



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, July 2, 2020

Federal CARES Act funds approved for Minnesota communities

By Lori Sorenson

Rock County is expecting nearly \$1 million in government aid next week through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The city of Luverne is expecting \$355,000, and other Rock County small cities and townships will also receive some aid under a distribution formula based on population.

Gov. Tim Walz announced Thursday he would use executive powers to release federal funds to Minnesota communities waiting for the aid.

The federal government passed the CARES Act earlier this year and three months ago distributed funds to the states in order to provide economic relief for hardships caused by business closures during the pandemic.

Funds distributed based on population. Here's how it breaks down:

By Mavis Fodness

In addition to the \$1.18 million Rock County receives from the CARES Act, towns with populations greater than 200 will also receive their own allocations as follows:

•Luverne (city)	\$355,983
•Hills	\$50,327
•Beaver Creek (city)	\$21,547
•Magnolia (city)	\$15,746

Township allocated amounts:

•Luverne Township	\$11,550
•Beaver Creek Township	\$9,275
•Martin Township	\$9,175
•Clinton Township	\$6,700
•Springwater Township	\$6,125
•Kananarazi Township	\$6,000
•Mound Township	\$5,675
•Magnolia Township	\$5,025
•Rose Dell Township	\$5,025

The CARES allocations for the townships of Battle Plain, Denver and Vienna, along with the cities of Hardwick, Kenneth and Steen, are included in the amount allocated to the county.

These townships and communities have populations under 200 people. See the related stories for more details about the aid.

Small business, nonprofits top CARES aid list

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County Commissioners worked out details Tuesday morning to distribute \$1.18 million of federal aid through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act.

Small businesses in Rock County will receive almost half of the funds (tentatively set at \$500,000) through an application process yet to be finalized.

Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 7, to finalize the ap-

Since then, Minnesota lawmakers worked out logistics for distribution but failed to act on it during their regular session and the special session that ended last week, prompting intense criticism from local governments statewide.

Governor Tim Walz announced

Thursday a plan to distribute \$853 million in relief to communities across the state impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of that amount, \$841 million will be distributed to Minnesota counties, cities, and towns to support local government coronavirus relief efforts.

Rock County commissioners met Tuesday to prioritize how the CARES money will be distributed (see the related story) and Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian said the city's emergency funds will likely be dis-

CARES funds released/see page 12

CARES Act local aid/see page 12

Luverne hosts July 4 events

By Lori Sorenson

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, there are several safe opportunities to celebrate the Independence Day holiday in Luverne.

Dave Duffy is bringing back the July 4 Davis Lake Triathlon, which will be divided into two races.

The Minnow Race begins at 8:30 a.m. and includes a quarter-mile kayak course, a two-mile bike ride and a 1-mile run. The Shark Race begins at 9:15 a.m. It includes kayaking for a half mile, biking for nine miles and running for 2.5 miles.

For more information or to register, visit allsportcentral.com or call Duffy at 507-920-3345

The Freedom Loop Challenge invites individuals and families to ride the Luverne Loop path from June 26 through July 4. The map, instructions and entry form are available at the new Loop Trailhead building (former East Casey's), at the Chamber office, or online at luvernechamber.com.

Free T-shirts will go to the first 200 people, sponsored by Papik Motors and Security Savings Bank.

Free golf cart rides on The Loop will bring riders from the Courthouse Square to places of interest around town at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on July 4.

Call the Chamber for reservations at 507-283-4061. It is sponsored by First Farmers & Merchants Bank, Minnwest Bank, Sunshine Foods and Luverne CVB.

Luverne musicians Ron and Jane Cote will perform a free concert, Songs of America, from 7 to 9 p.m. on July 4 at the Rock County Courthouse Square, sponsored by Main Street Financial Services.

Fourth of July fireworks, sponsored by NextEra Energy Resources - Walleye Wind, will begin at 10 p.m.

The show will feature above-ground displays that can be enjoyed from anywhere in town.



Warren Baker assists with vineyard planting Saturday afternoon in a former alfalfa field east of his home. Below left, vineyard owner Paul Neyers holds a clump of vines about to be planted. Pictured in the inset, Luverne's Mark Dorame shows how the seedlings get placed in a furrow.

Vineyard takes root for future Blazing Star winery



Photos and text by Lori Sorenson

Last weekend almost 3,000 bare root vines were planted in local soil in anticipation of the opening of Blazing Star Winery.

Paul Neyers planted the 4.5-acre vineyard near the corner of Hatting and Freeman south of the fairgrounds on land formerly owned by Warren Baker.

The grapes will be used to stock Luverne's future winery and tasting room just up the street on the corner of Highway 75 and Hatting Street (former Sharkee's lot) in the new Towne Square development.

"I really truly enjoy growing grapes," said Neyers, who holds an MBA from the U of M and a computer science

degree from St. John's University. "They're fascinating plants, and the work gets me outside."

Luverne's vineyard is planted with white wine grapes Itasca, Frontenac Gris and Brianna.

Neyers said these grapes can be made in a variety of styles from sweet to dry and can be blended to produce unique combinations. Itasca and Frontenac Gris were released by the University of Minnesota. Brianna was bred by Elmer Swenson.

The final variety planted on the site was a red grape, Petite Pearl, bred by Tom Plocher. It can be made into both rosé and dry red styles.

Neyers said the prospect of a winery and vineyard along the Luverne Loop trail also appealed to him.

The Loop, in its third phase, will follow Hatting Street and cut across the former Baker land and follow the Rock River to connect

Blazing Star vineyard/continued on page 2

Fireworks in Hills July 11

By Mavis Fodness

A July 11 fireworks display at the Hills Rez Park is intended to promote a sense of community — at a safe distance.

Howie Vis is an organizer with Helping Build Communities Stronger, a community club focused on promotional activities in Hills, Beaver Creek and Steen.

The group annually hosts the Hills Friendship Days during the second week in June. This year HBSC members decided to forgo the public celebration due to the coronavirus pandemic, instead opting for a fireworks display the second Saturday in July.

State officials recently adjusted safe distancing guidelines for large group gatherings. "Now that we have opened up a bit," Vis said, "we can still gather as a community and help

support each other while still social distancing."

The fireworks display at the Hills Rez Park can be seen throughout town. Vis suggests people watch from their front yards or spread out in the various green spaces throughout Hills.

The city of Hills is assisting HBSC with the cost of the fireworks display, and the club is accepting freewill donations to help defray costs.

More annual HBSC activities could come later this summer, but club members are cautious about bringing large numbers of people together to avoid sparking a COVID-19 outbreak.

"We want to practice safe distancing," Vis said.

The fireworks event will begin at dusk Saturday night, July 11, between 9:30 and 10 p.m.

Schools consider options amid pandemic

By Mavis Fodness

School officials are taking a short break before tackling plans for the 2020-21 school year amid uncertain pandemic precautions.

"We are taking about two weeks to just breathe and close out this school year," Luverne Schools Superintendent Craig Oftedahl told board members at their June 25 meeting.

The Minnesota departments of education and health jointly released guidelines June 18 to assist districts in preparing three different possible plans for conducting school for the 2020-21 year.

The guidelines are about 100 pages in length. "It will be a huge undertaking," Oftedahl said.

The three plans are in-person learning, distance learning and a hybrid plan with strict social distancing

and capacity limits. State officials will announce in late July which plan will be in place when area schools begin classes on Sept. 8.

Three plans are in-person learning, distance learning and a hybrid plan with strict social distancing and capacity limits.

State officials will announce in late July which plan will be in place when area schools begin classes on Sept. 8.

During the school year, state officials will be able to call for schools to switch between plans if health concerns deem the change necessary.

"Plans need a seamless transition," Oftedahl said. "If they tell us on Friday to do distance learning on Monday, we can roll right into that plan."

Guidelines outline dozens of requirements

The in-person plan can't be business as usual inside the school buildings.

The state's 100-page guidebook outlines dozens of recommendations and requirements the school

Schools plan options for pandemic start/see page 12



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Beaver Creek Township Board

Beaver Creek Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 13, in the township hall.

Water rescue training July 7

Sanford Luverne Ambulance (Rock County Ambulance) and the Luverne Fire Department will perform a water rescue training starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 7, at The Lake in Luverne. The community is invited to watch and learn.

Sanford drive-through treats

Sanford clinics in Luverne, Adrian, and Edgerton will host drive-through events to thank the communities for their support.

The drive-through events will take place at the following times.

•Sanford Luverne Clinic: Monday, July 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

•Sanford Health Adrian Clinic: Tuesday, July 14, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

•Sanford Health Edgerton Clinic: Wednesday, July 15, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Free summer treats will be available while supplies last. Attendees will be asked to remain inside their vehicles.

Free tax filing help at the library

Free tax help at the library resumes for new July 15 IRS filing deadline that was delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Volunteers will again take appointments to help area low-income and elderly residents with personal (non-commercial) filing paperwork. Call the Rock County Library, 507-449-5040, to schedule.

History Center opens with 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.

Community Education

The Community Education phone number is 507-283-4724. The office is closed on Fridays. The updated summer brochure has been posted to the Community Education page of the Luverne Schools website.

Registrations will be accepted with payment by mail or by drop box. Use the waiver/registration form found on page 5 of the brochure.

We will follow state and public health Covid-19 guidelines, which could change at any time. Continue to watch Facebook and website pages daily for any updates.

Classes that will be offered include: Preschool Play Dates in the Park, Early Play Ball, July Soccer, August Soccer, Cliff Line Climbing, Science Day Camp, Coffey Contemporary Story Writing Illustrating, Coffey Contemporary Cool Off & Paint, Arts and Crafts, Track, Basketball Skills, Volleyball Skills, Golf, Tennis, Weight Lifting (new class), Sanford Power Camp, Football.

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



The Blazing Star Winery was planted Saturday afternoon in a former alfalfa field east of Warren Baker's home.

Blazing Star Winery and vineyard/continued from page 1

with the Blue Mound Trail near Luverne City Park.

Neyers grew up on a farm raising corn, soybeans and hogs near Gibbon, Minnesota, but he knew early on his interests weren't in that type of agriculture.

He began planting grapes soon after graduating from college and established a winery near New Ulm in 2011 along the bluffs of the Minnesota River Valley.

"I have experimented with a purchase of California grapes, but the great majority of my production has come from grapes that I grow or that I buy from friends and colleagues."

