



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, December 10, 2020

Reward offered in arson, vandalism investigation at city park

By Lori Sorenson

The community woke to disheartening news Saturday morning about vandalism to Christmas light displays in Luverne City Park.

A 2 a.m. barn fire near the park appears to be related to the vandalism spree, according to Luverne Fire Chief David Van Batavia.

He reported the cause of the blaze to the state fire marshal as arson.

"There was no power to that building and nothing in there that could have started on fire on its own," Van Batavia said.

own," Van Batavia said.

He said his crews arrived to find the structure fully engulfed and they controlled the flames as it burned to the ground.

The acreage once belonged to the late Melvin Reese and is now owned by his family members.

Reese's old pickup was parked nearby but was towed clear of the structure after it was threatened by flames.

Meanwhile, deputies assessed damages in the park, which since Nov. 29 has been decorated with

lighted displays by businesses, organizations and community members for the holiday season.

Eight businesses reported their displays — some had several displays — were vandalized with damages estimated at nearly \$1,500.

"This case is still under investigation and we are looking for any information about this incident," said Rock County Sheriff Evan Verbrugge.

"The Rock County Sheriff's Office is posting a reward for \$1,000 for any information that leads to an

arrest on this incident."

The reward money comes from a fund started by the city of Luverne and the Chamber and is managed by the Sheriff's Office.

Tips may be shared via the Sheriff's Office App, Facebook Messenger through the Sheriff's Office Facebook page or through email to evan.verbrugge@co.rock.mn.us or jeff.wieneke@co.rock.mn.us.

The Sheriff's Office non-emergency phone number is 507-283-5000. "Any information is greatly appreciated," Verbrugge said.

He's working with the Luverne Area Chamber and participating businesses to assess the damages.

Much of the damage involved free-standing pieces like reindeer and angels being tipped over, but some lights were torn down and inflatable displays slashed and deflated.

Many have been repaired and put back, but some aren't replaceable.

Jodi Reverts, owner of the Howl-

Arson, vandalism/continued on 2

Infusion treatments, rapid tests offered now in Luverne

By Lori Sorenson

Sanford Luverne started offering outpatient infusion treatments this week for higher-risk patients who qualify, according to hospital director Tammy Loosbrock.

The goal is to prevent patients from getting sicker and to keep hospital beds open and staff available for the sickest patients.

"Hopefully this will help and keep people out of the hospital," Loosbrock said Monday.

After a patient tests positive for COVID-19, Sanford prioritizes care for those who are most vulnerable to the virus — those who are 65 or older and have one chronic condition or those 55 or older who have two or more chronic conditions.

Patients who qualify will be given a Bamlanivimab, a Covid-19 antibody treatment administered in a one-time infusion.

The treatment recently received emergency use authorization from the FDA, and Sanford first started the therapies over the past two weeks.

The main outpatient infusion center is on the medical center campus in Sioux Falls, but the therapy is now being used in Sanford's network hospitals and skilled nursing home facilities.

Rapid tests offered

Starting next week, Loosbrock said Sanford Luverne will utilize a more rapid test for symptomatic patients, "but that does come with some limitations," she said.

For example, the rapid test must be administered within seven days of the start of symptoms.

Negative tests will have to be

Covid options/continued on page 3



Mavis Fodness photo/1210 HBC Facilities Assessment

The former Hills-Beaver Creek School building in Hills appears to be headed for demolition. Built in 1921, the three-story brick structure was last used in 2012 and now sits empty. A facilities assessment estimates more than a half million dollars for its removal. The Hugo Goehle gym, located to the right of the school, continues to be used by the community. Upgrades to the 1955 facility are being considered along with improvements to the attached locker rooms (not pictured). The locker rooms were added in 2004.

H-BC faces \$7.5 million in upgrade costs for buildings

By Mavis Fodness

Nearly \$7.5 million worth of improvements are recommended for buildings in the Hills-Beaver Creek District, and school officials are weighing how many will be tackled in the next 10 years.

Earlier this year the district hired ICS Builds to assess the district facilities and point out where resources should be allocated to keep facilities in good useable condition.

On Nov. 30 the district's Buildings and Grounds Committee reviewed the ICS findings to develop priorities for the state-required long-term facility maintenance report.

"I think it pointed out some good things," said board member Tim Bosch. "(But) I look at some of these items as wants (not necessities)."

ICS assessed various components inside and outside of the elementary school in Beaver

Creek and in Hills the secondary school, bus garages, Hugo Goehle gymnasium and the no longer used former high school.

Mike Hubbard with ICS Builds in Sioux Falls presented the report last month to committee members in what was the first comprehensive look at each facility's condition.

Previously only certain areas, such as roof repairs, were assessed for potential upgrades. ICS' bid for the facilities assessment report was \$4,050.

Engineers assessed outside appearances, interior conditions, mechanical and plumbing, electrical systems, life safety and security systems.

Cost estimates were included along with a suggested timelines, and Hubbard discussed possible funding paths. Prices in the assessment report also factored in inflation.

