



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Wednesday, November 24, 2021

State makes case for roundabout in Luverne

MnDOT: Roundabout would lessen crash severity

By Mavis Fodness

State transportation officials have decided a roundabout in Luverne would reduce crashes at the intersection of Highway 75 and Main Street.

Stoplights are due to be replaced at roughly \$475,000. The state is instead considering a \$900,000 roundabout as a safer solution.

The recommendation is based on a recent traffic study that was discussed at a Nov. 16 meeting of county and city leaders with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The study is the result of a planned 2.5-mile resurfacing project scheduled for 2025 on Highway 75 from Main Street to Veterans Drive.

As part of that project, engineers looked at traffic corridors along the project route and ordered a closer look at the Main-75 intersection this summer.

"The signal at this location has met its useful life," said Ronda Allis, MnDOT District 7 planning director.

"And instead of coming back in and doing a signal replacement, it made sense to come back and look to see if there are other intersection improvements that made more sense at this location as this project gets closer to construction."

Robert Jones is the project manager for the 2025 Highway 75 project as well as the resurfacing project from Luverne to Trosky scheduled for 2028.

He assured county and city leaders that they'd have a voice in the process.

"What we are doing is presenting these alternatives to you — you guys help us decide what you want here," Jones said.

"This is not the days of old when MnDOT was coming in here and saying 'we are going to do this because we think it is the best.' We

Roundabout/continued page 8A



Rest in peace, Butch

Lori Sorenson photos/1124 terry Connell tribute

More than 80 vehicles participated in Sunday's tribute cruise in Luverne for the late Terry Connell.

Community pays tribute to longtime Luverne businessman

By Lori Sorenson

The rumble of classic auto engines and the squeal of rubber on asphalt were part of a Sunday afternoon tribute to longtime Luverne businessman Terry Connell, who died Thursday, Nov. 18.

To celebrate his life and to honor his memory, friends and family organized a classic car ride that started at the Eagles Club and looped down Main Street and past the Connell home east of town.

"Anyone who knew Butch knows his passion for classic cars and that he enjoyed going for cruises anytime he could, whether by himself or with his family or friends," Ashley Connell shared on Facebook.

"We lost a huge piece of our lives and we know he would love if we went for one last ride with and for him."

More than 80 vehicles (classic cars, motorcycles, trucks, side-by-sides) followed bumper-to-bumper through town and took turns burning rubber at the end of the Connell driveway on County Road 9.

Terry ("Butch") will be best remembered for his passion for cars and his dedication to the family car business, his employees and his customers.

He grew up helping at Connell Chevrolet in Luverne with his grandfather, Hugh "Hooper" Connell, and also with his father and



Lori Sorenson photos/1124 terry Connell tribute

Chantel Connell (left), Jesse Connell (driving) and his wife, Ashley Connell, lead a procession of more than 80 vehicles in Sunday afternoon's cruise. Not pictured in the car were grandchildren Oliver and Quinn. The bright orange 1969 Pontiac GTO "Judge" was Terry Connell's prized possession among his collection of classic cars.

uncles and cousins.

"This is where he found his passion for cars," Terry's family shares in his obituary, which also describes his interests in racing, side-by-side trips, and similar activities he enjoyed with his loved ones.

The Star Herald published a story in June 2012 about Connell Car Care's 30th anniversary. "There's motor oil in their veins ... or so it would seem with six generations in the automobile business," the story began.

Terry and Chantel bought the business from Terry's dad, Dave Connell, in 2005, after the father-son duo had been in business together since 1990.

Terry Connell tribute/continued page 3A

All aboard!

'Light the Night and Santa Train' planned for Nov. 28 at Luverne City Park

By Lori Sorenson

A Christmas lighted train engine will join the 2021 community holiday plans, which kick off with fireworks Nov. 28 in Luverne City Park.

Under a "Polar Express" children's story theme, individuals, businesses and organizations have been decorating lighted displays in the park.

Ellis and Eastern Railroad will transport Santa and Mrs. Claus through several communities on Sunday, starting at Rushmore at noon with stops in Adrian and Magnolia before ending in Luverne.

The jolly couple will meet families and pose for photos at the Omaha Depot on Freeman Street from 5 to 6:15 p.m.

At 6:15 the city park will open to let cars into the park to watch fireworks, which will begin at 7 p.m. Each car will be charged \$10 to enter, and the first 500 children will receive a Santa bell, chocolate milk, a Christmas cookie and Polar Express candy.

A fireworks display will begin at 7 p.m. and the grand park lighting will be at 7:30.

When Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at the park, people in cars will be instructed to roll down their windows and ring their bells.

"They'll be told that if Santa hears the bells, the park will light up," Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere said.

"When the lights come on, those cars inside the park will get to circle the displays first, and then we'll open up the park to everyone."

She said the lighted park evening is a solid plan, regardless of pandemic shifts.

"This will totally be a fun thing to experience for families," she said.

"It's been another trying year for families and individuals, and if the pandemic flares up again, we'll be safe. Everyone will be in their cars with their own families."

More information is on the Chamber website or by calling 507-283-4061.

County installs LED-enhanced stop signs

By Mavis Fodness

Two sets of LED stop signs were installed last week on County Road 4 at the intersections of County Road 6 east of Beaver Creek and County Road 17 just north of Manley.

According to Rock County engineer Mark Sehr, the four solar-powered signs each cost \$1,500.

The eight flashing LED lights on the octagonal signs capture drivers' attention to remind them to stop at the intersections.

Reports of accidents, near misses and injury crashes have occurred at each of the intersections through the years.

The LED-enhanced signs are especially noticeable under low-visibility conditions.



Mavis Fodness photo/1124 LED Stop Signs

Kevin Wenzel prepares the small solar panel for installation on the LED-enhanced stop sign at the Manley corner. The panel faces south for the best exposure to the sun during the day to operate the blinking lights all day every day, Wenzel said.

Construction takes off on Prairie Loft apartments

By Lori Sorenson

In the few short weeks since groundbreaking, construction on the apartment buildings at Hating Street and Highway 75 has progressed rapidly.

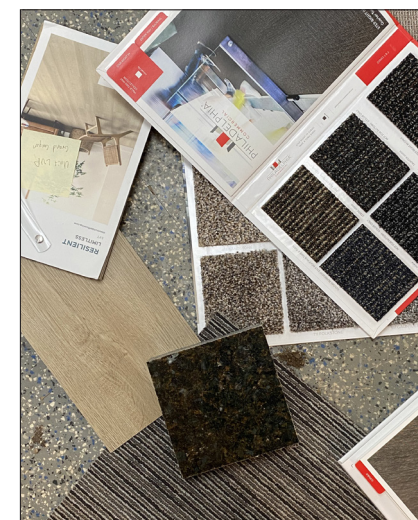
Foundations are poured, plumbing is roughed in, and prep work is underway for pouring concrete slabs next week, weather permitting.

After that, framing will begin in January, and 10 to 12 weeks later the roof will go on.

"Getting concrete poured is our big hurdle," said Luverne developer Don Jahnke of Midwest Sustainable Construction.

Each building footprint is

Apartments/continued on 2A



The units will be finished with GRI FloorScore®-rated flooring with carpet in bedrooms, and kitchens will have granite countertops.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Rock County Association of Townships annual meeting is at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at the Rock County Library.

Parkinson's Support Group will meet at 2 p.m. Monday Dec. 6, at Poplar Creek in Luverne. Masks are required. Call Diane Karlstad at 507-530-3307 with questions.

Springwater Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the town hall.

Free Thanksgiving community meal Nov. 24

The United Methodist Church in Luverne will host a free Thanksgiving community meal at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24. A pickup option is available. All are welcome.

SHARE applications due Nov. 24

Rock County S.H.A.R.E applications are due by Nov. 24. Forms are available on the Luverne Chamber website home page (in English and Spanish). Distribution is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 8.

The S.H.A.R.E. program distributes groceries, clothing and toys to Rock County residents who are in need of support. Donations of used items are not accepted. Monetary, tax-deductible donations can be mailed to SHARE at PO Box 792, Luverne, MN 56156.

Bell ringers needed for Kettle campaign

Volunteer bell ringers are needed for the 2021 Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign Nov. 26 through Dec. 24 at Sunshine Foods in Luverne. Sign up for two-hour increments between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Use the link <https://signup.com/go/ARwFTiC> or call Carrie Soto, 507-220-8897 with questions.

Mobile dental clinic Dec. 1-2

#LuvLuvAll's Rock County Oral Health Task Force has organized a mobile dental clinic in Luverne on Wednesday, Dec. 1, and Thursday, Dec. 2, at the Rock County Health and Human Services building community room.

These clinics provide dental care for ADULTS and children of all ages. Call 612-746-1530 to schedule an appointment. All forms of insurance are accepted.

Festival of Nativities at St. John Lutheran Dec. 4

St. John Lutheran Church will host a Festival of Nativities from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. More than 100 handcrafted nativities of every size and shape — international, children's sets and more — will be on display to walk through and enjoy.

Refreshments will be served, and commemorative gifts will be handed out while supplies last. Free admission and handicap accessible. Location is 803 N. Cedar St., Luverne.

De-Light-Ful 5K/1 Mile set for Nov. 27

The De-Light-Ful 5K/1 Mile run will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, at the Luverne Armory.

Race day registration is from 5 to 5:30 p.m. or online <https://runsignup.com>. Contact Dave at dduffy@daymon.com or 507-920-3345.

Community Education offerings

Luverne Community Education will offer the following classes and activities. Call 507-283-4724 or visit the website: comed.isd2184.net

Register by Dec. 1 for **Snowmobile Safety** class on Dec. 11 for ages 12 and older by Dec. 31.

Bread Baking on Dec. 11 shows how easy it is to make your own bread at home. Fee is \$10. All supplies furnished.

Library happenings

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

Trivia Night is at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month at Take 16 in Luverne. Team registration begins at 6 p.m.

Reminiscence Kits are available featuring various topics such as gardening, pets, baking, sewing, farming and hunting. The kits are designed to use with a loved one experiencing memory loss, encouraging the loved one to open up about activities they once loved in the past.

Story Time with Bronwyn is at 10:30 a.m. Fridays.



This photo, taken Friday evening from the Elevatex platform, shows foundations are poured, plumbing is roughed in, and prep work is underway for pouring concrete slabs next week, weather permitting. After that, framing will begin in January.

Prairie Loft apartments construction/continued from 1A

9,000 square feet — about the size of two high school basketball gyms. They'll each require 112 yards of concrete that will need time to cure.

Jahnke and general contractor Mike Bourquin and investor Aaron Smith of Greensmith Builders were on site Friday to share a progress report.

The \$8 million project is known as Prairie Loft 1 and Prairie Loft 2 apartments, with the capital E representing "environmental sustainability and smart building practices."

Construction will use "Extreme Structural Insulated Panels," high performance heat pumps, in-floor heat and LED lighting that qualifies for Energy Star and the Net Zero Ready Program.

Jahnke said each unit will have an energy recovery ventilator — a fresh air machine — that brings outside fresh air in, exchanges it with hot or cold air, and keeps the fresh air circulating throughout.

"They're the lungs of the building," Jahnke said, adding that features like these are typically seen in luxury homes.

The units will be finished with GRI FloorScore®-rated flooring with carpet in bedrooms, and kitchens will have granite countertops.

FloorScore® is a third-party certification that measures risks to indoor air quality — specifically volatile organic compounds in surfaces and finishes.

Greensmith Builders invests in green building projects nationwide, primarily in small communities, but Smith said this is the company's first project with structurally insulated panels.

"They're super insu-



Luverne developer Don Jahnke of Midwest Sustainable Construction (left), investor Aaron Smith of Greensmith Builders and general contractor Mike Bourquin of Midwest Sustainable Construction meet at the construction site Friday afternoon along Hatting Street.

lated, and super air-tight, which is great, but the really nice part is they go together like Legos," Smith said, describing the 9-by-8-foot interlocking panels made in Cottonwood.

