

Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Long-awaited weekend is here; alumni have full slate of events ahead

By Lori Sorenson

After more than a year of planning, the Cardinal Pride weekend is underway, starting with Thursday night's 60th anniversary of Luverne's iconic Hot Dog Night.

The anticipated 15,000 free hot dogs, courtesy of Luverne businesses, will hit the grills all

over town around 5 p.m. with serving from 5:30 until they're gone.

Hot dogs, of course, are only a small part of what's become a weekend affair with Wiener Dog Beauty Contests, Wiener Dog Races, live music, beer garden, Tae Kwon Do and Spotlight

Dance demonstrations and much more ... such as a fire department sprinkler, corn hole tournament, inflatables, balloon designs and, yes, more.

See the Luverne Chamber website or this week's Announcer for details.

The Friday Night Cruise 'N

Park continues the summer event with classic cars lining Main Street from 5 to 9 p.m. and the arrival of the Gray Ghost set for 6 p.m. Food trucks, live music and a beer garden round out the evening.

The rest of the weekend lineup is geared specifically for

the "Cardinal Pride" all-school reunion celebration.

The Star Herald has been following these plans and compiled them in a magazine-style special section enclosed with this edition.

See page 12 for the Cardinal Pride poster and visit the Luverne Chamber website for updates.



Mavis Fodness photo/0714 Hills Fire Truck

Tony Opitz with Quality Printing of Luverne applies decals onto the new Hills Area Fire Department pumper truck Thursday afternoon, July 7, at Midwest Fire in Luverne. The new truck will be in service after being displayed at the July 14 Hot Dog Night in Luverne.

Yellow pumper debuts at Hot Dog Night

New Midwest Fire truck built for Hills Fire Department to service Hills, Martin Township

By Mavis Fodness

Midwest Fire Equipment and Repair of Luverne traditionally displays a new fire truck during Luverne's annual Hot Dog Night.

This year the featured truck has a local owner.

Hills Area Fire Department ordered the 2022 Freightliner almost 16 months ago. The city of Hills and Martin Township split the \$273,000 cost.

After Thursday's display, the truck will be put into service.

"It couldn't be coming at a better time," said Hills Area Fire Chief Jared Rozeboom, who spoke with the Hills City Council in July 2020 about replacing the department's 1993 pumper.

Instead of continually repairing or re-

placing the pump on the almost 30-year-old truck, Rozeboom proposed investing in a new rig.

"It gets to a point where you start putting a lot of money into maintenance and upkeep," he said.

Martin Township superintendents agreed in March 2021 to Midwest Fire's low bid and to pay half of the truck's cost in partnership with the city of Hills.

Rozeboom had assembled an inner-department committee to work on a design that fit the needs of the department and the size of the fire hall in Hills.

"One of the things we tried to do with this truck is to increase our capacities," Rozeboom said.

However, the existing fire hall in Hills limited the truck's height and

length to just under 10 feet tall and 30 feet long.

With these dimensions, Midwest Fire needed to design a truck that increased water capacity from 1,000 to 2,000 gallons. More storage was added and the pump station is now outside the driver's door rather than in the top center of the truck.

"Now they stand on the ground," Rozeboom said. "That is a major change for us but we felt that the benefits will outweigh the change."

The truck will also have emerging technology of a multiplex system built into the middle console inside the truck cab.

Hills Fire Truck/continued on page 5

High winds, heavy rains cause damage in Rock County

By Lori Sorenson

From 3 to more than 6 inches of rain fell in just over an hour Tuesday evening, causing flash flooding and overwhelming storm drains.

National Weather Service alerts squealed on people's cell phones, warning of high winds, heavy rain and hail, but much of Rock County escaped hail damage.

The driving rain and the sudden amounts of water did, however, flatten crops, wash out rural culverts and roadways, and flood basements.

The deluge turned Main Street Luverne into a fast-moving river that seeped under doorways as water levels rose and traffic



Lori Sorenson photo/0714 flooding

A car makes it way through the intersection of Main Street and Cedar Avenue Tuesday, July 5.

In case you hadn't noticed

From industry to housing to recreation, Luverne developments may come as surprise to returning alumni

By Lori Sorenson

As alumni return home for Luverne's All School Reunion this week, they may notice new developments in their hometown, including the \$30 million school improvement project.

Weekend tours of the school will include the new performing arts center, new commons, kitchen and media center and updates to the 1956 high school building.

While the new district building will be a main attraction for former students, the community itself has several areas of improvement to boast.

Fareway coming to town

One of the more visible developments is the Fareway meat market construction at Main Street and Highway 75 opening this fall.

The company also negotiated an option to buy city-owned lots across the intersection (near the liquor store) for a brand-new stand-alone meat market store.

While the Fareway construction is most conspicuous, downtown Luverne has several significant business updates, and alumni would do well to tour other parts of town to see millions of dollars of new development.

Premium Minnesota Pork

Premium Minnesota Pork is building a \$70 million processing facility that will add nearly 100 more jobs in Luverne's industrial park near its current pork processing facility along County Road 4 west of town.

The expansion marks a significant investment for the company that already spent \$30 million in 2019 to expand the 78,000-square-foot building to 145,000 square feet.

Following a 10,000-square-foot, \$7 million cooler addition, the once shuttered IBP property is now a 4,000-hog-per-day operation that employs more than 450 workers.

Luverne puts \$14 million into wastewater improvements

PMP negotiated a wastewater treatment agreement with the city of Luverne to improve the city's water treatment capacity.

The city, which was already planning to refurbish its 1950s equipment, approved a \$14 million wastewater treatment plant construction project, and Premium Minnesota Pork agreed to pay for nearly half, \$6.7 million.

With Luverne's plant improvements, PMP is guaranteed a 300,000-gallon-per-day treatment capacity, which accommodates higher production goals.

Luverne developments/see page 3



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Downtown properties labeled with former occupants

The Rock County Historical Society has distributed updated information about which businesses previously occupied stores and properties on Main Street. If additions or corrections should be noted call 507-283-2122.

Prairie Ally seeks workers

Volunteer workers are needed from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays at Prairie Ally public food forest for a variety of maintenance tasks. No RSVP necessary. Other work opportunities are available by appointment by contacting info@projectfoodforest.org. Donations are also welcome for Prairie Ally, which is located along Blue Mound Avenue in Luverne.

'Service Over Self' Camp

Rock the Edge is coordinating a Service-Over-Self-inspired work day on July 20 at Inspiration Hills Camp in Inwood, Iowa. Youth who have completed grades 8 through 12 are welcome to register, with adult volunteers also needed. Deadline to register is July 14. To request a registration form, call 507-283-2316 or rocktheedgemn@gmail.com.

Mobile dental clinics

Mobile dental clinics will be in Luverne July 21 and Aug. 3 and 4 at the Rock County Health and Human Services community room. This clinic provides dental care for adults and children of all ages. Call 612-746-1530 to schedule an appointment. All forms of insurance are accepted. Organized by #Luv1LuvAll's Rock County Oral Health Task Force.

Senior Nutrition July 21

A.C.E. of SW MN will offer Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors 60 & older from 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, July 21, as a drive thru distribution in the parking lot off Maple Street at the new A.C.E. office on the east side of Generations Event Center. Pre-registration is required. Call 507-283-5064.

Food distribution is July 21

New Life Celebration Church's third Thursday monthly food giveaway is now at the Atlas building at 101 W. Maple St. in Luverne. The next distribution is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, July 21, until the food is gone.

Enter from Maple Street and stay along the west side of the building. Parking lot opens at 3 p.m. Do not block the Redeemed Remnants parking lot, intersection or alley entrance. Food will be loaded into vehicles, which then exit via the alley going west toward Estey Street. Call 507-283-8963.

Rock County Revival July 22-24

Rock County Revival (worship, testimonies, preaching, activation) will be at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 22 and 23, and at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, July 24, in the Luverne City Park. Guest speaker Friday will be Charles Karuku. A free meal will be served at 5 p.m. Saturday and also on Sunday following the service.

Library Happenings

For more information about library happenings, call 507-449-5040 or email rockcountystaff@gmail.com.

The **Adult Summer Reading Program** is currently underway at the Rock County Library. For every five books read between now and Aug. 15, an entry may be placed in the drawing to win one of four gift baskets. The program is open to ages 18 and older and includes e-books and e-audiobooks.

Storytime @ the Park will be 10:30 a.m. Thursdays in various parks in Luverne. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket. Dates and parks are:

- July 14, Kolbert.
- July 21, Veterans Memorial.
- July 28, Hawkinson.

Teens in Action (grades 5-12) will meet from 3 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. A different activity will be featured each week.

Michael Albert and **POP ART** program will be Friday, July 15. Registration is required.

Movie and Snacks for The Lorax begins 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 19. The movie is 1 hr. 35 min., rated G. All ages are welcome.

A naturalist from **Prairie Ecology Bus Center** will present the program "Animals Can Do What?" from 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 26, for grades K-4.

The summer reading program, "**Camp iRead: Read Beyond the Beaten Path**," continues to Aug. 1.

Readers in grades K-4 who completed all eight weeks of the summer program will be invited to an **End of Summer Pizza Party** at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4.

Herreid Military Museum launches website

Includes alphabetical listing of veterans linked to paver map

By Lori Sorenson

Just in time for summer visitors, the Herreid Military Museum's website is ready for browsing.

It shares information about the museum and its displays while also serving as a guide to pavers surrounding the Rock County Veterans Memorial on the courthouse south lawn.

Since the memorial was dedicated in 2007, nearly 1,700 pavers have been etched with names, rank, military branch and service dates of Rock County veterans, both living and deceased.

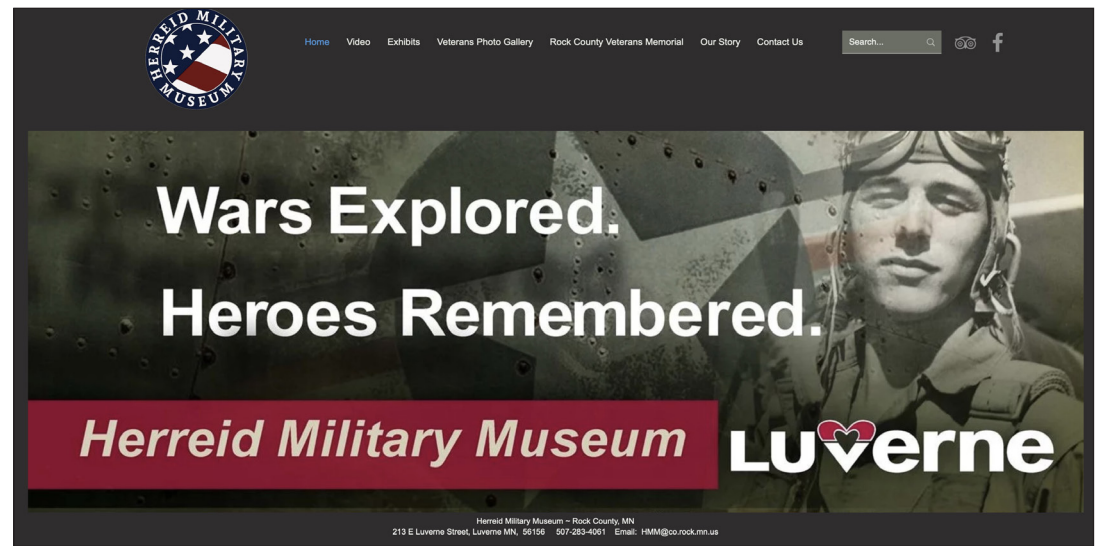
As families visit the monument, they often spend time searching among the pavers for the one bearing their loved one's name.

Now, they can consult herreidmilitarymuseum.org for the general area their veteran's paver is located. Searching an alphabetical list, families can link to a map showing the highlighted area where their paver is located.

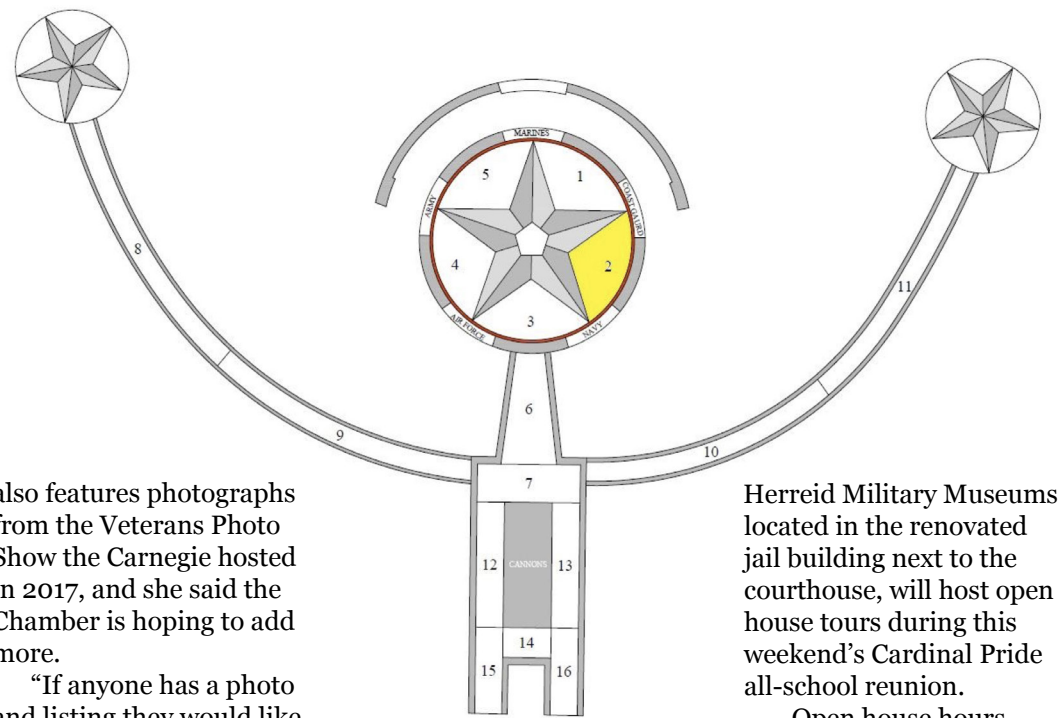
"The paver listing with the locations on a map makes it so much easier for people to find their paver," said Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere.