"You guys have great buildings," Hubbard said. "Obviously our engineers had to make some assumptions about priorities. So if something breaks down earlier, it moves up."

ICS broke down the \$7.467 million in recommended upgrades by building:

- Elementary, \$4.326 million
- Secondary, \$1.629 million
- Hugo Goehle gymnasium, \$945,022
- Off-site athletic field, \$238,157
- Districtwide projects, \$235,279
- Bus garage, \$92,693

Over the next few weeks, H-BC officials will compile a list of the Top 10 projects that could be completed from 2021 to 2031. A larger project may be added to the list, depending on additional funding.

H-BC faces costs for buildings/see page 5

Donations up, retail slow at Redeemed Remnants

By Mavis Fodness

Donations are coming in to Redeemed Remnants in Luverne more quickly than usual.

Greg Hooegeven, the thrift store's manager, said last week the number of donations being dropped off at the Main Street Luverne location was higher than normal because more people are staying home in accordance with the state's pandemic restrictions.

"It's made people do it (spring cleaning) now rather than wait for this spring," Hooegeven said. "Many are choosing to donate and not do a rummage sale."

Others are donating items from lost loved ones or from moves to smaller residences.

The result is Redeemed Remnants' shelves and clothing racks

Redeemed Remnants/see page 3



Mavis Fodness photo/1210 COVID Redeemed Remnants Shelves and racks are fuller than usual at Redeemed Remnants, a thrift store in Luverne, according to manager Greg Hooegeven.

Fire displaces Beaver Creek residents

By Lori Sorenson

Emergency responders helped a Beaver Creek man to safety on Dec. 1 when a fire destroyed his porch and sent smoke billowing into his home.

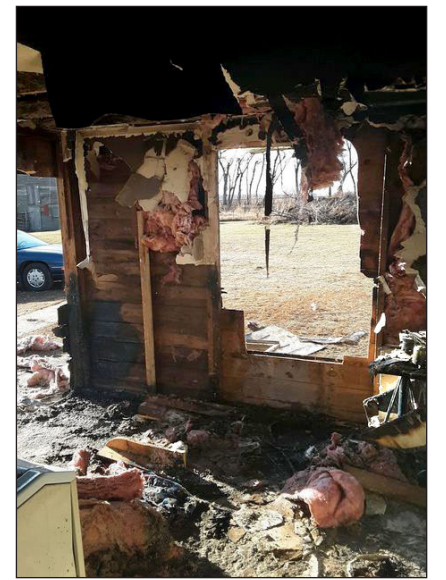
Firemen were dispatched to the blaze around 5:30 p.m. at 701 County Road 4 where they arrived to find flames coming from the door of the enclosed porch.

Beaver Creek Fire Chief Jason Rauk said they weren't aware that anyone was in the home at first, but they were able to locate 73-year-old John Ruddy inside.

"Fortunately we got there in time to help and before the fire got out of control," Rauk said.

Ruddy, who has health problems that affect his mobility, was helped from the smoke-filled

Beaver Creek house fire/see page 5



The enclosed front porch of the John Ruddy house near Beaver Creek is completely destroyed.



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How to reach us

507-283-2333 PO Box 837
editor@star-herald.com Luverne, MN 56156

Luverne graduate selected as Adrian's teacher of the year

By Mavis Fodness

Robert Remme, a 1999 graduate of Luverne High School, was selected by his peers at Adrian Public Schools as the 2020-21 Adrian Education Association Teacher of the Year.

Remme, a high school math teacher, was recognized at the Nov. 13 afternoon staff meeting. Due to the coronavirus, no public ceremony was conducted.

His peers commented that Remme is dedicated to his students as well as his co-workers.

"He has established strong connections with students — willing to help them before and after school, and not just if they are 'his' students but any student needing math help," one person wrote on the nomination form.

Another wrote that Remme is constantly "stepping up to the plate and filling roles the district needed assistance in; reliable and willing to help out anyone."

Another co-worker commented Remme's work on the virtual Veterans Day Program.

"I feel this award is for all of the teachers in the Adrian School District," Remme said.

"I am just a small part that helps bring the success of learning to our students each day. It takes all of us working together as a team to bring success to our students and school."

Teachers in the Luverne School District planted the seeds that led to Remme's career choice in teaching. He graduated from Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall with a degree in mathematics education (5-12).



Mavis Fodness photo/1210 Adrian TOY Remme

Luverne High School graduate and resident Robert Remme is the Adrian Education Association 2020-21 Teacher of the Year. Remme currently teaches mathematics at Adrian High School.

"My high school teachers had a big influence on my decision," he said. "I have always enjoyed working with numbers and was excited to pass that on to others. It was fitting to be able to teach at Adrian where my uncle, Dick Remme, was the shop teacher for many years."

The younger Remme was hired to fill a vacancy in January 2004 and he finished out the school year. He was hired as a full-time instructor that fall and has taught in Adrian ever since.

Another LHS graduate helped the newly hired teacher gain confidence in the classroom.