They include a selection of red, white and rosé varieties, with potential for a dessert wine, and he said the taste compares similarly to other Minnesota-grown wines, like Strawbale and Round Lake vineyards.

The Doppeleichen inventory incorporates other locally grown grapes from close friends and colleagues, but he's kept the business small.

"We've been a proof-of-concept business, making sure this works and that our wine tastes good," Neyers said. "We have the equipment in place and we're on the right path."

His New Ulm winery closed to the public in 2017 and 2018 due to road construction. It remains closed due to pandemic restrictions.

Neyers used the downtime to accumulate inventory and consider options for expansion, since his business there is out of room to grow.

Towne Square developer Don Jahnke introduced Neyers to the Luverne opportunity for prime retail space not far from tillable ground for a vineyard.

"We're on an interesting path," Neyers said about plans for Blazing Star and its place in the Towne Square

development. The winery will have seating for tastings.

"We are planning food offerings, though the final menu has not been set," Neyers said. "There are also plans for space for smaller events."

Jahnke announced last week that lenders had signed off on his three-story, 27-unit apartment building that will break ground along Hatting Street this summer.

The apartments, the winery and a Mexican restaurant will join additional developments on the Towne Square property as it is completed.

Voters can cast early ballots for Aug. 11 primary

Statewide and Rock County election leaders see spike in absentee ballot requests this year

By Lori Sorenson

Early absentee voting began Friday for the Aug. 11 primary election in Minnesota, and by law any eligible Minnesotan can vote early by mail or in person, but mail ballots are encouraged to minimize contact during the coronavirus pandemic.

According to the Minnesota Secretary of State's office, more than 207,000 residents requested no-excuse absentee ballots as of Friday, up from roughly 8,000 at this time in 2018.

In Rock County, more than 100 voters had requested mail ballots as of Monday, according to Auditor Treasurer Ashley Kurtz.

"We had a whole stack of applications last week, even before we got ballots in our office," she said.

For a normal primary election, Kurtz said her office would typically have only a handful of absentee ballot requests this far head of the election.

"There's a lot going on in

the world," she said about elections amid a pandemic.

"Even though the president isn't on this ballot, there's more interest in voting."

Costly electronic voting equipment and difficulty in finding election judges has prompted many of Rock County's rural precincts to switch to mail ballot elections.

As it is, 200 Rock County residents receive mail ballots to vote.

"That's almost half our voters," Kurtz said. "And that number will be significantly higher with absentee requests. ... I think our mail ballot voting will far exceed our in-person voting this election year."

Despite misinformation about the security of mail-ballot voting, Kurtz said mail ballots are in many ways more secure than ballot-booth voting.

"When a voter registers to vote, the information from the voter registration is verified against different databases."

Mail ballots/see page 12

Water rescue training planned for July 7 at The Lake

By Lori Sorenson

The community is invited to observe a water rescue training Tuesday evening at The Lake in Luverne.

Sanford Luverne Ambulance (Rock County Ambulance) and the Luverne Fire Department will drill for water rescue training starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 7.

"Kayaking is popular on the river and there's a lot of people using The Lake in Luverne," said local paramedic Jill Johnson.

"So, having first responders get experience in the water before an emergency is important."

Sanford Luverne officials made the announcement ahead of the exercise to get the message out that it's not an actual emergency event.

But they also saw the event as an opportunity for community members to learn about the role local emergency responders would play in the event of an actual emergency.

"One thing we've decided is important is working together as a team and staying current with each other's resources," said Harlan Vande Kieft, Sanford Luverne Manager of Emergency Medical Services Operations.

Other emergency responders from around Rock County have been invited to participate.

The Luverne Fire Department recently purchased a new rescue boat, and firefighters are working with Sanford Luverne to simulate cold-water rescue, diving accidents and other types of water rescue anticipated to be needed locally.

First responders will practice how to handle victims in different scenarios on the water.

Law enforcement, dispatch, fire departments and ambulances from all Rock County communities are also invited to participate.

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Luverne School Board evaluates superintendent, approves salary increases

By Mavis Fodness

The Luverne School Board approved a new three-year contract with Superintendent Craig Oftedahl that includes a 2.5 percent pay increase following a favorable yearly review.

For the 2020-21 school year Oftedahl will receive \$141,282, followed by \$144,674 in 2021-22, and \$148,435 for the 2022-23 school year.

Board chair Jodi Bosch read a summary of the May 28 evaluation. Oftedahl was hired in 2015.

"Mr. Oftedahl continues to excel in his leadership role in the school and community," Bosch read at the board's June 25 meeting.

"We are looking forward to continued communication, teamwork and accountability as we move forward. We know these are uncertain times for schools, and we are thankful to have Mr. Oftedahl help our district."

Each of the seven board members evaluated Oftedahl in achieving both the district and the professional development goals.

Board members used a numerical system of 1 through 4 for each of the areas, with 1 being "unsatisfactory," 2 "satisfactory," 3 "accomplished" and 4 "distinguished."

In the district goals, the board ranked Oftedahl (evaluation average):

- distinguished (a combined 4 ranking) for providing leadership for the district at the school level as well as the community level.

- accomplished (3.5) for maintaining school finances according to policy.

- accomplished (3) for maintaining effective communication with school board, staff and community.

- distinguished (4) for cultivating partnerships to maximize resources and enhance student opportunities such as CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) and medical careers class.

"His work on the CEO and medical careers class have helped make these programs successful," Bosch added.

"His leadership continues to be appreciated on the building project also."

Board members also evaluated Oftedahl on two professional development goals.

For these two goals, the board delivered rankings of:

- accomplished (3) for continued planning and working with all involved in the building project, maintaining relationships with various stakeholders and communicating plans as necessary moving forward.

- satisfactory (2) for continuing the plan for reorganization of duties and implementation of changes

in a timely manner, as well as conducting administrative reviews.

Other district staff raises also approved

In addition to a three-year superintendent contract, school board members also unanimously supported extending two-year contracts with the district's three administrators.

Board members Shelley Sandbulte and Eric Hartman did not attend the June 25 meeting and did not vote.

Elementary principal Stacy Gillette will receive \$121,314 for the 2020-21 school year and \$124,347 for 2021-22.

Middle school principal Jason Phelps' contract will be \$101,988 for 2020-21 and \$104,538 for the 2021-22 school year.

High school principal Ryan Johnson will receive \$115,938 for 2020-21 and \$118,836 for 2021-22.

Other supervisory and support staff also received retroactive raises following performance evaluations.

Employee, position, and salary for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years are listed below:

- Marlene Mann, business manager, \$80,980 and \$83,005.

- Wade Hiller, technology coordinator, \$74,151 and \$76,005.

- Brenda Teal, administrative assistant and payroll clerk, \$51,943 and \$53,242.

- Brad Goebel, transportation supervisor, \$63,113 and \$64,691.

- Ann Rigney, food service director, \$36,818 and \$37,738.

Transportation drivers will also receive wage increases effective July 1.

The position and per day wages for 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years include:

- regular route drivers, \$93 and \$95.

- Sioux Falls route, \$93 and \$95.

- preschool route, \$46.50 and \$47.

- activity trip drivers will be \$15 per hour and overnight drivers will receive \$130 per day.

Two-hour food service workers will receive a 25-cent per hour increase to \$13.75 for the 2020-21 school year.

Also for the upcoming school year the substitute teacher daily rate will increase to \$126. The last increase was approved in 2018.

In other business, the school board:

- approved a maternity leave request from Aimee Richters, elementary teacher, for eight weeks from approximately July 4 through Sept. 8.

- hired Lucas Larson as a .65 full-time equivalent social studies teacher. His salary for 2020-21 school year is \$27,045.



Submitted photo

Cathy Mulder retired from Luverne Public Schools with 35 years in the lunchroom. In May when Mulder hung up her apron for the last time, co-workers hosted a little celebration in her honor in an empty cafeteria due to the coronavirus pandemic prompting students to learn from home.

Lunch Lady leaves school kitchen after 35 years with Luverne district

By Mavis Fodness

An unexpected career change in the mid-1980s led Cathy Mulder to work 35 years in Luverne Public School lunchrooms.

In May Mulder quietly exited the elementary school kitchen, where she had spent the majority of her time preparing and serving breakfasts and lunches.

She hung her apron a final time in a silent kitchen.

For the final two months of the 2019-20 school year, students were at home under distance learning instruction.

Mulder and the kitchen staff made as many as 740 sack breakfasts and lunches a day, which were taken to various distribution points.

Mulder said goodbye to students May 21 when the district hosted a farewell event.

Parents drove students through the school campus waving at teachers and staff on the sidewalks including Mulder. She held a sign that read, "Have a great summer from Lunch Lady Cathy."

"It was fun but it was hard because I knew I won't be seeing them in the fall," Mulder said. "It was a nice way to end (my career)."

Mulder and her husband, Bruce, farmed near Kenneth in 1985 when the farm crisis forced the couple to make a hard choice — "leave the farm now or be forced to leave the farm next year," Mulder said.

The couple moved to Luverne where Bruce worked for IBP and Cathy applied with the school district to work in the kitchen or the classroom.

She was hired as a substitute cafeteria worker at the old elementary school near downtown Luverne.

Five years later, Mulder moved into a permanent kitchen position



Mavis Fodness photo/0702 Cathy Mulder

Cathy Mulder (left) and fellow "Lunch Lady" Holly Barber bid students and family farewell on May 21 during the Luverne Public Schools' drive-through year-end event. Mulder's sign reads, "Have a great summer from Lunch Lady Cathy."

at first operating the dishwasher and then waking at 5 a.m. to prepare and serve breakfasts and lunches at the middle-high school.

She transferred to the new elementary school kitchen in late 1999.

"It was so huge," Mulder said. "You had to walk so far to get to areas ... and you couldn't find stuff at first."

She soon developed a rapport with the kindergarten through fifth-grade students and again later when the former students' own children

"We make our food with love — that's why it tastes so good."

— Cathy Mulder, retired school lunch lady

came through the meal line. "I was feeding kids of kids," Mulder said.

Often she chatted with each student as they walked through her food line.

One day Mulder noticed a student who acted "bubbly" each time she came to lunch. The student remarked that lunch was her favorite part of the day.

Mulder said she told the student, "We make our food with love — that's why it tastes so good."

Her decision to retire came in March, one week before the building closures to curb the spread of COVID-19. The lack of closure with students almost made her change her mind.

"It was a hard decision because a lot of kids didn't know I wasn't coming back next year," she said.

