corporation received EPA clearance late in 2018 to post it for sale.

From the city's standpoint, owning the property, especially at the price of \$1, is important in order to control Luverne's east "gateway" first impressions.

At that location on the city's east side, the property holds promise for all kinds of potential opportunities, but several non-compete restrictions are attached to the deed.

For 15 years whoever buys the lot will not be allowed to sell products similar to those offered by Casey's. This includes fuels, tobacco products, groceries, alcoholic beverages and prepared foods, such as sub sandwiches, pizza and donuts.

A bike repair shop or recreation rental business, however, would conform to this restriction.

Meanwhile, Papik Motors has donated a small bike repair station on the north side of the building for the public to use.

Luverne City Council members toured the building Tuesday night, June 16, as part of their meeting that included tours of the new Public Works mechanics bay addition and the Rock County History Center.



The city of Luverne recently completed a \$125,000 overhaul of the former Casey's building on East Main Street. It includes handicap-accessible public restrooms that are now open for use.



## Volunteers sidelined/continued from page 1

contact the most. It's beneficial to both sides."

Rock County has over 450 senior volunteers who serve at about 70 different locations. Last year, A.C.E. volunteers donated over 46,500 hours of time locally.

Wenzel said that the nature of the population that has been most impacted by the virus has made it important to limit most of the volunteering done by retired people in Rock County.

"Our most valuable population is also our most vulnerable," she said. "There will never be another generation like this one; they are priceless."

Social isolation and missing the chance to see family and friends in person is the hardest part of the pandemic impacts on local seniors, according to Wenzel.

"Some are doing virtual visits or window visits outside the care facilities, but it's just not the same," she said. "People need that human contact and they are really missing it."

### Staying connected while socially distancing

Jan Brandenburg of Luverne is a retiree who normally volunteers at the clinic, the elementary school and many more locations.

"For me, the most disappointing thing was the end of Bookin' Buddies, where I go to read with a student at school," Brandenburg said.

"It all ended so abruptly, we didn't even get to say good-bye," she said.

Brandenburg has found some ways to stay connected during her time away from volunteering.

She said volunteers with the Rock County Historical Society have used Zoom to meet online.

"We also have a group of us who exercise at the park on the basketball court there," Brandenburg said.

"We are able to exercise and socialize in the park while keeping our social distance."

Brandenburg pointed out there is much to learn when our routines are forced to change.

"We just take so much for granted in our day-to-day life," she said. "It's a whole new world for all of us."

Brandenburg was one of over 100 volunteers who were remembered by Sanford Luverne staff in May.

"We didn't get close," said Sara Schmuck, community liaison for Sanford Luverne.

"We just set a piece of boxed pie down with a card, shouted an explanation and ran to the next stop."

Schmuck said the gesture was in place of the annual Sanford volunteer appreciation banquet.

"Some people were asking us to come in for coffee or telling us they were bored," Schmuck said.

"It was quite eye-opening," she added. "Many of them need to volunteer as much as organizations need the volunteers."

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# Magnolia native plays role in SpaceX launch of Demo-2 capsule

By Lori Sorenson

When SpaceX launched its Demo-2 manned spacecraft on May 30, people around the world held their collective breath.

It was the first crewed orbital spaceflight launched from the United States since the final Space Shuttle mission in 2011.

But few were watching more intently than Magnolia native Blair Knutson, who has worked for SpaceX for the past 8 years.

He was on the team that designed and engineered the Demo-2 that successfully reached the International Space Station (ISS) 19 hours after leaving earth. At that moment, he said he exhaled.

"I was definitely holding my breath," said Knutson, who worked on the thermal control system for the spacecraft.

Specifically, he was on the team of engineers that designed the "environmental control and life support system" that would keep the astronauts alive during their mission.

"I pretty much held my breath until we docked with the ISS," Knutson said. "It was one of the really exciting times in my career."

The launch represents a major milestone for SpaceX,

Elon Musk's company that has been ferrying cargo to the ISS aboard unmanned spacecraft. This is the first with humans onboard.

Knutson said there's no return date scheduled yet for the crew.

"We'll keep them up there as long as possible," he said, explaining that the "Crew Dragon" is the capsule that carries astronauts to and from the ISS.

"It's literally a taxi for astronauts," he said

Among other space missions for the American astronauts is to work on SpaceX satellites, like the dozens of Starlink Internet satellites launched Saturday as part of a mega-constellation in orbit.

The satellites are designed to provide high-speed Internet access anywhere on Earth, particularly in remote and underserved locations.

SpaceX is one of two private contractors (along with Boeing) under NASA's \$6.2 billion commercial crew program.

Knutson is the son of Kristi Knutson, Magnolia. He graduated from Southwest Christian High School, Edgerton, in 2008 and earned his mechanical engineering degree in 2012 from Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa.



Lori Sorenson photos/0618 premium Minnesota pork

Construction is wrapping up on the 128,000-square-foot Premium Minnesota Pork processing plant. The company is investing \$30 million to retrofit the former Gold'n Plump building on the west edge of Luverne. A sloped roof on the south end of the facility shelters the barn that will receive up to 2,500 hogs per day, delivered from privately owned family farms in the tri-state area that are regularly audited for PMP standards.

## Premium Minnesota Pork to start processing/ from page 1

in addition to the usual cleanup and sanitizing the plant, which will be a daily job for a crew of 30 people.

"That's a big job," Paquin said. "They come in later in the evening and overnight, and they clean and sanitize everything — surfaces, belts, everything."

At first the hogs processed in Luverne will come from Premium Iowa Pork's existing suppliers, but Paquin said he's looking to contract with local growers.

"We've had a lot of calls from pig producers in our area, and they'd have to raise to our specifications," Paquin said. "Those negotiations are going on. There's been a lot of interest, and we have interest in Minnesota growers, too."

Once the operations are running smoothly, Paquin and Johnson said the company will host a celebration with the community and offer tours.

"We're thankful for the way the community has embraced this project," Johnson said about local leaders, businesses and residents.

"We really appreciate the support we've had to this point. ... Everybody's been very supportive."



The cut floor represents a labyrinth of conveyor belts that deliver cuts of meat to workers — about 125 people in this part of the plant, who further cut and process the meat as it makes its way down the belts toward packaging. Pictured lower right, Corey Wagner, PMP technical services director, points out the large bins that collect 20- to 25-pound whole hams for grading. They get weighed in totes and sent down the line for processing and packaging.



# H-BC School Board prepares for another budget deficit year

By Mavis Fodness

Hills-Beaver Creek School officials expect another year of deficit spending according to a preliminary 2020-21 budget approved by board members June 8.

H-BC expects revenues of \$4.615 million with expenses of \$4.721 million, or a shortage of about \$136,000.

Expenses include \$209,753 in capital outlay projects and \$264,122 for transportation.

Revenues were primarily based on upcoming enrollment projections. Typically the district enrollment averages around 375 students.

Superintendent Todd Holthaus told board members June 8 that he is conservative when it comes to enrollment projections, anticipating a drop of 10 to 20 students for each budget cycle.

He is optimistic the enrollment decline won't be as severe as in past years.

"We anticipate losing a few students but nothing too drastic," he said after the meeting.

This spring the projection of fewer students was not realized. As a result, the district received an additional \$300,000.

The district ends the current school year on June 30 with a projected deficit of \$30,000.

However, lower than expected transportation and building expenses have been experienced, since the coronavirus pandemic closed both buildings in late March and the district no longer transported students due to the at-home distance learning instruction plans.

Earlier this year board members approved the reduction of one-and-a-half staff positions for the upcoming school year.

In addition, Holthaus reported that H-BC may receive \$34,000 from the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act).

### Capital expenditures of \$186,400 identified

The H-BC finance and personnel committee has identified \$186,400 in capital improvement projects for the 2020-21 school year.

A capital outlay budget of \$209,700 is budgeted, but some projects may not be completed this year.

One project, upgrading the football field lights, has already been dropped from the list due to costs rising above the budgeted \$40,000.

"If we don't have to spend on some things, let's wait," said committee member Arlyn Gehrke.

However, board members have agreed to spend up to \$10,000 for surveillance system upgrades at the secondary school and another \$20,000 to upgrade the 20-year-old phone system at the elementary.

The secondary building will also have a \$13,500 upgrade to the heating and air-conditioning controls.

Other possible capital expenditures include a new handicap van (\$35,000), Chromebooks (\$10,000), Smartboards (\$20,000), sealing and painting of the secondary school parking lot (\$10,000), and kitchen equipment (\$22,900.)

Board members also approved \$5,000 to ICS Consulting to complete a long-term facilities improvement plan. The plan is expected to be completed this summer.

"ICS may be able to shine some light on other areas of improvement," Holthaus said at the April 22 committee meeting.

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## Raising a glass to a colleague who disappeared as the coronavirus appeared

Since the first cases of the coronavirus hit Minnesota in March, one of my colleagues went missing. Gone. Poof. Vanished. In the past



### RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

three months only a handful of sightings of former sports editor John Rittenhouse have been passed on to the newsroom, but none of these by me, this former colleague.

Three months ago, as the newspaper was scrambling to understand the new health rules, John quietly pecked away at his computer keyboard, filed his stories — and then abruptly bid adieu to the job he had held for decades, announcing his retirement on his way out the door.

By the last newspaper issue in March, John's byline no longer appeared in the Star Herald or online.

Due to the new health guidelines, all high school activities stopped. No sports, no sports coverage. No "On the Sidelines" column.

There was no retirement party.

No story highlighted John's time at the paper or honored his dedication to covering Rock County sporting events year-round. He declined to write a farewell column.

John simply packed up his pencil and notepad, hopped into his little silver car and drove off into the sunset.

Honestly, with all the news surrounding the coronavirus and the change in routine of the newsroom, I didn't really notice John's absence.

As a more normal routine came into place, I slowly noticed his absence on those late evenings or weekend afternoons in the office when the two of us would quietly plug away at our respective stories.

Now the office is too quiet during those times, and I've mostly retreated to working at home — a place I know John would never feel comfortable working at, as he has said as much.

Quiet times in the office were when a more "down-to-earth" John would appear.

We talked about our kids and how well the area high school teams' seasons were going.

I would inform him about how well his daughter, Melanie, would do at speech meets and about her interest in robotics.

I'd tease him about not going to her music events, and I think once, the teasing led him to attend one of her plays and he secretly liked it.

Being the older of the two of us, John has a very conservative view of the world.

We talked health (me always declining to join him for one of his many smoke breaks). We steered away from politics because we didn't always agree, but as colleagues, it made for interesting office chatter.

During the six years we worked together, a summer routine was established.