"I especially owe so much to the late principal, Mr. Tim Christensen (LHS 1983). He was my friend and was there for me," Remme said.

"He had confidence in me, giving me advice and guidance along the way. He, along with many other great co-workers, helped me become the teacher I am today."

Much of the confidence-building advice Remme received is now passed on to students, many of whom are now successful adults.

"It is fun to see the students come back after many years to hear their memories of things in my classroom," he said.

"They always mention the 'Quadratic Formula Song' I sang to them in class, helping them to remember an (algebra) formula."

While the formula song helped some students, Remme said others need a different approach to retain

certain lessons.

"Every student is different and you need to find the approach to reach everyone and leave no one behind," he said.

"Working with COVID restrictions has been a challenge — it has shown me a whole new way of teaching. I never thought I would be teaching with a mask and on a computer for a Zoom session each day."

Remme is adapting to the changes and said he strives to present a positive face to his students.

"Even though it has been a different year, it has shown me different ways to teach and reach my students, which overall will be better for all of us," he said.

"I think we all are more appreciative of things now."

Luethje named Adrian friend of education

By Mavis Fodness

Few people are more popular at Adrian Public Schools than Dean Luethje, the district's technology coordinator.

He was recently named the Adrian Education Association 2020-21 Friend of Education.

In 2015 Luethje transitioned from the corporate IT (information technology) world to a school setting with students and staff in the Adrian district.

He had an immediate impact on those whose jobs were made easier by Luethje's training sessions, introduction of new technology and equipment in both the elementary and secondary schools.

"Since starting at Adrian Public Schools, he has worked his tail off to get

technology up and going," one of the nomination forms for Luethje read.

"Implementing hybrid and distance learning this year has added its own challenges that Dean is always ready to help with."

Another commented, "Dean always has a very positive attitude, even with how difficult things have been lately for him in the world of technology. I appreciate his positive outlook and willingness to help with any and all of my technology needs."

Luethje said every day brings new challenges.

"It can be difficult but it's

OK because every challenge conquered makes us that much better at our jobs," he said.

"When you think about it, that's what is supposed to happen every day in school — it's not just students who come to learn new things."

After graduating from LHS in 1974, Luethje studied at Minnesota West Community and Technical Colleges in Worthington and Jackson and at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

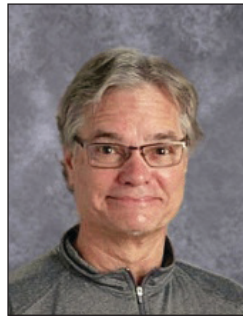
Through the years he completed several specialized IT training programs including the NCR corporate training in New

York.

"I believe education opens doors and provides us with the opportunity to discover and pursue those things in life that we can excel at and that fulfill our desire to make life better for ourselves and those whose lives we touch," Luethje said.

"I've had the privilege of coming to work every day and using my knowledge and skills to help this incredible staff in some small way with the vitally important job of preparing our youth to inherit this nation and make this world a better place. I am inspired daily as I observe the hard work and dedication that educators put into their students."

Luethje and his wife, DJ, live on an acreage near Luverne. The couple has eight children and eight grandchildren.



Dean Luethje

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Arson and vandalism/from page 1

ing Dog Saloon, put up more than two-dozen of the displays. She posted photographs on Facebook of her damaged displays.

"When you try to do something to bring joy to others and someone goes and vandalizes everything," she wrote. "People suck."

Thirty-nine businesses and organizations participated in the Chamber's "Love the Lights" celebration and put up roughly 70 lighted

displays in the park.

"The Chamber is devastated by these stupid and hateful actions," Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere posted on social media Dec. 5.

"The vandalism at the park and to the Reese property last night is horrible. We need to work together to make these vandals understand how devastating their actions have been to so many people."

COVID CORNER

County	Total Cases	DAILY average in last 7 days	Percent Change
Rock	902	14	+13.7%
Pipestone	804	7.7	+8.2%
Nobles	3,272	22.7	+4.9%
Minnehaha (SD)	21,902	197.4	+6.0%
Lyon (IA)	1,097	6.3	+4.1%

14-day case rate in Rock County per 10,000 people:

Date Range	10/18-10/31	10/25-11/7	11/1-11/14	11/8-11/21
Rate	114.73	126.42	184.85	260.28

According to Minnesota's Safe Learning Plan guidelines:

- Schools in counties with fewer than 9 new cases per 10,000 residents in a two-week period could have *in-person classes for all students*.
- Schools in counties with more than 50 new cases per 10,000 residents in two weeks *would have to be fully online for all students*.
- Schools in counties with more than 9 and fewer than 50 new cases in two weeks *could have hybrid learning models for students*, age appropriate.

Based on this data, plans for area schools are:

LUVERNE - Elementary: HYBRID | Middle/High School: ONLINE
HBC - Elementary: In-person | Secondary: In-person/HYBRID

Current data as of December 8, 2020. Sources: MDH & The New York Times

Sponsored by: Rock County Emergency Management

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Denver Township
Denver Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, in the home of Lloyd Prins.