She credits the efforts of museum curator Terrie Gulden, former Chamber assistant Reva Sehr and high school intern Camden Hoven for successfully launching the website.

Lanphere said the site



The new Herreid Military Museum website includes a page names of veterans with pavers and a place to link their names to locations on the memorial where their pavers are located.



also features photographs from the Veterans Photo Show the Carnegie hosted in 2017, and she said the Chamber is hoping to add more.

"If anyone has a photo and listing they would like us to put on the website for any veteran from Rock County or with Rock County ties, we would be

happy to do so," she said.

The Luverne Chamber, Brandenburg Gallery and

Herreid Military Museums, located in the renovated jail building next to the courthouse, will host open house tours during this weekend's Cardinal Pride all-school reunion.

Open house hours will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Swenson Scrapping, Mowing, Painting & More gets boost from LEDA

By Lori Sorenson

Shaun Swenson is a handyman working a dozen or so odd jobs that add up to one demanding and growing business.

To encourage the business, Swenson Scrapping, Mowing, Painting & More, the Luverne Economic Development Authority is loaning him \$5,000.

"He's really filling a niche in the community," Mayor Pat Baustian said at the Monday morning LEDA meeting when the loan was approved. "Good for him for stepping up to meet a need."

In addition to work described in the business name, Swenson landscapes yards, trims trees and cleans rain gutters. In the winter months he removes snow.

But metal scrapping is where he started after working for collector Bill Fluit, Kenneth, for eight years.

"People have been really good at dropping stuff off here," he said Monday at the lot owned by Al Aanenson next to the former Exhaust Pros building.

"Al lets me use the lot, and he's trying to sell me the building."

For now, Swenson said he's fine with business size as it is. "I'm trying to



Lori Sorenson photos/0714 weather

Shaun Swenson is using the lot next to the former Exhaust Pros building on South Highway 75 to collect scrap metal for his business in Luverne.

keep it small," he said. "But I'm thinking about hiring someone."

As demand grows for his services, so does his fleet of equipment.

He currently uses four trailers (one enclosed and one a "versa-dump" trailer) plus a small tractor with pallet forks, lawn mowing

equipment, and the recent addition of a sprayer to pull behind a John Deere Gator.

The Rural Business Assistance Loan through LEDA will be used for capital equipment purchases and will be repaid at 0-percent interest over five years starting in Sep-

tember.

Swenson is also working with the LEDA to develop a business logo for signage. One of his slogans is "Quality service at a fair price."

In addition to accepting scrap metal at his

Swenson/see page 5

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Luverne developments/ continued from page 1

Lineage announces \$50 million construction of cold storage warehouse

Lineage Logistics is building a 235,000-square-foot cold storage warehouse near Premium Minnesota Pork (which will store its products in a portion of the facility).

The warehouse, with an estimated construction value of more than \$50 million, will be roughly the size of four football fields and built to store food products requiring temperatures ranging from minus 20 to minus 45 degrees.

Lineage has indicated it will create up to 75 new "quality paying" jobs in the area to support the operation.

National Guard breaks ground on \$17.5 million Readiness Center

Minnesota National Guard is building a \$17.5 million Luverne Readiness Center on 15 acres west of Papik Motors along I-90.

The new 47,902-square-foot facility includes assembly halls, work bays, storage areas, classrooms, a learning center and fitness center with locker rooms.

The project received more than \$6.2 million in private funds from the KAHR Foundation of Luverne native Warren Herreid II and his wife, Jeanne Rivet.

Their support accelerated the project timeline, influenced the decision to locate the new armory in Luverne, and financed an additional assembly area in the facility.

The facility is expected to be operational in 2023.

Prairie Loft apartments

As local development increases, so does demand for housing for workers and their families.

In a long-awaited help for local housing shortages, an October 2021 groundbreaking set the wheels in motion for two 27-unit apartment buildings known as Prairie Loft I and II.

The \$8 million project (on the former Sharkee's and Mert's Repair lots) is named with a capital E for "environmental sustainability and smart building practices."

The two buildings have one- and two-bedroom market-rate rental units on three floors with elevators and off-street parking.

They'll be ready for occupancy this fall with rents ranging from \$900 to \$1,450 per month.

City sells 157 housing lots

Meanwhile, city leaders have created other housing opportunities.

For example, 157 city-owned lots have been developed since 1994 in the Veterans, Evergreen and Manfred Heights additions on the northeast side and Sybesma Addition on the west side.

New townhomes were built on Barck Street, along the west side of North Blue Mound Avenue, on Roundwind Road east of the pool and fitness center and in the Uithoven Addition on the west side of town.

Several future lots are planned in the Lopau Addition northwest of the Good Samaritan Society -Mary Jane Brown Home.

Also, the Schmuck Addition near the hospital was recently annexed for four more lots. Those utility connections will access 400 acres to the north for future residential growth.

Day care center

As state and national child care shortages continue to stifle business growth, Luverne leaders announced late in 2021 they're tackling the issue with a day care

center that would serve the needs in Rock County and surrounding area.

The city paid \$515,000 for the former Tri-State Insurance Building (recently Total Card Inc.) on Roundwind Road to develop a community day care center in it.

The 1974 building (just north of the pool and fitness center) has 30,000 square feet on 4.7 acres of land, which would provide adequate outdoor "green space" required by the state for day care centers.

The city is seeking funding sources for necessary retrofits and remodeling estimated at \$1.5 million as well as furnishings and equipment at roughly \$2.5 million.

The intent is for the city to own, maintain and insure the building, and a commercial or non-profit day care business will operate in it.

Pool and Fitness Center

The Luverne Area Aquatics and Fitness center reopened this spring after completing a \$5 million remodel and expansion.

Improvements include an outdoor splash pad, new locker rooms, four family changing rooms, flat space rooms for group aerobic exercise, new office space and staff area, larger rooms for 24-hour weightlifting and aerobic exercise machines and a new mechanical and heat, ventilation and air-conditioning system.

Membership fees were increased slightly, but the city of Luverne subsidizes the facility's operations as a "quality of life" amenity for residents.

Loop and Ashby Trail

While the facility was closed for construction, members worked out on cardio equipment that moved temporarily into the city's trailhead building at Main Street and Blue Mound Avenue.

The city bought the former Casey's building as a trailhead for bicycle repair stations, public restrooms and electric car charging stations.

The Luverne Loop path connects to the Blue Mound Trail for 13 total miles of hard surface riding and walking between the city and the Blue Mounds State Park.

The final portion of The Loop is nearly finished along the Rock River south of the wastewater treatment plant to connect with the existing trail behind the Econo Lodge hotel on South Highway 75.

The Loop intersects with the 1.95-mile Christopher Martin Ashby Trail funded by Gene and Barb Ashby in memory of their late son.

The Ashby trail starts near the Rock River and winds through the city park toward County Road 9 near the Luverne Country Club.

Walleye Wind farm

An out-of-town but significant local development is the 109-megawatt Walleye Wind Farm in western Rock County.

NextEra is building 40 wind turbines on a 49-square-mile (31,000 acres) footprint, bringing more than 200 workers to Rock County communities and businesses.

Starting this fall, the turbines will generate \$400,000 to \$600,000 in annual local tax revenues and feed electricity to the Minnesota Municipal Power Agency through a 30-year agreement.



Lori Sorenson photos/0714 weather

County Road 59 in western Rock County washes out near the County Road 5 intersection Tuesday evening, July 5. Below, water washes over the curb when storm drains were overwhelmed at Main Street and Cedar Avenue.

Weather/continued from page 1

sent waves over curbs.

Meanwhile, out in the county, ditches quickly filled with water, low spots in fields became lakes, and corn that was just approaching waist high was flattened and in some cases snapped off.

Wind pressure collapsed one of the two new grain bins that recently replaced the old elevator in Beaver Creek.

The wild weather comes on the heels of what has been called a derecho storm during Memorial Day weekend. Many acreages and downed powerlines are still undergoing repair and cleanup from the damage caused by that storm.

Rainfall totals ranged widely across the county with some areas reporting fewer than 2 inches while others had gauges overflowing with more than 6 inches.

When flood waters receded, property owners started the grueling process of removing waterlogged carpets and furniture from wet basements.

These locations included downtown properties in Luverne, residential areas, and even the Luverne school building.

The forecast for Cardinal Pride weekend appears to be dry and seasonal.



Four positions up for election on H-BC School Board

By Mavis Fodness

Four seats on the Hills-Beaver Creek School Board will be on the ballot for the Nov. 8 general election.

Filing for the positions is open from Aug. 2 through Aug. 16 at the district office in Hills. Filing fee is \$2.

The positions are currently held by Harley Fransman, Renee Knobloch,

Ethan Rozeboom and Arlyn Gehrke.

Election filing was discussed at the June 27 meeting of the Hills-Beaver Creek School Board.

Also at that meeting the board:

- approved offering the afterschool enrichment program (PEAC) during early dismissal days.

- hired Allesia Kolles as full-time vocal instructor. She will receive a salary of \$44,970 plus stipends of \$1,332 and \$1,612 for the secondary and elementary concerts respectively.

- hired Isabel Sylvanie as K-12 art teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Her salary is also \$44,970.

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TREE & BRUSH REMOVAL NOTICE: WESTSIDE TOWNSHIP, NOBLES COUNTY

To all landlords or tenants: Brush, trees and debris must be removed from ditches and stumps be removed or sprayed so they don't return. All removal needs to be completed by September 1st. The township will take action to address these issues and will charge the landowner for any costs incurred.

Westside Township Board

CITY COUNCIL POSITIONS OPEN

Notice of filing
Affidavit of Candidacy for Council Members
City of Hills, Minnesota

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the filing for Council Members will open on Tuesday, August 2, 2022 and shall close on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. File at the Hills City Clerk's Office, 301 South Main Avenue. Call 962-3290 for more information. The following criteria must be met for the Council seats. The candidate

- Must be an eligible voter
- Have no other affidavit on file as a candidate for any office at the general election
- Is, or will be on assuming office, 21 years of age or older
- Will have maintained residence in the City of Hills for 30 days prior to the election
- Must pay a \$2.00 filing fee at the time of filing

The offices to be elected for which filings are open are as follows:
Council members - 2 (four year terms)

Connie Wiertzema
City Clerk-Treasurer

Kenneth City Council positions open Notice of filing

Affidavit of Candidacy for Council Members/Mayor
City of Kenneth, Minnesota

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the filing for Council Members will open on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, and shall close on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. The following criteria must be met for the Council/Mayor seats. The candidates

- Must be an eligible voter
- Has no other affidavit on file as candidate for any office at the general election
- Is, or will be on assuming office, 21 years of age or older
- Will have maintained residence in the City of Kenneth for 30 days before the election
- Must pay a \$2.00 filing fee at the time of filing to 171 Park Ave, Kenneth, MN 56147

The offices to be elected for which filings are open are as follows:
Council members — 2 (four-year terms)
Mayor — (two-year term)

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City Clerk - Treasurer



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 - + Paper
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 - + Aluminum

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The more things change, the more they stay the same

Twenty-five years ago last month I graduated from Luverne High School.



IN OTHER WORDS

By Jason Berghorst, reporter

It will be five years ago next month that I returned to Luverne High School as a social studies teacher.

Needless to say, it was fun and interesting to return to my alma mater 20 years later in a new role.

So many things had changed obviously.

Yet, somewhat surprisingly, so much had stayed the same.

Sometimes exactly the same.

I remember walking into the school in May 2017 for my interview and several times in the following months.

I was rather amazed at how the building largely looked the same and even smelled the same.

While I had been in the building from time to time over the years, being there every day brought back a lot more memories of and comparisons to the LHS of 20 years earlier.

There's no doubt many people returning for the Cardinal Pride All School Reunion this weekend will also be eager to return to LHS.

Of course, unlike my experience five years ago, alumni who take advantage of the tours or attend the special events at LHS this weekend may not experience quite the same nostalgia I did a few short years ago.

To say the least, Luverne High School has experienced a tremendous transformation in the last three years.

A \$31 million expansion and nearly complete renovation, to be precise.

Former students who visit campus this year will see many changes to the building.

In fact, I predict many alumni who have not been

in the building in years may in some places find their old school almost unrecognizable.

And that will really be fun.

From a new entrance with a huge commons space and a 778-seat performing arts center to an impressive weight room/wellness center and new learning spaces, offices and lockers, the LHS of the past has changed a great deal.

No more eating lunch in the basement.

No more Little Theater.

No more institutional, indestructible tan tile everywhere.

So much has changed.

And yet, believe me, so much has stayed the same.

The original terrazzo floor is still in the hallways.

Even with new paint and bleachers, alumni will recognize the old gym, now called the "Classic Gym."

And yes, the tan tile is still in the basement.

More importantly, though, learning still happens in the updated classrooms.

Relationships are still fostered in the new commons.

Music and theater arts are still showcased in the performing arts center.

Cardinal athletes still compete to the best of their abilities in red-accented modern gyms and fields.

And in all ways, LHS students feel the support of their community in their beautiful, functional school facilities.

Maybe more than ever, students, staff, parents and community truly feel Cardinal pride.

As an LHS alum and teacher, I sure do.

And I can't wait to share it with all of the alumni and guests who return to LHS this weekend.

Welcome home, Luverne alumni; enjoy the weekend, and enjoy your hometown

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the Luverne alumni who made the trek back to their hometown for the Luverne Cardinal Pride All School Reunion.

For some of you it's probably been a few years since you've visited. We hope you'll find that your hometown school and community are in grand shape.