"You just drop these in with the crane, and it will happen really quickly."

Ten to 12 weeks after that, the roof will go on.

"That's really one of the big advantages, as we see it," Smith said.

"Not only is it this great insulation — which helps with better efficiency, but from a production standpoint, it's so much faster to build. We'll be able to open the buildings months ahead of a traditional building schedule."

Bourquin said the time saving is due to work done ahead on panels that are manufactured in a climate-controlled environment and are delivered with window cutouts and other features already in place.

"We figure we save two to three trips of people around that building by using the panels. They're pre-insulated and pre-

sheathed," he said.

"As soon as there's a roof on, we're turning on a heat, whereas other times, you'd have to go around get wiring done and insulation in. We can get other contractors in, because you have this work done ahead of time."

He said the materials are more expensive up front to build with, but that's offset by the time saving.

Ultimately, renters will benefit from the efficiencies, Smith said.

"We all live in Minnesota. Your rent is one thing, but if your heating bill in the wintertime is \$200-\$300 per month and you budgeted for rent, it can be crushing for people," Smith said.

"Both these buildings are modeled for less than \$20 per month for heating and cooling."

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

The north building is progressing slightly ahead of the south building, which

needed extra dirt work to keep it at grade with the rest of the property.

Smith said the unit will be above street level and will have a retaining wall on the east side, and a drainage pond will help with storm water runoff.

"That south building looking east and south, you look across the field and to the retaining ... that's going to be a nice view," he said.

"Even in that first-floor unit, you're enough above the road you probably won't see it looking out the window. You'll look out to the field."

First Farmers & Merchants Bank in LeSueur, is providing local financing along with Greensmith and a federal PACE loan (property assessed clean energy), which finances energy-efficient and renewable energy projects on private property.

In addition to the property purchase, site work and other investments, the city of Luverne also provided a \$550,000 deferred loan for the project.

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Farm profitability for 2021 is varied, depending on weather, location

By Kent Thiesse
Farm management analyst

Farm profitability in 2021 depends on location and severity of drought. The other big factor in farm profitability in 2021 was where farmers were positioned in the volatile grain markets during the year.

2021 crop yields

Mother Nature was not kind to many producers in North and South Dakota, as well as in portions of western Minnesota and in some other areas of the Upper Midwest, as they experienced the worst drought since 2012, and in some cases the worst drought since 1988. The drought in these areas resulted in corn and soybean yields that were 20-30 percent or more below APH yields.

The drought also resulted in very low hay and pasture production, which led to many cow/calf producers in the region being forced to liquidate a portion of their beef herd. Late in the growing season, large areas in southwest and west-central Minnesota were also impacted by strong windstorms that severely damaged crops, resulting in greatly reduced corn yields in some locations.

Many crop farmers in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa would categorize 2021 crop yields as "better than expected." Following favorable planting and early season growing conditions for both corn and soybeans, weather conditions turned very hot and dry from late May through June. In many areas, it remained quite dry until mid-August, with the exception of a few timely rains in July.

Many portions of this region only received 50-75 percent of the normal growing season precipitation from May 1 through Sept. 30, and much of that came after mid-August.

However, the combination, of excellent planting conditions, no-drown-out loss, timely rainfall, and above normal growing degree units resulted in average to above average corn and soybean yields for the year in many portions of the region.

Given the very dry conditions in many areas for most of the growing season, 2021 was also a very good testament for the advancements in crop seed genetics that has occurred in the past couple of decades.

On the other hand, many growers in Illinois,

Indiana, and the eastern Corn Belt, along with portions of eastern Iowa, southeast Minnesota, and southern Wisconsin had some of their best crop yields ever in 2021.

These areas benefited from all of the factors described earlier as far as early planting, no crop loss from heavy rains, and above normal growing degree units, as well as also receiving much more uniform rainfall during the growing season than in the areas that were described earlier.

The combination of excellent corn and soybean yields, together with very strong crop prices, led to some of the best profit margins ever for some crop producers in these regions.

Grain marketing decisions

As in most years, where farmers were positioned in the grain market and the grain marketing decisions that were made by farm operators will have a big impact on the profit levels for their crop enterprise in 2021.

Both corn and soybean markets have been fairly strong throughout most of 2021, due to increased demand both for domestic uses and for export markets.

China returned to buying U.S. soybeans in a big way late in 2020, which has been a trend that has continued throughout 2021. China also became a major importer of U.S. corn, as the country increased its feed capacity for rebuilding swine herds following the devastation that resulted from African Swine Fever.

The "basis" level between Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) prices and local corn and soybean prices has remained extremely tight, which has also enhanced grain marketing opportunities.

The local "new crop" 2021 corn price early in the year was \$4 to \$4.50 per bushel at many locations in the Upper Midwest.

Many farmers took advantage of that price to forward contract some of their corn for post-harvest delivery in 2021 or early 2022, since this was the best pre-planting corn pricing opportunity that had existed for several years.

From May until now, the local price for 2021 "new crop" corn in the Upper Midwest has been in a range of \$5.00 to \$5.50 per acre, or about \$1 per

Ag profits/see page 5A



Ashley Connell and her husband, Jesse Connell (in hooded jacket), address the group of supporters who showed up at the Eagles Club Sunday afternoon for a tribute ride for Jesse's father, Terry Connell, who died Thursday, Nov. 18.

Terry Connell Sunday afternoon tribute ride/continued from 1A

"I enjoy the cars and the vehicles, and I enjoy watching the changes in cars," Terry said. "And I really enjoy the people."

Through the years, their sons, Jesse and Joshua, became involved, representing the sixth generation in the car business, which Terry described as rewarding work.

"You're doing a service for people," he told the Star Herald. "People don't necessarily like to spend money repairing their cars, but if you can repair someone's car without it putting them in a financial bind, that's rewarding."

And he said it's especially rewarding to do that kind of work in his hometown.

"It's good to be able to sell a car you trust to someone you know and know they'll be happy with it," Terry said. "That's a good feeling."

He credited loyal and longtime employees for business success through the years. "They really are a great bunch of guys," he said.

Tom Sterrett, a lifelong friend who has worked with Connell for the past 16 years, said Terry's legacy will be about how he treated people.



Merlin De Jong and Don Sandstede are among the two-wheel participants in Sunday's ride.

"He truly cared about people and he truly cared that people had what they needed," Sterrett said.

He said that in the days following Terry's death, dozens of people — customers, community members and "random people" — stopped at Connell Care Care to express their sympathies.

"Almost all of them were saying how great of a guy he was and how fair he was," Sterrett said.

"He really was a kind, soft-hearted person ... He had a way of lightening up

any situation, and he had a way of lightening up a room with his personality."

His wife, Melissa, agreed. "We were all blessed to know him," she said.

In addition to missing him as a friend, Sterrett said Terry's absence will be noticed among the Connell Care Care staff.

"After years of doing what he's done, he's acquired quite a toolbox of knowledge," Sterrett said.

"When he and Greg (Vande Velde) were working on something, what one

didn't know, the other one would."

Thursday evening with co-workers and friends, Vande Velde, who's worked with Connell for 28 years, offered a toast. "Cheers to one of our best friends," he said. "And cheers to absolutely the best boss."

Terry collapsed Thursday morning in Rock Valley, Iowa, where he was picking up shop equipment. Efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. He would have been 58 on Dec. 17.

His complete obituary is on page 7A.



As riders made their way past the Connell home on County Road 9, many paused to lay rubber on the asphalt as a final farewell. Above are Mike and Phoebe Flom in their Pontiac GTO. At right are markings on County Road 9 after the ride.



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Personal trainer reveals difficult news

It was with great delight and joy that we welcomed our long-lost daughter, Kate, home from Vietnam a few weeks ago.



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

'Mom,' Kate said, 'it looks like all you can really do is lay on the floor and take deep breaths.'

I was more than thrilled to have her return home from a two-year Covid exile in a foreign country.

But also, because Kate had used her lockdown to become a fitness buff, I was thrilled to now have access to my very own personal trainer.

I hired her on the spot. I gave Kate a brief outline of my limitations.

The post-radiation lymphedema in my right leg requires that I avoid all jarring-type activities like jumping, hopping or lunging.

Or jogging.
Or fast walking.
The stoma I have for my post-cancer colostomy bag leaves me at great risk of a hernia, so no lifting of anything really heavy.

Or somewhat heavy.
Or even a little bit heavy.
Avoiding excess strain on my stomach muscles also includes no sit-ups or crunches.

Planks are right out.
Kate reviewed my list of limitations and retreated to create a custom exercise routine for her soon-to-be fit and trim mother.

I waited.
I saw her watch a few videos and take notes.

One day she casually asked, "Did you know that the life

expectancy of a person with lymphedema is two years?"

Suddenly my fat ankle seemed ominous.

I went to Google and realized she'd been reading about lymphangiosarcoma, which is a different disease.

I had dodged a bullet. But still no mom-slimming workout routine appeared.

I waited.
Days passed until finally my personal trainer revealed her findings.

"Mom," Kate said, "it looks like all you can really do is lay on the floor and take deep breaths."

All I could do was laugh, and be thankful that Kate is home to help me get up off the floor.

Families are what children need most

November is Adoption from Foster Care Awareness Month in Minnesota

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Jodi Harpstead, commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services

We support parents to overcome their difficulties and minimize trauma for children who have been removed from home.

All children need safe, loving, permanent families. But right now, too many Minnesota children aren't getting the basic building blocks of support, stability and love that families can offer.

During uncertain times, the safety that families provide is more important than ever. Foster children face their own upheavals, not only dealing with the turmoil of the world around us, but also with day-to-day challenges — including the trauma of being removed from their homes.

We at the Minnesota Department of Human Services have three priorities to ensure that children in struggling families get the care and support they need.

Reunifying families:

Parents want what's best for their children and work hard to give them good lives. Yet sometimes parents struggle to manage financial worries, health concerns, work-related challenges, parenting demands and other stresses.

When parents have problems and children are placed in the foster care system, our first priority is to reunify families. We support parents to overcome their difficulties and minimize trauma for children who have been removed from home. The more quickly we can safely reunify families, the better off everyone is.

While child protection intervention can lead to foster care, its primary purpose is to promote child safety and strengthen families so that they can stay safely together.

In fact, 90 percent of Minnesota children remain with their families at the close of a child protection assessment or intervention.

Uniting kids with relatives

When children cannot safely reunify with their families, our next

priority is finding relatives to adopt them. Minnesota law requires child protection agencies to prioritize placing children with relatives, as long as the relative meets state child protection standards, including passing a background study.

More than half of all adoptions from Minnesota's foster care system in the past three years have been with relatives, including 59 percent of the 965 children adopted from foster care last year. We know that placement with relatives:

- Minimizes the trauma of removal as they can still be with family who know them.
- Increases permanency as relatives are more likely to provide a permanent home.
- Improves behavioral health.
- Promotes sibling connections, with relatives often willing to enable siblings to remain together,
- Preserves children's cultural identity and community connections.

Creating new families through adoption

While family reunification is our highest priority, followed by adoption by relatives, sometimes we also need to create new families to provide children with safe, loving, permanent homes.

If you're thinking about adop-

tion, consider adopting children from the foster care system instead of pursuing a private or international adoption.

We have a great need for families to adopt all waiting children — particularly siblings and older youth who often remain in foster care the longest.

Children right here in Minnesota need families immediately. You could be one of them who:

- Offers patience, guidance, compassion and structure that children need.
- Advocates for and helps children who need mental health and medical care.
- Spends time chilling, watching movies and barbecuing with family, which one foster youth described as a great day.
- Provides the love that makes a happy family, as another foster youth described it.

Working in partnership with counties and nonprofits, our goal is to find safe, nurturing, permanent homes for all foster children available for adoption as quickly as possible.

Our hope is that you can help us and, more importantly, the 641 Minnesota children who are waiting for families to love and support them for a lifetime.

Visit www.mnadopt.org.