Typically in early June the Rittenhouse family would leave for vacation to northern Minnesota. John would brag about sitting at the lake, a fishing pole in one hand during the day and later changing to holding a cold Bud at night.

Prior to the vacation John would outline the sports events Jason Berghorst would cover and leave detailed rankings as to where I should put the stories on the page.

This year we are on our own as our sports stories return to the paper.

But the sporting events are slowly emerging and John will not be returning at all.

So here's a column to you, former colleague.

While I won't open a bar tab for you at the Green Lantern, I will raise a cold Bud to you for the courage of leaving your longtime profession behind and enjoying life.

Happy retirement, John.

## Please support local voices with a subscription

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.

Our pay wall online returned June 4, and our readers also noticed. It's no fun to start reading a compelling piece only to have it abruptly interrupted by a request for payment.

We get it. But just as our grocers, retailers and other businesses need revenue, the Star Herald hopes to stay solvent for years into the future.

### STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

It costs money to do the work we do ... to keep our community informed. We're "front-line workers," too, and we, like many of our local businesses, have taken a big hit in the coronavirus economy.

And we, like many of the local businesses who have had generous community support, appreciate the support we've also seen.

"We're in this together," in case you haven't heard that enough during the pandemic. We all do better when we all do better.

And this won't be over for a long time.

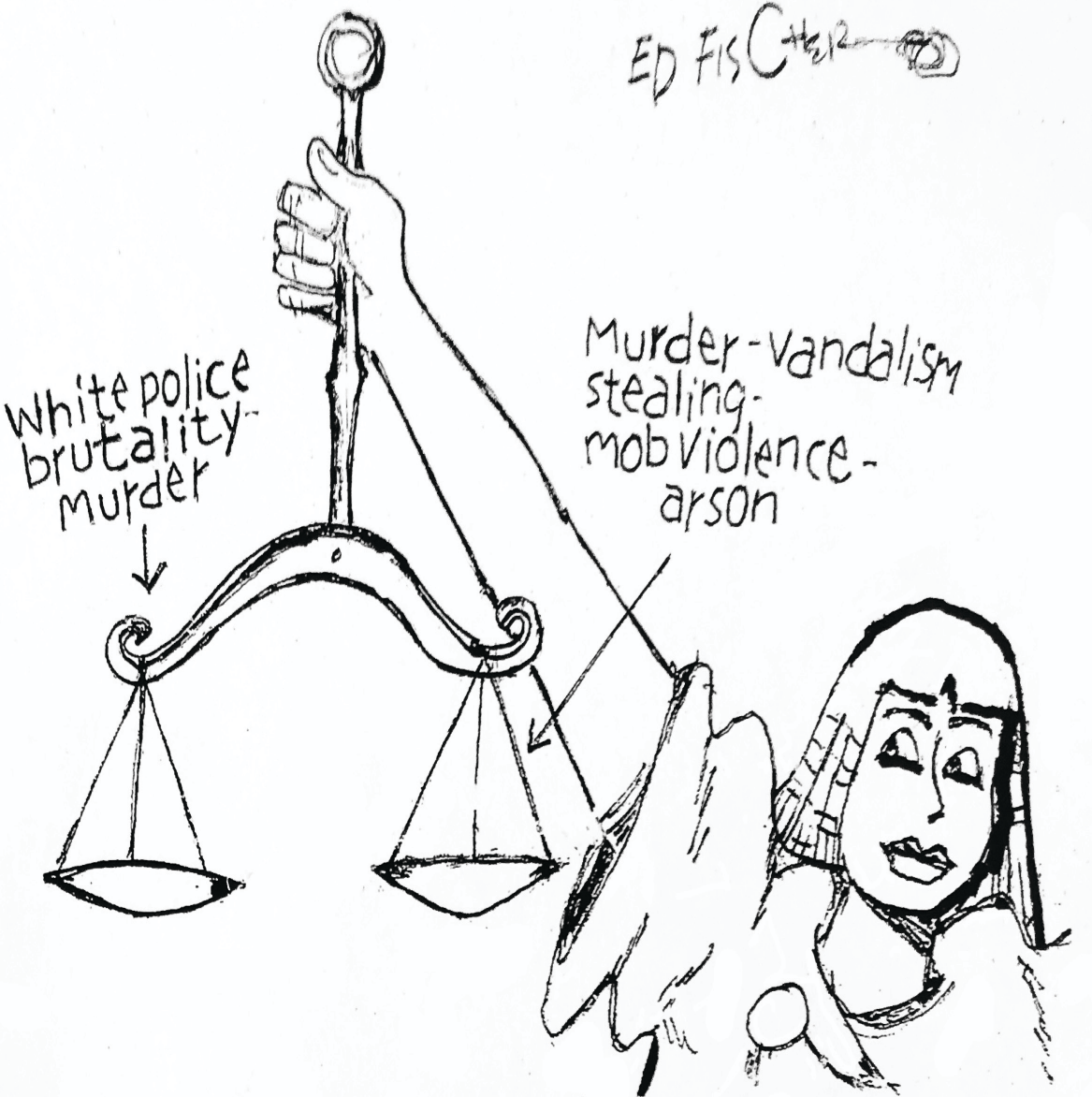
Long after a vaccine is dis-

covered, and long after we feel comfortable in public without masks, we will still be recovering from the economic losses.

So, dear readers, we at the Star Herald will continue to do our part to make our community better — by reporting on the crises, the acts of generosity, the government activity and the news we need to know in our neighborhoods.

And we hope you see the value in supporting that vital work with a subscription.

Stay safe, Rock County. Stay informed.



## Write a check today in support of new veterans fund

The Luverne Area Community Foundation has created a worthy dedicated fund called the Rock County Veterans Fund.

Don't confuse this fund with the Rock County Veterans Memorial fund.

The Rock County Veterans Memorial Fund is dedicated to the perpetual care of the Veterans Memorial on the front lawn of the Rock County courthouse.

In fact, while you have the checkbook out, write two checks — one for each fund.

The Rock County Veterans Fund is a dedicated fund that has been set up because there has been interest from donors in this area to donate money to support organizations



### FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

Rick Peterson, general manager  
Tollefson Publishing

within our county committed to honoring the legacy of those that have served our country in the U.S. Armed Services.

Donations can be given in honor or memory of a person that has served.

Mary and I gave a donation in memory of my dad, who served in the Air Force, and my brother in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is sending in a check in memory of our mom.

While Mom never served as a member of the Armed Forces, she

was a longtime active member in the American Legion Auxiliary.

A couple of weeks ago in this space, I shared with you a speech I gave on Memorial Day a number of years ago, and I talked about patriotic pride.

If you would like to show some patriotic pride, write a check in honor or memory of someone that occupies space in your heart.

Donating is easy to do. Just write a check to LACF, including a note with the person's name and branch of service, and mail it to PO Box 623, Luverne, MN 56156.

Or go to [www.luvacf.org](http://www.luvacf.org) to place a credit card gift. Go to "donate now," click on Rock County Veterans Fund and follow the prompts.

### This is your page.

The Star Herald welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters must contain the name of the writer, an address, and a phone number. Length must be under 300 words. Send completed letters to editor @star-herald.com.

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

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



## ON THE RECORD

### Dispatch report

**June 5**

- Accident reported westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 4, near Beaver Creek.
- Complainant on W. Brown Street reported garage break-in.
- Complainant on 270th Street and Buick Avenue, Magnolia, reported an accident.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported suspicious activity.
- Complainant on W. Crawford Street reported theft.
- Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 13, near Luverne, reported reckless driving.
- Complainant on W. Edgell Street reported an abandoned motorcycle.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a backpack lying on the sidewalk near location.
- Complainant on Quarry Road reported reckless driving.
- Report of erratic driver eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 14, near Beaver Creek.
- Stolen vehicle was reported at location on S. Kniss Avenue.

**June 6**

- Complainant on W. Mead Court requested a deputy.
- Complainant on W. Dodge Street reported vandalism.
- Complainant on E. Brown Street and N. Freeman Avenue reported a tree fell on road.
- Complainant on N. East Park Street reported theft.
- Complainant on 61st Street, Beaver Creek, reported children ran off.
- Complainant on 110th Avenue reported a fire.
- Complainant on Main Street and Blue Mound reported a bale fell off.
- Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 16, Magnolia, reported a bumper on road.
- Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported a disorderly person.
- Complainant on 191st Street, near South Dakota border, reported vehicle with trailer broken down in roadway.
- Report of a driver speeding at location westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 21, near Magnolia.
- Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported trespassing.
- Complainant on E. 4th Street, Hills, reported threatening calls.

**June 7**

- Complainant on 270th Avenue, Magnolia, reported an underage party.
- Complainant on S. Second Street, Beaver Creek, reported someone knocking on her door.
- Complainant on W. Luverne Street, Magnolia, reported 4 runaways from system.
- Deputy conducted pedestrian stop on westbound ramp on Interstate 90, Luverne.
- Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported an issue.
- Complainant on Almar Street reported suspicious activity.
- Complainant on W. Luverne Street, Magnolia, reported an abandoned vehicle.
- Complainant on 241st Street, Jasper, reported trespassing.
- Complainant on Barck Avenue reported a debit card was found.
- Complainant on 71st Street by the bridge east of Highway 75 reported there is an underage party possibly going on.

**June 8**

- Complainant on W. Lincoln Street reported she did not think she was treated fairly.
- Complainant on W. Crawford Street reported kids were walking around.
- Complainant on 74th Avenue reported issue with

- motor vehicle possession.
- Complainant on 2nd Street, Kanaranzi, reported vehicle title transfer issue.
- Complainant on N. McKenzie Street and E. Crawford Street reported a rollover accident.
- Complainant on 101st Street reported an ex-employee is refusing to return property.
- Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, milemarker 11-12, Luverne, reported two vehicles racing on interstate.
- Complainant on W. Hatting Street reported people outside smoking weed.
- Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported subject dumped cat food all over her car.

**June 9**

- Subject in Minnehaha Country, Sioux Falls, was picked up on our warrant.
- Complainant on W. Hatting Street lost an information card.
- Complainant on Estey and Adams reported found property.
- Complainant on N. Estey Street reported vandalism.
- Complainant in Hardwick reported unsecured loads from gravel trucks.