We hope that you are all excited about everything that the Cardinal Pride Committee has put together for all of you this weekend. I think the committee did an outstanding job coordinating all the events, tours and things to do while you are all back visiting with your classmates, friends, past acquaintances and family members.

We also hope you'll notice the great things going on in our community. Take a stroll up and down Main Street and enjoy all the beautiful façade improvements and renovations in our business district.

You may want to rent an e-bike at our newly remodeled and expanded Luverne Aquatics and Fitness facility and take the bike for a ride on our new Luverne Loop bike path around town (or reserve a ride on a golf cart tour at the chamber office). Either way

you will see what our community has put together the past 10 years.

Be sure to tour the newly remodeled Luverne Public Schools building and its 778-seat performing arts center. We've always been proud of our schools, but now we have one of the nicest school facilities in southwest Minnesota.

If history is your passion, you can take a tour of the recently relocated and remodeled Rock County History Center in the former Herman Motors building on Main Street. People come from all parts of the world to see the collection of more than 4,000 nutcrackers, but they leave with a solid understanding of our local history.

You might notice our Power Plant expansion on the east end of Main Street, and on the west side of town (on Old 16) you'll see the Lineage Logistics freezer warehouse that will not only serve our new Premium Minnesota Pork

hog processing facility but numerous other food industries in the tri-state area.

Read the front page Star Herald story about housing developments, new apartments, National Guard Readiness Center under construction, the 186-spot day care center coming in the former Tri-State Insurance building and more.

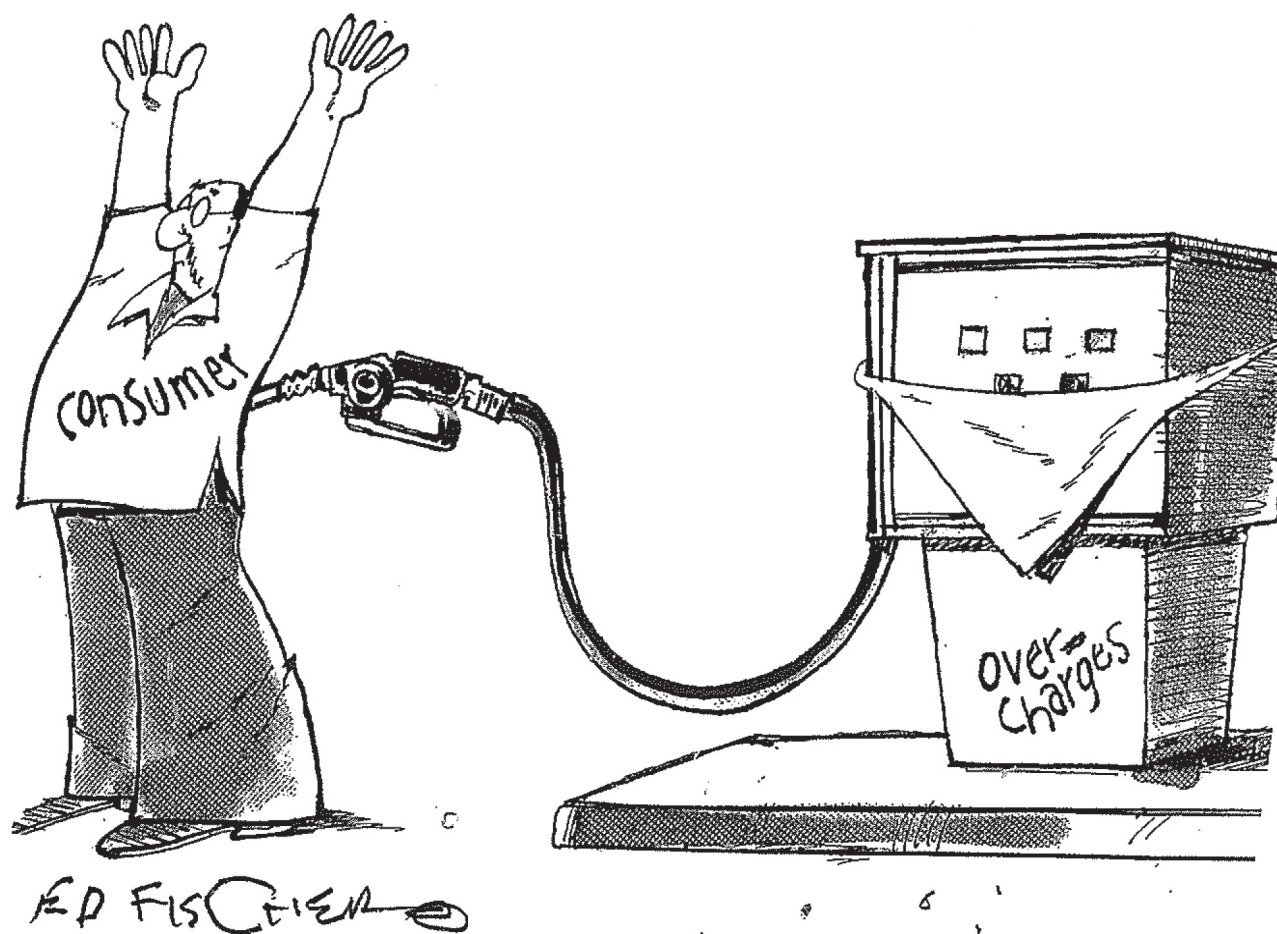
It goes without saying that we've been working hard to do what's best for our community.

Luverne has been a great place to live, work and play for the past 150 years, and we intend to keep it that way for many years to come so that all of you can continue to be proud of your hometown and school.

Have a great weekend at the Cardinal Pride All School Reunion. We hope you all take some newly minted memories back home with you.

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian



An activity for everyone this weekend in Luverne — come and enjoy!

It's a big weekend for Luverne starting on Thursday with the 60th annual Hot Dog Night. It's estimated that well over a half million hot dogs have been served up over those years.

Nearly 60 businesses have signed up to give away somewhere in the neighborhood of 15,000 hot dogs this year alone.

It's not just free hot dogs that draws the large crowds to town.

There is a corn hole tournament at the History Center, free inflatables, fire truck sprinkle on Main, Farmers Market, and of course, Tae Kwon Do demonstrations and Spotlight Dancers performances



FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

By Rick Peterson, general manager

downtown.

Starting at 7 p.m. the Wiener Dog Beauty Pageant gets underway, and the 18th running of the Wiener Dog Races starts right after the beauty contest.

Casey Muessigmann will take the stage at Big Top Tents and Events at 8 p.m., and all of this is

just the kickoff to Cardinal Pride Weekend.

Friday starting at 5 p.m. is the Cruise N Park, and the highlight will be the arrival of the Gray Ghost at 6 p.m.

Food trucks, a beer garden and rock and roll are all part of the fun as well.

Take 16 is hosting Block Parties on Thursday, Friday and Sunday.

The Luverne Hockey Association will host a fundraiser pancake breakfast at the firehall Saturday morning. Nothing cures a Friday night fun headache like Saturday morning pancakes, so I am told.

There is a Cardinal Pride Parade Saturday morning on Main Street starting at 10 a.m. featuring the LHS Alumni Marching Band.

The big event for Saturday is the Party in the Park sponsored by the Luverne Area Community Foundation.

Food trucks and the beverage garden open at 5 p.m. and the nine-

piece band, "BIG TOE & THE JAM" takes the stage at 7 p.m.

I can't wait for their show. It is going to be awesome. To top the night off, NextEra Energy is sponsoring the fireworks show at 10:15 p.m.

Events continue on Sunday with the Rock County Hall of Fame ceremony at the Historic Palace Theatre at 1:30 p.m. with the unveiling and reception at the History Center.

Trust me, there are a number of other events going on over the weekend, not to mention the dozens of class reunions. So enjoy the fun weekend.

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Rock County
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Rock County's newspaper since 1873

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

July 1

- Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne, reported a vehicle speeding.
- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a grass fire.
- A camera outage was reported.
- Complainant on Highway 270, Steen, reported a bag of herbicide on the roadway.

July 2

- Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 2, Beaver Creek, reported erratic driving.
- Complainant on 50th Avenue, Beaver Creek, reported personal property ownership issues.
- A camera outage was reported.
- Deputies conducted a warrant check at location on S. 2nd Street in Beaver Creek.
- Complainant on N. Freeman Avenue reported a dispute about setting off fireworks.
- Complainant eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 15, Luverne, reported a small grass fire in the ditch.
- Numerous complaints of fire works on McKenzie Street.

July 3

- Complainant on 161st Street reported her iPhone was stolen.
- Complainant on N. Spring Street found a bike at location.
- A camera outage was reported.
- Complainant on E. Christenson Drive reported a noise complaint.
- Complainant on Dodge and Blue Mound Avenue had a fireworks complaint.

July 4

- Assistance was requested for an active pursuit in Nobles County, westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 33, Adrian.
- Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 1, Beaver Creek, reported a wrong way driver.
- Complainant on W. Church Avenue, Steen, reported an intoxicated party threatening her.
- Complainant on S. Church Avenue and 4th Street, Hills, reported an explosion at location.
- Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 13, Luverne, reported a car swerving on roadway.
- Extra patrol was provided for a community gathering on Edgehill Street.

July 5

- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported subject is trespassing on property.
- Complainant on Edgehill Street reported a lost cell phone.
- Complainant on N. Donaldson reported loud fireworks.
- Complainant on 110th Avenue, Luverne, reported loud fireworks.
- Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported a fireworks complaint.
- Complainant on W. Lincoln Street reported an overly intoxicated individual.

July 5

- Complainant on MN 270, Hills, reported he is lost.
- Complainant reported vandalism to vehicle.
- A thunderstorm watch has been issued.
- A thunderstorm warning has been issued for Rock County.

July 5

- Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek, reported a tornado at location.
- Complainant in Beaver Creek reported a power outage.
- Complainant on 61st Street, Beaver Creek, reported a possible fire.
- A flash flood warning was issued for Rock County.
- Complainant in Luverne re-

ported multiple roads flooding.

- Complainant on Roundwind Road reported kids swimming in a flooded field.

- Complainant on County Road 3 and County Road 4, Magnolia, reported debris on road.

- Complainant on 91st Street, Luverne, reported water over road.

- Complainant on County Road 20, west of County Road 6, Beaver Creek, reported debris on road.

- Complainant on 141st Street, Luverne, reported vehicle in park after closing hours.

July 6

- Complainant westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 12, Luverne, reported a wrong way driver at location.

- Complainant reported a 911 outage.

- Complainant westbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 7.5, Beaver Creek, reported vehicle debris on the roadway.

- Complainant on 121st Street, Luverne, reported an attempt to harass subject.

- Complainant on 20th Avenue, Valley Springs, South Dakota, reported a credit card fraud attempt.

- Complainant northbound on 60th Avenue, Hills, reported a gray SUV speeding.

- Nobles County requested assistance with investigation on N. Kniss Avenue.

- Complainant on 131st Street reported several vehicles parked in the area and complainant feels it is dangerous or illegal.

- Complainant on S. Estey Street reported individual disturbing the peace.

- Report of a possible stolen vehicle at location eastbound on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek.

- Complainant in Duval County, Jacksonville, Florida, reported a subject with a Rock County warrant.

- Complainant on 164th Avenue, Hardwick, reported harassment from subject in Hardwick.

July 7

- Complainant reported the alley behind the former W-2 Meats is closed.

- Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported something suspicious.

- Complainant on W. Brown Street reported an unknown vehicle parked in driveway.

- Complainant on S. Cedar Street reported kids trespassing.

- Complainant on S. Cedar Street reported broken windows in trailer.

- Complainant on U.S. Highway 23, Jasper, reported reckless driving.

- Complainant on Koehn Avenue reported vehicle left near location.

- Complainant reported a scam and threatening contacts.

- Brookings Police Department requested assistance with a juvenile runaway on 100th Avenue and 111th Street, Luverne.

July 8

- Complainant on S. Church Avenue, Hills, reported a man screaming near the apartment complex.

In addition, officers responded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 2 deer accidents, 1 escort, 13 ambulance runs, 4 paper services, 6 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 6 burn permits, 1 vehicle impound, 6 drug court tests, 1 purchase and carry permit, 1 stalled vehicle, 11 traffic stops, 11 abandoned 911 calls, 1 test and 2 follow-ups.



Photo courtesy of Midwest Fire

On June 22 the body and pump system is attached to the chassis and cab for the new Hills fire truck.

Hills Fire Truck/continued from page 1

A computer screen allows the touch of a finger (or gloved hand) to control the lights, sirens, warning systems and close doors and/or secure equipment before moving the truck. Previously a switch had to be turned on or off.

“It’s the brains of the system,” said Midwest Fire’s Joe Hlushak. “It’s new to us and is fairly new to the industry.”

Hlushak is the project manager of the Hills Area Fire Department truck and made sure its color matched the department’s other three trucks.

In recent weeks Midwest Fire has completed fire trucks for other departments in black, lime green, orange and the more traditional red.

Midwest Fire finishes five to seven trucks each month, and the Luverne company is on track to set a record of 66 completed this year. Hlushak said the normal number is 55.

A redesigned shop floor and other time-saving process improvements increase the assembly flow.

While each truck is assem-



Mavis Fodness photo/0714 Hills Fire Truck

The new Hills Area Fire Department pumper truck contains a multiplex system, a computer screen that can easily activate various features through the touch of a finger or gloved hand.

bled to specifications of each fire department, the various fire truck components are purchased within the Tri-State area.

One of the final steps is applying decals.

On Thursday, July 7, Quality Printing of Luverne placed the “Hills Area Fire Department” and

“No. 133” decals on the truck.

Hills resident and Midwest Fire employee Justin Maciejak painted parts of the yellow Hills Area fire truck.

“It’s cool that it gets to work in your community,” he said of the new truck destined for his hometown.

Swenson/continued from page 2



READ US ONLINE!
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trailer on South Highway 75, Swenson travels for a good share of business.