Check tires for unsafe wear; replace now if based on indicators

Question: How do you determine if your tires are unsafe for winter driving?

Answer: Over the years, I have investigated numerous crashes where worn tires were a contributing factor. Tires with inadequate tread depth may cause your vehicle to skid or slide out of control on a slippery or wet road surface.

It is important to remember that unsafe tires can hydroplane on both wet and snow-covered roadways. When losing control of your vehicle, you can easily go off the road and into the ditch, or into oncoming traffic, possibly causing serious injury or death.

According to Minnesota State Statute 169.723 a tire shall be considered unsafe if it has:

- (1) any part of the ply or cord exposed; or
- (2) any bump, bulge or separation; or
- (3) a tread design depth of less than 2/32 (1/16) of an inch



ASK A TROOPER

By Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

measured in the tread groove nearest the center of the tire at three locations equally spaced around the circumference of the tire, exclusive of tie bars or for those tires with tread wear indicators; or

(4) been worn to the level of tread wear indicators in any two tread grooves at three locations; or

(5) a marking "not for highway use," or "for racing purposes only," or "unsafe for highway use;" or

(6) tread or sidewall cracks, cuts or snags deep enough to expose the body cords.

My best advice is to keep an

eye on your tires. Check your tire pressure often as it can be as much as 50 percent underinflated before it is visibly noticeable. Use a pressure gauge to check each tire and know what your pressure should be. Routine maintenance is good insurance; rotate, balance and be sure that your vehicle is correctly aligned, according to your vehicle owner's manual.

Taking a few seconds to walk around your vehicle before leaving for your destination can pay off, potentially keeping you from getting into a crash.

Speaking from personal and

professional experience, the "snow" tires I run at this time of the year have made all the difference throughout some of the deepest snow and treacherous conditions. I would not want to be without them. Having a set of tires with good, legal tread depth will increase your chances of not being involved in a crash, especially when the weather and road conditions become poor.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota toward zero deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic-related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at Statue 169.791 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

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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

Nov. 12
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a suspicious vehicle.
 •Complainant on Oak Drive reported a lost wallet.
 •Complainant on E. Luverne Street reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on E. Lincoln Street reported a suspicious truck in parking lot.
 •Deputy was assisting with a vehicle out of gas on N. Kniss Avenue and W. Adams Avenue.
Nov. 13
 •Complainant on 20th Avenue, Hills, requested an attempt contact.
 •Complainant reported a lost wallet.
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek, reported a deer in lane of travel.
 •State patrol provided assistance with a traffic stop on Highway 75 and County Road 15, Luverne.
 •Complainant on S. Josephine Avenue, Hills, reported a suspicious package.
 •Complainant reported a potentially hazardous wire at Redeemed Remnants.
Nov. 14
 •Complainant on W. Edgehill Drive reported a mailbox and flag were vandalized.
 •Runaway was reported at location on W. Luverne Street, Magnolia.
 •Complainant on W. Dodge Street reported a dumpster at location has garbage blowing out of it.
 •Complainant on N. Spring Street reported a power outage.
 •Complainant on Fire-leaf Road reported hearing gun shots.
Nov. 15
 •Complainant on S. Elizabeth Avenue reported a scam.
 •Complainant at 11th Avenue NW, Rochester, reported a missed call from law enforcement.
 •Complainant on E. Barck Avenue reported a Facebook scam.
 •Drug paraphernalia found at location on E. Main Street.
 •Complainant on S. Kniss Avenue reported a

person harassing her.
Nov. 16
 •Assistance from another department was conducted on W. Mead Court.
 •Complainant on E. Lincoln Street reported suspicious activity.
 •Complainant on W. Mead Court reported possible nuisance property at location.
 •Complainant reported debris in roadway on Interstate 90, mile marker 3, Beaver Creek.
Nov. 17
 •Roadside assistance check was conducted on Highway 75 and 171st, Hardwick.
 •Complainant on E. Lincoln Street reported a parking issue.
 •Complainant on Highway 75 and Lincoln Street reported property damage.
 •Complainant on Highway 75 and W. Luverne Street reported suicidal female at location.
 •Complainant reported a parking issue.
Nov. 18
 •Complainant on SE Park Street reported a parking complaint.
 •Complainant on W. Mead Court requested assistance.
 •Complainant on Oak Drive reported threatening messages.
 •Complainant on S. Boone Street, Rock Rapids, reported subject with Rock County warrant.
Nov. 19
 •Complainant on W. Main Street reported someone broke into their home.
 •Assistance from another department was provided on N. Kniss Avenue.
 •Assistance from another department was provided on S. 5th Street, Beaver Creek.

In addition, officers responded to 3 motor vehicle accidents, 7 deer accidents, 1 vehicle in ditch, 1 escort, 9 ambulance runs, 3 paper services, 5 animal complaints, 2 fingerprint requests, 2 burn permits, 2 gas drive-offs, 1 alarm, 4 drug court tests, 7 purchase and carry permits, 3 traffic stops, 14 abandoned 911 calls, 1 test and 1 report of cattle out.



Mavis Fodness photo/Armory Site Prep

Site preparation begins for National Guard center

Site preparation began last week on the 49,902-square-foot Luverne Minnesota National Guard Readiness Center in the Luverne industrial park. Henning Construction of Adrian is completing the work for the new facility that is expected to take 18 months to complete. Brennan Companies of Mankato and Minneapolis is the general contractor for the project estimated at about \$19 million. The project was expected to start in May but higher-than-expected bids delayed the project until this fall. Above, Scott Henning of Henning Construction, Adrian, uses the bulldozer Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 16, to prepare the site for the new Luverne Minnesota National Guard Readiness Center. The building, which will contain community basketball courts and gathering space, is expected to be open in 2023.



Farm profitability varied in 2021/continued from 3A

bushel higher than the price earlier in the year.

Many farmers are now facing this same corn pricing dilemma for next year, as forward contract prices for the 2022 corn crop are above \$5 per bushel, which is at the highest level in nearly a decade.

They are wondering whether to take that price from a risk management standpoint or to "roll the dice" on prices going even higher, as occurred in 2021.

There was also a big difference in post-harvest

marketing following the 2020 crop year.

Many farmers had sold all or most of their 2020 corn and soybeans following harvest due to the best crop price levels that we had seen in many years.

Once the soybean price exceeded \$10 per bushel and the corn price exceeded \$4 per bushel late in 2020 and early in 2021, crop producers began aggressively selling their 2020 corn and soybeans at these profitable levels.

However, from late

April through July of 2021, the cash prices were \$14 to \$16 per bushel for soybeans and \$6 to \$7 per bushel for corn across the Upper Midwest.

By that time, many farmers had very little 2020 grain remaining to be sold.

The timing of crop sales can have a major impact on final profit levels for crop producers.

If two farmers both had a final 2020 corn yield of 200 bushels per acre, the farmer that sold his

corn for \$4.50 per bushel grossed \$900 per acre, while the farmer that had an average price of \$6 per bushel grossed \$1,200 per acre, which is a difference of \$300 per acre.

Both farmers probably netted a profit on the 2020 corn crop; however, there is a big difference in the level of profitability.

We are likely to see this wide variation in crop production profit levels again in 2021, due to both yield differences and grain marketing strategies.

CITY OF LUVERNE

THANKSGIVING GARBAGE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY'S ROUTE MOVES TO FRIDAY

Happy Thanksgiving

The recycling route will stay the same

City offices will be closed Thursday and Friday

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Rock County STAR HERALD



Pick, shuck ... *blow!*



Above: The cleaned Cherokee Trail of Tears black beans are ready for packaging. **Below:** Clean seeds are placed into small envelopes labeled with the variety, date and where the seed was grown.



Left: Berty Stearns blows chaff out of the bowl filled with black bean seeds during Saturday's second of three free seed soirees conducted at the Rock County Library in Luverne.

CELEBRATIONS

Card Shower

Stan and Connie Olson will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary Thursday, Nov. 25. Greetings can be sent to 406 Elizabeth Ave., Apt. 4, Hills, MN 56138.

SENIOR MENU

Monday, Nov. 29: Chicken stir-fry with brown rice, Oriental vegetables, mandarin oranges.

Tuesday, Nov. 30: Spaghetti with meat sauce, lettuce salad with dressing, Texas toast, pineapple, cookie.

Wednesday, Dec. 1: Creamy chicken, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, bread, warm fruit crisp.

Thursday, Dec. 2: Pork loin, candied yams, broccoli florets, bread, dessert.

Friday, Dec. 3: Meat loaf, butternut squash, stewed tomatoes, bread, dessert.

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

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

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

1905: Parties reach peak levels in Luverne

The following appeared in The Rock County Herald on February 3, 1905.



In Social Circles Record of a Typical Mid-Winter Week Serial Life In Luverne Characterized by One Continuous Round of Pleasure — Dancing, Card, Dinner, Birthday Parties, Etc.—Wedding next Wednesday

The social record of the past week, which has maintained about the usual average in such matters, includes eleven parties of various kinds with at least three more to be added to the list before the week closes.

One of the first and also one of the most unique and delightful affairs was the character card party given Friday night by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gerber at their beautiful home on West Main Street, to which the following invitation printed in flaring poster style had been issued:

EXCURSION! The Go Slow and Never Arrive R. R. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gerber invite you to take a trip with them in their special car, Colonial, on Friday, January 27. Train leaves on the Progressive Clinch route promptly at 8 p.m., stopping 20 minutes for

lunch, returning home at 12 o'clock. This is an emigrant train—dress accordingly. Please answer promptly so seats can be reserved for you.

The emigrants "dressed accordingly" and their appearance caused endless amusement. On their arrival at the "depot" their baggage was checked and the passengers passed on to the waiting rooms on the second floor which had been appropriately fitted up and decorated for the purpose. Two adjoining parlors on the first floor, with tables designated by the names of towns, represented the cars, and after obtaining their tickets at the ingeniously improvised ticket office the "emigrants,"

Bits, go to page 7A

Seed soiree focuses on seed gathering for next gardening season

Story and photos by Mavis Fodness

A small group of gardening enthusiasts gathered Saturday morning at the Rock County Library to teach participants how to save various grain, vegetable and flower seeds for next year's gardening season.

The second of three free "seed soirees" featured proper seed drying and packaging. The hands-on session also allowed participants to shuck

and clean next year's seeds.

The session was led by volunteer Berty Stearns, who collected mature plants from Prairie Ally, the Project Food Forest in Luverne, as well as from local area gardens before this fall's freezing temperatures set in.

Seeds for popcorn, beans, radishes, basil, asters, cosmos and cucumber seeds were prepared during the morning session.

Stearns demonstrated the vari-

ous shucking techniques — stomping dried pods to more easily gather the seeds, blowing and tossing in baskets to remove chaff, or the washing and drying of seeds before packaging into small paper envelopes.

Kim Rockman with Prairie Ally explained that plants grown at the Food Forest are "not only for food, but for decoration and seed."

Seed, go to page 7A

After stomping black beans and lima beans in rubber baskets, Berty Stearns (wearing bandana) explains how easily the dried beans fall from the broken pods to (from left) Patrick Klune, Diana Hensley, Gabriella Porter, Candace Porter (hidden), TyLynn Klune and Kim Rockman (not pictured).



REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2011)

•The U.S. Postal Service is broke, and closing post offices is one way to streamline business.

"It's not so much a money thing as it is about the fact that if not as many people are coming into these places, then why are they still open?" said Pete Nowacki of the USPS in Minneapolis.

There are more than 3,000 post offices now on the chopping block in Minnesota, and that doesn't count the first round of closures already underway.

In Rock County, the Kenneth and Steen post offices were open for their last day of business on Friday, Nov. 18.

Also under consideration for closure are Hardwick, Beaver Creek and Magnolia.

25 years ago (1996)

•Possible plans for sprucing up Main Street drew a group of about 20 interested people to City Hall Monday.