**June 10**

- Assistance from another department was used on Interstate 90, mile marker 2, Beaver Creek.
- Complainant on E. Main Street reported vehicle damage.
- Complainant on Veterans Drive and Memorial Circle reported property damage.
- Complainant requested to speak to a deputy about a stolen vehicle.
- Complainant on W. Barck Street requested a residence check.
- Complainant on N. Davidson Street requested we check for vehicle.
- Complainant on W. Hatting Street reported an accident.
- Complainant on Buckingham Street, Hardwick, reported a civil issue.
- Complainant requested to speak to a deputy.
- Complainant on W. 4th Street, Hills, reported theft.
- June 11
- Outage was reported at location.
- Complainant on 90th Avenue, Hardwick, reported a rollover.
- Complainant on S. West Park Street reported theft.
- Complainant on S. Water Avenue reported a tip on a theft case.
- Complainant on County Road 4 reported an open door.
- Complainant on N. Estey Street reported property damage.
- Complainant on County Road 4 and 20th Avenue, Beaver Creek, reported a traffic complaint.
- Complainant on 180th Avenue, Kanaranzi, reported an abandoned hay wagon.

**June 12**

- Complainant reported some narcotics information.
- Complainant on East Main Street reported vandalism.

In addition, officers responded to 1 deer accident, 1 transport, 6 escorts, 27 ambulance runs, 5 animal complaints, 4 fingerprint requests, 6 burn permits, 4 alarms, 1 drug test, 3 purchase and carry permits, 1 stalled vehicle, 10 traffic stops, 11 abandoned 911 calls, 1 test, 1 welfare check and 1 report of cattle out.



Mavis Fodness photo/0618 popkes propane

Concrete casings are in place near the car wash and Bomgaars south of I-90 in preparation for bulk propane storage tanks. The concrete casings will keep the bottoms of the bulk tanks at least 12 inches above the flood plain for that area.

## City approves permit for bulk tanks for propane

By Lori Sorenson

Popkes Car Care, Rock Rapids, Iowa, will store and distribute liquid propane on a small piece of ground near the car wash and Bomgaars building south of I-90.

At their Tuesday, June 9, meeting, Luverne City Council members approved a conditional use permit for Greg Popkes to build four commercial bulk tanks (how many gallons each) for retail distribution of liquid petroleum.

The property is zoned for commercial use, but because it's in a flood plain near Sater's Creek, the matter came before Luverne's Planning and Zoning Commission to consider a conditional use permit for the tank construction.

In his application, Popkes detailed plans for concrete casings to keep the bottoms of the bulk tanks at least 12 inches above the flood plain for that area.

Also, it's been deter-

mined the project will have no adverse effects on other property in the area, such as dust, noise or offensive odors.

The project doesn't impede development in the immediate area, and the area has adequate utilities, roads and drainage, etc.

The city of Luverne agreed to allow the vacation of platted right of way in order to provide access to the development, and parking and loading space have been provided.

At the June 1 public hear-

ing there were no written or oral responses by the general public or any of the adjacent property owners who were notified of the plans and the hearing.

The Planning and Zoning Commission approved Popkes' request unanimously and recommended the City Council do the same.

At Tuesday's meeting, council members approved the request and welcomed Popkes and his business to Luverne.

## June 30 last day to complete enrollment for 2020 Agriculture Risk Coverage, Price Loss Coverage programs

Agriculture producers who have not yet enrolled in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2020 must do so by June 30.

Although program elections for the 2020 crop year remain the same as elections made for 2019, all producers need to contact their local USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) office to sign a 2020 enrollment contract.

"The Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage programs are critical safety-net programs for farmers, helping producers weather market distortions resulting from natural disasters, trade disruptions, and this year a pandemic," said FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce.

"Contact your FSA county office today to complete enrollment before June 30. This can be done in concert with filing your acreage report and filing for other FSA programs."

To date, more than 1.4 million ARC and PLC contracts

have been signed for the 2020 crop year.

This represents 89 percent of expected enrollment. FSA will send reminder postcards to producers who, according to agency records, have not yet submitted signed contracts for ARC or PLC for the 2020 crop year.

Producers who do not complete enrollment by close of business local time on Tuesday, June 30, will not be enrolled in ARC or PLC for the 2020 crop year and will be ineligible to receive a payment, should one trigger for an eligible crop.

ARC and PLC contracts can be mailed or emailed to producers for signature depending on producer preference.

Signed contracts can be mailed or emailed back to FSA, or arrangements can be made in advance with FSA to drop off signed contracts at the FSA county office - call ahead for local drop-off and other options available for submitting signed contracts

electronically.

Producers are eligible to enroll on farms with base acres for the following commodities: barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, cramble, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long-grain rice, medium- and short-grain rice, safflower seed, cotton, sesame seed, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat.

For details, call Rock County FSA, 507-283-2369.

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### Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$15.96-\$20.76 per month and business services are \$34.56-\$43.29 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

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 1-888-833-9522 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.



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### FEATURED PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

**420 N Freeman Ave. Luverne, MN**

If quality of construction and the beauty of tradition are on your list; then you have found just what you are looking for. This 1900 home features the beautiful woodwork, colonnades, open staircase and beautiful built in hutch can be found here. The kitchen has been updated with oak cabinetry, appliances are included with the sale plus a TV with wall mount. There is a wonderful Island for the informal dining plus 1/2 bath tucked away for that main floor bathroom everyone is looking for. The upper level boasts 4 bedrooms and a full bath. The walk-up attic gives you plenty of options for storage space for your off season items. The basement is also finished for your enjoyment with a large family room with laminate flooring and extra amenities. The beauty of the home extends to the private partially fenced in patio area with a built in gas grill and a fire pit on a paved paver patio. The single garage is oversized and there is extra off street parking if needed.

---

**608 E Dodge St. Luverne, MN \$129,900**

Are you longing for a piece of property which overlooks the countryside and the rock River; we've have just what you need. This two bedroom home with large living dining area, eat-in kitchen area and a naturally bright Sun room features an electric fireplace and new laminate floors the home offers a lot a living space for a low price. The garage is oversized with a two stall garage and an additional two stall workshop there are two access points on this property for easy access. The property is situated on a large corner lot. You need to see all the space this home has to offer.

---

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## Adrian youth named Boy Scout of Year ... twice

Blake Madison was recently named Scout of the Year by both the state VFW and American Legion organizations.



### Local Eagle Scout earns state recognition

By Mavis Fodness

An Adrian High School graduate was one of 50 entrants in the national Scout of the Year competition after he was selected as Minnesota VFW Scout of the Year earlier this year.

Blake Madison, son of Dawn Anderson, Adrian, and Les Madison, Wilmont, was also the Eagle Scout of the Year for the American Legion Department of Minnesota.

"To be a double state winner is pretty incredible," said Terrie Gulden, who sponsored Madison for the state award through the local VFW 2757 Post.

Madison did not finish in the Top 3 for the National

*"To be a double state winner is pretty incredible."*

— Terrie Gulden, who sponsored Madison for the state award through the local VFW 2757 Post.

Scout of the Year, but his mother, Dawn Anderson, said "just being submitted is an honor.... What great news in this chaotic time."

The coronavirus pandemic prevented a public ceremony for the 18-year-old.

Madison was featured in a Feb. 21, 2019, Star Herald article when a project at the

Adrian City Park earned him the Eagle badge.

He worked with city of Adrian officials to build a large outdoor chess and checkers board at the campground.

Madison dedicated the board to troop master Arnie Dwire, a 50-year Scout leader and an inspiration to Madison. Dwire died in

October 2019.

Being an Eagle Scout recipient was only one requirement for recognition as the state Scout of the Year.

Judges also looked at school participation, scouting record and community service.

Madison is a member of Troop 32 of Adrian and Troop 134 of Worthington, where he has served as chaplain, den chief and an Order of the Arrow representative.

He's earned 28 merit badges and the 50-miler award, a designation given to members who plot a 50-

Scout of year/See page 12

## CELEBRATIONS

### Births

A boy, **Charlie Gatzke Kuhlman**, weighing 8 pounds, 5 ounces, and 21 inches long, was born Thursday, June 11, 2020, to **Jesse and Anna (Gatzke) Kuhlman**, Apple Valley. He joins Ethan (7), Ellis (4), Olivia (2). Grandparents are Glen and Wendy Gatzke, Eagan, and Jerry and Pam Kuhlman, Spicer. Great-grandparent is Carol Kuhlman, Luverne.

### Card showers

**Shirley Honken** will celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday, June 21. An open house will be scheduled at a later date. Greetings may be sent to her at Apt. 117L, 301 County Road 6, Hills, MN 56138.

**Marv and Margaret Gonnerman** will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary Friday, June 19. Greetings may be sent to 1414 Evergreen Drive, Luverne, MN 56156.

### Bridal showers

There will be a drive-by bridal shower for **Brett Luettel**, bride-to-be of **Seth Nuffer**, from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 27, at 363 60th Avenue, Hills.

There will be an open house bridal shower for **Kennedy Gonnerman**, bride-to-be of **Connor Hoffman**, from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, June 27, at the American Reformed Church in Luverne.

## SENIOR MENU

**Monday, June 22 (first day of summer):** Hamburg-er on a bun, baked beans, potato salad, fresh fruit, ice cream.

**Tuesday, June 23:** Italian chicken, brown rice, Oriental vegetables, pear halves, fruit crisp.

**Wednesday, June 24:** Country steak with country gravy, potatoes, corn, bread, cinnamon apples.

**Thursday, June 25:** Roast turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli florets, dinner roll with margarine, cookie.

**Friday, June 26 (National Chocolate Pudding Day):** Pizza casserole, green beans, peaches, breadstick, chocolate pudding.

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 [www.lssmn.org/nutrition](http://www.lssmn.org/nutrition).

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Head of Veterans Home earns award

The Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs is proud to announce that Luke Schryvers, administrator of the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne, was awarded the 2020 Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award.

This award is given by the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA), and only seven percent of facilities nationwide met the selection criteria for this award.

"We congratulate Luke on this award and are very proud of the work he and his staff continue to do. This is about the team at the Luverne Veterans Home more than anything," said Deputy Commissioner of Healthcare Douglas Hughes. "This is Luke's second such

award and recognizes his outstanding leadership in caring for our veterans and residents at the home."

Based on the premise that facility excellence reflects leadership excellence, this award recognizes the administrator who provided outstanding leadership for the full 2019 calendar year.

Eligibility for this award is based on three years of skilled nursing facility survey data, including the Health, Fire Safety, and Complaint surveys, as well as top quartile performance on designated quality measures. The criteria also include at least an 80 percent or greater facility occupancy and a three-year avoidance of a Special Focus Facility status.

## COMMUNITY ED

Luverne Community Ed is taking registrations now with payment. Use drop box to left of outside door or mail to 709 N. Kniss Ave. Call 507-283-4724.

**Free Technology Classes** page 12 ... iPhone/iPads, Live Streaming, Computer Safety, Emotions and Money

**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.

**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.

### Prairie Rose community fund grants awarded for 2020

Prairie Rose Minnesota Community Fund grants and scholarships of more than \$39,000 were awarded from 2020 disbursements.