Hardwick Santa Claus Day is Dec. 12
Hardwick Community Club will conduct its annual Santa Claus Day from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in front of the Hardwick Community Center. A drive-thru pickup of treats and socially distanced pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus will take place. Vehicles are asked to drive past the center headed west.

Students holiday drive Dec. 14
Luverne High School Student Council members will host a Cardinal Holiday Donation Drive from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, under the canopy on the east side of the high school.

Students and community members can drive through and donate only hygiene products (food shelf organizers indicate an abundance of food items) or money for the Rock County Food Shelf while receiving small treats and safely sharing holiday cheer with LHS students. Contact Jason Berghorst at school j.berghorst@isd2184.net with questions.

Friends candle-lighting Dec. 13
Compassionate Friends worldwide candle lighting event is at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Participate by lighting a candle on your doorstep or in your home to honor the memory of a child/children who have died too soon. A virtual 24-hour wave of light will be created as it moves from time zone to time zone. For more information email pat.saum@gmail.com.

Donate blood in Adrian Dec. 14
The Community Blood Bank will accept donations from 11:30 to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at the Adrian EMS Hall (201 Main Ave., Adrian, MN). To schedule an appointment log onto www.cbblifeblood.org, select "events" and click on Dec. 14 to schedule an online appointment or call 507-483-2668. Only those with appointments will be accepted.

H-BC concerts Dec. 14 and 18
The Hills-Beaver Creek Secondary School will livestream two upcoming winter band and choir concerts. The sixth-through eight-grade band and choir concert will be 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14. The ninth-through twelfth-grade concert will be 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18. H-BC cable channel 242 will show the concerts along through Facebook Live on the school's social media page.

Food for seniors Dec. 17
Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors 60 and older, sponsored by A.C.E. of SW MN, will be from 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, with drive thru distribution in the parking lot at 319 E. Lincoln, Luverne. Call Linda Wenzel at 283-5064 for information. Pre-registration is required for those not already enrolled.

Free food Dec. 17
New Life Celebration Church will offer free food at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Generations Building on East Lincoln Street in Luverne.

Vehicles should enter the west parking lot from Lincoln Street and drive to the double glass doors on the west side of the building where volunteers will load groceries into cars. Walkers should receive their pre-packaged groceries on the east side of the building. Call 507-283-4366 with questions.

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Local schools stay with current learning models

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne Public Schools will continue with current learning models until the holiday break.

However, starting Jan. 4 elementary students will transition from hybrid learning to in-person instruction, and middle-high school students will move from distance learning back to a hybrid schedule.

"The county and Southwest Health and Human Services appreciate everyone's effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 by masking up, socially distancing, avoiding large gatherings, and practicing healthy hygiene and positive behaviors," wrote Superintendent Craig Oftedahl in a Dec. 1 letter to parents.

"The health care providers at Sanford support students being in school and support the behaviors and protocols that are in place at Luverne Public Schools."

The district's incident support team — a group of school and health professionals along with parents — meets weekly to review various data points including incidents within the school district.

Prior to the Thanksgiving holiday break on Nov. 24, reports of positive tests, exposure and quarantine involved 150 students and staff.

As of Dec. 4, COVID-related absences reported in the district dropped to 66.

However, Rock County has seen the number of community positive cases continue in the double digits including one additional

"The health care providers at Sanford support students being in school and support the behaviors and protocols that are in place ..."

— Superintendent Craig Oftedahl

death, according to the state Department of Health

"Staffing remains a huge concern for the district and will be a factor should we need to alter our learning model," Oftedahl indicated.

Luverne School District's holiday break is from Dec. 19 through Jan. 3.

H-BC continues model, is prepared for change

Hills-Beaver Creek School District continues with socially-distanced, in-person instruction.

"If warranted, the district will move to a hybrid model/in-person Mondays through Thursdays and distance learning on Fridays," Superintendent Todd Holthaus indicated in the district's newsletter.

"If warranted, specific grade levels of students, one or both buildings, will go into distance learning. Know that there will be time of planning and transition time (one day or two of no school) prior to moving to distance learning."

H-BC's holiday break is Dec. 24 through Jan. 3.



The Luverne Area Community Foundation named the Rock County Star Herald the LACF Outstanding Business for 2020. From left are editor Lori Sorenson, circulation manager Jennifer Nelson, office manager Deb Lusty, sportswriter Brennen Rupp, reporter Mavis Fodness, business manager Rick Peterson, sales representative Chantel Connell, designer Danae Meiners and designer and production manager Heather Johnson. Not pictured is copy editor Esther Frakes. Johnson sewed the matching flannel masks for her co-workers in honor of Luverne's Flannel Fest winter celebration.

LACF celebrates local generosity

By Lori Sorenson

The Luverne Area Community Foundation will host its 2020 Celebration of Philanthropy Event virtually this Friday, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Our fourth annual Celebration of Philanthropy is about lifting up donors and friends of the foundation that have worked with us this past year and to say thank you," said LACF director Emily Crabtree.