Fred Sabongi, representing Sabongi Consulting Group, Eagan, said his company could coordinate plans for downtown revitalization in Luverne. He is an architect who specializes in historic preservation.

He proposes to work with the City Council, Chamber of Commerce, LEDA, HRA and business owners to coordinate a unified plan for long-term development of the downtown area.

He illustrated his proposals with pictures and drawings from completed projects in communities such as Red Wing and Minneapolis and showed proposals for buildings in St.

James and Windom. He is currently working with Adrian and Worthington, also.

50 years ago (1971)

•More efficient service without spending more money than is absolutely necessary is the goal of the U. S. Postal Service, said Howard J. Wood, who spoke to Rotarians here Monday. Wood is the manager of Sioux Falls District No. 974 of the Central Region of the U. S. Postal Service. The district covers all South Dakota, the southwest corner of Minnesota and the northwest corner of Iowa. Included in the area are 11 sectional centers and 619 individual post offices.

"All we ask is that you give us time", Wood said. "We're going to be wrong or partially wrong from time to time. Just give us a chance to correct our mistakes. We are going to try to give efficient service without spending thousands and thousands of dollars to do it."

75 years ago (1946)

•An oversized motor scooter was received here last week at the city light and power plant. A need for a vehicle of this kind has been felt for a long time, says Supt. Elmer Thon, who said it will be used for a number of different purposes, such as errands from the plant up town, for meter work about town, and similar work.

In reality, it is more than a motor scooter, it is a package car. A large compartment is built over the front, and can be

used for such things as carrying tools, and supplies. It differs from the smaller type "scooters" which have been a common sight around town for the past few months in that it has two front wheels instead of the conventional one. It has only one rear wheel, however, and the motor is mounted under the seat.

100 years ago (1921)

•The Luverne high school football team closed its interscholastic schedule Friday, when, by a dazzling aerial attack that completely overwhelmed the opposition, they defeated the Pipestone Indians 76 to 6. Luverne showed greater strength in this game than they have at any time heretofore this season, and played flashy, consistent football.

In the first quarter, Luverne only scored one touchdown, as they were a trifle slow in starting, but with the ending of the initial period, they struck their stride and began an open game. During the game, many passes of 40 and 50 yard length were completed.

The Indians played a gritty game, but were outweighed and outmanaged. Their lone touchdown came in the final period, when their left-half-back broke through the Luverne line into a comparatively open field and crossed the line.

Practically every senior on the Luverne team carried the ball for one touchdown, even Haakenson, playing center, being called back to carry the ball. Ohs' line smashing was another feature of the Luverne play, he being called on for gains and downs time and again and always "coming across."

Seed/from page 6A

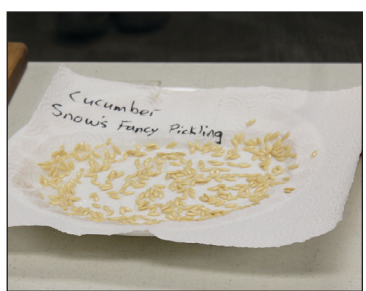
Seeds prepared at Saturday's event were offered to those participating and will also be available this spring in the library's seed exchange.

The first session introduced participants to the theory behind seed saving, language used and proper labeling.

A third session is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19, at the library. It will focus on garden design — where certain plants should be located to prevent cross pollination for genetically strong and diverse seed production.



Above: Berty Stearns stomps on dried pods to more easily release the seeds into the rubber collection.



Left: Seeds dry on a paper towel after they were scooped from a cucumber and cleaned through repeated washings.

FFA NEWS

FFA'ers attend national convention

Two Luverne-Adrian FFA'ers joined five area FFA chapters to attend the National FFA Convention at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana, Oct. 27-29.

Jaden Reisch and Karen Stegenga from Luverne High School and chapter adviser Dennis Moritz joined FFA'ers from Windom, St. James, Red Rock Central,

Westbrook-Walnut Grove and Mountain Lake for the 94th annual event.

In addition to the convention organized by the national FFA officers, the local group was also able to tour Broken Wagon Bison Farm near Hobart, Indiana, Beasley's Orchard near Danville, Indiana, and the Ozark Fish Hatchery near Martinsville, Indiana.

Bits/from page 6A

as the name of the town on their respective tickets was called, entered the "cars" and found their destinations. Refreshments were served at a lunch counter in the dining room in true, railroad lunch counter style, though it must be admitted that the lunch itself was far different.

The "violet" luncheon" given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Harroun by the Misses Ella Harroun and Alice Burleigh, with Miss Laura Hinkly the guest of honor, was a rarely pretty and pleasing event. As indicated by its name, violets and violet colors predominated everywhere. Covers were laid for eighteen and luncheon was served on small tables, which were fairly strewn with cut violets and held large center pieces of these flowers of "love and faithfulness," happily symbolic of the approaching marriage of the guest of honor. In the room where the luncheon was served violet colored strands extended from the ceiling to the corner of the tables, joining them in a perfect mesh. The rooms were darkened and candles used for illumination, their soft light adding materially in the pleasing color effect.

A delightful little dinner party with Mr. John M. Connell and Miss Laura Hinkly as guest of honor was one of the happy evens of last evening. The dinner was given by Mr. Wm. Jacobsen, Jr., at the home of his parents on North Estey street, and was commemorative of the approaching nuptials of the

two popular young people who were the guests of honor. The house was tastefully arranged and the table beautifully decorated with white carnations and smilax, while bouquets of carnations were given as favors. The dinner was elaborate in all its appointments and as properly befitted an event of this character was a very happy one to the guests who included only the more intimate friends of the guests of honor. Covers were laid for twelve.

The annual dance of the A. O. U. W. Lodge, the second event of its kind in the history of the local organization, was a pleasing success in every way and a credit not only to the organization but to the committee having the affair in charge. The company in attendance was very large, but the music of the Ainsworth orchestra, which is always in every sense perfect dance music, obviated much of the difficulty incident to the crowded condition of the dance hall. The Workman hall in the Drew block was used for the accommodation of the guests who preferred not to dance and at this place cards and other games were played. Supper was also served in this hall and the "spread" prepared was the most elaborate ever given by a local lodge.

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 manmade@iw.net.

Ashley Jo Barber

Ashley Jo Barber, 33, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, died Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021, at her home due to health complications.

A memorial service was Thursday, Nov. 18, at the American Reformed Church in Luverne. Burial followed at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Ashley Jo Barber was born on Aug. 18, 1988, at Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar to Richard and Holly Jo (Johnson) Barber. She was baptized Sept. 9, 1988, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Willmar and confirmed her faith on May 18, 2003, at Palisades Lutheran Church in Garretson, South Dakota. She spent her early childhood years in Willmar, Hanley Falls and Welch. In 1999 the family moved to Luverne, where Ashley Jo continued her schooling. She loved community theater and participated in Green Earth Players productions. Throughout high school, she worked at the Magnolia Steak House and Verne Drive In. She graduated from Luverne High School in 2006 and continued her education at Minnesota West in Pipestone for medical coding/transcriptionist, graduating in 2008.

She worked for the Luverne Hospital and then the Sanford Women's Plaza in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After a number of years, she switched careers to an administrative assistant where

she was employed at Labor/People Ready and most recently the Department of Social Services with the state of South Dakota as a senior secretary. Ashley Jo had a deep spirituality and was a positive, selfless person who helped people in the best way she could.

She loved tattoos and enjoyed collecting antique books and jewelry. She was a lover of light and knew how to live life colorfully. She had a passion for all things burlesque and performed as a kitten in the Va-Va-Voom show at the Veaux Devil Caberet-Burlesque and Performance Art Center in Sioux Falls. She competed with the Sioux Falls Roller Dollz in the roller derby community, was an amateur photographer and earned her Reiki Level 1 & 2 Certification.

Ashley Jo is survived by her fiancé, Sean Strack of Sioux Falls; her parents, Richard and Holly Jo Barber of Luverne; a brother, Nicholas Barber and his wife, Briana, of Beaver Creek; niece Emberly Barber; and other family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Vergil and Ella Barber and Russell and Clarice Johnson; and an aunt, Peggy Ellingson.

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

(1124 F)

Joan De Jongh

Joan Harriet DeJongh, 88, Luverne, died Friday, Nov. 19, 2021, at the Sanford Luverne Hospital.

The family will have a private service and burial, with a public visitation from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23, at American Reformed Church in Luverne.

Joan DeRoo was born on July 28, 1933, to Henry and Caroline "Carrie" (Vande Griend) DeRoo in Hospers, Iowa. She was baptized at the Christian Reformed Church in Hull, Iowa. She spent her early childhood years in Hull. In 1942 her family moved to Hills, and in 1948 they moved to the neighboring community of Beaver Creek. She graduated from school in Hills.

On Dec. 18, 1952, she married Preston DeJongh at the Hills Christian Reformed Church. The couple made their home on a farm near Steen from 1952-1969 and then on a farm near Hardwick from 1969-1975. They moved to Jasper in 1975, where they resided for 10 years. During this time Joan worked at Fey Industries in Edgerton. In 1986 the couple moved to Pierre, South Dakota, where they managed a goose hunting ranch for a year. Following that adventure, they moved to Denver, Colorado, where they managed apartments from 1986 until 2005. The couple retired in 2005. After Preston's death, Joan

moved to the Luverne area in 2007.

Joan was a member of the American Reformed Church in Luverne. She enjoyed reading, embroidery and gardening. She especially loved spending time with her family.

Joan is survived by her children, Wannetta (Ron) Lloyd of Clear Lake, Lee (Cindy) De Jongh of Hudson, Colorado, Jolene (Don) Walhof of Pipestone, Charla (Gerald) Sandbulte of Hardwick, Nadine (Gene) Schoep of Edgerton, Barb (Tim) Gunnink of Aurora, Colorado, and Pete (Sharon) De Jongh of Belgrade, Montana; 18 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great-grandchildren; three sisters, Carmen Van Zee of Sunburg, Sharon Melin of Sunburg, and Connie (Herman) TeBrake of Brooten; one brother, Allan DeRoo of Worthington; and sisters-in-law, Wilma DeRoo of Brandon, South Dakota, and Dorothy DeRoo of Brooten.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Preston; her parents; three brothers, Wilmer DeRoo, Henry Lloyd DeRoo, and Marvin (Betty) DeRoo; and in-laws Don Melin, Don Van Zee, Wilbert (Bud) and Geneva Van Hill.

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

(1124 F)

OBITUARIES

Terry Connell

Terry Connell, 57, Luverne, died Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021, in Rock Valley, Iowa.

A Celebration of Life was Monday, Nov. 22, from 4-7 p.m. at Big Top Tents and Events in Luverne. A private memorial service and burial of cremains will be at a later date.

Terry James "Butch" Connell was born in Luverne, Minnesota, on Dec. 17, 1963, to Dave and Donna (Klassen) Connell. As a boy Butch grew up helping at Connell Chevrolet in Luverne with his grandfather, Hugh "Hooper" Connell, his father, uncles and cousins. This is where he found his passion for cars. He would always be taking things apart and putting them back together.

When he was 12, he bought his first fixer-upper, a 1962 baby blue Bel Air for \$100. He fixed it up and drove it all through high school. He then sold it and made a little money and moved on to many fixer-uppers after that. Butch enjoyed "cruising the loop" with buddies in his classic car.

After graduating from Luverne High School in 1982, he attended Dunwoody Technical College for automotive repair. His passion for cars never ceased. One of his cars was a 1968 baby blue Camaro Convertible that he had fixed up and then sold to be able to buy Chantel an engagement ring.

In 1989 Butch and Chantel married in Las Vegas, Nevada. They lived in Luverne all of their lives, where they raised their two boys, Jesse and Josh. In 1990 Butch began working again at Connell Car Care for the family business, which he purchased from his father in 2002. In 2010 Butch and Chantel bought K&R Auto and moved Connell Car Care to the Hwy. 75 location.