Recent storm damage kept him busy around the clock for over a week. He cleaned up two damaged sheds after a tree fell on them. One was metal and one was wood, but he took it all, because landfill fees are built into his bids.

Swenson said he often gets calls from local businesses who have scrap metal from various projects.

“I do a lot of commercial work,” Swenson said, “but I accept metal from anyone.”

Scrap metal can be dumped in his trailer on South Highway 75, as long as they comply with the “metal only” rules: “No garbage, tires or TVs” and people are asked to call before placing items in the trailer, which is monitored by surveillance cameras.

Swenson’s number is 507-227-6345.

No garbage, tires or televisions are accepted by Shawn Swenson, according the sign located at his business’ collection station on South Highway 75.

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FRIDAY JULY 22ND AT 7PM
SATURDAY JULY 23RD AT 7PM
FREE MEAL SATURDAY AT 5PM
SUNDAY JULY 24TH AT 9:30AM
FREE MEAL SUNDAY FOLLOWING

SPECIAL GUEST DR. CHARLES KARUKU

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700 EAST MAIN STREET

Join us at St. John Lutheran Vacation Bible School

August 1-4

5:45-8:00 p.m.
Optional dinner available at 5:00 p.m.

VBS is FREE

Deadline to register is Monday, July 25

Open to age 3 (must be potty trained) through 6th grade (completed)

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TO REGISTER: stop in, call 507-283-2316, or go online to stjohnlutheranluverne.org. 803 N Cedar Street, Luverne MN 56156

PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE! Teachers in Retrospect with Jim Sanden	Friday, July 15	4:30 pm
FREE! Jim will tell stories and answer questions about his teaching career at LHS. Stop by and enjoy!		
Thursday, July 21	2:00 pm	
Afternoon Escape Movie - Title TBD		
\$5 admission		
KIDS SUMMER CINEMA	Friday, July 22	10:00 am
Kids Summer Cinema - Title TBD		
\$5 admission		
Jurassic World Dominion	PG-13	
Friday, July 22	7:00 pm	
Saturday, July 23	7:00 pm	
Sunday, July 24	7:00 pm	
Tickets: \$5 for kids age 3 - 12 th grade, \$7 for adults		

104 E. Main St. • Luverne, MN 56156 • 507.283.4339
WWW.PALACETHEATRE.US



Submitted photos

In memory of Butch Connell

More than 150 vehicles followed each other through Rock County communities Saturday for the "Connell Classic Cruise" in memory of Terry Connell, who died last year at 57. The ride started and ended at the Eagles Club in Luverne where an estimated 400 people gathered that evening for live music (Southern Detour Band) and a meal, catered by Mickie's Restaurant and Bar, operated by Stan and Vickie Steensma in Ellsworth. "It was a good day," Chantel Connell said. "The band was spectacular; the food was awesome, and the weather was great. We raised some good money to start a Dollars for Scholars fund in Terry's name." She said she's grateful for the show of support. "We thank the friends and family who participated in the event," she said. "We thank each and every one of them from the bottom of our hearts."



Hardwick (above) was one of the stops on the Connell Classic Cruise around the county.

Pictured are (front seat from left) Terry's dad, Dave Connell, Terry's aunt and uncle Nancy and Paul McDowell, (back seat) Terry's mom, Donna Connell, and his aunt and uncle Kim and Rick Connell. They're riding in a car that Terry bought at Barrett-Jackson collector car auction.

1943: Covered wagons are real mode of transportation for club member Marie Schaefer

The following article is part of the Diamond Club Member group that began in the January 7, 1943, issue of the Rock County Star Herald. Members of this group consist of persons of age 75 and older.

This article appeared in the February 18, 1943 edition of The Rock County Star Herald.

To the average reader of this article, a covered wagon is a kind of wagon described in stories about the Old Wild West. To Mrs. Marie Schaefer, Luverne, however, a covered wagon is something real, for she has not only seen them, but has traveled in them. As a matter of fact, she came to Rock county in one. The trip here across the prairie from Miller, S.D., was slow and tedious, but it had its adventure, too. And it had its reward, for to Mrs. Schaefer, Rock county has since been "home."

Mrs. Schaefer was born in Mecklenberg, Germany, Jan. 5, 1865, the daughter of Jochim and Marie Schultz Meier. She spent the first 17 years of her life in the land of her birth, and ever since she was 10, she has been busy doing something. She attended school in Germany until she was 14 years old. At the age of 10, she attended knitting school; at the age of 12 she learned to spin flax and at 14, she was weaving linen. She



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann,
Rock County Historian

still has a piece of linen cloth which she wove while still a girl in Germany.

At the age of 15, she obtained employment as a maid on a farm, there earning the first money she could call her own. Her wages were \$18 for the whole year, an average of \$1.50 per month. Inasmuch as housekeeping for others did not prove to be too profitable, Mrs. Schaefer quit her job, and the next year she learned dressmaking.

When she was 17, she was given the opportunity to come to America. So she packed her personal belongings and began the voyage across the Atlantic to her new home. She arrived at New Hall, Ia., in 1882, and there she obtained employment on a farm at a salary of \$1 a week. To a young lady who

had earned only little more than that in a month while in Germany, a dollar a week was a big salary.

She found a big difference between life in Germany and life in the United States, and the longer she lived in this country the better she liked it.

Two years after her arrival here, on Sept. 18, 1884, she married William Schaefer at Vinton, in Benton county, Ia. After two years, they moved to a farm near Miller, S.D., where they lived for four years before coming to Rock county.

They were still living near Miller in 1888 when the famous blizzard struck. Caught in the storm's fury with but little fuel in the house, Mrs. Schaefer recalls that the family may have suffered some ill effects had it not been for the fact that they had some corn in a shed next to the house. They shelled all the corn from the cobs by hand and burned the cobs. They lasted until the storm abated and until they obtained other fuel.

In 1890 Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer decided to move to Rock county so they packed their belongings and family into a covered wagon and made the trip to Rock county. They lived on a farm in Magnolia township for

Bits, go to Page 6

MENU AT GENERATIONS

New Location: 105 S. Estey,
Luverne

Monday, July 18: Salisbury steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, dessert.

Half-Price Day sponsored by Oasis House.

Tuesday, July 19: Baked chicken, baked potato with sour cream, peas, bread, dessert.

Activities: 12:30 p.m. Bingo or Pinochle.

Wednesday, July 20: Taco salad with salsa, sour cream and corn chips, apple, dessert.

Thursday, July 21: Chicken salad on croissant, coleslaw, tropical fruit, dessert.

Activities: 1 p.m. LSS frozen food meal distribution in main entrance.

Friday, July 22: Pork loin, scalloped potatoes, corn, bread, cake.

Half-Price Day sponsored by Security Savings Bank.

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

Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9846, extension 11 to reserve one day prior, 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.

COLLEGE NEWS

MSU- Mankato recognizes honor students

Minnesota State University Mankato has released the dean's list for the Spring 2022 semester. Named to the High Honors list with a 4.0 GPA was Emilie Staeffler, and named to the Honors list with a GPA of 3.5 to 3.99 was Janae Kopp. Both are from Luverne.

Gustavus Adolphus releases dean's list

Toby Sengvongxay, Luverne, was named to the dean's list at Gustavus Adolphus College for the Spring 2022 semester. To be eligible, students must earn at least a 3.7 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

Jarchow makes president's list at Drake

Ben Jarchow, Luverne, was named to the president's list for the Spring 2022 semester at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. To make the president's list, students must earn a 4.0 GPA.

Minnesota West announces honor students

Eduardo Carrillo, Sara Kozak, Tenley Nelson and Amanda Ripka, all of Luverne, and Brookelynn Brust of Beaver Creek were named to the dean's list for the Spring 2022 semester at Minnesota West Community and Technical College. To be eligible, students must earn a minimum of a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale with at least 12 graded credits.

Students named scholars at Northwestern

Ainslie Robinson, Luverne, and Garrett Raymon, Hills, were named as collegiate scholars for the Spring 2022 semester at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa. To be named collegiate scholars, students must earn at least a 3.75 GPA with a minimum of 12 graded hours.

Robinson is a sophomore majoring in biology-health professions, and Raymon is a senior majoring in biology-ecological science.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2012)

•Twenty-six people from the Rock County area spent a week in Haiti at the end of June as part of a mission team organized through the American Reformed Church, Luverne.

The trip was coordinated through Mission of Hope, which provides food and medical care to Haitians. It operates an orphanage, a medical facility and a church. In addition to providing other services to Haitian people. ...

Haiti Mission Team members included Pastor Mike Altena, and his wife, Vicki, Paige Baker, Amanda Barnhart, Tammy Barnhart, Brenna Brown, Mary Brown, Kayla Cox, Lauri Dahlquist, Lauren Guy, Josh Haugom, Julie Haugom, Samantha Helm, Bethany Hup, Dalton Jacobsma, Andrew Jelken, Lindsay Lonneman, Aimee Moss, Lexi Rust, Ned Sandbulte, Bailey Stratton, Alyssa Teunissen, Cassie Uithoven, Harold Ver Steeg, Tammy Watson and Ryan Wynia.

25 years ago (1997)

•Of the 34 guests who helped make up the field for the 16th annual Member-Guest Tournament last weekend, none was more colorful than a special guest who toured the Luverne Country Club on Tuesday.

Patrick Reusse, a sports columnist for the Minneapolis Star Tribune, paid a visit to the LCC to play a nine-hole round of golf with member Bob Jarchow and some of his friends.

Reusse requested Jarchow to select some of his "finest reprobate friends" to join on the round. But the LCC member threw a curve at his guest when he lined up 1979 United States Open women's golf champion Jerilyn Britz, two-time defending LCC champion Cory Norman, and Jere Ohme, a fine golfer in his own right, to round out the fivesome.

50 years ago (1972)

•The Spitznagel Partners Inc., Sioux Falls architectural firm, has been employed to draft

preliminary plans for updating the fronts of business buildings on the north side of Main street between Freeman and Cedar, and on the west side of North for about a half block.

Harold Norman, chairman of the Development Committee of the Luverne Chamber of Commerce, said that the architects have photos of all the buildings. They will make overlay sketches to show their ideas for changing the fronts, while still conforming to the existing architecture of the building. When they have completed their work, these sketches will be shown to the building owners, and an estimate as to costs will be given at that time. Owners have the option of accepting or rejecting the suggestions.

75 years ago (1947)

•After serving the community as a machinist and mechanic for 27 years, John Nesguthe has disposed of his business, the Nesguthe Machine Shop, to Gerrit and Jacob Van Voorst. The new owners took possession July 7.

Mr. Nesguthe plans to sail August 8 for Norway, where he will visit about three months, and will attend to business matters. ...

The business will hereafter be known as Van Voorst Brothers Machine Shop.

100 years ago (1922)

•S. B. Nelson, owner of the Manitou hotel since the first of the year, on Tuesday sold the property to Hagen Keith, of Mitchell, S. D. The new owner is a young man who grew up in the hotel business, and for several years has conducted the leading hotel at Mitchell. Under the terms of sale Mr. Keith was given immediate possession, subject to the lease held by landlord W. A. Lyon, which expires April 1st, next.

The new owner would like to take actual possession of the hotel by September 1st, and negotiations are now under way between him and Mr. Lyon with this end in view.

OBITUARIES

Dixie Arends

Dixie L. Arends, age 77, of Luverne, Minnesota, died peacefully on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at the Sanford Luverne Hospital.



Visitation will be Sunday, July 17, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. A service celebrating her life will be Monday, July 18, at 10:30 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne with visitation one hour prior at 9:30 a.m. Burial will follow at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Dixie Lee Winge was born on March 31, 1945, in Luverne, Minnesota. She was the youngest daughter of Conrad and Doris (Moe) Winge. Growing up, Dixie enjoyed many neighborhood adventures with the "Oakley Street Gang." She participated in student council, Luther League, played trumpet and was a baton twirler, and sang in the choir. Music would become a lifelong joy; Dixie loved going to concerts and musicals, and always had music playing in her home. In high school she started dating a certain farm boy, Tom Arends.

After graduating from Luverne High School in 1963, she attended Worthington Community College in Worthington, Minnesota, for a year. Dixie moved to the Twin Cities in Minnesota and worked at the University National Bank as a teller.

Tom and Dixie were happily married on Sept. 10, 1966. Dixie continued to work while Tom finished his degree at the University of Minnesota. They then returned home to farm in Luverne and were blessed with two children, Paul and Beth.

Dixie was a wonderful wife and mother and took pride in creating a beautiful, welcoming home for her family and guests. She partnered with Tom on the farm, keeping books and feeding countless coffee breaks and meals to hired men.

Dixie was an active volunteer in her church, community, and Paul and Beth's activities. In 1990 she fulfilled her dream of

going back to college and earning a degree in elementary education from Augustana College. She taught for 10 years, primarily third grade. Dixie loved to learn and delighted in sharing that love with her students.

Dixie's friends and family were very important to her. Tom and Dixie enjoyed adventures and spending time with their high school, Luverne and Arizona friends. Dixie looked forward to monthly "Sister Bridge" with her sisters and niece Carolyn. Dixie cherished her grandchildren, attending their activities and being an important part of their lives. Dixie will be remembered as a classy lady, and for her kindness, smile and warmth.

Left to treasure the memories and lessons of her life include her husband, Tom; son Paul (Teresa) Arends of Luverne and daughter Beth (Kent) Senf of Fairmont, Minnesota; grandchildren Peyton (Mike) Haburn of Osakis, Minnesota, Colton (girlfriend, Anna McCarty) Arends of Luverne, and Bergen Senf and Solveig Senf, both of Fairmont; sisters Mavis Amundson of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and LaJean Lammert of Luverne; brothers- and sisters-in-law Kathy Winge of Lebanon, Oregon, Janice Arends of Dubuque, Iowa, and David and Diane Arends of Brandon, South Dakota; and her nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents; parents-in-law John and Ethel Arends; brothers Clayton Winge and Lyman Winge; and brothers- and sister-in-law Dr. Loren Amundson, Marvin Lammert, Rodney Arends, and Carmen Winge. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Grace Lutheran Church Youth Group or Generations (formerly Luverne Senior Citizens) LSS Meals on Wheels program.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (0714 V)

Arend John Klarenbeek

Arend John Klarenbeek, 81, Luverne, died Saturday, July 9, 2022, at the Sanford Luverne Hospice Cottage.



Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 15, at the Luverne Christian Reformed Church. A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 16, at the church. Burial will be prior to the service at Eastside Cemetery near Steen.

Arend John Klarenbeek was born on Jan. 2, 1941, to Henry and Dena (Bos) Klarenbeek in Rock Rapids, Iowa. John, as he preferred to be called, attended country school and then Hills Public School in Hills for one year before opting to work for a local farmer.

On May 24, 1960, John married Joanne Top at the Christian Reformed Church in Hills. During his lifetime, John was a contractor for a construction company, worked at the elevator for four years, purchased a piece of land west of Blue Mounds State Park in Luverne, was employed at IBP for 9 1/2 years, and worked at the grocery store for 2 1/2 years. They moved to Mountain Grove, Missouri for 4 1/2 years before moving back to an acreage south of Luverne in 1982. John operated a rendering business for 21

years before turning it over to his children and semi-retiring. In October 2017, John and Joanne moved into Luverne.

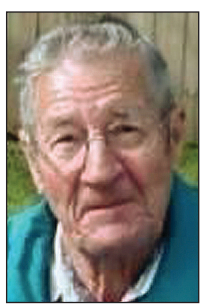
John was a member of the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne, where he served as a deacon and attended a men's Bible study. His hobbies included restoring tractors and older pickup trucks.

John is survived by his wife, Joanne Klarenbeek, of Luverne; four children, Brad (Janna) Klarenbeek, Alan (Pam) Klarenbeek, Dennis (Vonda) Klarenbeek, and Joni (Dale) Wynia, all of Luverne; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; siblings Marinus (Mildred) Klarenbeek of Steen, Hermina Gerritsen of Rock Rapids, Iowa, Art (Joey) Klarenbeek of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Diane Klarenbeek of Luverne; sister-in-law Mary-Ann (Klarenbeek) Zylstra of Edgerton; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Henry Klarenbeek; brother-in-law John Gerritsen; grandson-in-law Zachary Cowell; nephew Arlin Klarenbeek; and niece Gloria Vande Hoef. Arrangements are provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, [hartquistfuneral.com](http://www.hartquistfuneral.com). (0714 F)

Lyland 'Pete' Behr

Lyland "Pete" Behr, 88, Luverne, died Friday, July 8, 2022, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



A funeral service was Tuesday, July 12, at First Presbyterian Church in Beaver Creek. Burial with full military honors followed at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Lyland "Pete" Behr was born on March 24, 1934, to Edwin and Golda (Erwin) Behr in Kinbrae. He was raised on a farm near Ellsworth and later near Lowry, while also attending school.

Pete first worked for Hanson Silo and then at Christenson Trucking and later at Adrian Tile Factory. He then served in the United States Army infantry during the Korean War from 1955 to 1957. Upon his honorable discharge, he returned home and worked as a mechanic for Ulberg's Garage in Sioux Falls.

Pete married Sonna Surmeyer on May 24, 1958, at First Presbyterian Church in Luverne. They made their home first in Sioux Falls. The couple then moved to Garretson, South Dakota, and purchased and operated the Texaco Gas Station along with operating an auto, truck and tractor repair shop from 1959 to 1965. They then made a move to Jackson, where Pete worked at General

Trading, Ag-Chem and Mulligan Tire Service. He eventually went to work for the Jackson County Highway Department where he worked for 25 years until his retirement. In November of 1997, Pete and Sonna moved to Luverne.

Pete was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Beaver Creek. He enjoyed bowling, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and going to the casino to collect his free slots. During his later years, he enjoyed wintering with Sonna in Texas.

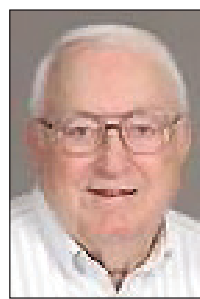
Pete is survived by his wife, Sonna, of Luverne; three children, Jeff (Beverly) Behr of Lehr, North Dakota, Jill (Darrel) Ykema of Luverne, and Joel Behr of Luverne; four grandchildren; six great-grandsons; five siblings, Marrian Sudenga of Sioux Falls, Frances (Don) Johnson of Sioux Falls, Phyllis (Charles) Danielson of Sioux Falls, and Ronald (Nelva) Behr of Hills; a sister-in-law, Helen Behr of Brainerd; a brother-in-law, Don Bryant of Pierre, South Dakota; and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and four siblings, Everette (Donna) Behr, Lavern Behr, Barb Bryant, and Clifford Behr.

Arrangements were provided by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, hartquistfuneral.com. (0714 F)

Edward Hartog

Edward Hartog, 87, died Thursday, June 23, 2022, at Kaiser Hospital in Sacramento, California.



A funeral service was Monday, July 11, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Citrus Heights, California. Burial followed at Fair Oaks Cemetery in Fair Oaks, California.

Edward Claus Hartog was born on Nov. 25, 1934, to Wubbo and Emma Hartog at their home in Kanaranzi. He was baptized and confirmed in the faith on Oct. 7, 1951, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Hills.

Ed became an orphan at the age of four. His siblings were separated and lived with various relatives in the Adrian area during the Depression. Ed excelled at school and developed a strong work ethic, laboring on rural farms at a young age.

Ed eventually became a ward of the county and entered the foster care system. At age 14, he began living with Victor and Frances Sandager on their farm in Hills, and he maintained a close relationship with them his entire life. He graduated from high school in 1952 with honors.

Ed attended the University of Minnesota at St. Paul and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural education in 1956. In 1957 he began teaching vocational agriculture. In 1963

he implemented a vocational agriculture program at Willmar Community College in Willmar, for which he received recognition. The program is still in operation today.

In 1969 Ed completed his doctorate degree at the University of Minnesota and was awarded a PhD.

Ed retired from teaching and pursued a career in recreational vehicle sales, which brought him to California. He retired at 74.

Ed and his wife, Linda, traveled extensively. Ed also enjoyed working on genealogy and was a voracious reader. He loved working in the yard, especially tending his roses.

Ed also enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren and attending their activities as often as he could.

Edward is survived by his wife, Linda; a son, Craig (Laura) Hartog; three daughters, Joni (Anthony) Rivera, Nancy (Scott) Ryan, and Deborah Wiest; sisters Susie McMartin and Jane (Daryl) Schubert; brothers John Sandager, Mark (Karen) Sandager, and James (Louisa) Sandager; granddaughters Tiffany (Dave) McEntire, Alexandra (Ben) Moyer, and Kelsey Rivera; grandsons Craig Hartog Jr., Blake Rivera, and Dane Hartog; and five great-grandchildren. (0714 F)

Bits/continued from page 6

10 years, and then moved to a farm in Mound township where they lived for seven years before retiring and moving to Luverne. In 1911 she spent about three months visiting in various parts of Germany. In 1918 she spent the winter in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer were the parents of three children, all of whom are living. They are A.W. Schaefer of Mound township; Mrs. George Kiebach of Luverne and Miss Ida Schaefer of Luverne. Mrs. Schaefer also has 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Schaefer has been active in the work of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Luverne, of which she is a member. She has been a member of the Ladies Aid for years and served for 14 years as treasurer of that organization.

She is still very active, and the practical education she received when she was a girl of 10 is still being used

by her to good advantage for she now spends most of her spare time knitting. During the past 10 years, she has knit many dresses, sweaters, fancy gloves and mittens and has made a considerable amount of fine lace. In all, she states, she has made at least 100 pairs of gloves and mittens.

She attributes her long life to hard work and living a quiet life.

Of a family of eight, she is one of four still living. A sister, Mrs. Anna Wilprecht, lives at Lidgerwood, N.D.; a brother, August Meier, lives at Fulda and another brother, Gust Meier, lives at Waterloo, Ia.

Mrs. Schaefer died about 12 years ago.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mmanmade@iw.net.

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Rock County STAR HERALD

Thursday, July 14

starting at 5 p.m.

117 W Main, Luverne

Birds continue winning ways, run record to 19-2

By Jason Berghorst

It was four more wins for the Luverne Redbirds amateur baseball team this week.

The team ran its record to 19-2 overall and 16-2 in Gopher-First Nite league play.

The Redbirds, with a winning streak of thirteen games, defeated the Ruthton Royals and Marshall A's on the road before coming out on top of the Adrian A's and Heron Lake Lakers at Redbird Field.

"We haven't lost since June 8, and it's been a really fun stretch," said Luverne player-manager Brooks Maurer.

"We've gotten contributions from all different players," Maurer said. "We've maybe had 13 different lineup combinations during the 13-game stretch."

"I think that really speaks to the depth of our team and how many good players Luverne produces," the Redbirds manager said.

Luverne was scheduled to host Worthington Wednesday (July 13) and will complete the regular season in Jackson on Sunday.

Luverne 6, Ruthton 1

The Ruthton Royals came to Luverne Wednesday, July 6, to face the Redbirds.

The home team won its tenth consecutive game by defeating the Royal 6-1.

Ben Serie was dominant on the mound for the Birds. The righthander gave up only one hit, no runs and no walks while striking out twelve in eight innings of work.

Skyler Wenninger came in to pitch the final inning for Luverne. He gave up one run, two walks and struck out two.

The Birds started off the scoring in the bottom of the first inning by plating three runs.

Derek Lundgren led off with a double to left field. Three batters later, Serie singled and advanced Lundgren to third.

When Declan Beers hit a flyball to center and advanced to second, Lundgren and Serie scored.

Beers then scored on a line drive single by Newt Johnson.

Phil Paquette added a run for Luverne in the second inning off an RBI single by



Ben Serie pops a foul ball in the bottom of the sixth inning Wednesday night, July 6, at Redbird Field. Serie and the Redbirds won the game against the Ruthton Royals, 6 to 1.

Skyler Wenninger.

In the third inning, a fielder's choice by Gaige Nath scored Jake Haugen and advanced Cade Wenninger to third base.

Lundgren, the next batter, belted a double to left field that scored Cade Wenninger.

The Redbird lead remained 6-0 until the top of the ninth inning.

With the bases loaded with Ruthton runners, the fourth Royals batter was hit by a pitch to score Ruthton's first and only run of the game.

Lundgren, Skyler Wenninger and Cade Wenninger led the Redbird offense with two hits each. Beers had two RBIs in the game.

Ruthton	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Luverne	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	6

	AB	R	H	BI
D Lundgren	4	1	2	1
P Paquette	4	0	1	0
E Beyer	1	0	0	0
S Wenninger	4	0	2	1
C Sehr	1	0	0	0
B Serie	5	1	1	0
D Beers	4	1	1	2
N Johnson	2	0	1	1
C Zeutenhorst	1	0	0	0
J Haugen	3	1	1	0
C Crabtree	1	0	1	0
C Wenninger	4	1	2	0
G Nath	2	1	0	1
C Reisch	1	0	0	0

Luverne 15, Marshall 2

The Marshall A's had a slim 1-0 lead over the Luverne Redbirds after five innings at American Legion Field in Marshall Friday night.

Then the Birds came to bat in the top of the sixth and erupted for 12 runs. In all, Luverne had 18 at bats in the decisive inning.

Cade Wenninger, who pitched an outstanding seven-inning complete game giving up only two hits and two runs and striking out nine, began the offensive fireworks in the sixth stanza with a two-RBI single that scored Serie and Beers.

Wenninger then scored when Charlie Reisch hit an RBI single to center field.

Two batters later, a triple to center by Paquette scored Reisch before Serie hit a hard ground ball that scored Paquette.

A triple by Beers then scored Serie and a single line drive by Haugen sent Beers across home plate.

Two batters later, Ethan Beyer hit a two-RBI double that scored Haugen and Cade Wenninger, who scored for the second time in the inning.

The twelfth and final Redbird run of the inning came two batters later when Nath earned a bases-loaded walk that scored Beyer.

The Birds scored three more runs in the top of the seventh to secure the ten-run victory.

Beers was three for four at the plate with two runs and an RBI.

Reisch was also three for

four, with three RBIs and one run scored.

Cade Wenninger tallied two hits, scored twice and added three RBIs to help secure his win on the mound.

Beyer also had two hits, two runs and two RBIs.

Wenninger was quick to credit his teammates for the impressive victory.

"We are all players who have known each other for years now," Wenninger said. "We know how to build off each other, and a night like that shows just how we do it."

Luverne	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	x	x	15
Marshall	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	x	x	2

	AB	R	H	BI
D Lundgren	5	1	0	0
G Nath	3	1	0	1
P Paquette	5	1	1	3
B Serie	1	2	0	0
Casey Sehr	1	1	1	0
D Beers	4	2	3	1
M Sterrett	0	1	0	0
J Haugen	3	1	1	1
B Maurer	1	0	0	0
C Wenninger	4	2	2	3
E Beyer	4	2	2	2
C Reisch	4	1	3	3

Luverne 11, Adrian 1

The Redbirds defeated the Adrian A's 11-1 in five innings Saturday night in Luverne.

Adrian took an early lead in the game by scoring its only run of the game in the top of the second inning.

Luverne answered with three runs in the bottom of the third to take a lead they would retain the remainder

of the contest.

Beers, Haugen and Cade Wenninger all scored runs in the third after reaching base on singles.

Serie plated a run in the third inning before Beyer and Casey Sehr scored off a two-RBI double by Paquette in the fourth stanza.

Haugen led the offense for the Birds in the fifth inning with a single. Cade Wenninger then hit an RBI-triple that scored Haugen.

Cade Wenninger scored by tagging up after a fly out to center by Sehr.

The Redbirds then loaded the bases with a single by Lundgren and Nath and Codie Zeutenhorst being hit by pitches.