"The grant stories are inspirational and the LACF featured awards are a testament to local leadership and strength."

Honorees this year are the Rock County Star Herald for Outstanding Business, Pat and Kim Von Tersch for Spirit of Philanthropy and the Luverne Child Guide Program for Non-Profit Spotlight.

"Our three award winners have demonstrated an outstanding call to action during this public health crisis. It is our pleasure to honor them in these areas."

The virtual celebration will launch Friday, Dec. 11, through a link on the home page of the LACF



The Luverne Child Guide program received the LACF Non-Profit Spotlight Award for 2020. Pictured are (from left) Child Guide program leader Lisa Dinger and founder Connie Connell and volunteer Tara Zewiske.

website, www.luvacf.org.

"While meeting virtually is not ideal, it will be special nonetheless," Crabtree said.

She said generosity and volunteerism are more important than ever given the challenges of Covid-19.

The giving year 2020 has been an interesting one.

"It feels like the world we know has come to a complete halt," she said. "It is in these times that local leaders are called to respond to the needs of the community."

Spirit of Philanthropy Award

The Spirit of Philanthropy Award, this year given to the Von Tersches, recognizes "an outstanding living individual or family with a proven record of exceptional generosity and volunteer leadership."

Crabtree said the Luverne couple fits that description.

"Pat and Kim Von Tersch say they always want to provide support for charitable organizations and others, but when they started to see the effects of Covid-19 on our community, their call to give was heightened," Crabtree said.

Specifically, the couple expressed concern for finite resources such as food, and since production

agriculture has been their passion, they said it was an obvious area to stand in to help.

"We live in a community that is so willing to help others," the Von Tersches said.

"And our hope is to build upon the momentum that others have started to continue sustainable giving and support in the community."

They helped the Luverne Baseball Association with hand sanitizers for safe play at all levels, donated funds for oximeters at Sanford Luverne for use by Covid-positive patients to monitor oxygen levels while at home, provided meat bundles to the Rock County Food shelf and as appreciation gifts to First Responders in the area.

They supported the 2020 senior class with graduation banners downtown Luverne, supported many local

benefits and generously supported the LACF Community Crisis Fund with the offer of more help if it was needed.

"It is our honor to recognize Pat and Kim Von Tersch for their selfless giving to our community with the Spirit of Philanthropy Award for 2020," Crabtree said.

Non-Profit Spotlight Award

The Non-Profit Spotlight Award recognizes an outstanding volunteer group that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to the community through direct involvement, financial support and leadership.

This year, the Luverne Child Guide Program is in the spotlight for that recognition.

Connie Connell launched the program in Luverne after seeing the need for connection between school and community in helping at-risk youth.

Now in its 20th year as a program, Lisa Dinger, the program lead, and her actively engaged board focus their work on connecting resources in the community with students and families.

Programs such as Backpack

LACF awards/continued on page 7

Redeemed Remnants from page 1

are overflowing.

Hoogveen said customer traffic slowed in the store due to the coronavirus business closures and people's fear of COVID-19 exposure.

Redeemed Remnants volunteers clean each item before it reaches the shelves, and clothing is steamed.

Hoogveen and others working in the store wear masks to protect themselves and customers from possible virus transmission.

"It's a whole different

world now, a different mindset," Hoogveen said.

Redeemed Remnants resells good used clothing, housewares and furniture at affordable prices.

The store is operated for Atlas of Rock County, and profits support the nonprofit organization's support, advocacy and mentoring services.

The store is back to normal business hours and is open Tuesday through Saturday.

Covid-19 options/from page 1

confirmed with the traditional test, because the rapid test so far has a history of false negatives.

"People need to be reminded that they should stay home until that second negative is confirmed," Loosbrock said.

"The good news in this test is it will confirm the most likely of cases with an expedited timeline."

The rapid test is also not for those who are asymptomatic or have just been exposed to a known positive case.

Steady numbers

Loosbrock said Sanford Luverne has been fortunate in that it's not been inundated by too many patient admissions at once.

"It's been busy but we are managing. We are not in a crisis staffing in Luverne," she said.

"We changed some of our shifts and have people cross-trained to help out with coverage for when we have staff out or the couple weeks when our census was higher."

She said Sanford Luverne has been affected similarly to other businesses with some staff being out due to testing positive or quarantine.

"We have been fortunate that it is only a few at a time and that we have a great team that has stepped up to help cover the schedule," Loos-

brock said.

Testing numbers and positive cases have been steady as well as inpatient admissions, with 68 patients admitted so far with an average length of stay about five to six days, some longer and some less.

There were about 60 transfers to Sioux Falls for those needing a higher level of care, such as ICU, that isn't available in Luverne.

Other medical procedures have continued as planned, Loosbrock said.

"We have a plan in surgery to continually review our hospital patient census and staffing needs and determine if we need to do anything differently," she said.


"At this point, we haven't had to limit that in Luverne. Most of our procedures are outpatient and don't require a stay in a hospital bed.

Sanford Luverne, and the Sanford system as a whole, has been preparing for several months for the deployment of a possible Covid-19 vaccine.