The community board of directors met recently to conduct the annual disbursement of student scholarships and organization grants.

Eight scholarships totaling \$6,250 were awarded to high school seniors and current college students.

Recipients include Carson Ehde, Mallory Thorson, Jenna Schelhaas, Lexi Kindt, Emilee Johnson, Aric Meinerts, Reka Meinerts and Emily Bartels.

The Hardwick and Jasper communities split \$33,471 in grants.

The city of Hardwick received grants for:

- foundation repairs to the community hall and installation of an energy-efficient electric furnace.

- The Community Club's 2020 Santa Day.

- a new propane gas furnace for the fire hall.

The Hardwick Legion Auxiliary received funding to improve the landscaping around the community hall.

The Jasper Ambulance Service will purchase new pagers, and the Jasper Fire Department will add three sets of new turnout gear.

Rose Dell Township will use a grant to reset headstones at the Rosedahl Cemetery in Section 26E.

The application period is open for 2021 allocations. To be eligible, recipients must reside within the township footprint of the Prairie Rose Wind Farm in northwest Rock County. Townships include Rose Dell, Denver and Springwater, and the communities of Hardwick and the Rock County portion of Jasper.

## REMEMBER WHEN

### 10 years ago (2010)

- The Luverne girls made an everlasting mark on the state's track and field landscape last weekend.

After winning a Minnesota State Track and Field Coaches Association True Team title in the middle of May, the Cardinals added another state title to their credit by taking top honors as a team during the Minnesota State High School League's Track and Field Championships staged at Hamline University in St. Paul Friday and Saturday.

The Cardinals scored eight team points on Friday, sharing eighth place in the team competition that was led by Perham (24 points).

LHS stole the show on Saturday by scoring 46 points, which was good enough for the Cards to outscore second-place Kasson-Mantorville 54-56 in the final team standings.

Saturday's scoringspree not only gave the Cardinal girls their first MSHSL state title, it nailed down their place in Minnesota track history.

### 25 years ago (1995)

- The Luverne Cardinals moved within two wins of a state championship Tuesday by downing St. Cloud Cathedral 6-4 in the quarterfinal round of the Minnesota State Class A Baseball Tournament at Dick Putz Field in St. Cloud.

The win upped Luverne's record to 21-6 and sent the Cardinals into the tournament's semifinal round, which was played last night.

In that game, Luverne faced 20-5 Crookston, a 9-6 winner

over Melrose Tuesday, in the semifinals. A win over the Pirates would put the Cardinals in tonight's championship game at 7 p.m. A loss against Crookston would send Luverne to today's (3 p.m.) third-place game.

### 50 years ago (1970)

- Open house will be held Friday and Saturday at Hoskins Electric Motor Repair, south on Highway 75, Friday and Saturday, marking the completion of their expansion and remodeling project.

A 24x36 ft. addition was built this past winter, giving the shop building a 60 foot east front, and nearly doubling the floor space for the machines used in rewinding and repairing electric motors and small appliances.

Elmer Hoskins, owner, came here in March, 1958, after starting in the motor repair business at Adrian. The firm has operated in the present location for the past 10 years. Hoskins is assisted by his wife, who does the bookkeeping, and three full-time employees.

### 75 years ago (1945)

- Purchase of the Exchange State Bank of Hills by S.O. Mithum, Steen business man, and S. R. Hammer, Luverne banker, was announced Wednesday.

The announcement stated that the new owners will take possession of the bank as of July 1. Purchase was made from Mrs. Mabel G. Edmonds, Marcus, Iowa. She is the widow of the former Ira C. Edmonds of Marcus, Iowa, who among his other properties

owned the Hills bank and the Edmonds Lumber Yard at Steen.

The Hills bank had been owned and controlled by the Edmonds family for 40 years.

Mr. Mithum will replace Mrs. Edmonds as president of the bank. Mr. Hammer will be vice president and executive officer in charge. Art Johnson, formerly assistant cashier, has been named cashier. Art Rortvet is leaving the bank to become Veterans Service Officer for Rock County.

Negotiations for the purchase of the Hills bank by Mr. Hammer and Mr. Mithum have been carried on for several months. Mr. Hammer announced to the Luverne National Bank Wednesday that the purchase had been consummated. He came here in January, 1940, from Litchfield, Minn., and after J. L. Greene left for the navy. Mr. Hammer was in charge of the Luverne National until A. A. Anderson returned from the army.

### 100 years ago (1920)

- An addition to the police force of Luverne of special interest to automobile drivers was made the fore part of the week when Garret P. Gibbens, of Sioux City, was sworn in as a motorcycle officer charged with the special duty of enforcing the more important automobile traffic regulations. ...

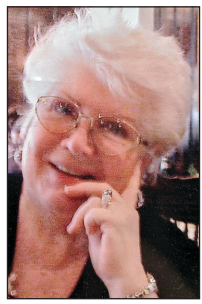
He came equipped with a high-power, speedy motorcycle that will enable him to overtake virtually any motorist who may think that he can outdistance him and he took up his duties late Tuesday afternoon. His hours will be from 12 o'clock noon until midnight, and he will likely be retained here during the summer and fall or until his services are no longer necessary.



## OBITUARIES

### Pauline Beyer

Pauline Eleanor Beyer, House in New Ulm until 1974. Thereafter she worked for Combined Insurance. Upon her retirement she moved to California. She returned to Minnesota two years ago. She loved to travel, play bingo and listen to Frank Sinatra.



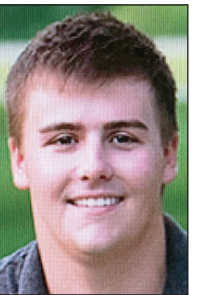
She is survived by her sons Brad (Angela) Beyer of Solana Beach California, Bill (Nouch) Beyer of Long Beach, California, and Rick Beyer of Pequot Lakes; grandchildren Andy (Carrie) Beyer, Buffalo, Katie Swenson, Pine River, Nicolas Beyer and Sofia Beyer of Solana Beach, California; great-grandchildren Aubree Beyer, Brynn and Liam Swenson; and her sister, Betty (Dennis) Holiman, San Lorenzo, California.

Pauline Eleanor Saathoff was born on July 10, 1925, to John and Mary Saathoff in Kenneth. She married Harry (Hucky) Beyer on June 11, 1945, in New Ulm. They had three sons. During her marriage to Harry they owned and operated Beyer's Bar and Steak

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Norma Stevens, brothers John and Morris Saathoff and sister-in-law Pat (Beyer) Freeman. (0618 F)

### Logan Nelson

Logan David Nelson, 22, Adrian, died Saturday, June 13, 2020, as the result of a boating accident on Lake Shetek near Slayton. Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, June 18, at St. Adrian Church in Adrian, and also one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday. A funeral service will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 19, at St. Adrian Church in Adrian. Burial will follow in the Adrian Cemetery.



Logan enjoyed farm work. He worked at Bullerman Farms during high school, 3B Farms during college and currently with Thier Construction in Adrian. He loved to hunt. Deer and turkey were his favorite, whether with gun or bow. He also hunted antelope, pheasants, and prairie dogs. He recently developed into quite a shed antler hunter. He also loved his fiancée Krista and their two pups, Harley and Hazel.

Logan David Nelson was born Oct. 29, 1997, to Gregg and Denise (Marr) Nelson in Luverne. He graduated from Adrian High School in 2016. Logan enjoyed sports. He participated in football and wrestling and qualified for the Minnesota State Wrestling Tournament his senior year. He was just finishing his bachelor's degree in agricultural science at South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota. (0618 F)

Logan is survived by his parents, Gregg and Denise Nelson, Adrian; his fiancée, Krista Motzko, Adrian; his sister, McKinley Nelson, Adrian; his brother, Preston Nelson, Adrian; grandparents David and Zetty Claire Nelson, Owatonna; and several aunts, uncles and cousins. Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Adrian, dingmannandsons.com. (0618 F)

## DEATH NOTICES

### Robin Hemme

Robin D. Hemme, 57, Luverne, died Sunday, June 14, 2020, at her home. Funeral arrangements are pending through Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0618 DN)

### Joyce Holm

Joyce Holm, 89, Luverne, died Saturday, June 13, 2020, at the Parkview Manor Nursing Home in Ellsworth. A time of fellowship will be from 9:30-10:50 a.m. Friday, July 10, at the Dingmann Funeral Home in Luverne. A private family graveside service will be at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. Arrangements are provided by Dingmann Funeral Home of Luverne, dingmannandsons.com. (0618 DN)

### Taylor Kelly

Taylor D. Kelly, 27, Luverne, died Monday, June 15, 2020, at her home. Funeral arrangements are pending through Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0618 DN)

## H-BC FFA Chapter issues year-end awards

### By Mavis Fodness

The Hills-Beaver Creek FFA Chapter completed a virtual 2020 banquet last month, honoring members for a year of work in various areas. Adviser Katie Rogers presented the awards. Five students earned the chapter's top awards. These students included:

- Star Farmer Whitney Elbers.
- Star Ag Placement Hannah Fick.
- Star Greenhand Cody Moser.
- Creed Speaker Tyrae Goodface.
- Top Freshman Fruit Salesman Taylor Huisman.

### Proficiency awards

Chapter members can participate in one or more of the 47 different proficiency

areas as part of the SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) projects.

Areas of proficiency and recipients include:

- Agricultural mechanics design and fabrication, Ty Bundesen.
- Agricultural sales, Hannah Fick.
- Agricultural services, Easton Harnack.
- Beef production, Whitney Elbers.
- Community and home development, Joslyn Birger.
- Dairy production, Tyson Bork.
- Diversified livestock, Whitney Elbers.
- Equine Science (Entrepreneurship), Kellie Vanderbrink.
- Equine science (placement), Jacey Vanden Hoek.
- Fiber and oil crop pro-

duction, Carter Hartz.

Goat production, Sadie Fuerstenberg.

Outdoor recreation, Taylor Durst.

Poultry production, Kenadie Fick.

Sheep production, Chase Bosch.

Swine production, Nathan Kruid.

Cow/calf, Tory Knobloch.

Turfgrass management, Austin Ripperda.

Wildlife production and management, Parker Gehrke.

Greenhand degrees

First-year Greenhand members were recognized with a bronze pin.

Recipients include Danette Leenderts, Olivia Bork, Devon Dysthe, Taylor

Fredrickson, Luke Fuerstenberg, Tyrae Goodface, Brock Harnack, Alexander Harris, Taylor Huisman, Elylynor Klosterbuer, Jenifer Martinyuk, Brayden Metzger, Cody Moser, Collin Schone-man, Noah Swenson, Sophia Vansurksun and Joshua Wiersema.

### Chapter degrees

Second-year FFA members who met the criteria were awarded a silver pin.