When the next batter, Serie, was hit by the pitch, Lundgren scored and the bases remained loaded.

Beers then drew a walk, which scored Nath.

Haugen hit a ground ball to center that scored Zeutenhorst and ended the game 11-1 due to the ten-run rule.

Haugen led the offense for Luverne, going three for four at the plate with two runs and two RBIs.

Beers and Cade Wenninger added two hits each and Wenninger also scored twice.

Paquette, Beers and Sehr also tallied two RBIs for the Redbirds.

Haugen pitched the complete five innings. He gave up one run on seven hits and struck out eight Adrian batters.

Adrian	0	1	0	0	x	x	x	1
Luverne	0	3	1	2	5	x	x	11

	AB	R	H	BI
D Lundgren	4	1	1	0
G Nath	3	1	1	0
P Paquette	3	0	1	2
C Zeutenhorst	0	1	0	0
B Serie	3	1	1	1
D Beers	3	1	2	2
J Haugen	4	2	3	2
C Wenninger	3	2	2	1
E Beyer	2	1	1	0
C Sehr	2	1	0	2

Luverne 13, Heron Lake 3

Luverne won its third game in three days, and its 19th of the season, with a 13-3 victory over the Heron Lake Lakers Sunday afternoon at Redbird Field.

The Redbirds won all three games with the ten-run rule.

Against the Lakers, the Birds scored first in the bottom of the first inning.

With Beers at bat, Lundgren, who had reached base on a walk, scored on a wild pitch before Beers hit an RBI triple that scored Paquette.

After adding another run in the third, Luverne held a 3-1 lead until the Birds exploded for seven runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Nath was hit by a pitch before Paquette and Serie earned walks. When Beers hit a double to center field, Nath and Paquette scored.

Cade Wenninger batted next and hit a double of his own to center field to score Serie and Beers. Zeutenhorst then singled to score Wenninger.

The Lakers got two outs before Lundgren hit a home-run to left field that also scored Zeutenhorst.

Heron Lake scored single runs in the top of the sixth and seventh stanzas. Luverne added a run in the bottom of the seventh when a Skyler Wenninger single scored Lundgren's third run of the game.

In the bottom of the eighth inning, Luverne's Mark Sterrett opened the inning with a solo home run to left field.

One batter later, Cade Wenninger reached base on a single. Zeutenhorst then hit a walk-off single to center that scored Wenninger to win the game 13-3 due to the ten-run rule.

Lundgren was on the mound for six innings. He gave up two runs from six hits and struck out eight.

Zeutenhorst pitched in relief for the last two innings. He gave up three hits and one run and struck out two.

Heron Lake	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Luverne	2	0	1	0	7	0	1	13

	AB	R	H	BI
D Lundgren	4	3	2	2
G Nath	3	2	1	0
S Wenninger	1	0	1	1
P Paquette	1	2	0	0
C Sehr	2	0	0	0
B Serie	3	1	1	1
M Sterrett	1	1	1	1
D Beers	3	1	3	3
B Maurer	1	0	0	0
C Wenninger	4	2	2	2
C Zeutenhorst	5	1	3	2
C Reisch	4	0	0	0
E Beyer	2	0	0	0
J Haugen	1	0	0	0

Connell, Sehr named to All-State teams

By Jason Berghorst

Two recent Luverne High School graduates have been named to their respective spring sports' all-state teams.

Billi Connell was one of 14 statewide players named to the Minnesota Class AA All-State Softball First Team.

Connell is the only softball player from the Big South Conference named to the team.

"Billi is an extremely hard-working and talented player," said LHS softball coach Brooks Maurer.

"It's always fun to see kids get rewarded for their hard work." Connell has signed to play softball at the University of Minnesota next year.

"I can't wait to see what is in store for her playing for the Gophers!" Maurer said.

Casey Sehr was named to the 2022 Class AA All-State Baseball team.

Sehr, who plans to continue his baseball career at the University of Sioux Falls, is one of only three Big South Conference athletes named to an all-state team.

"Casey had an outstanding career for the Luverne Cardinals," said LHS head coach Phil Paquette.

"Minnesota All-State recognition is well-deserved for his efforts on and off the baseball field," Paquette said.

"Casey is a humble, hard-working and coachable baseball player. I look forward to watching his career continue as a Luverne Redbird and USF Cougar!"



Connell



Sehr

Junior Legion advances in playoffs

By Jason Berghorst

The Luverne Junior American Legion baseball team recently completed a 6-8 regular season.

The team earned the No. 1 seed in the six-team west sub-state division.

After suffering an 8-7 loss to No. 4-seeded Windom Sunday afternoon, Luverne defeated No. 6 seed Adrian 7-2 Monday night.

With the win, Luverne is one of four teams from the sub-state group to advance to the Southwest sub-state tournament.

Pipestone, Windom and Tracy also advanced to the tournament that begins this Sunday in Pipestone.

Luverne will open sub-state play at 10 a.m. against an opponent yet to be determined.

Windom 8, Luverne 7

Luverne opened post-season play in Lismore Sunday afternoon with an 8-7 loss to Windom.

"We were short on guys and had only nine players at the game," said Luverne coach Jared Pick.

Luverne enjoyed a 7-4 lead going into the seventh, and final, inning.

Windom hit a bases-load-

ed triple in the top of the seventh stanza.

A defensive error at third base allowed the batter to advance to home with the effect of an inside the park grand slam and an 8-7 Windom lead.

When Luverne was unable to score in the bottom of the seventh, Windom came away with the victory.

Layke Miller led the offense for Luverne. He was two for four at the plate and scored two runs.

Carter Sehr had two hits and scored a run, and Jacob Stroh also had two hits.

Marcus Vortherms scored two runs in the game.

Stroh pitched the first five innings for Luverne. He struck out seven and gave up four runs.

Sehr came to the mound for the final two innings. He struck out three and gave up four runs.

Windom	1	3	0	0	0	4	8
Luverne	1	1	2	1	2	0	7

	AB	R	H
C Sehr	4	1	2
M Vortherms	1	2	0
L Miller	4	2	2
E Domagala	2	1	0
A Schlosser	3	0	1
J Stroh	4	0	2
C Kruger	2	1	1
J Aning	3	0	0
Z Overgaard	3	0	0

Luverne 7, Adrian 2

Luverne defeated Adrian

7-2 Monday night in Lismore.

The Luverne offense started quickly, scoring five runs in the first two innings before Adrian plated its first run.

Luverne added single runs in the fourth and sixth innings to secure the win.

Vortherms pitched a complete seven-inning game for Luverne.

The right-hander struck out eight and gave up only two runs on four hits.

"Marcus really pitched well," Pick said. "We needed him to pitch well and long tonight, and he really came through for us."

Sehr was two for four at the plate and scored twice for Luverne.

Vortherms and Miller also scored two runs each in the victory.

Miller hit a double in the second inning.

Adrian	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Luverne	2	3	0	1	0	1	7

	AB	R	H
C Sehr	4	2	2
M Vortherms	4	2	1
L Miller	2	2	1
E Domagala	4	0	1
J Stroh	4	0	1
L Ahrendt	4	0	1
C Kruger	4	0	0
J Aning	3	1	0
Z Overgaard	2	0	0
L Kelly	1	0	0

SCHEDULES

Luverne Junior Legion Regular Season Summary
Marshall Orange 5, Luverne 1
Dell Rapids, SD 5, Luverne 4
New Ulm 2, Luverne 0
Luverne 9, Adrian 0
Luverne 6, Minnesota 3
Luverne 7, Worthington 2
Jackson 7, Luverne 3
Luverne 10, Edgerton 0
Luverne 10, Omaha Gross 5
Wayzata 16, Luverne 0
Prior Lake 11, Luverne 0
Mankato East 4, Luverne 3
Marshall Orange 5, Luverne 1
Luverne 8, Tracy 6

Sub-Sub-State Tournament
Windom 8, Luverne 7
Luverne 7, Adrian 2

Southwest Sub-State Playoffs
At Pipestone
TBD July 17 10am
TBD July 17 3pm
*TBD July 18 TBD
*If necessary

Luverne Senior Legion Regular Season Summary
Luverne 7, Adrian 0
Luverne 5, Renner, SD 4
Luverne 10, Colton, SD 0
Luverne 13, St. James 2
Worthington 6, Luverne 1
Worthington 5, Luverne 4
Luverne 10, Jackson 3
Luverne 9, Slayton 1
Brookings, SD 8, Luverne 0
Alexandria 13, Luverne 5
Luverne 4, Willmar 3
Redfield 8, Luverne 1
Luverne 7, Marshall 6
Luverne 4, Tracy 0

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

Sundays 8:30 a.m. Mass. Public Mass will be celebrated at FULL capacity in the church. Masses: 9 a.m. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Friday at the nursing homes – check the bulletin. All Sunday masses will be live streamed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stcluverne/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.luverneccrc.com — office@luverneccrc.com

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

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

Sundays, 10:30 a.m. In-person worship service. Service is also on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net

Ann Zastrow, Pastor
Dave Christenson, Interim Pastor

Thursday, July 14: 7:30 a.m. Mom's Summer Bible Study at Wildflowers. 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. 10 a.m. Executive meeting. Sunday, July 17—Youth Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 5 p.m. Worship Service. 9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. 5 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion. Tuesday, July 19: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, July 20: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 8:15 a.m. Caring Visitor's meeting. 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study. 5 p.m. Worship planning. 7 a.m. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online worship: Sundays 9 a.m. at www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab; or Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor

Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well (at els.org). Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne) for other classes and events.

American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne

Ph. 507-283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org

Friday, July 15: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible study. Sunday, July 17: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion. Tuesday, July 19: 12 p.m. Staff meeting. 7 p.m. Consistory meeting. Services are also broadcast on Vast Channel 3 on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. DVD's available upon request. To stay up to date on announcements, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @arcluverne.

Rock River Community Church
1075 110th Ave., Luverne

Ph. 507-283-9070; email: info@rockrivercommunity.church
Bob Junak, Pastor

Come as you are—Sundays @ 10 a.m.: Main Service. Kids church age 3-6th grade—Nursery. Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service—Kids age 3-6th grade.

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne

Ph. 283-4529

Saturday, July 16: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, July 17: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Fred Vanderwerf; Meal/Discussion to follow. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible Study. Monday, July 18: 6 p.m. W&M Meeting at church, bring own meal. Tuesday, July 19: 10 a.m. Shut-in visits. Wednesday, July 20: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Live streamed on Facebook and radio.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne

Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net

Sunday, July 17: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. In-person Worship service and live on Facebook. 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
Rev. Dr. Phil Booe, Pastor

Saturday, July 16: 5:30 p.m. Worship Service. Sunday, July 17: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 10:15 a.m. Sunday school; Adult Bible Study. Wednesday, July 20: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 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
101 W. Maple, Luverne
Ph. (605) 368-1924; email: newlifecelebration@gmail.com
Food mission every third Thursday.

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

Sunday, July 17: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Bible study. Worship service on Luverne cable at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday and Friday.

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

Mark Eliason, Pastor

Sunday, July 17: JOINT Worship with Holy Communion at Palisade Lutheran. Tuesday, July 19: 7 p.m. First Lutheran council meeting. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFeU4>.

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.

Ph. (507) 597-6257 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Mark Eliason, Pastor

Thursday, July 14: 1:30 p.m. Palisade Lutheran WELCA meeting. 7 p.m. Palisade Lutheran council meeting. Sunday, July 17: JOINT Worship with Holy Communion at Palisade Lutheran. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFeU4>.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek

Ph. 507-935-5025

email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com

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

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia

Ph. 605-215-3429

email: magnoliannumc@gmail.com

Nancy Manning, Pastor

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

Steen Reformed Church
112 W. Church Ave., Steen

Ph. 855-2336

Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
112 N. Main St., Hills

Ph. 962-3270 / bethlehemofhills@gmail.com

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. 9 a.m. Sunday School. 7-8:30 p.m. Youth group meets. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills. You can find more info on our website blchills.org. Tuesdays: 2 p.m. Tuff Home Bible study. 3:30 p.m. Tuff Village Bible study. Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Quilting. 6 p.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Social/dessert time. 7:15 p.m. Wednesday night worship service.

Hills United Reformed Church
410 S. Central Ave., Hills

Office Ph. 962-3254

hillsurc@alliancecom.net

Alan Camarigg, Pastor

True freedom is found in Christ

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36

As the United States recently celebrated its 246th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, patriotic symbols – expressions of our American freedoms – appeared across the land: the American flag, the Liberty Bell, the American Eagle, the Stars & Stripes in a myriad of forms, "bombs bursting in air," as fireworks celebrations light up the night sky!

One of the most recognized symbols of freedom is the Statue of Liberty, with her familiar stance of holding the book (bearing the date: July 4, 1776) in one hand, the torch held high in the other, the crown of sun rays, and her "welcoming" site to those yearning to be Americans. Her familiar trademarks symbolize freedom and friendship, life and liberty.

One of the most precious of the trademarks – but often overlooked – is the broken chain at Lady Liberty's feet. The broken shackles symbolize the overthrow of tyranny. Looking at the huge links, one can almost physically feel the tremendous and heavy burden the chain of tyranny represents. But that chain is broken.

There is another "statue of liberty" that offers an even greater freedom because it has broken the chain of sin that held all of mankind in bondage. This statue is made of wood and is very blood-stained, with holes where large spikes used to be. This statue offers a forgiveness that breaks the tyranny of sin that had bound all people with a punishment far greater than any worldly government could ever inflict.

This wooden symbol of liberty is the cross, where Jesus Christ shed

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Rev. Andrew Palmquist
Bethany Lutheran Church, Luverne

his holy precious blood. He did so in payment for the sins of all people, of all time, so that all who believe in him might be freed from sin's curse of death and everlasting punishment.