"We are fortunate to be part of the integrated health system, and expect we will be administering the vaccine based on CDC and other governmental guidelines as soon as it receives final approval," Loosbrock said.



Pat and Kim Von Tersch received the LACF Spirit of Philanthropy Award for their generosity and volunteer leadership in the community.




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his 80th birthday
on December 16th

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greetings can be sent to
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Hypochondria is one more consequence of Covid-19

I've become a hypochondriac. In the past month, I've had a headache and



THE NORTHVIEW

By Brenda Winter, columnist

And now, I have a bit of a cough so I'm jotting down a few ideas for funeral songs and one of my favorite scriptures, Proverbs 17:22 ...

wondered, "Do I have Covid-19?" And then, "I wonder if I'll need a ventilator?" And then, "Who will attend my funeral if the guests are limited to members of only one household?"

I've had a scratchy throat and wondered, "Is this the end? Of course, I have allergies, I swept a dusty garage floor yesterday, and the air is dry, but this scratchy throat feels somehow ... different."

I was standing in the grocery store checkout line when someone behind me sneezed. My brain screamed, "Why?! Why?! Why did I come here?!"

Staring at the bag to which I desperately clung, I faced the reality that going to the store for Cool Ranch Doritos may be the thing that does me in.

Looking for my glasses (again) I simply cannot escape the fact that brain fog is another coronavirus symptom. "Maybe this is the only symptom I have?" I wondered as I asked, "Now, what was it I was looking for?"

I've begun recording my daily temperature. One day the number shot up from 97.9 to 98.3. "Is my living will up to date? Will my children honor my last wishes? Have I burned all my journals from the '80s?"

Many people have no

symptoms at all. Could I be a symptomless person, roaming about town unknowingly leaving a trail of illness and destruction in my wake?

Fatigue is another symptom of Covid-19. Why, just yesterday after carrying softener salt to the basement I felt fatigued.

And now, I have a bit of a cough so I'm jotting down a few ideas for funeral songs and one of my favorite scriptures, Proverbs 17:22, "A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."

I want people to remember me the way I was before the virus took me.

More empty chairs at the holiday table

DPS releases traffic fatality counts, and we're ahead of last year

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

With 21 days left in 2020, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety released a grim milestone — 367 people died on Minnesota roads since Jan. 1 this year.

That compares with 364 fatalities in all of 2019.

On a 10-year average, 30 people die on Minnesota roads in December.

Public safety officials said more crashes were speed-related, involved more motorcycles, more drivers were alone when the crash happened, and more fatalities involved unbelted motorists.

The increase of fatal crashes is disheartening to law enforcement officers who are often the first to arrive at crash scenes.

"With fewer vehicles on the road during the 2020 pandemic, the loss of life on Minnesota roads is beyond disappointing; it is tragic and completely preventable," said Matt Langer, chief of the Minnesota State Patrol.

"While most Minnesotans are driving smart, there are a number of people who have used the lighter traffic as a license to disobey laws."

He said the numbers illustrate poor choices drivers are making. Of the 364 fatalities:

- 107 are speed-related compared with 68 this time last year.

- 63 are motorcyclists compared with 44 reported this time last year.

- 314 are motor vehicle occupants compared with 339 reported this time last year.

- 92 are unbelted motorists compared with 66 this time last year.

Langer said the rising numbers of speed violations and decline in seatbelt usage cannot be ignored.

"We grieve with all of those experiencing an empty chair at the table for the holidays, and we beg each and every one of you to start understanding the consequences of dangerous driving behaviors," Langer said.

While distracted driving and alcohol-related fatalities were down from last year — 97 alcohol-related compared with 103 last year and 29 distracted-related compared with 27 last year — the actions still led to deaths.

Crash investigations have found the majority of the fatalities (72 percent) are male, and all age groups had 40 to 70 deaths in each 10-year increment. Three fatalities were ages 10 and younger.

"There are names behind the 364 traffic deaths," Langer said. "They are loved ones — individuals who never made it home after traveling on our roads. By buckling up, slowing down, putting distractions away and lining up a sober ride, we can significantly reduce fatalities on our roads."



Drive 'smart' over this holiday season

Question: Did I hear there is extra DWI enforcement going on over the holidays?

Answer: Yes, here is some information that we shared on the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's blog:

The holidays are going to be different this year, that's for sure. With Minnesota's pandemic restrictions in place for now, friends and family likely aren't coming into town to celebrate, and even if they do, you won't be going out to a bar or restaurant with them to catch up. But no matter where you're drinking, you still need to plan ahead for a sober ride.

The consequences of a DWI are unpleasant at best. You can lose your license for up to a year, and even possibly serve jail time. And that's not to mention the cost to a first-time DWI offender: about \$10,000.