Earning Chapter Degree pins are Robert Drake, Taylor Durst, Troy Durst, Journey Dwire, Sean Elbers, Kenadie Fick, Andrew Harris, Carter Hartz, Ethan Kruger, Nathan Kruid, Drew Leenderts, Donavon Leenderts, Daniel Martinyuk, Samantha Moser, Conner Vandevoort and Kellie Vanderbrink.

## 1892: Building improvements in Hills total \$17,000

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

### Rock County Village of continued from 6-11-20 edition of the Star Herald.

The growth of Hills during 1892 was substantial and its permanency was assured. It distanced some of the neighboring villages and boasted a larger growth than its rivals.<sup>9</sup> Among the new enterprises of the year were the town's first hotel by T. O. Strandness, a bank under the management of J. R. Wright, a harness shop by H. Julson and a pool hall by H. O. Rue. The building improvements amounted to over \$17,000 and were as follows:

- A. T. Sexe, store building — \$4000; Sandbo Brothers & Skattum, drug store and harness shop — \$3000; A. T. Sexe, residence — \$2000; J. Helgeson, residence — \$1500; H. Nerison, residence — \$1500; T. O. Strandness, hotel — \$1200; Olaf Skyberg, residence — \$1000; P. H. Bly, residence — \$1000; O. Rue,



## BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

residence — \$800; Iver Heyme, residence — \$600; M. Olson, residence — \$300; W. P. King, photograph gallery — \$200; Total — \$17,000.

Despite the fact that there had been so much activity during the first few years of existence, when the Hills Crescent was founded in August, 1893, it is learned that the total population of the village was not over forty. There was some advancement during the first half of the year 1893, and the report of the railroad business at the station for the year indicated a healthy business. Three hundred twenty-seven carloads of grain and forty-three of stock were shipped from the station; there were

received twenty-one carloads of lumber, forty-four of coal, thirty of merchandise, two of salt and thirty-two of miscellaneous goods. The panic of 1893 and the few years succeeding hard times had a depressing effect on the little village and not much progress was made until the late nineties.

An item of the greatest importance in the history of Hills was the establishment of the station on the Illinois Central road. Ever since the founding of the town its citizens had endeavored to bring about this much desired action, but the Illinois Central interests had been more interested in their town

of Bruce and had steadfastly refused to entertain the idea. The people of Hills raised \$400 by subscription to donate toward the building of a depot and during the winter of 1893-94 the station was established and the depot built, resulting, practically, in giving the town a new railroad. The occasion was duly celebrated in a jollification held on the evening of January 3, 1894.

"Hills, in its march of progress, is crushing the hopes and aspirations of some older towns, passing on over the dead and buried remains of the neighboring villages. It is the eternal law of life and growth. Something must die that other things may live. There is a 'survival of the fittest.'" - Correspondent, September, 1892.

The story of the village of Hills will continue in the June 25 edition of the Star Herald.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence to manmade@iuv.net.

## COLLEGE NEWS

### DSU releases president's list

Several area students were named to the Dakota State University, Madison, South Dakota, president's academic honors list for the Spring 2020 semester. To qualify, students must earn at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale

with 12 or more graded credits.

Named from the area are Marissa Fick, Josiah Luethje, and Austin Winter, Luverne; Sidney Fick, Beaver Creek; Dalton Javner, Hardwick; Brianna Jonas, Kenneth; and Nicholas Lenz, Lismore.

### MSU Moorhead releases dean's list

Minnesota State University Moorhead has released the Spring 2020 dean's list. To be eligible, students must earn at least a 3.25 GPA on a 4.0 scale with at least 12 graded credits. Named to the list are Riley

Boese, communication studies; Grace Holthaus, speech/language/hearing science; and Bailey Swan, speech/language/hearing science. All are graduates of Hills-Beaver Creek High School.

### Walgrave earns degree from SAU

Suzie Walgrave, Luverne, received a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Spring

Arbor University in Spring Arbor, Michigan, at the end of the Spring 2020 semester.

### Iowa Lakes Community releases lists

Madison Neuenberg, Adrian, was named to the president's list, and Sharlene Heikes, Luverne, was named to the dean's list for the Spring 2020 semester at Iowa Lakes

Community College. Students qualify for the president's list with a 4.0 GPA. Dean's list students must earn at least a 3.25 GPA on a 4.0 scale with 12 graded credits.

## MOWING NOTICE: ROCK COUNTY TOWNSHIPS

Landowners are responsible for mowing ditch shoulders. The first mowing should be done by July 1, 2020 and the last one to be done by September 15, 2020. This does not include: Denver, Magnolia, Martin, Springwater, or Beaver Creek.

Teresa Kramer, Sec. Rock County Township Association

## LUVERNE'S CITY-WIDE RUMMAGE SALE

JUNE 24, 25, 26, & 27

Choose your own dates and times

Hundreds of rummagers converge in Luverne for this annual event!

### SIGN UP NOW!

Registration deadline - Thursday, June 18th

Register to Luverne Chamber

213 East Luverne Street

Drop Off: 24 hour dropbox located at east door on McKenzie Or Email: luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us

### \$25 registration fee includes:

Official citywide rummage sign  
Detailed listing in 2,000 printed rummage sale flyers  
Detailed listings posted on Wwww.LuverneChamber.com  
...And regional newsprint & radio advertising!

### Registration forms available at

- At C Stores: Casey's, Expressway & Sunshine Gas
- Facebook: Luverne Area Chamber
- www.luvernechamber.com
- At Luverne Area Chamber

Luverne Area Chamber & CVB

**JUBILEE DAY-ISH**  
Saturday June 27th

**Parade and Park**      **Competitions**

**CRUISE IN 2-4PM**      **3:30PM HAY TOSS - 4 DIVISION**

**CLASSICS MOTORCYCLES TRACTORS TRUCKS ATV UTV AND ANY OTHER VEHICLE**      **4PM CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT**

**BBQ, hotdogs, brats, and hamburgers will be for sale**      **2 PERSON TEAMS \$20 PER TEAM**

**DJ A Guy and a Girl 9pm-1am**      **CALL GREG STAEPFLER TO SIGN UP 507-227-8391**

**GREEN LANTERN**  
Bare grill & L.D.'S WILL BE CHECKED  
MUST BE 21

**Springwater Township Mowing Notice**

Landowners are now responsible for mowing shoulders at least three times per summer, depending on rain and growth. It is recommended that shoulders be mowed by the 15th of June, August and the last mowing between September 25 and Oct. 1st, 2020.

Failure to do so will result in your taxes being assessed at \$100 per half mile, per time.

Springwater Township Board

**Luverne Blue Mound Liquor**

**We are offering delivery to your home!**

**\$50.00 minimum**

- City limits of Luverne only
- Order over phone
- Pay with credit card Valid ID at the time of delivery
- Curbside pick up also available

**Relay For Life Fundraiser**

\$3.00 off select wines  
100% of sales of select liquor goes to Relay For Life

319 W Main St, Luverne  
507-449-5052

Relay For Life American Cancer Society

Follow Us On Facebook Instagram





Lori Sorenson Photo/Trap Shoot/0618

## LHS trap team finishes abbreviated season

Members of the Luverne High School trap shooting team wrapped up their abbreviated season Monday night. The team completed five rounds of competition in small groups at the Rock County Sportsmen's Club in Luverne. Season scores will be submitted to the statewide organization to determine final conference placing. Statewide and national competitions will not take place this year due to COVID-19 concerns. Pictured (from left) are Cheyenne Schutz, Colton Schutz, Carter Loosbrock, Tryg Gangestad, Eric Somnis, Jacob Henning and Grant Wieneke. Look for results in the Star Herald.

## Redbirds win two games in South Dakota

By Jason Berghorst

The Luverne amateur baseball team played two games in Castlewood, South Dakota, Saturday and won both contests.

The Redbirds defeated the Castlewood Monarchs 9-5 before coming out on top of the Castlewood Ravens 9-0.

The local team has played its first three games in South Dakota because coronavirus-related restrictions on baseball games being played had not yet been lifted in Minnesota.

The Minnesota Baseball Association (MBA), which governs amateur teams in the state, allowed teams to begin playing games in Minnesota June 12 if the teams follow virus-related guidelines and the entities that own or control the ballpark allow play.

Luverne's Redbird Field is owned by the city of Luverne. City officials have given the green light for games to begin, with some restrictions.

The Redbirds play their first home game Wednesday, June 17, and will host Ruthton at Redbird Field on Wednesday, June 24.

### Redbirds 9, Ravens 0

Luverne completed the sweep of the two Castlewood teams when they defeated the Ravens 9-0 Saturday.

Jake Haugen pitched all seven innings for Luverne. He struck out nine batters and gave up four hits and no walks.

"Jake pitched really, really well," said Redbirds player-manager Brooks Mauer.

The Redbirds scored three runs in the fourth inning and five more in the sixth.

"It was a pretty small field, but there was a strong wind blowing in so any ball hit in the air didn't get real far," Mauer said.

Luverne was led by Declan Beers and Skyler Wenninger at the plate. Both batters had three hits in the game.

Wenninger scored three runs and added two RBIs.

Box score	AB	H	R	BI
Serie	4	1	0	1
Beers	3	3	1	1
Paquette	2	0	1	0
Colby Crabtree	1	0	0	0
Wenninger	4	3	3	2
Reisdorfer	3	2	1	1
Norman	3	0	1	1
Mauer	1	0	0	0
Haugen	2	0	0	0
Brown	1	0	0	0
Lundgren	3	2	1	2
Connor Crabtree	2	0	1	0

### Redbirds 9, Monarchs 5

The Redbirds opened a double-header in Castlewood, South Dakota, Saturday with a 9-5 win over the Castlewood Monarchs.

Each team took turns scoring runs in the early innings until Luverne scored five runs in the fifth inning to



Lori Sorenson Photo/Redbirds/0618

Luverne Redbird Ben Serie scored two runs in a 9-5 win over the Castlewood Monarchs Saturday. Luverne swept two South Dakota teams to up their season record to 3-0. The team's home opener is Wednesday, June 17, at Redbird Field.

take the lead that they kept the remainder of the game.

Phil Paquette led the offense for the Redbirds with three hits, including two doubles. He also scored two runs and earned three RBIs.

Ben Serie, Declan Beers, and Wenninger also scored two runs each for the victors. Wenninger also added three RBIs.

Derek Lundgren pitched all seven innings for the Redbirds. Lundgren gave up only two hits and six walks while striking out nine batters.