Now Mulder is slowly settling into retirement, taking a year off with no commitments, at the advice of other retirees.

She's dedicating time to her three children and seven grandchildren, and the slow completion of household projects.

"I am learning to sleep in," she said about her Lunch Lady 5 a.m. wakeup routine.

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We're living the pandemic story; let's get the human response chapter right

A "novel" virus is, by definition, a new virus, not previously identified.

When it emerged six months ago scientists knew nothing about it, except that it was highly contagious and could kill people.

Today we know a little about it, like how it's transmitted and what it's capable of.

But mostly, it seems, the more we learn, the less we know.

Things at first believed to be true about it (like, it kills only the elderly) aren't always the case. And advice about masks seems to change daily. (The CDC now says everyone should mask up in public.)

Did the scientists lie? No. They simply didn't know. They were, and are, still learning.

Where does this leave government leaders trusted to make decisions on our behalf? They shape policy based on emerging (changing) science, which means they're destined to be wrong.

Err on the side of caution, and you kill an economy. Err on the side of business, and you risk human lives. Either way, armchair leaders are quick to lay blame.

The rest of us, meanwhile, have judged plenty on our own levels.

We judge the couple for proceeding with a wedding that may have gathered too many people in place. We judge friends for hosting graduation parties ... or for not hosting graduation parties.

And we wonder if the social isolation of our senior loved ones may be worse than the virus itself.

Who knows?

The truth is nobody knows.

Some day history, with the clear advantage of hindsight, will tell a complete and accurate story of how the virus came to be, how it spread and how a vaccine eventually stopped it.



ON SECOND THOUGHT

By Lori Sorenson, editor

But be aware — history won't stick to science and society.

It will tell the story of a pandemic economy that stole jobs, opportunities and livelihoods.

It will tell the story of distance learning that omitted prom, graduation, spring sports and activities and once-in-a-lifetime senior memories.

It will tell the story of community summers amid the eerie absence of town celebrations, parades, picnics, summer camp and more.

But be aware — history won't stick to science and society.

It will also tell the story of humankind ... how we responded to science and, most important, how we treated each other.

Also be aware the pandemic story is still being written, so we still have a chance to influence the message.

While it's natural to form opinions and reactions (mask vs no mask) based on our personal realities, the fact is we don't yet know the "right" way to live in our pandemic reality.

But there is a "right way" to treat each other.

It's a novel virus.

We're still learning how to behave around it. We might do well to behave with compassion and respect.

We can't control the virus or the science, but we can — and should — control how we respond to it ... and how that chapter of history is told.

Reflection on the 'Star Spangled Banner' and its unsung verses

This weekend we'll no doubt enjoy the familiar tune and lyrics of our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner." Beyond the nostalgia, we may not reflect on the history of the piece or its additional unsung verses.

It's storied that the author was a pro-slavery lawyer and the melody was borrowed from a British song about drinking and sex. Yet, the song has lifted our nation's spirits through war and peace in a way that the stars and stripes have done for generations.

In observance of our July 4 Independence Day holiday, the Star Herald devotes this space to the lyrics of the song, based on a poem written by Francis Scott Key in 1814.

Star-Spangled Banner

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air

Gave proof thru the night that our flag was still there

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep

As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam

In full glory reflected now shines in the stream

'Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh long may it wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore

That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion

A home and a country should leave us no more!

Their blood has washed out of their foul footsteps' pollution

No refuge could save the hireling and slave

From the terror of flight and the gloom of the grave

And the star-spangled banner in

triumph doth wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand

Between their loved home and the war's desolation!

Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

triumph doth wave

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And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

The poem, originally titled "The Defense of Fort McHenry," was written after Key witnessed the Maryland fort being bombarded by the British during the War of 1812. At dawn, Francis Scott Key was able to see the U.S. flag waving over the fort, as he noted in his opening lines. It was later set to music, and in 1931 became the national anthem of the United States.

Sen. Weber comments on Special Session

To the Editor:

As I never received the email from the Star-Herald last week for comments on what happened in Special Session, I thought it would be good to share with you some of the events which led to the Senate adjourning on Saturday morning, June 20.

A number of days prior to that, the Minnesota Senate passed the bill which distributed the federal Cares money to local government under a formula that had been negotiated with the Minnesota House.

On Wednesday of last week, the House passed it after adding onto it the governor's supplemental budget of approximately \$130 million. This budget never had a single hearing. The leadership in the house and the governor's office had the audacity to say that we should pass it because it was the same bill as everything we had passed was in there. Never mind that it now cost \$130 million. Folks, I recognize that the governor thinks we are nothing but rocks and cows out there, but even the rocks and cows are too smart to buy that argument.

The Senate came back into session on Friday, June 19. Negotiations continued and at 1 a.m. on Saturday a deal was reached. The administration claimed that \$58 million had been saved from the current budget due to hiring freezes and other cost-cutting measures and that there were some items which needed to have additional expenditures.

The Senate agreed that there were items needing attention and so it was agreed that both bodies would approve the expenditures and the House would provide a clean bill for the Cares money. At that point, the agreement went to the wordsmiths to put it in bill form.

A couple hours later, my leadership asked to see it and nothing was done. In the time that had elapsed, the governor torpedoed the deal. I can say that confidently because DFL legislators told my leadership that the governor put pressure on them to not agree. We then adjourned at approximately 6 a.m. The governor criticized us for walking away but how can you negotiate with people

you can't trust? It is obvious that the governor has brought the Nancy Pelosi style of politics home to Minnesota.

While I am pleased that Gov. Walz has relented under the pressure of local government to release the monies under the formula approved by the Senate, there is no good reason why this didn't happen over a week earlier.

On Friday, June 12, I voted to end the governor's peacetime emergency powers. I will do so again the next opportunity I have.

As we approach the celebration of this country's independence on July 4th, it is clear that the founders of this nation knew what they were doing in separating powers between the administrative, legislative and judicial branches of government. The old saying goes, "Power tends to corrupt, absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Unfortunately, the administration in St. Paul is proving that more and more!

Bill Weber
State Senator, District 22

More aging red flags come with packing for trips and completing Bucket List

In past columns I have shared with you the little life changes I have experienced that may indicate that the aging process in my case keeps advancing. Here are two sure, but not so subtle, hints I reluctantly took notice of recently.

Making a list of things to pack for any sort of trip — be it an overnighter or more importantly anything over two days — is a must. You would probably agree such a list is more commonplace and really not a sign of aging, but when the first two items on the packing list are your meds and the heating pad, it makes you wonder.

The second such aging red flag that started waving at me is how I now thread my belt through the belt loops before I put my pants on. We



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson,
Tollefson Publishing General Manager

all might put our pants on one leg at a time, but at least for me, the process of putting my belt on has been altered a bit.

Forgetting things seems to be on the rise for me as well. To explain my increasing forgetfulness away

instead of blaming it on my natural aging process, I am going to go with a new catch phrase, thanks to the coronavirus, that my current state of forgetfulness is the new norm, and leave it at that.

Speaking about forgetting things,

I kind of forgot about my 2020 Bucket List. I have some serious catching up to do.

I am four haircuts short of my five haircuts at five different salons in Luverne. That's more the governor's fault than mine. Same goes for attending 12 different church services in 12 different churches this year. And it's been impossible to catch a movie at the Palace the last three months.

I did attend a girls' basketball game before the governor shut down the schools, and I have waded into The Lake this summer.

I am going to have to talk to the Bucket List rules committee about waiving the drinking of a glass of clean water at the Blue Mounds State

Park. I found out the State Park annual sticker I put on the windshield of my Ranger was outdated, but that little hurdle was easily rectified.

The bummer in all of this is that I also found out you can't drive a side by side on the paved roads, or anywhere else, for that matter, in the state parks, or at least not at the Blue Mounds State Park.

You can't drive them to the parking lot up the hill to the interpretive center.

Keep in mind this is a completely road-worthy vehicle with blinkers, road tires, headlights, brake lights, horn and rearview mirrors and licensed by the Minnesota DNR. I am not allowed to drive it into Blue Mounds State Park. Go figure.

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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 19
 •Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, milemarker 2, Beaver Creek, reported a pursuit.

•Complainant at the Rez Park in Hills reported a vehicle driving on grass and walking path.

•Complainant requested to speak to a deputy.

•A civil issue was reported on Water Avenue in Hills.

•A report of an erratic driver was reported at location on 200th Avenue, Kenneth.

June 20
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported property damage.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported property damage.

•A revoked driver was reported at location on S. Kniss Avenue.

June 21
 •Underage drinking was reported at location on N. Freeman Avenue.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a trespasser.

•Complainant on County Road 13, Hills, reported a man walking in the middle of the road.

•Complainant on Main Street, Kenneth, reported a scam.

•Weather alert for a thunderstorm watch was issued.

•Complainant in Hills reported hearing gunshots.

•Complainant on E. 6th Street, Beaver Creek, reported she was getting gas and it sprayed out.

June 22
 •Complainant on 151st Street and 100th Avenue reported an animal theft.

•Complainant requested to speak to a deputy about neighbor problems.

•Complainant on E. Main Street reported harassment.

•Complainant on N. Church Avenue reported a woman driving drunk with kids.

June 23
 •Complainant on S. Freeman Street reported neighbor smoking pot.

•Complainant on S. Water Avenue, Hills, reported suspicious activity.

•Complainant reported an anonymous tip.

•Complainant on W. Mead Court requested deputy present for property

exchange.

•Complainant in Faribault County reported an intoxicated subject.

•Report of information given from South Dakota State patrol on terminated pursuit.

•Missing person was reported on W. Lawn Park Avenue.

•Missing person was reported on W. Main Street.

•Complainant requested hotel voucher.

June 24
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue requested assistance with abandoned boat.

•Complainant on W. Edgehill Street reported theft.

June 25
 •Erratic driver was reported north on Highway 75.
 •Suspicious activity was reported on N. Kniss Avenue.

•Deputy assisted other agency in Magnolia.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported property damage.

•Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported an issue.

•Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported branches blocked road.

•Report of all fire department units out for training in Hills.

June 26
 •Complainant on S. Second Street reported a stolen car.

•Complainant on County Road 6, Hills, reported a possible abandoned vehicle.

•Complainant on W. Hatting Street reported an active warrant.