Because Christ went to the cross for our sake, we really know what freedom is: "... having been set FREE from sin," Romans 6:22; what friendship is: "... no greater love ... than to lay down one's life for his FRIENDS," John 15:13; what life is: "... Christ is our LIFE," Col. 3:4; and what liberty is: "... where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is LIBERTY," 2 Cor. 3:17.

The cost of our country's freedom was paid by spilled blood on battlefields, here at home, and around the world. The cost of our spiritual freedom was "paid in full" by the spilled blood of our dear Savior Jesus on that other "statue of liberty," the cross!

May each of us declare those blessed freedoms in lives lived for Him.

And pray for our nation, our leaders, and our servicemen and women. Pray that peace and harmony may prevail.

Gather together with fellow Christians and hear God's word. Hear him proclaim to you that in Jesus your sins are forgiven.

Use that freedom also to tell others of Christ's amazing life and his blessings so that they too can enjoy this ultimate freedom!

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EMPLOYMENT

Dental Innovations Coordinator: Nobles County is seeking a full time Dental Innovations Coordinator to work in the Southern region to promote healthy lifestyles, close the gap of health inequity, and educate on prevention of diseases caused by lack of access to dental services. This position will work with communities, schools, individuals, target groups, dental providers, and other health care professionals to expand access to dental service across our region. Primary service area includes: Nobles, Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Rock, Pipestone, and Redwood Counties. If you have a passion for public health and serving the community this could be the career for you! Weekends and Holidays off! Bilingual candidates encouraged to apply. **APPLY TO:** Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at www.co.nobles.mn.us for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. **Deadline: Open until filled, first review date July 22, 2022.** EEO/AA Employer (7.9-7.14)

Public Health Nurse (PHN): Nobles County is seeking a public health nurse. If you have a passion for public health and serving the community this could be the career for you! Join our public health service unit and you'll be part of a skilled, caring, and knowledgeable professional team whose talents and contributions promote, strengthen and protect the health of individuals, families, and communities in Nobles County. Working in programs such as: Family Home Visiting for prenatal and post-partum women and newborns, Child and Teen Check Ups, and Public Health Preparedness, you can make a difference. Weekends and Holidays off! **Public Health Nurse:** provides direct care needs assessment, education, and recommendations for services based upon the needs identified when working with individuals and families in the community. Bilingual applicants encouraged to apply. **APPLY TO:** Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at www.co.nobles.mn.us for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. **Deadline: Open until filled, first review date July 22, 2022.** EEO/AA Employer (7.9-7.14)

EMPLOYMENT

Social Worker: Nobles County Community Services is seeking a Social Worker for Family & Children's Services of Child Welfare/Child Protection. You can make a difference in your community! Join our dynamic social work team now to start working with families. Social Workers help improve quality of life and safety issues through linking individuals and families to needed services and building robust working relationships with them. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, or closely related field, with one year experience in social work preferred. Valid driver's license required. Bilingual applicants are encouraged to apply. **APPLY TO:** Nobles County Administration Office. Visit our website at www.co.nobles.mn.us for application and to view full job description and benefit sheet. **Deadline: Open until filled, first review date July 26, 2022.** EEO/AA Employer. (7.14-7.23)

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R-POD 2015 17' camper—\$9,500. Very comfortable bed, loaded with dishes, pots and pans, etc. Hook up and go! Call 507-673-2346. 504 S. 4th St., Beaver Creek, MN. Email dph@dphmail.com (7.9-7.28)

GARAGE SALES

Yard Sale—Many items! Some are: Oreck vacuum, metal suitcase with wheels and three handles, HoMedics products, mini all-around Shop Vac, two small boom boxes, snow cone machine, quality wireless ear buds, two very nice rings, good adjustable cane, plus many movies, movie and television show sets complete, ones like "Adventures of Superman," "Land of the Giants," "Time Tunnel" to mention a few, as well as every "James Bond" movie ever made, and many more, plus a ton of other stuff. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 14, 15, 16, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. 220 N. Freeman St., Luverne. (7.9-7.14)

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CARDS OF THANKS

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Carol Van Maanen
(7.9-7.14)

The family of Elaine Snyders wish to thank everyone for their caring words of sympathy and prayers at the time of Elaine's death. Thank you to Toni, Sara and staff at Prairie Creek Memory Care for the care and compassion they showed Elaine for 4 1/2 years. Thank you to Jeff Hartquist and staff for their guidance and great care.
Elaine Snyders Family
(7.9-7.14)

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EMPLOYMENT

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The Rock County Star Herald in Luverne, Minnesota, is looking for the right person to help navigate the fast-paced world of community sports reporting. Our weekly award-winning newspaper covers two local districts and their high school sports teams, along with community outdoors and recreational activities. We're working to enhance our daily presence with social media posts, sports column/blog and occasional streamed coverage with athletes, coaches and fans. Our vision is to be on the local scene of whatever sports-related news is happening — whenever and wherever it occurs — and share that experience with sports fans to read and watch on social media and to enjoy in print and online pages. **If you share the same vision of a local sports news presence, and if you're passionate about sports with the ability to write about it and share it with others, you may be the person we're looking for.** We're accepting applications now for this **full-time position**. Sports reporting and photography experience is preferred, along with some knowledge of InDesign, PhotoShop and social media platforms.

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Luverne Senior Legion team opens playoffs with two victories

By Jason Berghorst

The Luverne Senior American Legion baseball team began playoff action as the top seed in their sub-sub-state division.

Luverne lived up to the ranking by advancing to this weekend's Southwest Sub-state Tournament in St. James with wins over Tracy and Russell-Tyler-Ruthton last week in Milroy.

Luverne will open sub-state play at 2 p.m. today (Thursday) against Windom in St. James.

With a win, Luverne will play either Springfield or Blue Earth at 5 p.m. Friday.

A loss would send Luverne to a consolation bracket game on Friday.

Round three games, if necessary, are scheduled for Saturday in St. James.

The semifinals and finals of the Southwest Sub-state Tournament are scheduled for July 22 and 23 respectively.

As hosts of this year's Division II Minnesota Senior American Legion State Tournament, Luverne will automatically advance from sub-state play.

The Southwest Sub-state champions, if not Luverne, or the second-place team if



Submitted Photo

The Luverne Senior Legion baseball team defeated Tracy and RTR in the first round of the playoffs Thursday and Friday in Milroy. Pictured are (front, left) Kai Buss, Will Serie, Braydon Ripka, Elliot Domagala, Gavin Reisch, Casey Sehr, Carter Sehr, (second) Andy Halverson, Zach DeBoer, Connor Overgaard, Jacob Stroh, Ethan Beyer, Kaden Anderson, Riley Sneller and assistant coach Derek Lundgren. Head coach is Codie Zeutenhorst (not pictured).

Luverne wins the sub-state, will also qualify for the state tournament.

Luverne 10, Tracy 4
Luverne opened the playoffs with a 10-4 victory over

Tracy at Yankee Field in Milroy Thursday, July 7.

Casey Sehr led the Luverne offense. He went three for four at the plate, scored two runs and added two RBIs.

Riley Sneller also had two RBIs, including a triple during the seventh inning.

Ethan Beyer, Kaden Anderson and Will Serie also had two hits each in the game.

Anderson pitched six strong innings for Luverne. The right-hander gave up four runs off four hits and struck out nine.

Casey Sehr came to the mound for the final inning

and gave up no hits and no runs to earn the save.

Tracy	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	4
Luverne	3	1	4	0	0	2	1	10

	AB	R	H	BI
B Ripka	3	1	1	0
E Beyer	3	1	2	1
K Anderson	4	2	2	1
Casey Sehr	4	2	3	2
R Sneller	3	1	1	2
W Serie	4	1	2	1
J Stroh	3	0	0	0
Carter Sehr	1	0	1	1
C Overgaard	2	2	2	0
E Domagala	2	0	0	0

for the final 3 1/2 innings.

In the bottom of the fifth, Luverne scored the only run of the 28-minute Friday portion of the game.

On Thursday evening, Anderson hit an RBI triple in the first inning of the game, with Luverne scoring three runs.

Anderson totaled two hits, scored two runs and added two RBIs in the win.

The Luverne offense then exploded with two homeruns and six total runs during the second inning.

Serie belted a three-run bomb and Braydon Ripka hit a two-run homer in the inning.

Beyer and Casey Sehr each had doubles in the contest.

Beyer was the winning pitcher for Luverne. He spent four innings on the mound, giving up two runs on two hits, walking three and striking out eight.

Casey Sehr pitched the final three innings. He struck out one and gave up just one hit.

RTR	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Luverne	3	6	0	0	1	0	10

	AB	R	H	BI
B Ripka	3	1	1	2
E Beyer	3	2	1	0
K Anderson	4	2	2	2
Casey Sehr	4	2	2	1
R Sneller	3	0	0	1
W Serie	3	1	2	3
C Overgaard	3	0	0	0
E Domagala	3	1	1	1
Carter Sehr	2	1	1	0

Schedules/ from page 8

Sub Sub-State Playoffs
Luverne 10, Tracy 4
Luverne 10, RTR 2

Southwest Sub-State Playoffs
At St. James
vs. Windom July 14 2pm
TBD July 15 TBD
*TBD July 16 TBD
*TBD July 22 TBD
*TBD July 23 TBD
*If necessary

Luverne 10, RTR 2

After winning the first game in Milroy Thursday, Luverne moved on to face Russell-Tyler-Ruthton Thursday night.

Luverne enjoyed a 9-2 lead in the middle of the fourth inning, when the game was delayed until the next day because of rain.

The teams returned to Milroy's Yankee Field Friday

Racheal Marie DESIGNS

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Thursday, July 28 at 6:30 pm

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JULY 14 - 17

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Friday 10 am to 4 pm
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18 pc Party Band on Stage 7-10 pm

AT 10:15 PM
WALLEYE WIND FARM
NEXTera ENERGY
Fireworks

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Celebrate



CARDINAL PRIDE WEEKEND

JULY 14 - 17, 2022



Welcome home, LHS grads!

**It's time to show your
Cardinal spirit!**



Why you should consider a

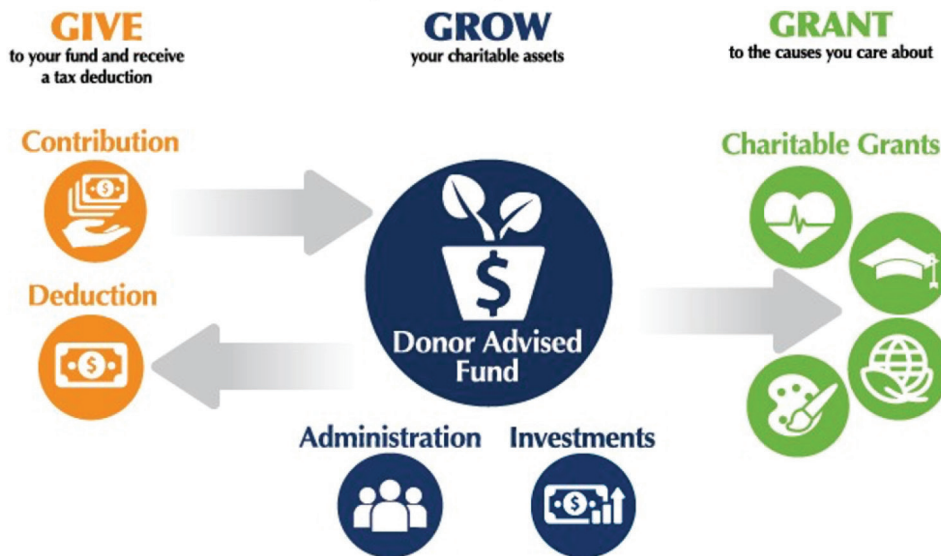
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Talk to Emily (Bowron) Crabtree emily@luvacf.org for more information.

People > Resources > Opportunitites

Greetings, LHS grads! Celebrate old times and a new school

By Craig Oftedahl, Luverne Schools Superintendent

Greetings to all friends, community members, former staff members, and especially our proud and esteemed Luverne Alumni.

The Cardinal Pride Committee has worked extensively to bring excitement, activities and festivities to the entire community of Luverne.

The focal point this weekend will be the Luverne Public Schools and the recent remodel and new construction project just recently completed. The transformation will bring smiles, astonishment and pride to the forefront of all who have passed through the school at some point.



The project started with a School Board tour of the kitchen and cafeteria area that all of you remember in the basement. The Board of Education said, "We can do better than this for our students."

The first meeting to look at possibilities was in August of

Superintendent message/continued on page 10



The Luverne school campus has its own names for streets and lanes after school construction wrapped up.

Help Save the Manfred House



Photo by Jim Brandenburg

This historic property is now on the **National Register of Historic Places**, but its future is still in jeopardy.

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Four-day celebration starts with Luverne's legendary 60th annual Hot Dog Night

Luverne's long-awaited Cardinal Pride All-School Reunion is well-timed with the community's 60th Annual Hot Dog Night, a two-day party in itself.

Local merchants will begin serving hotdogs and beverages at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 14, and the evening includes the popular Wiener Dog Beauty Contest and Wiener Dog races.

Meanwhile Main Street in downtown Luverne will be packed with all the usual offerings and festivities, along with food, beverages and live music.

For example, there will be free inflatables, balloon making, Freezies, a bean bag tournament, fire truck sprinkler and performances by the spotlight dancers and Luverne Tae Kwon Do — all on Thursday, July 14.

A "Cruise and Stop" classic car event at the History Center from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday will feature a "Vinyl Night," beer garden, food trucks and the "Gray Ghost" automobile.

The recently completed school construction project will be highlighted each day with tours of the building from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and from 11:30 to 1:30 Saturday.

The 10 a.m. Cardinal Pride Parade on Saturday (featuring an Alumni Band) will follow the 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Hockey Association pancake breakfast at the firehall.

Saturday's other highlights include "Generations of Excellence" in the new Performing Arts Center at 2 p.m., a four-person golf scramble at the Luverne Country Club at noon and open houses from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Brandenburg Gallery and Herreid Military Museum and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the History Center.