Box score	AB	H	R	BI
Serie	2	0	2	0
Beers	4	1	2	0
Paquette	4	3	2	3
Norman	1	0	0	0
Wenninger	3	1	2	3
Reisdorfer	5	2	0	1
Lundgren	3	1	0	1
Haugen	3	0	1	0
Brown	4	0	0	0
Crabtree	1	0	0	0
Mauer	1	1	0	0

## 19U and 17U baseball teams start this weekend

Local high school baseball players will finally take the field this weekend.

First, coronavirus restrictions canceled the high school spring sports season in April. In May the American Legion board officially canceled summer seasons for Legion and Junior Legion baseball teams in Minnesota due to the pandemic.

Luverne Community Education staff worked to find another option to give local players a shortened baseball season if virus-related restrictions ease and continue to evolve.

Teams were formed for 19U Luverne baseball players who would have been on the Legion team and for 17U players who would have been on the Junior Legion team.

Season schedules for the two teams are still being developed, but both plan to open play in tournaments in South Dakota this weekend.

The 19U team, coached by Codie Zeutenhorst, will play in Sioux Falls, and the 17U team, coached by Mike Wenninger, will compete in Renner.

## Be like the great blue heron; slow down, loop around and enjoy the outdoors

Does anybody know what I am talking about when I call a bird a "shy poke"? This was the name I first learned from my grandpa, Arnold Bender, who lived in Leola, South Dakota. This is the nickname for the great blue heron. Another name for them is a looper. This is for their large slow wind beats.



## THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, columnist

sloughs or other impeded slow-moving water.

They are not architects by any means. They build a nest of sticks, and it is often used for many years. Nests can get quite big. Herons choose a different mate each year, and the female lays four to six eggs one time per year.

Too much human intrusion during nesting often ends in nest failure. The young look really goofy standing in a nest. Their favorite spots around here are in dead cottonwood trees. I once saw

that the tree had fallen down and the young were sitting about two feet off the ground in what was left of it.

They eat primarily fish and swallow their meals whole. They also eat rodents, snails, crab, crayfish, insects and even duckling, if the opportunity presents itself. My research tells me they will even eat a gopher if one wanders by.

They are quite solitary when not in the breeding season. They have special feathers called powder down that grow continuously on their chest.

They preen those feathers with a claw on their center toe. They apply the powder down from those special feathers to their under parts to keep the slime of fish and other oils from building up on their feathers.

They look really big, but in actuality they only weigh between 5-6 pounds. They have a very long neck that is specially designed to allow them to lunge at fish close by. Vibration in the water is picked up by their feet so they can feed even if they cannot see the prey. They can be a pain if you operate a fish hatchery or stock your small pond. When I see them, they are primarily eating bullheads. I don't think they have any impact on any of the fisheries' resources in our area.

I know for a fact they won't stay in the same area as an eagle. There was one group

of about 8-10 heron nests, and when an eagle decided to set up shop, the herons were all gone within one week. The wind blew the eagle nest down and the herons were back the following year.

There is another bird that lives in our area called a green heron. No family resemblance exists. A green heron only stands about 12 inches tall, and a great blue heron might reach 4 feet or more in height.

I was finishing up my weekend volunteer efforts and was sitting on the deck at my wildlife property. There are three pairs of resident great blue herons there. As I listened to the house wrens, redwing blackbirds and wood ducks flying overhead, I saw on the horizon a pair of great blue herons looping their way by. They are slow flyers and graceful as all day. They short-circled and landed in one of the backwater

## SCOREBOARD

### Luverne High School Trap Shooting Results

#### Week Four - June 11

Boys	
Colton Schutz	49
Austin Henning	46
Hunter Ahrendt	45
Colby Crabtree	45
Austin Watts-Boll	44
Marshal Dammann	44

Girls	
Cheyenne Schutz	39
Leah Wynia	36

## Drivers race at two area tracks

By Jason Berghorst

Ten racecar drivers from the Star Herald coverage area competed at area dirt tracks last weekend.

Kaden Kracht of Steen placed fourth in the Sportsman's class to lead Rock County racers at Rapid Speedway in Rock Rapids Friday night.

Thomas Kracht led local drivers at 1-90 Speedway in Hartford, South Dakota, when he finished third in the Hobby Stocks race Saturday night.

### Rapid Speedway

Kaden Kracht started the Sportsman's class feature race in 11th place before working his way up to finishing fourth overall.

Brandon Boeve of Beaver Creek finished eighth in the same race.

The Hobby Stocks class in Rock Rapids included four locals.

Eric Gaul of Luverne finished eighth in the A feature.

Luverne's Scott Overgaard led local drivers in the Stock Car class when he came in sixth in the A feature race. Spencer Kalass of Luverne placed 10th in the same race.

### 1-90 Speedway

Luverne's Thomas Kracht and Cadyn Wessels both competed in the Hobby Stocks class at 1-90 Speedway on Saturday.

Wessels qualified for the A feature race by placing second in the B feature.

Kracht placed third in the A feature and Wessels came in 16th in the same race.

### Rapid Speedway - June 12 Sportsman's A Feature

K. Kracht	Steen	4th
B. Boeve	Beaver Creek	8th

### USRA Hobby Stocks A Feature

E. Gaul	Luverne	8th
T. Kracht	Luverne	11th
C. Kelderman	Hills	19th

### USRA Hobby Stocks B Feature 2

C. Wessels	Luverne	9th
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### USRA Stock Cars A Feature

S. Overgaard	Luverne	6th
S. Kalass	Luverne	10th
C. Overgaard	Luverne	16th
C. Arends	Luverne	18th

### 1-90 Speedway - June 13 USRA Hobby Stocks A Feature

T. Kracht	Luverne	3rd
C. Wessels	Luverne	16th

### USRA Hobby Stocks B Feature

C. Wessels	Luverne	2nd
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Scott Rall, Worthington, is a habitat conservationist, avid hunting and fishing enthusiast and is president of Nobles County Pheasants Forever. He can be reached at [scottall@gmail.com](mailto:scottall@gmail.com) or on Twitter @habitat champion.



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

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

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

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

**First Baptist Church**  
1033 N. Jackson St., P.O. Box 975, Luverne  
Ph. 283-4091; email: fbcluv@iw.net — www.fbcluverne.org  
Walt Moser, Pastor

Sunday 10:30 a.m. worship service can be viewed live on Facebook through a link on the website: [www.fbcluverne.org](http://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**  
Beginning Saturday weekly in-person worship services 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. Limited seating is available. Register online by 5 p.m. on the church website or by calling the church office. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are still available. Online Sundays 9 a.m. on the church website [www.graceluverne.org](http://www.graceluverne.org), click Worship tab or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 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](http://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

9:30 a.m. indoor service. 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 110<sup>th</sup> 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 and **Wednesday, 6 pm**.

**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: stjoh@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, [cityofluverne.org](http://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: newlifecel@iw.net

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
305 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.  
igtwl@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**  
211 121<sup>st</sup> 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. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek  
Ph. 507-935-5025  
email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

Worship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills will be online only until further notice. 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](http://blchills.org).

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

## Scars signify living; proof that God heals

Scars. We all have them. Even our navels are scars resulting from wounds on the day we were born.

According to Wikipedia, "A scar is an area of fibrous tissue that replaces normal skin after an injury. It is the result of the biological process of wound repair. With the exception of very minor lesions, every wound results in some degree of scarring." Besides my belly button, I have other scars. Two distinct marks run parallel to my spine carved by a surgeon's scalpel. Remnants of a third-degree burn coat the back of my leg, and a relic by my eyebrow occurred from the carelessness of my (unnamed) older brother.

Each scar has a story to tell. Some stories we enjoy retelling, while others we'd rather conceal. I know a young lady with scars on her legs and arms that she doesn't want anyone to know about. They are reminders of self-inflicted wounds to her body in an attempt to take away the pain of wounds to her heart.

Yes, some scars form on our skin and are very visible. Other times it's our mind and heart that are affected. We are wounded within. And just as all people have a scar on their exterior, I think you would have a difficult time finding someone that hasn't been wounded on the inside. As is evident in our society, some people's hurts are still gaping open, gushing, or oozing, while others have allowed wounds to heal and scar over.

Scars seem ugly and we attempt to reduce their appearance, but if you think about it, scars are really beautiful. Scars signify healing. While a wound shows evidence of an injury, often bloody and gross, scars only form after a wound is bound up and completely healed. And as a friend reminded me, "Scars only form on the living." Let that sink in.

Isaiah 53 speaks of a man, Jesus Christ, who bears the scars of a sacrificial wounding.

"He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are

## BUILT ON A ROCK

By Erin Jacobsma,  
Administrator  
American Reformed Church,  
Luverne

healed." Jesus was wounded (flesh ripped open, body nailed to a tree, side pierced through) to bring healing and restoration and to bind up our relationship with God. Without Jesus' wounds, we would never experience healing and right relationship with the Father.

Psalm 147:3 says, "He (the Lord) heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." I often have a picture in my mind of a doctor suturing a deep cut and wrapping gauze around the injury when I think about binding up wounds, but as I've been thinking about scars, these words are a beautiful picture of the healing and restoration that God does in our lives, even if it does leave a scar.

So tell me about your scars. Do you have battle wounds that you are proud of, souvenirs of a victory from the past? Marks that are thick with life lessons and transformation? Maybe your scars are buried deep within your soul and very few people, if anybody, even know about them. Maybe they are your own doing and are bound with shame, or maybe they are twisted with bitterness and unforgiveness.

Or perhaps you have wounded another, left a decisive mark on their body ... or their heart. Maybe you threw a punch, or shot careless words that pierced deep within. (If that's you, I encourage you to take action to clean up your mess and apply the healing balm of a humble apology and reconciliation.)

Whether you have been the wounded or the wound-er, make a choice today to allow Jehovah-Rapha, the God who heals, to bind up your wounds and bring complete healing to your body and your soul.

Your scars are proof that God heals. So don't be embarrassed about them; tell their story and tell of the amazing power of God's healing in your life.

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## Rock County Commissioners meet May 19

**Rock County Board of Commissioners** **9:00 A.M.**  
**Zoom Video Meeting** **May 19, 2020**

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

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to approve the May 19, 2020 County Board agenda, declared carried on roll call vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Williamson, to approve the May 05, 2020 County Board minutes, declared carried on roll call vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the consent agenda, declared carried on roll call vote.