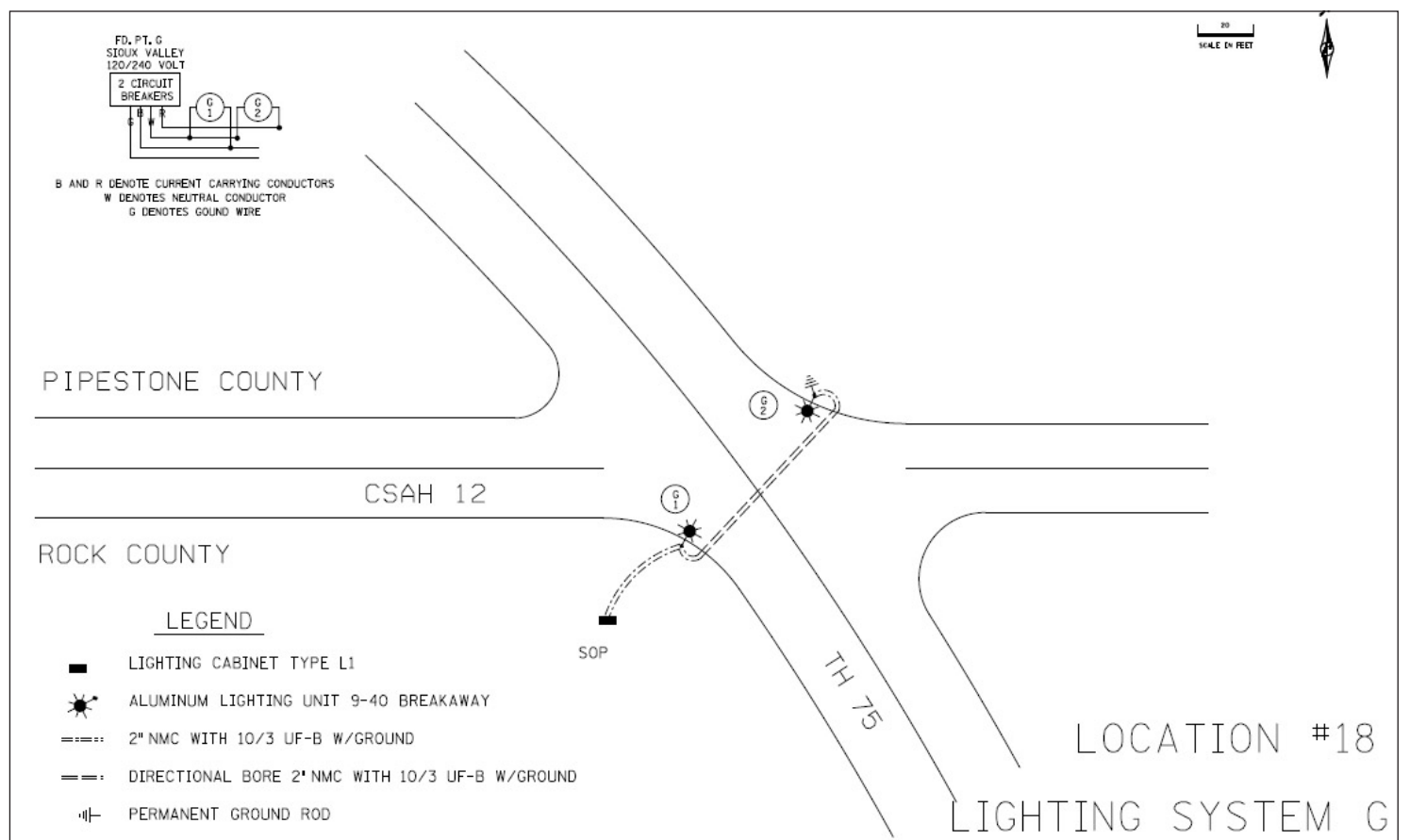
•Subject was reported on N. Spring Street with an active warrant.

•Complainant requested to speak to a deputy.

•Complainant reported identity theft.

•Deputy reported door left open in Hills.

In addition, officers responded to 3 motor vehicle accidents, 2 deer accidents, 8 escorts, 30 ambulance runs, 1 parking violation, 2 paper services, 6 animal complaints, 3 fingerprint requests, 10 burn permits, 1 gas drive-off, 4 alarms, 1 drug court test, 9 purchase and carry permits, 3 stalled vehicles, 7 traffic stops, 6 abandoned 911 calls, 4 tests, 4 welfare checks, 3 reports of cattle out and 3 follow-ups.



Graphic courtesy of Minnesota Department of Transportation District 7

Two rural streetlights will be installed at the intersection of Highway 75 and County Road 12 in northern Rock County. The lights will improve visibility for the intersection at the Rock-Pipestone county line.

Crash history results in streetlights at Highway 75-County Road 12 intersection

By Mavis Fodness

Two streetlights will illuminate the intersection of Highway 75 and County Road 12 at the Rock and Pipestone county line, according to action at the Rock County Board meeting June 16.

The rural intersection lights will improve visibility during inclement weather and nighttime conditions.

In January Jasper residents expressed their visibility concerns at that intersection to Minnesota Department of Transportation officials.

A review compared the Highway 75-County Road 12 intersection to similar rural intersections around the state and found the area “was experiencing an above average

number of crashes,” according to traffic engineer Scott Thompson.

“Over the past 10 years, the intersection experienced four crashes, two of which occurred during dark conditions,” he said.

The review also found other safety concerns.

“The intersection does have a significant amount of skew,” Thompson said.

Skew is the angle measurement between two intersecting roadways. The skew of two roads intersecting at a 90-degree angle is zero. The skew angle at the County Road 12 corner is greater than 15 degrees.

“The bulk of the problems surrounding skewed inter-

sections stem from the skew making it difficult for motorists on the skewed road to see traffic on the intersecting road,” Thompson said.

“When stopped, motorists end up having to look over their shoulder to see approaching vehicles — which becomes more difficult as people age.”

Forty percent of the traffic exits Highway 75 onto the county road where traffic flows west to Jasper or east to Edgerton.

“Based on the types of crashes that have been observed at that intersection, rural intersection lighting is the most reasonable improvement,” Thompson said.

Rock County commissioners adopted a resolution

June 16 assuming the ownership, maintenance and monthly expenses to operate the two streetlights.

MnDOT will install the lights, one in the southwest and one in the northeast quadrant of the intersection.

Construction and the lighting system components are funded through the federal Highway Safety Improvement Program.

The state will bid the project along with other rural lighting systems in District 7 this month.

“There is the potential that the lighting system could be constructed yet this year, but more likely it will be constructed next spring,” Thompson said.

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School planning/ from page 1

districts must meet.

“It is important that everyone in the school community take steps to reduce transmission, particularly to those at high risk, while balancing the need to maintain a strong education system that effectively supports staff, students and communities,” the MDH guidebook stated.

An in-person plan must outline ways for the school to make the following provisions:

- social distance and minimize exposure.
- protect vulnerable populations.
- enforce hygiene practices.
- clean and handle materials
- monitor illness.
- handle suspected or confirmed positive cases.
- monitor water and ventilation systems.
- arrange transportation.
- support mental health and wellness.

The hybrid plan follows the in-person guidelines but imposes further restrictions, such as a 50-percent capacity limit in school buildings and facilities and social distancing of 6 feet between people at all times.

Distance learning, which districts operated under the last two months of the 2019-20 school year, would mean school buildings are closed with instruction taking place between students and staff at home, primarily online.

OPEN 9AM-8PM ON JULY 4TH
 We are closing early so the staff can enjoy the 4th with family and friends

Please drink responsibly!

Happy 4th July

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Gift Cards available

CITY OF BEAVER CREEK REQUEST FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be accepted by the City of Beaver Creek, MN until July 6 at noon for the following:

1986 International Plow Truck
 VIN# 1HTLCHYP2GHA63347, 11ft plow and sander included, Automatic Transmission

Bids can be mailed to:

City of Beaver Creek, PO Box 74,
 Beaver Creek MN 56116

Or dropped off at the City Clerk's office,
 311 E First Ave, Beaver Creek, MN 56116

- Bid opening will be at the Beaver Creek City Council meeting on July 8th at 7pm.
- Vehicle can be seen at the City tree dump on Rock County Road 6, East of Beaver Creek
- The Beaver Creek City Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

LuVerne MINNESOTA

FURTH OF JULY

A BANG-UP CELEBRATION

RUN, WALK or BIKE
LUVERNE FREEDOM LOOP
 JUNE 26th thru JULY 4th
 RECEIVE FREE 4th of JULY TEE!
 All Ages Eligible!
 SPONSORS:
 PAPIK MOTORS—HEARTLAND CHEVY TEAM
 SECURITY SAVINGS BANK

Map, instructions and entry form at:
 Chamber Office—NEW LOOP Trailhead
 & www.LuverneChamber.com

4TH OF JULY CONCERT
RON & JANE COTE
“SONGS OF AMERICA”
 At the Rock County Courthouse Square
 7 pm to 9 pm
 Enjoy the fireworks following the concert!

CONCERT SPONSOR:
MAIN STREET FINANCIAL SERVICES

DAVIS LAKE TRIATHLON
 JULY 4—AT THE LAKE
 Minnow Triathlon—8:30 am start
 Shark Triathlon—9:15 am start
 Details & Registration at:
www.wienermanevents.com

Free...LUV THE LOOP & LUV LUVERNE GOLF CART TOURS
 10 am—Noon—2 pm—4 pm
 Enjoy the guided tour of The LOOP and historic sites along the way!
 Leave from Courthouse Square
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You can also recycle:

- + Metal
- + Paper
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- + Glass
- + Aluminum

CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

Darrell Hoeck will celebrate his 80th birthday on Saturday, July 4. Greetings may be sent to him at 623 141st Ave., Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Monday, July 6: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, peaches, cookie.

Tuesday, July 7: *Chocolate Day* — Pork loin, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas, fruit salad, brownie.

Wednesday, July 8: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, stewed tomatoes, dinner roll, blueberry crisp.

Thursday, July 9: Baked fish, potato wedges, buttered beets, dinner roll, ice cream.

Friday, July 10: *Picnic Day* — BBQ chicken on a bun, creamy cucumber salad, fresh fruit, bar.

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

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

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

We welcome your good news!

Share your special happenings by using the forms on our website, www.star-herald.com/webforms.

You can even upload a picture!