Driving smart involves not only driving sober, but buckling up, driving the speed limit, and putting distractions away. If you don't drive smart, your chances of causing a crash are much greater — and then what? You and anyone else involved will likely need medical attention,



ASK A TROOPER

By Sgt. Troy Christianson
Minnesota State Patrol

meaning you'd be taking up valuable resources in the midst of a pandemic. Those hospital beds and medical supplies — not to mention the time and energy of already overworked medical professionals — need to be available for COVID-19 patients and other people who need care, not taken up because of careless decisions on the road.

If keeping yourself and others safe on the road or conserving valuable resources doesn't make you drive safely, perhaps this will: Starting today, there is extra DWI enforcement on Minnesota roads. The campaign runs every weekend through Dec. 31. Law enforcement agencies throughout the state are working overtime to get drunk drivers off the road.

But really, the legal and financial penalties of a DWI shouldn't be the reason you avoid drinking and driving. You should avoid it because protecting your friends, yourself and other people on the road is the right thing to do.

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 2900 48th Street, NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us).

Swanson: 'Do not cancel your holiday plans; make adaptations'

To the Editor:

Places are closed, organizations have drastically shifted their service delivery, and plans have been canceled. This has become the norm during the pandemic of 2020.

One thing that is not canceled is the holiday season. Many of us look forward to either going to a loved one's house, hosting people in your neighborhood/community or celebrating with a new family member.

How we celebrate will be different this year; however, we still need to stay connected now more than ever. Here are a few ways to stay connected:

- Host a virtual gathering where you can visit with loved ones.

- Prepare frozen meals for friends and neighbors and deliver following the health guidelines.

- Write letters or emails; bring back the pen pal system.

- Spend time talking over the phone. Yes, you can still call people with cell phones!

If you are gathering in your home, health officials have guidelines to help people stay safe:

- Make a meal for those that live within your household.

- Indoor gatherings are difficult; try meeting outside around a bonfire.

- Clean hands often, either washing or utilizing hand sanitizer.

- Arrange chairs and place settings that encourage social distancing.

If you or someone else is feeling ill or has been exposed, please stay home and take care of yourself for your loved one. There will be opportunities to gather later; your health is the most important.

Do not cancel your holiday plans; make adaptations. We have an opportunity to improve how we communicate: letters, emails, virtual conferencing, video calling (Jetson style) and more!

This year's holiday season is one that we won't soon forget, but let us make it a season we won't forget on a positive note. Explore new ways to celebrate, and most importantly, stay safe.

Jason Swanson
HSE Executive Director

E-mail: editor@star-herald.com Web site: star-herald.com
Phone: 507-283-2333 Fax: 507-283-2335

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Nov. 27
 •Complainant on S. Cottage Grove Avenue reported a civil issue.

Nov. 28
 •Complainant on Oak Drive reported a possible scam call.
 •Complainant reported identity theft information.

Nov. 29
 •Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 5, Beaver Creek, reported a wrong way driver.
 •Complainant at the county line, Jasper, reported a pursuit.
 •Complainant at the Luverne City Park reported traffic issues.
 •Complainant on county roads 13 and 17, Beaver Creek, reported barricade damage.
 •Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 3, Beaver Creek, reported a driving complaint.

Nov. 30
 •Complainant on W. Warren Street reported drug paraphernalia at location.
 •Suspicious activity was reported on 80th Avenue, Hills.
 •Complainant reported drug use.
 •Hazmat spill reported at location on Walnut Avenue.
 •Complainant on N. Kniss Avenue reported lost property.
 •Trespassing issue was reported on S. Kniss Avenue.
 •Pedestrian was reported at location on Interstate 90, mile marker 3, Beaver Creek.

Dec. 1
 •Theft from motor vehicle was reported at location on E. Main Street.
 •Property damage was reported at location on 201st Street, Jasper.
 •Assistance from another department was requested.
 •Miscellaneous public assist at the Vets pond.
 •House fire was reported

at location on County Highway 4, Beaver Creek.
 •Property was found at location.
 •Complainant east-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 11, Luverne, reported debris in roadway.

Dec. 2
 •Complainant on Interstate 90, mile marker 10, Luverne, reported property was found.
 •Complainant on County Highway 4, Beaver Creek, requested extra patrol.
 •Complainant on S. Freeman Avenue reported theft for motor vehicle.
 •Complainant on S. Donaldson Street reported vandalism.

Dec. 3
 •Complainant west-bound on Interstate 90, mile marker 21, Magnolia, reported an erratic driver.
 •Complainant on Josephine Avenue, Hills, reported an outage.
 •Complainant on N. McKenzie Street reported an open door at location.
 •Complainant on N. Spring Street reported a phone scam.
 •Complainant on Freeman Avenue and Warren Street reported a driver of a vehicle was texting and driving.

Dec. 4
 •Assisted another department in Nobles County.
 •Complainant on S. Walnut Avenue reported an outage.

In addition, officers responded to 3 motor vehicle accidents, 3 deer accidents, 1 vehicle in the ditch, 7 escorts, 26 ambulance runs, 1 parking violation, 3 paper services, 11 animal complaints, 5 fingerprint requests, 4 burn permits, 1 gas drive-off, 1 background check, 3 alarms, 6 purchase and carry permits, 6 traffic stops, 6 abandoned 911 calls, 4 tests, 2 welfare checks, 2 reports of cattle out and 1 follow-up.