Rock County will induct several new members into its Hall of Fame on Sunday in the Palace at 1:30 p.m.

There are many class reunions meeting throughout the weekend at various venues, and the Cardinal Pride celebration wraps up with a fireworks-bedazzled party in the Luverne City Park. (See the Chamber website for a listing.)

Party at City Park closes Cardinal Pride weekend

An 18-piece party band will provide music for the Cardinal Pride's closing event Saturday night, July 16.

"Big Toe & the Jam" will perform at the Party At City Park beginning at 7 p.m. at the Luverne City Park. They will play until 10 p.m., when a fireworks display closes out the Luverne High School class reunion schedule of activities.

Saturday's event allows LHS graduates, families and friends to gather one last time after two days of activities celebrating those who graduated from LHS. Two beverage

Cardinal Pride four-day celebration/see page 15

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 High School Commons
 8 am to 10 am

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PROGRAM
 SATURDAY - JULY 16 - 2PM
 Performing Arts Center

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 Saturday: 8 am to 5 pm
 Sunday: Noon to 7 pm

JAY RIDE
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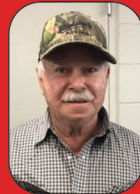
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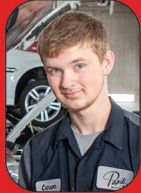
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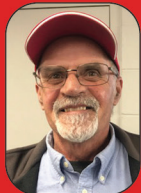
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Community members tour the new commons and media center during the open house in September 2021.

Improved Luverne school building becomes 'one of the crown jewels of the community'

By Mavis Fodness

"I am extremely proud of the project," Superintendent Craig Oftedahl said about the school construction when it was completed in September of 2021.

"The Board of Education had wonderful vision and did things right. They produced a really classy facility that allows our staff to be extremely functional for the demands of today's educational standards."

Some statistics from the project:

- The 65-year-old middle-high school is now larger, growing by 41,170 square feet to a new size of 417,670 square feet.
- The new areas include six additional classrooms in the middle school wing, a new student commons and a new performing arts center (PAC).

- Remodeling encompassed 200,000 square feet, 2,100 gallons of paint, 1,500 electrical receptacles, 66 miles of wire, 30 miles of data cable and fiber and 65 new electrical panels.

- Crews hauled 1,400 loads of fill.

"The new commons and kitchen are spectacular," Oftedahl added. "The performing arts center is state of the art and absolutely beautiful. The administration did a nice job creating collaborative space and the use of furniture in helping with 21st Century learning, and the secure entrances and more cameras across the campus will aid in our safety and security protocols."

School construction timeline/see page 9

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Construction was sparked by a school board basement tour

The project began in 2016, when board members reviewed the long-term facility plan that's filed annually with the state education department outlining upcoming improvement projects.

Oftedahl toured board members through the basement kitchen and cafeteria. "We all had our eyes opened as far as the needed update," recalled Katie Baustian, who served as board chairman in 2016.

A new first-floor commons and kitchen led the list of five long-term goals. The other goals included improved safety and security, collaborative learning space, remodel and right-sized rooms to meet 21st century standards and celebrate music and fine arts.

In 2016, the district was within two years of paying off the elementary school, built in 1999. Board members saw an opportunity to continue investing in the district through another possible bond referendum.

"Safety was such a priority," Board



Students have lunch in the basement cafeteria for the last time in spring of 2021.

member Reva Sehr said.

"Items such as door locks, security camera and an updated intercom system were very much needed. We also needed to get our school's technical infrastructure updated as well so we could use technology more in the classroom."

Board member Eric Hartman said

conversations centered around the growing list of the number of capital improvements that far outweighed what money the district levies annually for its facilities plan.

"With the (elementary building)

Construction timeline/see page 13

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2016. Momentum was seized and the community supported the project through a bond referendum vote in November 2017.

Through the overwhelming support of the Luverne community, the education of students and the school are extremely important to the vibrancy of a caring community.

“Paying it forward” is a mantra often spoken, but not followed. That was not the case in Luverne, as 76 percent of voters agreed it was time for a facelift and some new opportunities for the students of Luverne.

As you tour the facility, you will see new technologies, new furniture, remodeled classrooms with more space, and a focus on 21st century education. Some key areas to look for on your tour include the music spaces, weight room/fitness center, new kitchen and commons, new media center/library, learning commons, and the spectacular performing arts center.

As all of us have changed over the course of time, so has education. It is not about sitting stoically in your seat and doing your worksheet or memorizing the Gettysburg Address.

Learning has evolved into more project-based learning with an emphasis on collaboration and teamwork. Technology plays an important role as a tool for all students to engage, enhance and expand learning opportunities.

Throughout the planning process with students, staff, administration, and the Board of Education, the education of students was at the forefront of all decisions. We certainly hope you enjoy what you see!

The community reaction has ranged from comments like,

“This is nice”, “Quite an improvement”, to just plain, “Wow!” If those types of comments are heard over the weekend, smiles will be worn and hearts will swell. That is what we tried to attain through this project – a satisfaction knowing that students in Luverne will continue to have tremendous opportunities afforded them now and into the future.

As the superintendent of Luverne Schools, I am most proud of the many collaborative efforts of our entire team at the school with the assistance of our community in making this project a reality. The Board of Education provided a tremendous vision for this project, and they deserve a ton of credit. They took a risk and that is not easy to do. The payoff for that risk has been well worth it, in my opinion.

We are not done though! Next spring the school will embark on a new amphitheater/outdoor classroom space south of the canopy. New digital signage will be placed on the front lawn area along with some new signage on the entry corner on Highway 75. A new alumni recognition wall will be added to the canopy area. The south parking lot will get completely redone next summer as well.

If any of you are interested in assisting, my dream of resurfacing the track and adding turf to the football field, replacing the visitor grandstand and adding a fieldhouse/storage shed to our athletic complex could become reality.

I hope that you enjoy your time in Luverne and have a chance to stop by and reacquaint yourself with the school and old and new friends.

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Lori Sorenson photos/0602 school banners



Photo banners of Luverne students accent renamed school streets and lanes

New decorative banners went up along parking lots and roadways of the Luverne School campus in May, courtesy of the Luverne Education Legacy Fund. There were 42 banners on 21 poles featuring students in fine arts, academics and athletics from all ages in the district. Also new on the school campus are renamed streets. The former Adams Street is now Cardinal Drive. North East Park is now Alumni Avenue and the former School Street is 2184 Lane.





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bond payoff coming soon, I know my initial thoughts were to roll a number of these capital improvement projects and upgrades into one major project – funded through a new bond – which would start immediately after the prior one was paid off,” Hartman said.

The board was able to levy \$8 million for infrastructure and HVAC improvements.

Voters approved a \$16 million bond to remodel and add square footage to the middle-high school.

In a second question, voters also approved the proposed \$7 million bond for a performing arts center.

Project took 30 months

After the \$31 million project was rebid, construction began in the former Little Theatre in March 2019.

“The students have been great throughout the process,” Oftedahl said. “Not only did they assist with the input of the building, they endured the noise and debris from construction.”

Staff often moved and packed their classrooms several times as the



The new school performing arts center seats nearly 750 people.

remodeling project progressed through the building.

When the coronavirus pandemic in 2020 forced students and staff to learn at home, construction staff continued to move forward with the remodeling.

“My hope is that people view the

school with a high level of satisfaction in knowing we worked hard to spend taxpayer dollars on the right things,” Oftedahl said.

“I want people to be proud of the school, as I feel it is one of the crown jewels of the community.”

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Luverne Education Legacy Fund celebrates and connects generations of Cardinal Pride

By Jason Berghorst, LELF

The Luverne Education Legacy Fund (LELF), formerly known as the Luverne School Foundation, is proud and excited to welcome home LHS alumni and friends for the 2022 Cardinal Pride Weekend!

The mission of LELF is to connect alumni and community donors with opportunities to support continued educational excellence in Luverne Public Schools now and into the future.

A major focus of that support in recent years has been the **LELF 2184 Campaign**. To date, the campaign has raised over \$650,000 from nearly 100 alumni, school staff, community and business donors.

The LELF 2184 Campaign has funded a variety of projects that enhance Cardinal pride and support excellence in education and activities.

Some of the most high-profile projects include a Luverne script “L” in the terrazzo floor of the new Commons, a large backlit L on the north exterior of the Performing Arts Center, a performance grand piano for the new Performing Arts Center, an interactive alumni touch screen, and support toward the new Cardinal weight room and wellness center, among many other enhancements.

Major projects of the LELF 2184 Campaign still to come include an alumni garden with outdoor classroom and a large



digital sign on the Highway 75 side of the school campus.

The Luverne Education Legacy Fund will host an **Alumni Welcome Coffee from 8 to 10 a.m. Friday, July 15, in the new school Commons and will offer tours to see all the completed projects.** Everyone is welcome and encouraged to see the amazing changes at Luverne schools!

There is still time to be part of these historic changes and join other LHS alumni and supporters with your gift.

Gifts of \$2184 or more will receive a special one-of-a-kind custom hand-blown glass cardinal made by 1989 alum Tom Maras of Marasglass and be featured on the 2184 Campaign donor board.

Visit with a LELF board member during the Welcome Coffee or during the tours for more information or visit the LELF website at luverneducationlegacyfund.org.

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Dollars for Scholars is ‘amazing gift’ for student success

**By Johnna (Bowron) Ahrendt
Luverne Chapter of Dollars for Scholars**

Since its inception in 1983, our Luverne Dollars for Scholars program has grown to be one of the largest in the nation with an endowment valued at over \$12 million.

This endowment enabled the program to award \$517,250 to 73 seniors from the graduating class of 2022. The growth of the program can be attributed to a handful of large gifts.

- Lava Brooks donated \$697,000 in the early 1990s, followed by a donation from

- Vernon Aanenson of \$1 million.

- In 2009 Harvey “Allie” Ordnung, a retired farmer, gave \$2.9 million.

- Ellamae Josendahl, a retired first-grade teacher (known as Ms. Appel), gave \$2.4 million in 2013.

The program has also received hundreds of endowed contributions ranging anywhere from \$2,000 up to more than \$200,000, thanks to the support and generosity of Luverne Alumni and community members.

These endowed gifts help to establish perpetual scholarships that are named in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one or family.

The uniqueness of these endowed gifts is that they allow a scholarship to be given each and every year, forever, to a fresh qualifying LHS graduate because only the income earned from the endowment balance is given out in the form of a scholarship.

The minimum amount to start an endowed scholarship is \$2,000, and once established, additional dollars may be added at any time, no matter the amount.

A scholarship booklet is published each year which includes not only the scholarship awards but also a write-up for each perpetual scholarship awarded so that the recipients of the scholarships can learn about the person or family that the scholarship was established for. This booklet is distributed at

Cardinal Pride four-day celebration/ continued from page 4 _____

gardens and five food trucks will begin serving at 5:30 p.m.

The Convention and Visitors Bureau committee of the Luverne Area Chamber organized Cardinal Pride weekend that began Thursday during Hot Dog Night.

Committee members suggested culminating Cardinal Pride weekend with one large celebration, much like the event organized for Luverne’s 150th celebration in 2017.

“It will be a fun night,” said chamber director Jane Lanphere. “People can bring a sack lunch or buy a meal. It will be a fun time for people to reunite and enjoy the outdoors.”

Luverne Area Community Foundation sponsors the band, who plays music from four decades, the ‘60s through the ‘90s.

“There’s a little bit of listening interest for everyone,” Lanphere said.

NextEra Energy is the sponsor of the fireworks display at the park.

See the Cardinal Pride poster on page 5 for a full listing of weekend events.

the graduation ceremony and also mailed to all LHS Alumni.

Beginning with the first awards given to Luverne graduates in 1984, Luverne Dollars for Scholars has dispersed 2,077 scholarships totaling more than \$6 million.

Students must apply for a scholarship. Applicants are evaluated on their academic performance, scholastic aptitude, work experience, school activity and community involvement. Financial need is not considered when evaluating applications.

Scholarships may be used for any post-graduate programs, not just four-year schools. Recipients must successfully complete a semester of post-secondary education before requesting their scholarship funds and have four years to use up their award. Students in military service have six years. A maximum of \$4,000 is distributed each academic year until their scholarship award is used up.

Luverne Dollars for Scholars is just one example of the importance the Luverne community puts on schools and education.

It is an amazing gift to be able to offer our graduates an opportunity to help pay for part of their post-secondary education.

It is our hope that these graduates will achieve success in part due to this support and down the road come back to the community or give back by contributing to our Dollars for Scholars program.

The future is certainly bright for the graduates of Luverne High School.

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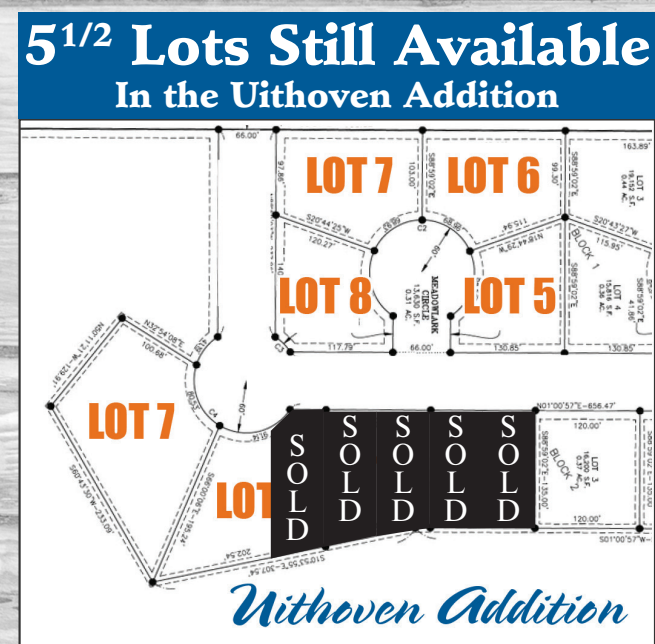
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