Lori Sorenson photos/0702 jubilee dayish

Green Lantern hosts 'Jubilee Day-ish' activities

The Green Lantern Bar and Grill hosted a modified version of Hardwick's Jubilee Day Saturday with several events related to the annual celebration. The day included a cruise-in "parade and park," a straw bale toss, a corn hole tournament and a DJ on the back patio. Jubilee Day normally includes a parade, community meal, kiddie pedal pull and inflatables, which the community club canceled due to pandemic social distancing concerns. **Above:** The modified Jubilee Day-ish events included a cruise-in parade and park of classic cars and other vehicles.

Jubilee Day-ish featured casual gatherings of friends, neighbors and visitors in Hardwick. Pictured here are (from left) Richard Moerke, Phil Vos, Mike Vos, Nancy Patton, Cindy Moerke, Loren Vos, Carol McClure, Doug McClure, Keith Swenson, McKenzie Kruse and Jonathan Swenson.



With children, Quinn (left) and Oliver, watching, Jesse Connell competes in the bale toss in Hardwick on Saturday.

1904: Hills becomes a city

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

Rock County Village of Hills, continued from 6-25-20 edition of the *Star Herald*.

Hills became an incorporated municipality in 1904. It had a population to warrant taking the step ten years before, but the fear of many of the residents that incorporation would result in the licensing of saloons precluded taking any action at that time. In the fall of 1899 the matter was made an issue and came to a vote. A census of the village was taken, showing a population of 282. A petition was circulated¹⁰ and presented to the county board, asking for action looking toward incorporation. The commissioners took favorable action and named November 29 as the date and the opera house as the place for holding an election to decide the question. The result was a tie, thirty votes being cast for and the same number against incorporation. This defeated the proposition. Almost every year thereafter until incorporation was effected in 1904, the question was agitated, but sentiment was against taking the step because of fear that it would lead to the opening of saloons.

A census of the proposed incorporation (including 390 acres on sections 21 and 28), taken September 13, 1904, showed a population of 351. On that date another petition was circulated,¹¹ asking the required steps to be taken by the county commissioners. The petition was presented September 14, and two days later was acted upon favorably, the commissioners naming John Helgeson, William F. Finke and Ole M. Ruud inspectors to conduct an election November 15, 1904. At the incorporating election sixty-eight votes were cast, of which fifty-three were in favor of and eighteen against incorporation.

The first municipal election was held December 8, 1904, when the village's first officers were chosen. A few days later those elected qualified and entered upon their duties. The results of the annual elections have been as follows:

1904—President, O. B. Severson; trustees, W. A. Larson, J. N. Jacobson, J. C. Steensen; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, S. A. Christianson; justices, F. B. Myrick, O. T. Rovang; constables, Oswald Ruud, Gulick Rogness.

1905—President, O. B. Severson;



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

trustees, W. A. Larson, J. N. Jacobson, K. K. Hellie; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, S. A. Christianson; justices, A. C. Finke, O. M. Ruud; constables, Edward Larson, J. H. Finke.

1906—President, O. B. Severson; trustees, J. N. Jacobson, W. A. Larson, K. K. Hellie; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, S. A. Christianson; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, A. C. Finke, H. A. Twange; constables, Henry Nelson, F. E. York.

1907—President, W. F. Finke; trustees, J. N. Jacobson, W. A. Larson, Anton Hynden; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, S. J. Froshaug, A. C. Finke; constables, H. A. Nerison, M. P. Halvorson.

1908¹³—President, W. F. Finke; trustees, G. O. Rue, Otto Nelson, K. K. Hellie; recorder, Olaf Skyberg; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, K. N. Knudtson; justices, B. O. Mork, A. C. Finke; constables, M. P. Halvorson, H. A. Nerison.

1909—President, W. F. Finke; trustees, H. M. Moen, K. K. Hellie, Otto Nelson; recorder, Carl Omodt; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, K. N. Knudtson, Niels Jacobson; constables, H. A. Nerison, Oscar Qualley.

1910—President, J. N. Jacobson; trustees, W. F. Finke, K. K. Hellie, William Thompson; recorder, J. B. Stordahl; treasurer, O. J. Nash; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justice, K. N. Knudtson; constable, A. G. Qualley.

1911—President, J. N. Jacobson;

Bits, continued on page 7

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2010)

•St. John Lutheran Church, Luverne, hosted its Second Annual Block Party Sunday, June 27.

"The entire community was invited," said one of the organizers, Elaine Fick, "especially our close neighbors through special invitation by our awesome Vacation Bible School kids who hand-delivered invitations to a large area of our neighbors."

Block Party attractions included balloon artists Harry and Marilyn Flanagan from Jasper, plus Keith Smedsrud's plane train from Luverne and a small collectors' car show.

Ron and Jane Cote brought their guitars, voices, and sound system for entertainment, including more volunteer talent from the church.

25 years ago (1995)

•Anthropologists from the Science Museum of Minnesota drove from St. Paul to the John Cronberg farm west of Luverne recently and poked around in the dirt of a nearby field.

They found broken pieces of pottery and china from turn-of-the-century settlers. They found pieces of stone that had been heated in hearths, and they picked up tiny chunks of charcoal that had been discarded 100 years ago from kitchen cook stoves.

While these items made for interesting conversation, the archeologists didn't find what they came looking for, evidence of an ancient Indian campsite which would have existed thousands of years prior to white settlement.

50 years ago (1970)

•Close to \$1.5 million will be paid in July and August to Rock County farmers who have contributed to the idea of stabilizing markets and the conservation of soil and water resources by taking part in the 1970 wheat and feed grain programs.

"Farmers will be receiving their program payments earlier this year than ever before," stated Jim Lewis, county executive director for the ASC committee. Lewis explained that the first batch of payments were made

beginning July 1. "Because of the excellent cooperation between farmers and their local ASCS office," Lewis continued, "70 per cent of the participating producers in Rock County are receiving their payments in July."

July payments total around one million dollars of the entire amount coming into the county. The remaining half million dollars should be distributed by the middle of August, according to Lewis. Additional payments will continue to be made as rapidly as farmers certify compliance program requirements and as fast as individual farm records can be processed and checks returned to the ASCS county office for distribution.

75 years ago (1945)

•Lois Iverson, four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Iverson, who reside north of Luverne, miraculously escaped with only minor cuts and bruises Sunday, when she fell out of a moving car onto the paving near Beaver Creek. She was riding with her parents, when some way, the rear door came open, and the pressure against it threw the little girl out. She was rushed back to Luverne where the examining physician found no serious injuries other than bruises and minor cuts.

100 years ago (1920)

•Beaver Creek's school building, a four-room brick structure of modern design, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire Wednesday night.

The lightning struck shortly before nine o'clock, but the resultant fire was not discovered until about half an hour later, when the flames broke through the roof.

A chemical engine was brought into use and the fire was about squelched, when the supply of chemical became exhausted. Before other methods of fighting the blaze could be put into force, the fire had spread through the upper part of the building and continued to gain headway.

The school building was built in 1905 at a cost of \$7,500, and \$7,000 insurance was carried on it. It is estimated, however, that the building cannot be replaced now for less than \$25,000 or \$30,000.

SCHOOL NEWS

H-BC grad wins bank drawing

People's Bank of Lester, Iowa, recently held a drawing for \$200 gift cards to support seniors who graduated amid the pandemic.

The bank invited people to nominate their favorite Class of 2020 high school senior on social media, and five were randomly selected to receive \$200 Visa® Gift Card from Peoples Bank.

Eve Burgers, a recent graduate of Hills-Beaver Creek High School was among them.

Lake Area Technames honor students

Lake Area Technical Institute, Watertown, South Dakota, has named the president's list honor students for the Spring 2020 semester for earning at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Students with an asterisk after their name earned a 4.0 GPA.

Named were Kristoffer Severtson*, Kenneth, and William Stegenga, Luverne.

OBITUARIES

William Kannenberg

William LeRoy Kannenberg, 89, Luverne, died Sunday, June 28, 2020, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A funeral service is at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, with visitation beginning at noon, at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne. Burial with military honors will follow at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

William Kannenberg was born Sept. 19, 1930, to Orval and Kathryn (Hamann) Kannenberg in Omaha, Nebraska. Shortly after his birth, the family moved to Luverne, where he was raised and received his education. He was confirmed in the faith on June 25, 1944, at St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne. He graduated from Luverne High School in 1948. He then entered the U.S. Navy and served until his honorable discharge on June 14, 1952, when he returned to Luverne. He worked with his father at Kannenberg Dray.

On March 1, 1952, he married Florence Haag at St. John Lutheran Church in Kilmanagh, Michigan. The couple lived in Luverne, and Bill continued to work with his father until his father retired in 1961.



Bill then became employed at Terrace Park Dairy in Luverne. When that company closed, Bill worked at Campbell Soup Company in Worthington until his retirement.

Bill was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Luverne, where he served as church elder and usher and participated in Stephen Ministry. Bill was also a member of the Dell Hogan American Legion Post 123 and VFW Post 2757, both in Luverne. He enjoyed watching sports of all kinds.

Bill is survived by his wife, Florence Kannenberg of Luverne; five children, William (Lisa) Kannenberg of Minneapolis, Vickie (Verlyn "Bub") Hanson of Madison, South Dakota, Scott (Ruth) Kannenberg of Sioux Falls, Mark (Margaret "Meg") Kannenberg of Sioux Falls, and David (Kathy) Kannenberg of Kennet Square, Pennsylvania; 13 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

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

(0702 F)

Joyce Holm

Joyce Thulin Holm, 89, Luverne, died Saturday, June 13, 2020.

A time of fellowship will be from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 10, at the Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. A private family graveside service will be at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. To live stream the graveside service, go to www.facebook.com/DingmannFH.

Joyce Thulin was born Jan. 17, 1931, to Bert and Josephine (Nelson) Thulin in Litchfield. She graduated from Litchfield High School, earned her nursing degree in 1954 from the University of Minnesota and later went on to earn her master's degree in public health, also from the University of Minnesota.

Joyce began her career as a nurse in Luverne in 1956 for Dr. Boone. She later worked as the school nurse for the Pipestone School District and then the Nobles-Rock County Public Health Nursing Service. She was an assistant professor of nursing at Brookings, South Dakota, then at Quincy, Illinois, and then at Southwest Minnesota State in Marshall. Joyce retired in 1993 after serving residents of southwest Minnesota working in Public Health Nursing and Services for Children with Handicaps with the Minnesota Department of Health.