1. SWMN Emergency Communications Board membership dues 2020 - \$2,190.00

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

### MAY 19, 2020 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000

BREMIX MATERIALS, INC	\$20,108.13
BUTLER MACHINERY CO	3,261.39
CHS	5,461.80
CONVERGINT TECHNOLOGIES LLC	11,424.24
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	6,509.00
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC	3,960.00
ERICKSON ENGINEERING	3,827.00
FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-ADMIN FMR	6,702.75
GRAHAM TIRE-WORTHINGTON	2,520.04
JOHNSON CONTROLS	6,038.69
KETTERLING SERVICES INC	11,713.05
LUVERNE/CITY OF	4,987.16
LYON COUNTY LANDFILL	16,359.90
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	5,304.49
ROCK COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	3,496.50
STAPLES ENTERPRISES INC	2,166.34
TOLLEFSON PUBLISHING	2,243.68
TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT INC	2,753.14
61 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	26,726.58
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$145,563.88</b>

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report which reflected a majority of first half of property tax collected. Kurtz stated they are still processing tax payments and that the number of parcels that are paid is tracking the same from the previous year. Motion by Overgaard, seconded by Reisch, to accept the Fund Balance report, declared carried on roll call vote.

Mark Sehr, Engineer, presented to price quotes for CP 067-401-021, the 2020 Stripping Project:

•AAA Stripping Service	\$60,121.60
•Marking Services, Inc.	\$62,627.50

On a recommendation from the Engineer, motion by Williamson, seconded by Burger, to approve the price quote from AAA Stripping Service for \$60,121.60, declared carried on roll call vote.

The Engineer requested to bid let SAP 067-030-015, 2020 Mastic Crack Filling-Leveling project for June 15, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.; motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to approve, declared carried on roll call vote.

The project includes work on the following highways: CSAH 7, CSAH 6 and CSAH 4.

The Administrator presented an update on how county departments will serve the public; various departments have incorporated an appointment scheduling process for a variety of services. The appointment process is to accommodate social distancing and crowd control compliance within county buildings.

The Administrator also discussed a Return to Work Policy that addresses safety issues for employees and visitors entering county buildings. Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to adopt the COVID Return to Work Policy Following MN Governor Walz Executive Stay At Home Order, declared carried on roll call vote.

The Administrator stated that his office has also developed a communications procedure document that addresses a COVID-19 positive result and how notification will be conducted.

The Administrator informed the County Board the state is in receipt of \$5.6 million of federal funds identified as CARES ACT Funds that was intended to be distributed to local units of government, however, the legislative session ended without any action taken. Potential use of the Coronavirus-Relief Funds could be for grants to small businesses that experienced interruptions due to the Governor's executive orders and that did not qualify for other federal programs. Oldre stated that a Special Session will be scheduled in June and that he would try to schedule Senator Weber and Representative Schomacker to a County Board meeting prior to the Special Session.

The County Board was in receipt of a resolution requesting Governor Walz to lift the Stay at Home Order. After discussion, it was determined to add additional language to release the CARES ACT funds to local units of governments so they can assist their residents experiencing hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic event. Motion by Burger, seconded by Thompson, to approve Resolution No. 10-20, Request to Lift the Stay at Home Order, declared carried on roll call vote.

The County Board was informed of the AMC District 8 meeting scheduled for June 4; the virtual platform is still forthcoming.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he had attended the following meetings: LEC contract, Transit and Southwestern MN Opportunity Council.

Commissioner Thompson stated that she had attended the following meetings: A.C.E. and Southwest Regional Development Commission.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he had attended the following meetings: Rural Water, Prairie Rose Community Fund where they distributed \$40,000 in grant requests, and Southwest Mental Health.

Commissioner Burger stated that he had attended the following meetings: Kanaranzi Township

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he had attended the following meetings: LEC contract, Blandin, Transit; also commented on the status of pork producers and the de-population process.

The Administrator expressed an interest in conducting face-to-face meetings beginning in June and that he would be developing a plan on how to safely conduct those meetings.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Williamson, seconded by Overgaard, to adjourn, declared carried on a 5-0 roll call vote. (06-18)

## Public hearing set for June 29

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Rock County Planning Commission shall conduct a public hearing on Monday, June 29, 2020, at 7:15 p.m. at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center located at 1000 North Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota, for the purpose of considering amendments and additions to the Rock County Zoning Ordinance and which amendments and additions shall pertain to the Renewable Energy Ordinance, which regulates the installation and operation of Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) of less than 5000 kilowatts (or 5 megawatts) and Solar Energy Systems of less than 50,000 kilowatts (or 50 megawatts), pursuant to M.S. 216F, Wind Energy Conversion Systems, and Solar Energy Conversion Systems, pursuant to M.S. 216C.25, 500.30, and Minnesota Rules Chapter 1325.1100. Those portions of the renewable energy ordinance subject to change shall include wind turbine setbacks to property lines and setbacks to wetlands, and the standards for the installation and placement power and communication lines in large solar farms.

All interested parties are invited to attend. Written comments should be submitted to the Rock County Zoning Administrator by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 29, 2020. All persons desiring to be heard shall be given an opportunity to present testimony.

By Order of the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission  
Eric Hartman, Zoning Administrator  
311 W. Gabrielson Road  
Luverne, MN 56156  
507-283-8862 (06-18, 06-25)

## Notice of public hearing for conditional use permit

Pursuant to the Rock County Zoning Ordinance, notice is hereby given by the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission that a public hearing will be held at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center located at 1000 North Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota at 7:00 p.m., Monday, June 29. The purpose of this hearing is to rule on the application for Conditional Use Permit for the following:

Applicant & Property Owner: Monte Zwaan  
Location: SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 16 of Clinton Township, T101N, R 45 W, Rock County, Minnesota

Conditional Use: Expansion and operation of an existing feedlot to more than 1000 Animal Units  
Zoning District: A-2, General Agriculture

The conditional use permit is for the expansion of an existing feedlot on the property described above. The existing feedlot consists of a total confinement barn housing 2400 head of finishing swine. The total capacity of the existing feedlot is 720 animal units.

The proposed expansion shall consist of a total confinement barn housing 2400 head of finishing swine, which will increase the capacity by 720 animal units.

After the expansion, the site will house 4800 head of finishing swine. Manure from the 2 total confinement barns will be stored in a poured reinforced concrete pit under the floors of each of these barns. Total animal units after the expansion will be 1440 animal units.

By Order of the Rock County Planning and Zoning Commission  
Eric Hartman, Zoning Administrator  
311 W. Gabrielson Road  
Luverne, MN 56156  
507-283-8862 (06-18, 06-25)

## H-BC School Board meets May 26

Hills-Beaver Creek Dist. 671  
Minutes  
May 26, 2020

The Hills-Beaver Creek School Board met for its semi-monthly meeting at 7:07 p.m. via ZOOM Meeting based on MN Statute 13D.021.

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

- PATRIOT PRIDE:
- Senior Commencement
  - Academic Awards Zoom Ceremony
  - SWWC Creative Writing Contest Winners—Brooklyne Hubbard, second place non-fiction for "One Small Farm", "Most Influential President", Kamron Kellenberger, first place poetry for "Robbers and Thieves"
  - Band/Vocal Music Awards Zoom Ceremony — 5/18/2020
  - Allstate Band Members 2020-2021— Tara Paulsen All State Percussion Alternate and Tess Van Maanen Trumpet -Symphonic Band
  - Patriot Week at the Elementary School
  - End of 2019-2020 School Year

Motion by LaRock, second by Wyson, and carried to approve minutes 5/11/2020. Motion by Knobloch, second by LaRock, and carried to approve bills. Motion by Wyson, second by Rozeboom, and carried to approve Excess Items Bid for Storage Containers — single bid of \$100.

Motion by Rozeboom, second by Wyson, and carried to approve Fiscal Year 2021 Proposed Capital Expenditures/Projects.

PERSONNEL:  
Motion by LaRock, second by Rauk, and carried to approve accepting Dan Ellingson's resignation as District Assessment Coordinator at the end of the 2019-2020 School Year.

Motion by LaRock, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve hiring Dylan Gehrke as Elementary Teacher to begin the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion by Rauk, second by LaRock, and carried to approve Extended School Year 2020 Assignments for Darin DeBoer, Jill Stiefvater, and Jill Vaughn.

Motion by Wyson, second by Knobloch, and carried to approve assigning Scott Harnack to overload teaching assignment for the 2020/2021 School Year.

- DISTRICT NON-ACTION ITEMS:
- Secondary Principal Report
  - Superintendent/Elementary Principal Report
  - Committee Meetings: Building Grounds 5/20, Personnel 5/21
  - Legislative Update
- Agenda items for the next regularly scheduled meeting  
DATES TO REMEMBER:  
-Regular Board Meeting, Monday, June 8  
-Regular Board Meeting, Monday, June 22  
Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Tamara Rauk, Clerk  
(06-18)

### ESTATE SALE

Marvin Kroontje Estate Sale at 301 Luverne Street, Magnolia. Friday, June 26: 2-8 p.m. and Saturday, June 27: 8:30 a.m.- 8 p.m. Motorized wheelchair, walkers, other medical supplies, tools, mini fridge, microwave, kitchen items, bedding, books, dressers, shelves, DVD's, records, sewing machine, so much more - many items are new! (6.18-6.27)

### CARDS OF THANKS

Thank you for the many cards, kind words, and expressions of sympathy after our mom's passing! Thanks to Jeff Harquist for helping us with the funeral arrangements, and to Pastor Sparks for the meaningful graveside service! Also, thanks to all who visited her and sent cards to her during her many years at Edgebrook Care Center! Each act of kindness is greatly appreciated!  
**Family of Jeanette Vos**  
(6.18-6.20)

### SERVICES

### WE HAVE SEVERAL CREWS OF BEAN WALKERS.

We also pick rock, put up and take down fences. We will do any type of farm work. Call 712-943-2084, 712-251-3277 or 712-899-5219

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### EMPLOYMENT

## Southwestern Mental Health Intake Specialist

Southwestern Mental Health Center is currently seeking applications for a Full-Time Intake Specialist position at our Luverne, MN office. Hours are Monday – Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM, with extended hours on Tuesday from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

The Intake Specialist is responsible for the general functioning of the Front Office duties. Provide face-to-face and phone reception services to all clients, families, vendors, agencies, and co-workers. Enters new client data into Information System, completes clinical transactions in system. Assist Lead Intake Specialist with completing Initial Intake packets, Face-to-Face Intake packets, consent to treatment agreement, fee agreements and release of information & annual updates.

Knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite. Must be able to perform basis operations on a computer within the Windows operating system.

Apply online at Southwestern Mental Health  
Please apply at: <http://www.swmhc.org>

1. Click on the Careers tab toward the top of the web page.
2. Click on Search for Jobs.
3. In the Quick Search, click on Positions by Locations.
4. Click on Luverne, MN and search for this position to apply.