Butch had much passion, including but not limited to collecting old cars and fixing them up, snowmobiling with his boys, brothers and friends, and riding side by side with wonderful friends and family in the Black Hills. He had a strong bond with their dog, Bentley, that he never intended on loving as much as he did. Butch was never afraid of sharing his food and water with Bentley, and Bentley was never afraid

to give Butch all the kisses (aka clean his ears). Butch always had a way of finding the best chick flicks and kids' movies to watch and get engrossed in, not to mention his favorite TV show, "The Blacklist."

Butch was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Luverne Eagles, and the Rock County Sno-masters. Most of all he enjoyed time with his wife, sons and grandchildren, who he never forgot to give the biggest bear hugs to.

Butch was always the guy that would help anyone. He always had a smile on his face, and he lived life to the fullest each and every day.

Butch's greatest joys were his boys. He was so proud of them. His racing adventures began when his boys started driving a racing Go-Kart in the alley behind their house in Luverne. Then he got them into racing BMX bikes. Butch helped both of the boys fix up their first collector car. Drag racing became a huge part of the kids' lives with Butch setting a car up for them to race and cheering them on. Some weekends were spent out at the track. After drag racing, the boys decided they should try their luck at dirt track racing where they spent many hours in the shop fixing the car each week with their dad. He passed along all of his knowledge about cars to his boys, and it will always be cherished and forever live on throughout his legacy.

Butch is survived by his wife, Chantel Connell, of Luverne; two sons, Jesse (Ashley) Connell of Luverne and Josh (Christine) Connell of Luverne; three grandchildren, Amelia, Oliver and Quinn, and Baby Connell due mid-summer of 2022; his parents, Dave and Donna Connell of Luverne; three brothers, Al Connell of Morris, Todd (Kim) Connell of Eagle Lake and Chris Connell of Luverne; his parents-in-law, Mel and Bev Viessman of Luverne; a brother- and sister-in-law, Scott and Tricia Viessman of Luverne, and nieces and nephews.

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

(1124 V)

DEATH NOTICE

Francis Faber

Francis Faber, 95, Luverne, died Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021, at Sanford USD in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Visitation will be from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, at the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne, with the funeral service at 2 p.m. Burial will follow at Maplewood Cemetery.

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

(1124 DN)



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State makes case for roundabout in Luverne at Highway 75 and Main Street/continued from 1A

might think there is one that is the best and may tell you which one is the best but we want to make sure we know what is wanted locally.”

At the Nov. 16 meeting the engineers outlined various types of intersection controls, applied “level of service” value and installation costs. They also reviewed the crash history at the current intersection controlled by traffic signals.

They said baseline data shows a roundabout would be the best alternative when compared to the current and other traffic light configurations.

Current system: ‘Above average crash rate’

MnDOT Traffic Engineer Ross Baker said data from vehicle counts and traffic movements over a 24-hour period earned the current traffic signal configuration a “C” rating, meaning a driver may wait an average of 17 to 24 seconds to move through the intersection, depending on the time of day.

By contrast, traffic moves through a compact,

single-lane roundabout in 4 to 8 seconds, an “A” rating, the best grade possible on the scale where “F” is the worst.

At a 15-mph speed limit, studies show a roundabout would decrease the current crash rate by 68 percent.

A total of 22 crashes have been reported at the 75-Main intersection from 2016 to 2020, two of which involved pedestrians who were injured.

“This was above the average crash rate for similar intersections and right around the ‘critical crash rate’ where we think it has sufficient crash problems,” Baker said.

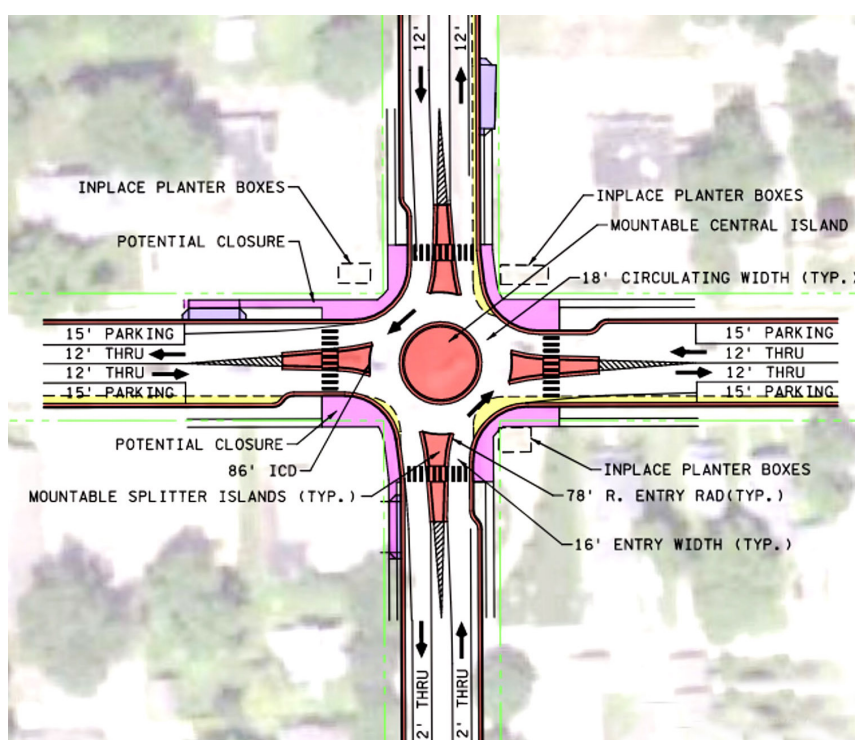
Most of the crashes occurred as drivers turned in front of another driver who was going straight through the intersection.

On average, about 12,000 vehicles pass through the intersection in the 24-hour period. Twelve percent of the traffic is heavy truck traffic.

In the next 20 years, traffic is expected to increase.

Options come with cost

Keeping the current traffic light setup would cost \$475,000, the least expensive option.



A compact roundabout is an attempt to minimize impacts to adjacent curbs, planter boxes, city of Luverne sign and veterans memorial corner.

Three traffic light configurations were presented and involved adding left and/or right turn lanes on County Road 4.

Each would enlarge the intersection to create larger turn lanes for heavy trucks.

Costs for these alternatives

were estimated at \$801,000 to \$877,000 and may involve removing recent city boulevard aesthetic improvements.

Because constraints surround the intersection, MnDOT officials recommended a “compact roundabout,” in which heavy truck

traffic could drive over its center. Cost would be \$900,000.

Decision by end of year

In addition to the baseline data of intersection options and costs, the study also takes into consideration social and economic factors, pedestrian crossings and other factors such as right-of-way impacts, utilities and ease of navigation. This information will be added through additional talks with local officials.

The baseline data gives the current traffic signal an overall neutral score by MnDOT engineers. The other traffic configurations also have an overall neutral score. Only the roundabout receives a positive score.

City and county officials questioned the baseline data and the suggestion that the current 75-Main intersection needs to change.

“Are we trying to fix something that doesn’t need fixing?” said County Administrator Kyle Oldre.

MnDOT project manager Jones said a decision is needed by the end of the year in order to have final designs and plans ready for the 2025 construction season.

Council members and commissioners plan to pass resolutions by next month indicating which traffic configuration they support.

Give thanks with a grateful heart.

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At Thanksgiving more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit we say, simply but sincerely,
Thank You and Best Wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving

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In all things, give thanks | 1 Thessalonians 5:18

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NOVEMBER 28, 2021

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12:15 to 1:15 pm	AT RUSHMORE, MN DEPOT PICTURES WITH SANTA <i>- Juice & cookies served at the elevator</i>
2:00 to 3:00 pm	AT ADRIAN, MN DEPOT PICTURES WITH SANTA <i>- Following Soup & Pie with Santa; Night of Lights Parade at 7 pm; Hospice Tree Lighting & Campground Lighting after parade</i>
3:45 to 4:15 pm	AT MAGNOLIA, MN DEPOT PICTURES WITH SANTA
5:00 to 6:15 pm	AT LUVERNE OMAHA DEPOT PICTURES WITH SANTA
6:15 pm	LUVERNE CITY PARK OPENS FOR PARKING - \$10/vehicle <i>Children receive Polar Express Bell, chocolate milk, cookies & candy Sponsored by Sunshine Foods & Luverne Area Chamber</i>
7:00 pm	FIREWORKS AT LUVERNE CITY PARK
7:30 pm	“LIGHT THE NIGHT” - lighted displays turned on

Rock County
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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.

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Email cover letter, resume and work samples to Rick Peterson, general manager, at rick@star-herald.com.



Patriots' state run comes to an end

Samantha McGaffee photos

Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots Max Scholten (65), Casey Kueter (42), Ty Bundesen (81) and Donavon Leenderts (86) down a Fertile-Beltrami player Nov. 19 at the semi-finals of the Minnesota Nine-Man State Football Tournament at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.



THE OUTDOORS

By Scott Rall
Outdoors columnist

Rall shares tips for pheasant hunting success

Last year about 65,000 pheasant stamps were sold in Minnesota.

This is a stamp hunters must purchase that supports pheasant habitat work in the state. It is also a valuable way to accurately count the number of hunters that chase pheasants every year.

I have been of the opinion that this count is important because it gauges hunting activity and helps managers understand hunter number trends.

Of the 65,000 people who hunt pheasants in the state, most of them are what I call fair weather hunters. They will hunt for the first few weeks of the season but pack the shotgun away as soon as the snow is deeper than a few inches. Many of those same people will take to deer hunting, and a large number of them will give up the gun for an ice fishing rod as soon as the ice is thick enough to travel on safely.

All of that works just fine for those who choose to stay with the late season rooster chase. There are people who hunt pheasants, and then there are pheasant hunters. The latter group takes their rooster chasing to a much higher level, and for most of them their success rates are much higher than the average chicken chaser.

My duck-hunting friends call pheasants "ditch chickens." So

Rall, go to page 3B

H-BC loses well-fought battle with undefeated Fertile-Beltrami at state final tournament

By Dan Ellingson
For the Star Herald

A football season that started out with a postponed game because of a water-soaked field in Hills ended on the turf of U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots had their tournament run end on Nov. 19 at the semi-finals of the Minnesota Nine-Man State Football Tournament.

The 12-0 Fertile-Beltrami Falcons defeated the Patriots by a score of 30-22 in an evenly matched battle that would not be determined early.

H-BC scored first on a two-yard Cole Baker run with 5:28 left in the first quarter. The two-point conversion run failed, but the Patriots held an early 6-0 lead.

The scoring drive was the result of the H-BC offense marching down the field alternating between runs of Baker and Oliver Deelstra. Fertile-Beltrami answered with a 19-yard touch-down pass to even the score.



Team captains (from left) Casey Kueter (42), Cole Baker (22), Ty Bundesen (81), Max Scholton (65), Donavon Leenderts (86), Troy Durst (61) and Austin Allen (54) pose with the state participant trophy.

The Patriot defense held on the conversion run to keep the score tied 6-6.

The second quarter saw both defenses come up with timely stops and forcing the other's

offense to turn the ball over on downs.

However, late in the second quarter, the Patriots' offense went back to work, mixing the run and the pass. With

just 19 seconds left in the half, quarterback Oliver Deelstra threaded the needle on a pass to wide out Drew Leenderts,

HBC football, go to page 3B

LHS athletes receive all-conference

Luverne High School athletes were selected to the 2021 all-conference Big South Conference sporting teams, with several earning honorable mention status.

They are as follows:

•Volleyball: all-conference, senior Elise Ferrell; honorable mention, senior Trista Baustian.

•Cross Country all-conference: senior Tenley Nelson, sophomore Jenna DeBates, sophomore Kayla Bloemendaal, junior Camden Janiszkeski, and freshman Owen Janiszkeski; honorable mention, senior Griffen Jarchow and junior Grace Ingebretson.

Tennis: all-conference, seniors Kristin Rud, Olivia Wieneke and Mia Wenzel.