Joyce and Charles (Cub)



Holm were married on June 26, 1954, at the First Lutheran Church in Grove City. They moved to Luverne in 1956 after Cub's discharge from the army and operated Holm Funeral Home. Upon retirement, Joyce and Cub moved to Green Lake in Spicer and then to Tucson, Arizona. Joyce returned to Luverne in 2016 following Cub's move to the Minnesota Veterans Home in Luverne. Cub died in 2018.

Joyce was a member of the Luverne Chapter of Eastern Star, Moccasins and Flower Club, Luverne United Methodist Church, Rock County Historical Society, Minnesota Historical Society, and Sigma Theta Tau National Honor Society of Nursing.

Joyce is survived by her three daughters, Jodyne Holm of Austin, Texas, Jill (Jim) Holmes of Cedar Rapid, Iowa, and Jennifer (Tom) Hey of Marshall; six grandchildren, Carina Miller, Charles Miller, Tom Holmes (Leah Eby), Peter Holmes, Sami Hey, and Sydney Hey; three great-grandchildren; her sister, Dena Waters of Minneapolis; her brother, Bob Thulin of Connecticut; and her nephews and nieces.

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

(0702 F)

Donald Dinger

Donald Dinger, 82, Britton, South Dakota, formerly of Hecla, South Dakota, died Friday, June 19, 2020, at Wheatcrest Hills Health Center in Britton.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, July 13, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 511 Main Street, Hecla. Burial will follow at the Hecla City Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before the service at the church.

Donald Dinger was born Nov. 18, 1937, to William and Violet (Shilhanek) Dinger in Hecla. He attended school in Hecla and the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

Donald married Carol Riehl on June 21, 1957. They made their home on the farm near Hecla until March 2007 when they retired and moved to Britton. His wife, Carol, died on March 6, 2012. Donald continued to live in Britton until his death.

Donald was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Hecla and was also active in the Jaycees, the Hecla Alumni Association, Greater Hecla Association and Dinger family reunions. He enjoyed watching the Minnesota Twins and Vi-

kings games, fishing, playing softball, bowling and hunting. He also loved spending time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his children, Jill (Steve) Smith, Donald B. (Lisa) Dinger and Janell

Telin (Don Berger); his grandchildren, Jarret (Dani) Smith, Jami (Ben) Lemire, Kyle (Jenny) Smith, Eric (Stephanie) Dinger, Alston (Scott) Ritter, Brent (Ali) Dinger, Brady (Savannah) Dinger, Troy (Miranda) Telin and Tyson Telin; 12 great-grandchildren; his brothers, Dick (Shirley) Dinger and Darrel (Lorraine) Dinger; and his sisters, Dixie (Russ) Clark, Bonnie (Dan) Olson and Judy (Gene) Skoglund.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Carol; his parents; and siblings Harold (Jean) Dinger, Shirley (Delwyn) Tisher and Charlotte Keeter.

Arrangements are provided by Schriver's Memorial Mortuary and Crematory, Aberdeen, South Dakota, www.schrivermemorial.com.

(0702 F)



Shane St. Clair

Shane Shannon St. Clair, 55, died on April 18, 2020, in a single-vehicle motorcycle accident.

A memorial service will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2020, at the Minnehaha Funeral Home in Dell Rapids, South Dakota.

Shane St. Clair was born April 7, 1965, to Charles and Annette (Fodness) St. Clair in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His family moved to Chester, South Dakota, in his early childhood. He graduated from Chester High School in 1983.

Shane was married to JoLynn McClain from 1986 to 1999. They had two sons, Jordan and Andrew St. Clair. Shane graduated from Mitchell Technical Institute Lineman College in 1988. From 1989-2015 he worked for Otter Tail Power as a lineman and service representative. In 2015 he was hired by Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association, where he worked as a regional safety coordinator and JT&S Instructor. He continued serving many communities in South Dakota, Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin.

In 1985 Shane also joined the South Dakota Air National Guard where he served in the 114th Fighter Wing, Civil Engineer Squadron. Using his professional lineman training he worked on many assignments

in-country and around the world setting up hospitals, base camps, and stabilizing infrastructure. He was also deployed to Afghanistan in 2001 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, and to Iraq in 2003 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was honorably discharged in 2006 as a first sergeant. Shane enjoyed traveling and was known to take long vacations to savor the places he visited, and he made friends everywhere. Some of his favorite activities were riding motorcycle and watching his kids and grandkids at sporting events.

Shane is survived by his mother, Annette St. Clair of Chester, South Dakota; sons Jordan (Steffanie) St. Clair of Luverne and Andrew St. Clair of Lennox, South Dakota; grandsons Charlie, Kaleb, and Jameson St. Clair; stepson Brady Anderson; sister Ranae (Grant) Williams of Monticello; a niece; aunts and uncles; and other relatives and friends.

Shane was preceded in death by his father, Charles St. Clair, and grandparents Wald and Edith St. Clair.

Tributary donations to the VFW may be made in honor of Shane St. Clair at vfw.org/foundation/foundation-donate.

Arrangements are provided by Minnehaha Funeral Home of Dell Rapids, mnfhg@alliancecom.net.

(0702 F)



Mary Guhin

Mary Ellwein Guhin passed away on June 24, 2020, at Ava's House in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mary Ellwein was born Sept. 22, 1948, at Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mary grew up in Sioux Falls, Worthington, Minnesota, and Rapid City, South Dakota. She graduated from Rapid City Central in 1965 and continued her education at Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

In 1968 she married Clark Guhin.

Mary is survived by her husband, Clark, of Sioux Falls and two children, Greg Guhin (Nareena) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Shannon Bergan (Chad) of Aberdeen, South Dakota, and her sister Nancy Ellwein of Rapid City. She will be missed by her five grandchildren, Mia Bergan, Cole Bergan, Andrew Bergan, Turner Bergan, of Aberdeen, and Lucy Guhin of Tulsa. Other survivors include an army of Guhin brothers and sisters-in-law and her Ellwein cousins. Mary's two dogs, Copper and Ike (the last good Republican) will be lost without her.

Mary will be remembered for her love of animals, skillful bridge play, and kindness to all who knew her. Her son once described her as "kind of nice and kind of dorky" to the mother of one of his teenage friends. Mary embraced this description and proudly lived



with it the rest of her life.

Her grandchildren will miss her encouraging texts in support of all their academic and sports activities. She would need the occasional reminder that she was writing "texts" not "textbooks." Before she became ill, Mary worked for the city of Luverne, Minnesota, as an administrative assistant and city administrator. After a stint as city administrator, she moved on to be the executive director of Blue Mound Tower, a high rise for the elderly and people with disabilities in Luverne. Mary loved the job and the people at the Tower and was employed there until illness forced her to retire.

In compliance with Mary's instructions, no funeral service is scheduled. A private family service will take place at Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis, South Dakota, at a later date.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Lloyd and Arta Ellwein, father-in-law Francis Guhin, mother-in-law Marion Jean Guhin, and brother-in-law Todd Guhin.

The family would like to thank Patient Care EMS, Sioux Falls Fire Rescue, Sanford Emergency Room staff, ICU staff and the staff at Ava's House for their kindness and professionalism.

Memorials in Mary's name may be sent to the Sioux Falls Area Humane Society.

(0702 V)

Phillip Duffy

Phillip Lawrence Duffy, 80, Luverne, died Thursday, June 25, 2020, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.

A memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 2, at St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. A time of visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial of remains will be at St. Catherine Cemetery in Luverne.

The family would like to invite everyone to The Lake for fellowship following the burial service.

In lieu of flowers, cards and memorials are preferred.

Phillip Duffy was born on Sept. 9, 1939, to Homer and Marie (Axelson) Duffy in Sherman, South Dakota. He graduated from Jasper High School.

Phillip married Loretta Schutz on April 26, 1962, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Garretton, South Dakota. After their marriage the couple lived briefly in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, before moving to Luverne. He started his career in construction, taking down telephone poles. He then worked with Mohr Sign in Luverne before starting his own sign business. In the 1970s, with the onset of Dutch

elm disease, he began his tree trimming and removal business. In his later years he worked part time at Luverne Lanes.

Phillip was a member of St. Catherine Catholic Church in Luverne. He was an avid sports fan and followed the Vikings, Wild, Twins, Timber-

wolves, University of Minnesota Gophers, and Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. He was also a fan of Luverne Cardinals wrestling and NASCAR racing. He enjoyed pool and pinocle.

When his children were younger he coached his sons in baseball and Cub Scout derby race events.

Phillip was known for his sense of humor, quick wit and kind heart.

He is survived by his five children, Daniel (Cori) Duffy, Lino Lakes, Denise (Bob) Barrett, Sioux Falls, Darren (Linsrey) Duffy, Dell Rapids, South Dakota, David Duffy, Luverne, and Debra (Gary) Dohrmann, Foley; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Loretta; a sister, a brother and his parents.

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

(0702 F)



Bits/continued from page 6

trustees, K. K. Hellie, W. F. Finke, P. P. Sundahl; recorder, J. B. Stordahl; treasurer, C. J. Woodrow; assessor, F. C. Nuffer; justices, Niels Jacobson, H. A. Twange; constable, E. Nerison.

¹⁰Signed by August C. Finke, O. F. Starr, W. J. Kinne, F. C. Nuffer, A. V. Greene, L. Quam, W. Jennings, Hans Nelson, John Helgeson, Martin B. Hippi, S. S. Brovald, D. S. Walter, Anfin Osboe, O. T. Rovang, S. Hagen, Ole Lund, E. W. Munson, Halvor Julson, P. H. Bly, H. E. Wyum, J. F. Jordan, John Rudd, F. W. Purcell, Helge Rue, G. Rue, J. N. Jacobson, M. Anderson, G. B. Anderson, Ole Severson, F. H. Fritz, Ole O. Rue, Jr., J. R. Wright, F. A. Webster and Ole M. Ruud.

¹¹Signed by John Helgeson, P. L. Breden, R. G. Garner, A. C. Finke, O. T. Rovang, J. H. Finke, O. J. Nash, J. H. Cox, C. W. Olander, Edward Larson, G. Rogness, Fred York, J. F. Jordan, E. B. Myrick, O. B. Severson, W. Jennings, Lars Engebretson, A. Hynden, Iver Thompson, H. A. Twange, Jacob

Nerison, John Thorson, Carl, Loftness, Evan Sather, D. S. Walter, J. N. Jacobson, Halvor Julson, Nels G. Sundem, W. F. Finke, K. O. Rue, W. A. Larson, S. S. Brovald, A. T. Sexe, William Thompson, A. E. Cleveland, H. E. Wyum, Martin Nelson, Ole O. Rue, T. Nigaard, Peder Holverson, T. Lien and K. K. Hellie.