If you need further assistance,  
Email: [david.vinzant@swmhc.org](mailto:david.vinzant@swmhc.org)  
Phone: 507-283-9511

EEO/AA

## City of Luverne sets public hearing for June 23

CITY OF LUVERNE  
COUNTY OF ROCK  
STATE OF MINNESOTA

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF A PORTION OF A RIGHT-OF-WAY PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTE §412.851

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the City Council on the 23rd day of June, 2020, in the Council Chambers of City Offices located at 305 East Luverne Street, Luverne, Minnesota 56156, at 5:00 p.m., or by telephone or electronic means according to MS §13D.021 due to the COVID-19 health pandemic.

The public hearing is to consider the vacation of a portion of the right-of-way in Block 2 in Sater's Creek Addition, City of Luverne, Rock County, Minnesota.

A complete copy of the legal description is available for inspection by any person during business hours in the office of the City Clerk, 305 East Luverne Street, Luverne, Minnesota. Due to the COVID-19 health pandemic, please call the City Clerk's Office at 507-449-9898 to schedule an inspection, or request an email copy at [jmead@cityof-luverne.org](mailto:jmead@cityof-luverne.org).

Published upon order of the City Council of Luverne, Minnesota.

City of Luverne, Minnesota  
By /s/ Jessica Mead  
City Clerk  
(06-11, 06-18)

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



### MISCELLANEOUS

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### EMPLOYMENT

CCSI is actively seeking caregivers to assist individuals who have developmental and or physical disabilities in their own home with housekeeping duties, personal cares, program goals and more. We are seeking individuals who are friendly, compassionate and dependable to work PT, FT and overnight block schedules. Our block schedules offer fixed days and hours, include every other weekend and rotating holidays. Most schedules offer an average of 38 hours per week and are benefit-eligible positions. CCSI has a new starting wage! For information on the current block schedules available, please contact Brenda at the CCSI office in Worthington at (507) 376-3171 extension 2. CCSI is an EEO/AA Employer. (6.13-7.1)

### EMPLOYMENT

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

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



### EMPLOYMENT

**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@alliancecom.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

**HELP WANTED**  
**FULL TIME INFORMATION SYSTEMS ASSISTANT**  
Perform operational computer-related tasks within a bank data center located in Luverne. Qualified candidate will have a strong attention to detail, problem solving skills and computer skills. Two year post-secondary education is preferred.  
Please send resume to:  
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First Farmers & Merchants Bank  
Attn: Karen Wohnoutka  
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### EMPLOYMENT

**Direct Support Professionals**  
Positions Available in Luverne and Pipestone  
Hiawatha Manor, Inc. is looking for individuals with a willingness and desire to make a difference in the lives of individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities in a community based setting. Individuals will assist in teaching life skills, provide direct care and should have characteristics of compassion and respect.  
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Apply at 107 5th Ave. NE Pipestone  
Applications can be requesting by calling 507-825-5697 or texting 507-820-1940

## NOW HIRING

**Southwestern Youth Services in Magnolia, MN has an immediate opening for a Full-Time LPN Monday-Friday, 8am - 4pm.**

The LPN provides direct patient care for male youth as prescribed by the doctor/treatment team, provides medical management and safety/crisis management, will administer medications, complete assessments/evaluations, arrange medical appointments and assist with admissions.  
**Requirements:**  
• Must be a graduate of an accredited School of Nursing and have a current MN State LPN License.  
• CPR/First Aid certification a plus.  
• Valid MN Driver's license is required.  
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Send resume to SYS, PO Box 40, Magnolia, MN 56158 or by email at [jhough@southwestyouth.org](mailto:jhough@southwestyouth.org).  
For further information contact Jeremy at 507-283-4425

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Minnesota Veterans Home - Luverne is seeking applicants for the following position:  
**Homemaker/Activity Aide**  
Create a positive atmosphere for the residents by assisting with dining and activities on the evening shift (3:30 pm – 8:30 pm).  
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full time **Certified Nurse Aids**-all shifts; 8 hour shift every other weekend and every other holiday \*benefit eligible position\*  
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**RECYCLE!**



## Eagle Scout national award/from page 6

mile route via trail, canoe or boat.

In his message for the Scout of the Year award, Madison recounted a troop hike up Harney Peak in the Black Hills. Now known as Black Elk Peak, it is the highest point east of the Rocky Mountains.

"I led my troop in an awesome experience of reading a devotional after a hike," he

wrote. "It was beautiful and memorable moment of reverence."

In school the recent Adrian High School graduate maintained a 4.07 grade point average and became a member of the National Honor Society as a sophomore.

He's active in knowledge bowl, Luverne-Adrian FFA Chapter, math league, band,

and chess club.

A willing volunteer, Madison has helped at the local veterans home, sent care packages to troops and local kids in the hospital, and helped with concessions at local races and the ice-fishing derby.

This fall, Madison plans on returning to the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City.

## ROCK COUNTY VETERANS

### Do you have questions about:

- LEGISLATIVE CHANGES
- WARTIME SERVICE VS PEACE TIME
- DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR SERVICE CONNECTED INJURY OR ILLNESS
- ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR DISABLED VETERANS
- PENSION
- SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHO DIED FROM SERVICE CONNECTED CONDITION
- DEATH PENSIONS TO SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILDREN
- BURIAL BENEFITS
- HEALTHCARE BENEFITS
- DENTAL BENEFITS
- CHAMPVA
- TRICARE AND TRICARE FOR LIFE
- VOCATIONAL REHAB AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- VET CENTERS
- EDUCATION BENEFITS
- LIFE INSURANCE
- HOME LOAN GUARANTIES
- AGENT ORANGE (Vietnam and Blue Water Navy)
- POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER
- BENEFITS FOR FEMALE VETERANS
- STATE BENEFITS
- OBTAINING MILITARY RECORDS AND AWARDS
- CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS
- NATIONAL GUARD VS ACTIVE DUTY

**Veterans Linkage Line**  
minnesotaveteran.org | 1-888-LinkVet (546-5838)

Help for veterans and families

Help Support the



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

**Rock County Veterans Services**

507-283-5061  
M-F: 8 a.m. to Noon  
Rock County Courthouse



Mavis Fodness photo/0618 Bomgaars Move

## Bomgaars moves to former Shopko building

Three months after the scheduled move to the former Shopko Hometown building, Bomgaars employees were busy Tuesday morning loading trucks and moving merchandise from the store's Hatting Street location to the new location on South Highway 75 in Luverne. The move was originally scheduled for late March, but the coronavirus pandemic canceled plans. On Monday 75 to 80 employees from the various Bomgaars locations came to Luverne to assist in the move that will take four days to complete, according to local store manager Darrel Nielson. Bomgaars will open at the new location beginning at 7:30 a.m. Friday. Open seven days a week, the business will also have expanded hours of operation.

## County 52 bridge construction/from page 1

Railroad officials granted permission to work over the rail line last week, but high wind conditions delayed the work until Thursday, June 11.

Eight semitrailer trucks brought the concrete beams to the site, Barnhart crane service put them in place, and Prahm workers anchored them into the concrete abutments.

Work paused periodically for trains to pass the construction site.

"There are between 15 to

20 trains a day that use that rail," said county engineer Mark Sehr.

The bridge construction is still months away from being finished.

Prahm Construction will spend several weeks preparing the areas between the concrete beams for the poured-concrete decking.

The project was delayed earlier this year to wait for BNSF to grant permission for work to be completed in the

railroad right of way.

This followed a delay in May 2019 when no one bid on the work.

An August 2019 rebid garnered four bids with Prahm Construction providing the lowest at \$1.292 million.

The new bridge design will be two lanes with a 10-ton vehicle carrying capacity. The bridge will also be wider and longer than the previous space at 29 feet wide and 106 feet long.

The original one-lane wood pile bridge was damaged in a July 2017 fire.

Sehr was able to tap into an emergency state bridge repair grant program in 2019 with commissioners approving \$388,000 earlier this year from reserves to complete the project.

Without delays, the replacement was projected to take 10 to 12 weeks to complete.

Sehr anticipates the new bridge located in Martin Township to open to traffic later this year.

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

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

mn.gov/covid19

MINNESOTA

### Governor Walz's Executive Order Under Phase III of the Stay Safe MN Plan

People will be able to head inside to restaurants and bars. Gyms and fitness studios can resume operations. Pools will be open across the state. But all of that will require safe social distancing, strict capacity limits, and wearing masks.

#### 1. Restaurants

- Indoor dining while maintaining social distancing
- reservations required
- May seat no more than 50 percent occupancy

#### 2. Social gatherings

- Indoor social gatherings can take place with 10 people or less
- Outdoor social gatherings can take place with 25 people or less

#### 3. Gyms, personal fitness, yoga studios, & martial arts

- May open at 25 percent capacity

#### 4. Entertainment venues

- Indoor entertainment venues such as theaters and concert halls, can open at 25 percent capacity.
- Recreational indoor entertainment venues, such as bowling alleys, arcades, and museums may open at 25 percent capacity.
- Outdoor entertainment venues, such as sporting events, concerts, and theaters may open at 25 percent capacity.

#### 5. Personal services

- Personal services, such as salons, tattoo parlors, and barbershops, may increase occupancy rates to 50 percent while requiring reservations.

#### 6. Places of worship

- Places of worship can increase occupancy rates to 50 percent.

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

Further clarification located at:

<https://mn.gov/governor/news/#/detail/appld/1/id/434917>

STAY SAFE MN



## LUVERNE IS TAKING ACTION

The Luverne city council approved a resolution giving John Call the authority to review and approve the use of public sidewalks and concurrence with Mark Sehr County Engineer and Evan VerBrugge Sheriff. This approved measure will be in effect until the local emergency ends or the city council decides to terminate it. The city will provide the necessary traffic safety barriers and help alleviate any regulatory barriers that a business might have in order to expand their outdoor seating capacity.

### EMPLOYER PREPAREDNESS PLAN REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

Businesses and employers providing food and beverages for outside on-site consumption (such as bars, restaurants, bakeries, grocery stores and convenience stores) must develop and implement a COVID-19 Business Preparedness Plan that addresses the following components. Businesses must ensure the Plan is evaluated, monitored, executed, and updated under the supervision of a designated Plan Administrator. Employers must ensure the Plan is posted at all of the business's workplaces in readily accessible locations that will allow for the Plan to be readily reviewed by all workers, as required.

#### KEY REQUIREMENTS:

- Develop and implement a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
- Open for outdoor dining or curbside pickup/delivery only
- Ensure at least 6 feet of distance with maximum on-premises capacity to no more than 50 persons
- Limit table service to 4 persons, or 6 if part of one family unit
- Require reservations; do not allow walk-in customers
- Require masks or face shields to be worn by workers
- and strongly recommend masks for all customers
- Establish regular disinfection routine and train workers

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,

*Patrick T. Baustian*  
Mayor Patrick T. Baustian