Football: all-conference, junior Gannon Ahrendt, senior Conner Overgaard, senior Braydon Ripka and senior Ashton Sandbulte; honorable mention, seniors Nathaniel Cole-Kraty and Casey Sehr.

Cardinals roll Saturday against Minnesota River

By Matt Lais
For the Star Herald

The Luverne girls' hockey team improved its record to 3-1 Saturday afternoon, Nov. 20, at the Blue Mound Ice Arena where the Cardinals edged Minnesota River 7-3.

Reghan Bork started the scoring 2:25 into the game when she beat Minnesota River's Amilia Messer with an assist from Kamryn Van Batavia.

Play went back and forth until Minnesota River Sophia Doherty found the back of the net to even the score at 1-1 midway through the period.

Luverne would put up 17 total shots on Messer in the first period, but at the end of 17 minutes the score remained 1-1.

The Cardinals came out buzzing with three goals to open up the second period.

Bork tallied her second of the game with assists coming



Images by CD

Luverne hockey player Reghan Bork assists teammate Payton Behr (10) for a score against Minnesota River Nov. 20 at home. The Cardinals improved their record to 3-1 with the win against the Bulldogs.

from Van Batavia and Payton Behr. Ten seconds later Ella Apel got on the scoresheet with assists going to her linemates Greta McClure and

Billi Connell.

The scoring kept coming just a minute later when Van Batavia got her first of the game with assists coming from Behr

and Bork to take a 4-1 lead.

Minnesota River's Anna Pavlo would get the Bulldogs within two

Hockey, go to page 2B

Cardinal girls go 2-1 to start season play

By Matt Lais
For the Star Herald

The Luverne girls' hockey team hit the ice running over the past week beating Worthington 10-0, Windom 12-1, and St. Peter 1-3. Their only loss was to New Ulm 3-5.

The Cards will face Fairmont at home Tuesday, Nov. 23, and Marshall on the road next week on Nov. 30.

LHS 10, Worthington 0

The Luverne Cardinals got off to a quick start on Thursday night, Nov. 11, at Blue Mound Ice Arena in front of a full arena of fans who witnessed a 10-0 win over the visiting Trojans.

Kamryn Van Batavia got things started 26 seconds into the game when she skated in to the slot and beat Worthington's Lillyana Newmans top shelf.

Midway through the first period it was Van Batavia again, skating to the slot from a pass from Payton Behr blasting a wrister above Newman's glove to take a 2-0 lead.

The first period scoring didn't stop there. Nearly a minute later Luverne senior Billi Connell netted her first goal of the season with assists going to Ella Apel and Greta McClure.

It didn't take long for this line to get on the scoreboard again when Apel got a beautiful pass out of the corner from Mallory Nelson.

Worthington couldn't muster many opportunities, but with under a minute remaining, a blocked slapshot led to a Worthington breakaway and senior goalie Cheyenne Schutz made a sliding save to keep the Cardinals ahead 4-0 heading into the first intermission.

The second period started much like the first. Right off the faceoff, Van Batavia took it the distance to get her third goal of the game with the assist going to Behr again.

Luverne's offense kept getting shots on net and pestering Newman for the next nine minutes until Macie Edstrom found Payton Behr streaking down the boards and outskated Worthington defenders to make it a commanding 6-0 lead.

Behr and the Cardinals were not done yet in the second. When a turnover ended up on Van Batavia's stick, she slid it over to Behr to beat Newman as the horn went off at BMIA to make it a seven-goal advantage after two periods.

The Cardinals were dominating when a five-minute major penalty was called on Worthington midway through the third period.

Luverne sent its Power Play unit out, and moments later



Payton Behr (10) passes the puck to Kamryn Van Batavia during the second period in a home matchup against the New Ulm Eagles Nov. 18 on the Cardinals' home ice. New Ulm won the season opener 7-3.

Images by CD



Luverne's Kamryn Van Batavia helped the Cardinals score 10 goals against the Worthington Trojans for the home win on Nov. 11.

longtime teammates Reghan Bork and Van Batavia worked their magic.

Bork slid a beautiful back door pass to Van Batavia who had a wide-open net to make the score 8-0. The power play wasn't done yet when Van Batavia to Bork and back to Van Batavia shot a tik-tac-toe goal past Newman.

With a minute left in the game, Bork got a loose puck and took it all alone to the other end and buried it for the 10th and final goal.

The Cardinals looked impressive in their debut. Shots on goal

ended with Luverne outshooting the Trojans by a tally of 52-7.

Luverne 3, New Ulm 7

In a battle of two Top 20 teams in Minnesota Girls Class A hockey, the Luverne Cardinals got a slow start and ended up losing to the rival New Ulm Thursday, Nov. 18, in Luverne.

The first period started with a lot of back-and-forth play until halfway through the period New Ulm's Jada Rahe would get a rebound goal in a scrum in front of Luverne goalie Cheyenne Schutz to give the Eagles a 1-0 lead. That's

how the period would end with shots on goal 10-5 in favor of the Eagles.

The second period saw a lot of action. New Ulm jumped out to a 2-0 lead when Afton Hulke got one past Schutz. Twenty-nine seconds later New Ulm would take a three-goal lead when Julia Helget found a pass from Maddi O'Connor out of the corner and slid it in the net.

It was then Luverne's turn when Kamryn Van Batavia got the Cardinals on the board 20 seconds later to cut the deficit to two with assists from Payton Behr and Mallory Von Tersch.

Luverne was blown for a penalty with 6:30 remaining in the second period that resulted in a New Ulm penalty shot by Mya Hornick who beat Schutz with a wrister top shelf.

Play would go back and forth until New Ulm's Julia Helget capitalized on a short-handed goal to make it 5-1 Eagles.

Mallory Nelson got the lead down to 2-5 with a hard wrister from the point past New Ulm's Ava Brennan. Assists went to Behr and Van Batavia on the goal. The second period ended with New Ulm holding a 24-15 shots on goal advantage.

The final period started with Greta McClure netting her first goal of the season on a beautiful rebound shot just

1:23 seconds into the third to bring the Cardinals within two.

New Ulm answered back with Malorie Anderson scoring just a minute later to put the Eagles back in the lead by three.

The Cardinal girls kept the pressure on for the next 12 minutes until Coach Sandbulte pulled the goalie to get the sixth skater out there with a little over two minutes left.

The Cardinals' attempt to narrow the gap resulted in New Ulm getting an empty net goal with 1:17 left in the game, and that's how it would end up on the scoreboard with the Cardinals losing 3-7.

Shots on goal ended in the Eagles' favor 37-22.

Luverne 12, Windom 1

After a tough loss to New Ulm Nov. 16, the lady Cardinals went on the road Nov. 18 to Windom to take on the Eagles for a 12-1 win.

The Cardinals erupted for eight first-period goals starting with Greta McClure just 1:31 seconds into the game with assists from Ella Apel and Billi Connell.

Twenty-three seconds later Payton Behr put one past Windom's Kaylie Baerg with assists from Kamryn Van Batavia and Reghan Bork.

It was Behr again just two minutes later again for her second goal of the game with a feed from Bork.

Luverne would get three more goals in the next four minutes from Van Batavia, McClure and Bork to take a commanding 6-0 lead.

Windom got one back when Presley Docktor beat Cheyenne Schutz midway through the first.

McClure got her third of the game and the first hat trick of her varsity career with 2:08 left in the period. Behr would bury the eighth of the game and also her third of the game to give the Cardinals an 8-1 lead at the end of the first period. Shots on goal were 17-3 in favor of the Cardinals.

The second started just like the first ended with Behr hammering her fourth of the game past Baerg just 33 seconds into the period with assists to Mallory Nelson and Bork.

That's all the goals there were in the second period in Windom.

The Cardinals put another on the scoreboard to start the third with Hannah Woodley notching her first varsity goal with an assist to Ella Apel.

Luverne got two more third-period goals from Bork and Van Batavia to send the Cardinals back to Luverne with an impressive 12-1 win.

Total shots on goal for the game were 37-20 Cardinals.

Thanksgiving is a time to give, a time to love, and a time to reflect on the things that matter most in life.

- Danielle Duckery

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Hockey/continued from page 1B

points with a goal, but that didn't last long when Bork took matters into her own hands and netted her third score of the game on an unassisted power-play goal.

The second period ended 5-2 in favor of the Cardinals.

The Cardinals struck again with two goals at the 2:39 and 16:10 respectively

in the third period.

Apel tallied her second of the game with an assist from Van Batavia. Then it was Van Batavia, with the assist going to Anika Boll, to take a commanding five-goal lead.

Minnesota River scored with just nine

seconds left in the game, leaving the final score at Luverne 7, Minnesota River 3.

The Cardinals had 42 shots on goal compared with the Bulldogs' 25.

Luverne hosts Fairmont Tuesday, Nov. 23, at the Blue Mound Ice Arena.

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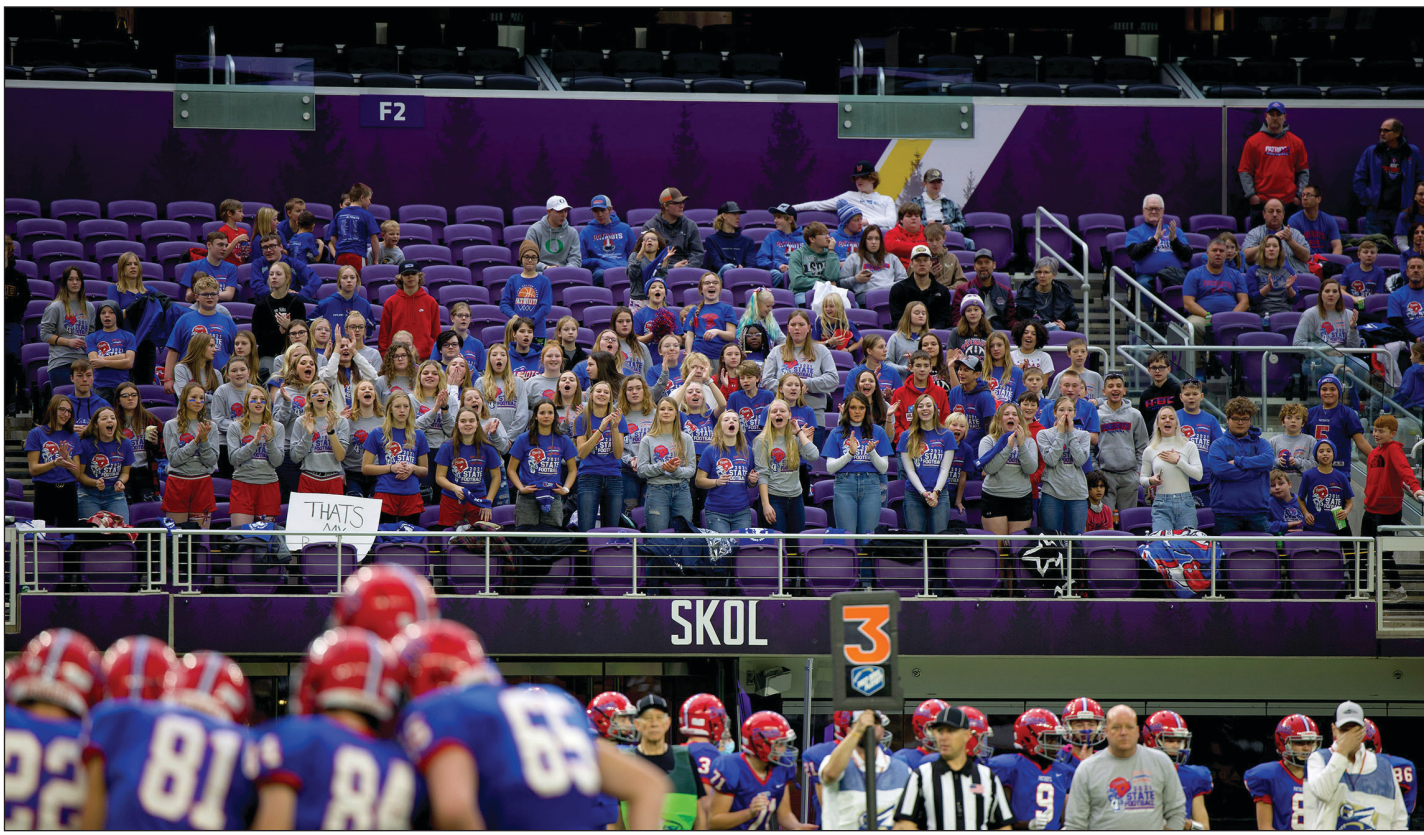
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Samantha McGaffee photos

Hills-Beaver Creek fans cheer on the Patriots who led the Fertile-Beltrami football game at halftime with a score of 14-6.

who jumped above the Falcon defender and hauled in a 19-yard touchdown pass with just 19 seconds left before half-time. Fullback Casey Kueter bulldozed his way for the two-point conversion and the Patriots held a 14-6 lead going into the half.