¹²Were appointed.
¹³Hills has never had a licensed saloon. Prior to 1908 the question was not put to a vote and the council did not grant license. In 1908 the vote was twenty-three for license to forty-seven against. In 1909 the question was not an issue and in 1910 the vote was twenty-eight for to sixty-two against.

The story of the village of Hills will continue in the July 9 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.

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SPORTS BRIEF

July events planned for this Friday and Saturday

Luverne's Dave Duffy announced that the three annual events he organizes each July are on for this year.

The July 4 Davis Lake Triathlon will be divided into two races.

The Minnow Race begins at 8:30 a.m. and includes a quarter-mile kayak course, a two-mile bike ride and a 1-mile run.

The Shark Race begins at 9:15 a.m. It includes kayaking for a half mile, biking for nine miles and running for 2.5 miles.

This year's four-person Wienerman Race is scheduled for Friday, July 17, with a 6 p.m. start at The Lake.

The July 18 Tour de Donut Minnesota bike ride will include options of 10, 17, 33 or 55 miles. The 55-mile race will begin at 7 a.m. and the other races begin at 8 a.m.

For more information or to register, visit allspportcentral.com or call Duffy at 507-920-3345.

Smith wins Feature race in Slayton

0702-Racing

Smith wins Feature race in Slayton

By Jason Berghorst

Rock County racecar drivers had another busy weekend at area dirt tracks.

Luverne's Jeremy Smith highlighted local results when he won the IMCA Modifieds A Feature race at Murray County Speedway in Slayton Friday night.

Local drivers also competed at Rapid Speedway in Rock Rapids, Iowa, Friday night and at I-90 Speedway near Hartford, South Dakota, Saturday.

Rapid Speedway

Eric Gaul of Luverne followed his Hobby Stocks win last week with a solid fourth-place finish in the A Feature race Friday night in Rock Rapids.

Cadyn Wessels of Luverne placed seventh in the B feature of the same class.

Kaden Kracht of Steen and Brandon Boeve of Beaver



Photo courtesy of Randy Beers/Murray County Wheel-Herald

Jeremy Smith (second from left) of Luverne took home the checkered flag of the A Modifieds feature race at Murray County Speedway in Slayton Friday. Pictured (from left) are Aaron Betz, Jeremy Smith, Lindsay Appel and Jared Smith.

ver Creek placed sixth and seventh, respectively, in the Sportsman's A feature race in Rock Rapids.

Murray County Speedway

Jeremy Smith of Luverne earned the checkered flag in the A Modifieds class Friday night at the Murray County Speedway in Slayton.

After placing second the

week before, Smith took the top spot this week after placing second in the A Modified heat race.

The win was Smith's first of the 2020 season.

"Most races are won in the shop and that's true for this one," Smith said. "Thanks to my crew who help me every week and to my sponsors."

I-90 Speedway

Luverne's Cadyn Wessels raced in the Hobby Stocks class at the I-90 Speedway Saturday night.

Wessels placed sixth in his heat race before finishing eighth in the B feature contest.

Below is a summary of weekend results for Rock County drivers.

Rapid Speedway – June 26
Sportsman's A Feature
K. Kracht Steen 6th
B. Boeve Beaver Creek 7th

USRA Hobby Stocks A Feature
E. Gaul Luverne 4th

USRA Hobby Stocks B Feature
C. Wessels Luverne 7th

USRA Stock Cars A Feature
K. Kremin Kenneth 10th
S. Kalass Luverne 11th
L. Kracht Magnolia 13th
C. Arends Luverne 16th

Murray Speedway – June 26
IMCA Modifieds A Feature
J. Smith Luverne 1st

I-90 Speedway – June 27
USRA Hobby Stocks B Feature
C. Wessels Luverne 8th

SCOREBOARD

Luverne Redbirds

June 4	at Brandon Valley	4-3	W
June 13	at Castlewood	9-5	W
June 13	at Castlewood	9-0	W
June 17	Tracy Engineers	12-1	W
June 24	Ruthton Royals	10-0	W
June 26	Jackson Bulls	12-2	L
June 28	Tracy Engineers	12-0	W
July 1	at Milroy Irish	8:00pm	
July 5	at Adrian	2:00pm	
July 8	Renner 38+ (Home)	7:30pm	
July 9	Renner	7:30pm	
July 12	at Hadley	4:30pm	
July 15	Hadley (Home)	7:30pm	
July 17	SF Brewers	TBD	
July 19	Pipestone (Home)	2:00pm	
July 22	Playoffs begin		

19U (American Legion)

June 19	Lennox	8-6	L
June 20	Sioux Falls West	2-1	W
June 21	Fargo Bombers	10-5	W
July 6	at RTR	7:30pm	
July 9	at Worthington	7:30pm	
July 13	Marshall (Home)	7:30pm	
July 16	Tracy (Home)	7:30pm	
July 18	Marshall Tournament		
July 20	Minneota (Home)	7:30pm	
July 22	at Adrian	7:30pm	
July 28	Jackson (Home)	7:30pm	
July 30	RTR (Home)	7:30pm	
Aug 7-8	End of Year Tournament		

17U (Junior Legion)

June 19	Renner	5-3	L
June 20	Watertown	7-1	L
June 21	West Central	5-5	T
July 6	Hadley (Home)	5:30pm	
July 9	at Worthington	5:30pm	
July 13	at Marshall Black	5:30pm	
July 16	Tracy (Home)	5:30pm	
July 20	Minneota (Home)	5:30pm	
July 22	at Adrian	5:30pm	
July 27	at Marshall Orange	6:00pm	
July 28	Jackson (Home)	6:00pm	
July 30	Pipestone (Home)	5:30pm	
Aug 7-8	End of Year Tournament		

*All Schedules subject to change

Luverne Redbirds earn two shutouts and first loss

Local team now 6-1 on the season; next game July 1

By Jason Berghorst

The Luverne Redbirds went 2-1 this past week and now stand at 6-1 for the season.

Luverne defeated the Ruthton Royals 10-0 Wednesday, June 24, at home before suffering the first loss of the season to the Jackson Bulls Friday at Redbird Field.

The Redbirds returned to the win column with a 12-0 victory in Tracy Sunday.

Luverne travels to the Milroy Irish July 1 and to Adrian Sunday before hosting the Renner 38 team at Redbird Field July 8.

Luverne 10, Ruthton 0

Luverne hosted the Ruthton Royals for a mid-week game at Redbird Field June 24.

The hosts were not all that friendly, however, as two Redbird pitchers combined to strike out ten Ruthton batters while giving up only two hits and no runs in the 10-0

Luverne victory.

Tyler Reisdorfer pitched the first five innings for Luverne and earned the win. Reisdorfer struck out nine Royals. Declan Beers pitched two innings of relief, striking out one and giving up no hits.

At the plate, Luverne had a balanced effort. Codie Zeutenhorst and Logan Norman had two hits and two RBIs each.

Skyler Wenninger scored two Redbird runs and seven other players scored one run each.

Box Score									
Ruthton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Luverne	0	0	3	1	2	2	2	10	

	AB	H	R	BI
Reisdorfer	2	1	1	1
Crabtree	1	1	1	0
Beers	3	0	1	0
Wenninger	3	1	2	1
Zeutenhorst	3	2	1	2
Serie	3	0	0	0
Buss	1	0	0	0
Norman	5	2	1	2
Haugen	3	1	1	1
Lundgren	2	1	1	0
Nath	3	1	1	1

Jackson 12, Luverne 2

The Luverne Redbirds suffered their first loss of the season Friday at home.

After starting the season 5-0, the Redbirds came up short to the Jackson Bulls 12-2.

Jackson scored seven runs in the first two innings and Luverne was unable to make up for the slow start.

The first Redbirds hit didn't come until the fifth inning when Jake Haugen reached base on a single.

"We really didn't do anything very well," said Redbirds player-manager Brooks Mauer.

"We didn't hit very well and had three or four errors," he added. "It was a combination of a lot of things not going right."

The Redbirds scored their only two runs in the sixth inning.

Jaxon Nelson, Ethan Beyer, Quinn Buss and Hau-



Jason Berghorst photos/0702 Redbirds

Luverne pitcher Tyler Reisdorfer struck out nine batters and gave up only two hits in five innings on the mound June 24.

gen each had a hit for Luverne.

Haugen pitched the first 11/3 innings for Luverne. Ben Serie was on the mound for the next 4/3 innings before Skyler Wenninger pitched the final inning.

Limited information and no box scores were available for this game.

Luverne 12, Tracy 0

Cade Wenninger made the most of his first amateur baseball start Sunday in Tracy.

The Luverne High School incoming senior scored three runs off two hits and batted in two more runs during the Redbirds' 12-0 victory over the Tracy Engineers.

Skyler Wenninger and Derek Lundgren each had three hits in the game with Skyler Wenninger adding three RBIs.

Ben Serie scored twice and added an RBI for Luverne. Lundgren started the

game on the mound for the Redbirds. He struck out five while giving up only one hit and one walk.

Quinn Buss pitched two solid innings of relief. Buss struck out one and gave up no hits.

"We had a real solid game," said Luverne manager Brooks Mauer.

"We got ahead at the start and controlled the rest of the game," he added. "Lundgren and Buss only gave up one hit the whole game."

Box Score									
Tracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Luverne	1	4	2	1	0	4	0	12	

	AB	H	R	BI
Lundgren	4	3	3	1
Beers	4	1	1	0
Paquette	2	1	0	1
S. Wenninger	4	3	0	3
Zeutenhorst	5	1	0	0
Serie	3	1	2	1
Haugen	5	1	1	1
C. Wenninger	3	2	2	2
Nath	2	1	1	0
Beyer	0	0	0	1

Remember July 4th by taking veterans hunting through 'Warriors Never Give Up' program

The Fourth of July should have every American thinking about our independence and those who made sacrifices to keep America free. I am not sure that an ever-growing percentage of our population still keeps those thoughts at the top of the list for this national holiday.

As a kid growing up, I remember that almost every neighborhood would be plastered with American flags waving in the wind up and down almost every street in the land. I fly two lighted flags every day of the year. One is at my home and other on the very top of the hill on my wildlife property.