Fertile-Beltrami would dominate the third quarter scoring with two touchdown runs of five and 30 yards. They were successful on both two-point conversions to take a 22-14 lead going into the final quarter.

The Patriot offense came back on the next possession, which culminated in a touchdown run by Baker of five yards with 10:28 left in the game. A Baker-to-Gideon-Taubert two-point conversion pass brought the Patriots back to tie the Falcons at 22.

Later in the fourth quarter, the Falcons came back to score a touchdown on a three-yard run, then added the two-point conversion to extend the lead to eight, 30-22.

The Patriots' offense was not able to score again during the game. The defense did make the Falcons turn the ball over on downs with less than a minute to play deep in Patriots territory. But with no timeouts left and over 90 yards to cover, the Patriot offense was not able to move the ball and was on the field when time expired.

Patriot Head Coach Rex Metzger reflected on the game afterward.



Patriots quarterback Oliver Deelstra (right) pitches the ball to Cole Baker, who contributed 118 rushing yards in the game against Fertile-Beltrami on Nov. 19.

"Fertile-Beltrami was a real good football team that did a lot of things really well both on offense and defense," he said. "They threw the ball a little more than expected and hurt us a few different times."

He said the entire season was a rewarding experience with the team.

"I'm proud of our guys and the year that we had," he said. "It was a heck of a run through the playoffs, and to be able to play at U.S. Bank (Stadium) is something they will never forget."

The Patriots finish the season 10-3 and are the two-time defending Section 3 9-man champions.

Team statistics

HBC: 217 rushing yards, 72 passing yards, 289 total yards, 21 first downs, five penalties for 40 yards.

F-B: 147 rushing yards, 136 passing yards, 283 total yards, 15 first downs, three penalties for 35 yards.

Individual statistics

Rushing: C. Baker 25-118 yards, C. Kueter 9-42 yards, Ty Bundesen 3-30 yards, O. Deelstra 12-27 yards.

Passing: O. Deelstra 8-10 for 72 yards, C. Baker 0-1.

Receiving: Drew Leenderts 1-19, one touchdown, C. Baker 2-17 yards, C. Kueter 1-15 yards, T. Bundesen 2-12 yards, Andrew Harris 2-9 yards, Gideon Taubert one extra-point.

Defense: Austin Allen 8 tackles, C. Kueter 7.5 tackles, Drew Leenderts 7 tackles, O. Deelstra 4.5 tackles.

Rail/from page 1B

after work I go chicken chasin'.

I have had folks drive to southwest Minnesota from all over the United States to hunt pheasants in my county.

Two weeks ago, a couple from upstate New York spent five days in my town, and I made some great new friends that I think will make the annual trip back for many years to come. Many hunters from the metro area come my way as well, and those who pay a little attention to my secrets to success have very good luck.

A few things I see people do can dramatically reduce their chances of success. I will add a few tips here, and you can make of them what you will, but they do work.

The first tip is to get ready at home or at least one mile from where you want to start. I load my dogs in the truck and put their remote location collars on before I leave the house or the hotel. The gun is stowed where I can easily reach it when I open the door. The shells are already in my vest, and the water bottles for the dogs have been prefilled. If I am with somebody else, the "who's going where" instructions were completed with a map over coffee earlier that morning.

Consider the alternative. You pull into a public lands parking lot, and the dogs all start to whine.

Many will bark with excitement. Loud commands to sit or stay ring across the pheasant prairie as the hunter tries to hold the dog still enough to put their collar on. Digging around in the back of the truck to gather up the gun and gear adds to the sounds of circus life. Pheasants can feel ground vibration through their feet, and a few extra times the truck door is slammed or the shell container falls to the ground is as good as a tornado siren

to a pheasant. I hardly ever park in a designed parking lot. Since opening day this is where all the danger has come from for the past five weeks. Approach from a different direction with NO SOUNDS.

The pheasant field is no place to discuss sports or wives or any other subject matter. If you're going to talk when you hunt, it would not matter if you used a bull horn. Sound is sound and volume makes little difference. Keep quiet.

This is such a classic. A rooster jumps up and everyone hollers "rooster, rooster, rooster!" This is a long-standing tradition of hunters who don't really want to shoot many pheasants. Game farms that have lots of birds that have nowhere else to go use this technique all the time. It identifies the bird so everyone can take a shot at it.

If you hunt with me, there is no hollering of rooster, rooster, rooster. The instructions given far ahead of time are, "If it has a red head, shoot it. If it does not have a red head, don't shoot it. If you can't tell for sure if it has a red head, then don't shoot it." Hollering "rooster" just alerts every other pheasant in the field you are hunting that it is time to make a timely get-away. They might fly out 100 yards ahead of you or just beat feet into the next mile. Either way, your boisterous notification to the birds will result in no birds in your vest at the end of the day.

This column could go on and on, and for some hunters these tips might seem a little stringent. My dogs train and work hard, and their only hunting reward is a bird in their mouth. I feel like I owe it to them to help them get their reward. Hunting is my favorite thing. Hunting and coming home with two birds in my vest is just a bit better.

PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

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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/stccluverne/videos/>. Visit www.stcls.org for more information.

Luverne Christian Reformed Church
605 N. Estey St., Luverne
Office Ph. 283-8482; Prayer Line Ph. 449-5982
www.luverneccr.com — office@luverneccr.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, Nov. 25: Office closed — Happy Thanksgiving! Sunday, Nov. 28: 9 a.m. Worship service with Holy Baptism. 10 a.m. Fellowship Coffee. 10 a.m. No Sunday School. 5 p.m. Worship service. 6:30 p.m. Worship practice. Tuesday, Nov. 30: 7 a.m. Dorcas Circle meets at The Bean. 8:30 a.m. Grace Notes assembly. 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 7 a.m. Men's Bible study. 1 p.m. Priscilla/Elizabeth Circle meeting. 3:15 p.m. Faithweavers and Sunday School Christmas program practice. 5 p.m. Youth supper. 5:30 p.m. Bells rehearsal. 6:15 p.m. 6th-7th grade Confirmation. 7:15 p.m. 8th grade Confirmation. 8:15 p.m. 9th grade Confirmation. Thursday, Dec. 2: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are available. Online: Sundays 9 a.m. on the church website www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 605-215-9834
pastorapalmquist67@yahoo.com
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. 283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org

Friday, Nov. 26: 6:30 a.m. Community men's Bible study. Sunday, Nov. 28: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Sunday School. 12 p.m. Commons reserved. Tuesday, Nov. 30: 12 p.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 5:30 p.m. Midweek Meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs and youth groups. 8:15 p.m. Cantata rehearsal. Thursday, Dec. 2: 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes. 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 (formerly First Assembly of God)

1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4
Ph. 612-800-1255; email info@rockrivercommunity.church
Bob Junak, Pastor; Annette Junak, Assistant Pastor

Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday school; 10 a.m. Worship service. Children's church for ages 3-6th grade and nursery for ages 0-3 provided during our services. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Worship service. All services are in-person and all are welcome.

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529
Dorrie Hall, Pastor

Wednesday, Nov. 24: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Saturday, Nov. 27: 8 p.m. AA meeting. Sunday, Nov. 28: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 9:45 a.m. Coffee hour. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible study. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 6:15 p.m. FUEL. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Bison orders are due. Live streamed on Facebook and radio.

First Presbyterian Church

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

Sunday, Nov. 28: 9:30 a.m. Worship service. 10:30 a.m. Sunday school. Monday, Nov. 29: 9 a.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 5:30 p.m. Bell choir. 6:30 p.m. Choir. Committee meetings. 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, Nov. 27: 5:30 p.m. Worship. Sunday, Nov. 28: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Adult 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: newlifecelbration@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, Nov. 28: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10:15 a.m. Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Bible study. 4 p.m. Congregational Christmas party. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 6 p.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Advent service. Worship service on Luverne cable at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday and Friday.

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

Sunday, Nov. 28: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10 a.m. Sunday school. Masks are strongly recommended, but not required, even if fully vaccinated. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFu4>

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

Sunday, Nov. 28: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Worship service. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 9 a.m. Quilting—Every Wednesday. Masks are strongly recommended, but not required, even if fully vaccinated. Worship will be streamed live on Facebook. Video worship via YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHdQwVxFu4>

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
Nita Parker, Pastor

Sunday, Nov. 28: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Home. 9:30 a.m. Sunday school. 10 a.m. Worship service with Holy Communion. 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. Tuesday, Nov. 30: 2 p.m. Tuff Home Bible study. 3 p.m. Tuff Village Bible study. Wednesday, Dec. 1: 7:15 p.m. Wednesday night worship.

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

Happy Thanksgiving! Glorify God and serve others

I've met interesting people over the past years of pastoring. I learn about many things in life by the experiences and stories of others.

Everyone has a story. Everyone has one life to live. At some point we all have wrestled with the question, "Why am I here?" or "What am I going to do with my life?"

For some the calling becomes clear early in life; for others, they struggle for a lifetime.

While I may not fully answer the question specifically for you, let me suggest your question changes slightly, but importantly.

Instead of asking, "What am I going to do with my life?" ask, "God, what do you want me to do with my life?"

This second question leads me to consider there may be direction that I have been missing because I've been trying to figure it out on my own.

God doesn't usually come to you specifically and tell you the job and/or career you are supposed to have, but he does set a few underlying principles that give meaning and purpose to whatever job or career you find yourself in.

First, in whatever you do, glorify God! "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

A primary question before any task or any job acceptance or career direction is to ask, "Can I do this job/career to the glory of God? Will this job allow me opportunities to express and share my faith or will it be a situation that shuts down or stands in the way of my faith?" Let life be about glorifying your Savior and giving thanks to God the Father for all the talents and abilities he has given to you.

Second, in whatever you do, serve others. "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

BUILT ON A ROCK

**By Michael Geiger,
Cross and Crown
Lutheran Church,
Georgetown, Texas**

I remember one of my leadership mentors, John Maxwell, via his books, say, "Add value to others and they will add value to you." His point was to always approach life and leadership with a servant heart and mindset. Do not let life revolve around you and be lived with an expectation that everyone else was born to serve you. Remember Jesus himself did not come to be served, but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many. Whatever abilities, whatever job you have, use it to serve others, be a blessing to others, add value to others.

So what does that all mean today? You may not be in your dream job or career, or most days you may "hate" going to work. But what if you repent of engaging in life trying to get all YOU can out of it and rather engage in life and live to give to others what God has given to you!

Go about your tasks today with the mindset of adding value to people today and ask God to show you how and where to do that. Thrive at work, because every day is a day to give thanks for all God has given to you and use what he has given to serve others.

Today is going to be a great day. Life is going to be a great life!

Lord, thank you for giving your all for me so that my life might be spent giving glory to you and serving others with the same love you have given to me. Amen.

(This column is based on a book by Randy Frazee titled, "Believe.")

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

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Rock County

STAR HERALD

coloring contest

PRIZES will be awarded in six age categories!