My dad, Marv Rall, served in Korea. My son, Brandon Rall, served in the Marines and did two tours in the sandbox. My niece, Katie Rall, is with a medical wing in



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall, Outdoors columnist

the Air Force, and her brother, my nephew, Sam Rall, is with military intelligence in the Army.

I have countless other family and friends who have served our county, and I, for one, know that some of the things they have seen and endured is more than I could have taken. It is this family connection to the military that has created such an admiration for those willing to risk their lives for citizens of

this great country.

I have been a volunteer for Pheasants Forever for more than 30 years. I have participated in hundreds of different wildlife habitat projects and been involved with more than a few public land acquisitions. All of this effort is what satisfies my core.

There is one project we started a few years back that is far different. We hooked up with an organization called

Warriors Never Give Up. There is nothing completely different about them. There are many groups and programs that take current and past members of our military ranks hunting and fishing. This one just happened to be very close to home as it is headquartered out of Brandon, South Dakota.

I was looking at a very large photo on the wall in my living room this morning which had 15 servicemen and women in it along with 15 volunteer guides and several other support staff. It was a photo full of smiles, dogs, guns and a very large dose of camaraderie. It was to me almost reverent.

I have met soldiers from all across the country. Six to seven different states were represented at last year's hunt. At the dinner the eve-

ning before, we had all of the Vietnam veterans come to the front of the room. When they were assembled, we all formed a line and shook their hands and welcomed them home. The returning soldiers of that era could not even wear their uniforms in the airport without being spit on or chastised.

My eyes were leaking when one vet broke down. He was 73 years old, and as he gave me a big hug he said, "I was never welcomed home; this is the very first time." At that moment I was forever changed. This man left his home when he was 18 years old and served in a foreign land, full of death and peril, and his country ignored and abandoned him upon his return.

I am grateful that the current situation today treats

returning men and women very differently. Pheasants Forever chapters all over the nation are part of that change. Appreciation hunts are now common. It is my intent to honor these men and women by helping them to enjoy the outdoors and the flush of a wild rooster.

You can personally take part in these efforts or at least support the organizations that I do. I met a vet that the local chamber sent my way. His name is Tom Weick. He lives in Utah. He and I are going to have a beer this October, and I intend to welcome him home.

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

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/stoclouverne/videos/>. Visit www.stscl.org for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

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, 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 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 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: louverneumc@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: stjohn@iw.net
www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

I choose love

I was recently inspired by the writings of Max Lucado, author, preacher and storyteller. I believe the gist of his article has to do with how we face the new day. It's a choice, according to Lucado, how we start the day.

Perhaps the day before is still not out of our minds, but the new day and how we approach it is a choice.

"I choose love," his article declares. "No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves."

Lucado writes more choices to be made, but this one choice is enough for a whole day of meditation.

You know some days you just want to stay in bed. Some days you can't shake yesterday out of your head. But what if we choose to live our days in God's love? This could be a choice well made.

And what would our day be like if we choose to love what God loves? One can only imagine such a

BUILT ON A ROCK

by Pastor Ron Nichols
Grace Lutheran Church,
Luverne

But what if we choose to live our days in God's love? This could be a choice well made.

feat. Life in God is a choice of how we see the world around us. Our view doesn't change the world, but it does change us.



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

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Thank you family and friends for the 65th anniversary cards and good wishes. God has blessed us with many years of happiness and good health.
Mary and Margaret Gonnerman
(6.27-7.2)

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

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401 Oak St., Ellsworth

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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. (6.13-7.2)

Parkview Manor is hiring:
•Dietary Manager-FT -Day shift. Must have a current Dietary Manager certification or can take the Dietary manager course to become certified Must be ServSafe certified or can become certified Experience is helpful in long-term care.

•C.N.A.-New Increased Starting Wage of \$14.50- begins July 6 3-11 shift (2 positions)- FT 6a-1:30p or 6a-3p (2 positions)- PT
•LPN/RN- Day Shift-PT
•MDS Coordinator/Charge Nurse/Restorative- FT - must work every 3rd weekend as a charge nurse Please contact Suzanne at 507-967-2482 to set up an interview for the Nursing Dept. positions. (7.2-7.18)

EMPLOYMENT

JOIN OUR TEAM

Truss Pros in Pipestone, MN is hiring assemblers to join their team! Come work in a relaxed environment with competitive pay and comprehensive benefit package. Hiring for both day and night shift. To apply, go to www.uslbm.com/careers and search for listings in Pipestone, MN.



The Tuff Memorial Home is currently hiring a part time **Evening Cook** - 11am-7:30pm; 3 days per week & every other weekend
a part time **Day Cook** - 5am-1:30pm; 3 days per week & every other weekend
a part time **Day Nurse (LPN or RN)**; 1 day per week & every 3rd weekend & every 3rd holiday
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A note from Mayor Patrick T. Baustian *We're All in This Together*

Let's celebrate America's Independence this weekend. Together, staying 6 feet apart. Enjoy Luverne's great parks, bike path, The Lake, and Saturday nights' fireworks display. Please continue to follow Social Distancing Protocol.



mn.gov/covid19

m MINNESOTA

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

Things are trending in the right direction, but we must continue to Stay Safe Minnesota.

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>

LUVERNE IS TAKING ACTION

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,

Mayor Patrick T. Baustian

In honor of local veterans consider a gift to the
 Luverne Area Community Foundation's
**ROCK COUNTY
 VETERANS FUND**

This fund was established to support organizations within our county committed to honoring the legacy of those who have served in the U.S. Armed Services. Gifts can be named in honor or memory of a person who has served

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

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

CARES Act funds released/ from page 1

tributed through the Luverne Economic Development Authority, which is formalizing a program to make the funds available.

"We have been looking at the best, most fair way to distribute the money to Luverne businesses," Baustian said Thursday.

"There are rules that come with it. ... So, we have to look at those rules and make sure."

One avenue under consideration is to apply the emergency funds to businesses' utility bills as a form of direct relief.

Local governments across Minnesota are meeting to consider the amounts they'll receive and the guidelines

they need to follow in distributing the funds. In broad terms, the funds should support local government services as well as grants to businesses, hospitals, and individuals impacted by COVID-19.

The CARES Act requires that payments may only be used to cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency since March 1.

Food shelves get CARES Act support

Additionally, \$12 million will be allocated toward food shelves, food banks and other emergency services to help combat hunger across Minnesota.

CARES Act local aid/ from page 1

publication and policies governing the distribution process.

Tentatively business owners can apply for \$5,000 grants starting on July 15.

Any business owner who suffered a financial loss since March 15 due to the coronavirus pandemic can make application.

Business owners made the priority list because funding sources are limited when compared to other entities on the commissioners' list.

"The businesses — without these guys we don't have an economy, we don't have anything," said Commissioner Jody Reisch.

About \$175,000 is currently earmarked for nonprofit organizations, which would also need to apply for the aid.

The rest of the county's allocation could potentially

be divided among the area's fire departments, public health, school districts and county expenses.

"We hope what we are doing is going to help," said County Administrator Kyle Oldre.

"And what (money) the cities and townships have will also help."

County officials will present distribution plans at a 7 p.m. meeting on Tuesday, July 7, with leaders from the cities and townships in Rock County, many of whom have separate allocations from the CARES Act. (See separate story.)

Cities and townships have until Nov. 15 to allocate CARES funds, with any unallocated money returned to the county for distribution. Any unallocated county funds must be returned Dec. 1.

The funding was authorized under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

"As we work to support the health and safety of all Minnesotans during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are also taking steps to build a stronger and more equitable economy," said Gov. Walz.

About 300,000 Minnesotans have visited food shelves each month since the pandemic began, representing a 30-percent increase over typical visits.

Food banks are distributing approximately 2.4 million pounds of food per week, representing a 20- to 40-percent increase since 2019.

Mail ballots/ from page 2

She said.

"We can't mail a ballot to a voter until those verifications are met, therefore ballots can only be mailed to qualified voters. And by signing the envelope, the voter is accepting the oath in the same way they would by signing a roster at the polling place."

She said ballots are also sent by non-forwardable mail, so a person can't have a registered voter address somewhere different than where they are living.

"If it fails, it will come back to us," Kurtz said. "Absentee ballots are checked beforehand; if there are issues at the ballot booth, we find out about them after the election."

Kurtz said her office is encouraging voters to request absentee ballots online, but if they'd like to pick theirs up at the courthouse, they should call ahead for an appointment.

How do mail ballots work?

Rock County residents can vote early in person through Aug. 10 at the courthouse in Luverne, where pandemic precautions will be observed.

Minnesotans have until July 21 to register ahead of the primary, but if they miss that deadline, they can provide proof of residence at an in-person voting location on Election Day.

Normally, mail ballot voters are required to have a witness sign for them, but due to the pandemic, that requirement is being waived. Voters who are not registered will still need a witness to indicate proof of residence.

Mail ballots must be post-marked on or before Aug. 11, Primary Election Day, and voters can track the status of their ballots through the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office to confirm it was received and counted.

Unlike in the presidential primary, voters do not have to choose a political party in order to receive a ballot, but once they get their ballots, they must vote for candidates in only one political party.

A person's party preference in the August primary is not recorded or public.

In the event of an error on the absentee ballots, the state will send a new ballot to voters if they didn't fill it out properly the first time, or they can request a new ballot if they accidentally marked the wrong candidate or change their mind.

What's on my ballot?

Primary elections determine which federal, state and local candidates will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

Minnesotans can view their sample ballots on the Secretary of State's website, sos.state.mn.us, where they can also request early absentee ballots be mailed to their homes.

Local primary ballots contain candidates for state senate and U.S. senate, in addition to county commissioners, soil and water district supervisors and Luverne city offices.

See the Star Herald coverage of those filings at www.star-herald.com.

The filing period for other municipal and school district offices that don't hold primaries will be July 28 through Tuesday, Aug. 11. See the Secretary of State's website, or call the Auditor-Treasurer's Office, 507-283-5060.



For two decades, NextEra Energy Resources has been working to develop Minnesota's abundant natural resources for the benefit of all our citizens and to support our nation's journey to energy independence.

To date, NextEra Energy Resources has invested more than \$660 million to develop renewable energy projects in Minnesota and we hope to invest even more.

Our energy projects stretch across the state and are an important driver of economic activity.

So whether you are a landowner, customer, or just someone who likes the idea of energy independence for America, you'll love what NextEra Energy Resources is doing in Minnesota.

Have a happy and safe Fourth of July!