AGES 4&5, AGES 6&7, AGES 8&9, AGES 10-13, AGES 14-17 AND 18+

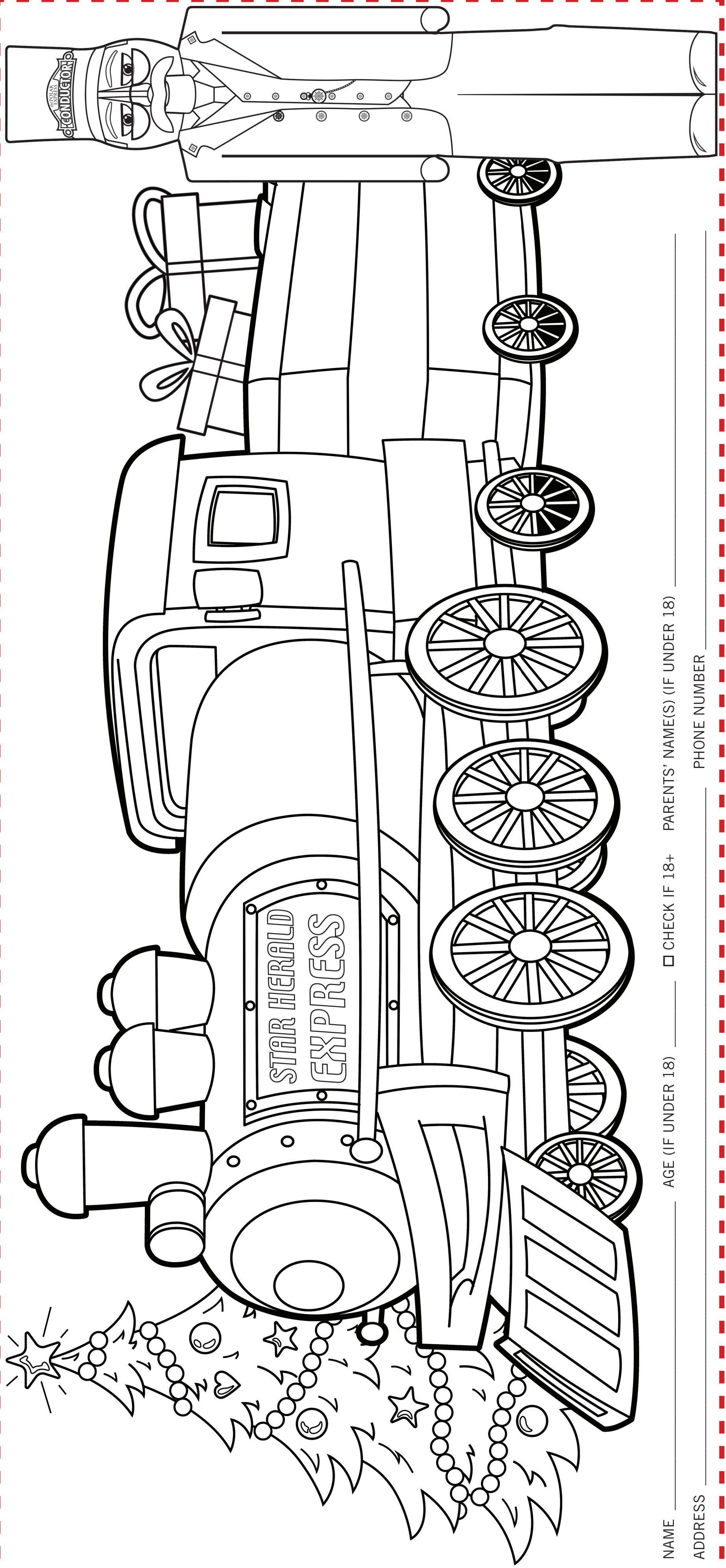
Winners will be announced in the

December 16th Star Herald and the December 18th Announcer.

RULES

1. Contest is open to ages 4 through adult!
2. Color the picture below with paints, markers, crayons or colored pencils.
3. The decision of judges is final.

ALL entries must be returned to the Star Herald office no later than NOON ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9. Please return your colored entry to the Star Herald office rolled or flat - **DO NOT FOLD.**



NAME _____ AGE (IF UNDER 18) _____ CHECK IF 18+ PARENTS' NAME(S) (IF UNDER 18) _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

Page 6B November 24, 2021

Rock County hearing for variance request Nov. 29

Notice of Public Hearings for Variance Request

Close Proximity Owners and Local Officials of the Rock County Board of Adjustment

Notice is hereby given that the Rock County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 29, 2021, at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center located at 1000 North Blue Mound Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota, at 7:00 p.m. to act on the following applications:

Property Owner and Applicant 1: Justin and Sara Ilse
Legal Description: Lots 12-14, Block 4, Village of Kanaranzi, Section 3 of Kanaranzi Township, T 101 N, R 44 W, Rock County, MN

Request for a variance to allow the construction of a garage, entry, and bathroom addition to an existing dwelling with the proposed addition being located no less than 35 feet from the centerline of the public right of way, Second Street.

Property Owner and Applicant 2: Dean Tofteland
Legal Description: A 60.4 acre tract located in Section 12 of Luverne Township, T 102 N, R 45W, Rock County, MN

Request for a variance to allow the construction of 3 proposed cul-de-sacs, not to exceed 825 feet in length, as part of a rural subdivision to be proposed by Dean Tofteland.

All persons interested may appear and be heard at said time and place, or submit views in writing or by representative.

Dated: November 18, 2021
By order of the Rock County Board of Adjustment
Eric A. Hartman, Zoning Administrator
311 W. Gabrielson Road
Luverne, MN 56156
507-283-8862

(11-18, 11-24)

Quiet title action

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ROCK

IN DISTRICT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Case Type: Quiet Title Action
Court File: 67-CV-21-274

Benjamin Aukes, The Eitrem Family Farm Revocable Trust Agreement dated the 20th day of December, 2005, and Gregory Allen Fick and Natalie Jo Fick, Plaintiffs,

vs.
All heirs, known and unknown, of Severin R. Eitrem, deceased; all heirs, known and unknown, of Gladys Eitrem, deceased; all heirs, known and unknown, of Gene R. Eitrem, deceased; all heirs, known and unknown, of Earleen L. Eitrem, deceased; all heirs, known and unknown of Lloyd Vanden Bussche a/k/a Lloyd Thomas Vanden Bussche, deceased; Naomi Vanden Bussche; and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the complaint herein, Defendants.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDENTS

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Plaintiffs' attorney an Answer to Complaint, which is filed in the office of the Court Administrator of the above-named county, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgement by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. This action involves, affects, or brings in question real property, situated in the County of Rock, State of Minnesota, described as follows:

The Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of Section Six (6), Township One Hundred Two (102) North, Range Forty-six (46) West of the 5th P.M., Rock County, Minnesota.

The object of this action is to remove, terminate and quiet any interest of the defendants to this action and to the real estate described above. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT NO PERSONAL CLAIM is made against any of the Defendants. If any Defendant unreasonably defends the action, then Plaintiff is requesting an order of the Court directing that said Defendant shall pay full costs to the Plaintiff.

Civil cases are subject to Alternative Dispute Resolution processes as provided in Rule 114 of the General Rules of Practice for District Courts. Alternative Dispute Resolution includes mediation, arbitration, and other processes set forth in the rules. You may contract the Court Administrator for information about these processes and about resources available in your area.

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that sanctions may be awarded pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 549.211.

Dated: November 16, 2021

/s/ Paul A. Vis, Eisma and Eisma, Attorneys at Law
130 E. Main
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828; FAX (507) 283-9188
Attorney ID No. 297550

(11-24, 12-02, 12-09)

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FOR LEGALS IS
MONDAY
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Gayle - 507-348-8620
or stop by the Jasper Sunrise Village building for an application.



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CARDS OF THANKS

A sincere thank you for cards sent, kind words and shared memories in the loss of our mother Elaine. A special thank you to the staff at the Good Samaritan Society in Luverne for the wonderful care given to Mom, especially when we could not be with her during Covid. To the Presbyterian Church circle for serving lunch, and Pastor Smith for the encouraging scriptures. To Jeff and his staff at Hartquist Funeral Home for their loving care for her and our family at our time of loss.

Family of Elaine Hamann
(11.20-11.24)

EMPLOYMENT

Nobles County Community Services is seeking a social worker for Family and Children's Services 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. Must possess a valid driver's license. Bilingual applicants are encouraged to apply. View complete job description and benefit sheet at www.co.nobles.mn.us. To complete an application go to: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem/default.cfm>. Merit Application Deadline: December 7, 2021, 4:30 p.m. EEO/AA Employer. (11.24-11.27)

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

EMPLOYMENT

HSi Habilitative Services, Inc.

We are hiring Part-time and Full-time Caregiver positions in Luverne, MN. Our Caregivers/DSP's work with individuals with disabilities in group home settings. No experience or CNA required we provide on the job training. Apply online today if you meet these basic requirements: 18 years of age or older, clear criminal background check, and valid DL with clean driving record. We pay \$13-\$15/hr and FT benefits start at 30 hrs/wk. Now offering On-Demand Pay, access to your money anytime, no need to wait until pay day!

Apply online: <https://jobs.thementornetwork.com> (search by Luverne)
Questions call Amy: 507-401-5246

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Position is available immediately in Pipestone (Pipestone County) and Luverne (Rock County) MN. Please send a letter of interest and resume by Noon on Monday, November 29, 2021 to Mary Mulder via e-mail at mmulder@swmnpic.org

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EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT



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- **Engineering Technician - Land Management Office**
- **Engineering Technician - Highway Department**
- **Equipment Operator - Highway Department**
- **Administrative Assistant - Land Records Office**

Rock County offers competitive wages and an excellent benefit package to include: health, dental and life insurance, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, pension, tax deferred compensation. All applicants must complete a Rock County application form; applications will be accepted until each position is filled. For complete job announcement information, job description and application form, please reference the county's website at www.co.rock.mn.us/job_opportunities. For additional questions, please contact the Rock County Administrator's Office at 507-283-5065 or by email at susan.skattum@co.rock.mn.us.

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Contact Us
507-962-3275

Online application @ www.tuffmemorialhome.com

Pick up an application @ 505 East 4th St. Hills, MN

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Governor Walz extends order to help farmers, producers respond to drought

As Minnesota's agricultural industry continues to recover from severe drought conditions across the state, Gov. Tim Walz signed Executive Order 21-33, extending an emergency and waiving trucking regulations to support livestock producers in the transport of commodities.

The extreme and prolonged drought in Minnesota has led to significant stress on rangeland, pastures and other crops.

Without reliable access to good quality hay or forage, farmers and livestock producers have had to adjust feeding operations to include other commodities, such as corn

silage, distiller grain and beet pulp.

Farmers also report that the hay and forage reserved for winter use has already been consumed, and replenishing supplies is critical to maintaining healthy livestock. The continued movement of these commodities is vital to the economic security

and viability of many farming and livestock operations in Minnesota.

"When I traveled across the state this summer I heard directly from our farmers and saw firsthand the impacts of a drought that caused early harvests, wildfires, dry fields, and pastures," Walz said.

"The seasons may be

changing, but the effects of this drought aren't over, and our farmers still need our help. I am committed to working in partnership with Minnesota's agricultural industry to provide relief for the farmers who have continued feeding our state and nation through this historic drought."

Since July, Walz has issued executive orders relaxing certain hours and service restrictions for drivers and vehicles transporting critical supplies such as livestock, hay, forage, water supplies and supplemental feed commodities.

Last month Gov. Walz issued Executive Order 21-32, which extended this relief until Nov. 3, 2021.

Although conditions have improved enough that there is no longer a need to exempt transportation of livestock and water supplies from hours-of-service requirements, farmers and livestock producers still need to travel across the state to find available feed.

Over the past few months, Gov. Walz has met with agricultural leaders from across the state to hear how the drought has impacted them.

In September he announced a \$10 million drought relief package to support Minnesota farmers and livestock producers impacted by severe drought conditions during the 2021 growing season.

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