Lori Sorenson photo/1210 west lawn property

Improving the neighborhood

The City of Luverne purchased this property at 712 West Lawn Park and in the near future will demolish the old residential dwelling to clear the lot for future housing or economic development. The city paid \$9,500 for the property in September with the intent of making way for improved housing. Former owners were April Cowell and Brad Cowell and Adam Rager.



Mavis Fodness photo/1210 Food Shelf Roof

Work begins on new Food Shelf

Also on Thursday, Dec. 3, workers assessed the scope of the roof repairs by examining the building's ceiling for water damage at the former dental office on Maple Street. Great Plains Roofing of Sioux Falls will complete roof work. Meanwhile, workers with ABC Supply Co. of Sioux Falls unloaded roof insulation panels outside. When remodeling is complete, the building will become the new home of the Rock County Food Shelf.

Beaver Creek fire/ continued from p. 1

house through a main-floor bay window and taken by Rock County ambulance to a hospital in Sioux Falls.

According to his daughter, Renae, he suffered from acute smoke inhalation and was sedated and intubated and spent two days in ICU. "It's just been such a nightmare," she said Monday.

As of Monday afternoon, Ruddy remained hospitalized, but was continuing to improve.

"We cannot thank the Beaver Creek Fire Department and Rock County Ambulance crew enough," Renae wrote on the Star Herald Facebook post about the fire.

"You all were amazing and we cannot thank you enough. We have a long road ahead of us but find comfort in knowing God is by our side with all of this."

She added that she's also grateful for the Rock County Sheriff's Office for their assistance.

According to the American Red Cross, local Red Cross volunteers helped the Ruddys and their dog with "essential items such as food, clothing, shelter and medications, and help beginning the long-term recovery process."

Meanwhile, Ruddy's granddaughter, Katrina Cordell, started a GoFundMe account where she described the events of Dec. 1 and said wiring to a chest freezer in the front porch may have started the blaze.

"The entire entryway to the house is gone and the rest of the house is damaged with smoke," Cordell wrote on the site Dec. 2.

"John Ruddy was alone inside the house during the fire and is incapable of walking. He suffered a lot of lung damage from smoke inhalation and is currently in the ICU."

The home was not insured and the GoFundMe donations will help with replacement of damaged items in the house (clothing, food, furniture, etc.), vet bills for their husky and other financial needs due to the accident.

Funds are also needed to cover medical bills.

"We appreciate any help we can get at this time," Cordell said.

"They are beginning the cleaning and rebuilding process at the house. They will need to get all new furniture, food, clothing and supplies for redoing the floors, walls and ceilings in the home."

H-BC considers \$7.5 million in upgrades to ailing school district buildings/continued from page 1

H-BC currently receives about \$150,000 annually from the local tax levy for facility maintenance and upgrades. The figure is based on the age of existing facilities and the square footage.

Former high school demo price tag: \$560,000

The district has done little to no upkeep to the 1921 former high school on East Second Street in Hills.

The building connects to the still used Hugo Goehle gymnasium.

The building was last used as a school in 2012, when the current secondary school on the northwest edge of Hills opened.

"We are going to come to a point where the 1921 building is a hazard," said Superintendent Todd Holthaus.

Currently no one is allowed in the two-story brick structure.

ICS estimates the cost to demolish and to level the bare lot at \$560,000, not including expenses for asbestos abatement.

However, the loss of square footage to the LTFM levy formula would mean about a \$30,000 reduction in annual funding.

"It is not uncommon that need far outweighs funding," Hubbard said.

Elementary school needs the most attention

Engineers estimated the 29,960-square-foot elementary school in Beaver Creek needs to most immediate

attention.

The majority of the building (26,550 square feet) was constructed in 1997 and is attached to the school's original 1955 building that primarily houses the gymnasium.

"The heating plant needs to be updated in the near future," Hubbard said. "Much of the HVAC systems have exceeded their expected life."

Median life for HVAC systems is 15 years and the current steam boiler was installed 23 years ago.

Holthaus, however, indicated that the system, while inefficient, the operates effectively with some areas in the elementary school being too warm.

Boiler repairs have been few in recent years.

The ICS report stated that the boiler system that uses fuel oil and electricity to operate is inefficient and contributes to high energy costs for the district during the cooler months of the year.

In 2019, \$139,940 was spent on electricity and fuel oil districtwide.

The elementary school accounted for \$49,816 of the total amount. Heating the building accounted for more than half of the energy costs. From October through March 2019, the elementary school consumed \$28,000 in fuel oil with more than \$10,000 spent in February 2019.

The report also pointed out that the building's in-wall air-conditioning units provide limited cooling to the office and 1997 second-story

classrooms.

Engineers recommend upgrading the HVAC systems for better temperature control and for remote access.

They also recommend replacing the zoned fire alarm system to a more concise system that pinpoints the location of a fire and add a sprinkler system. New windows are also recommended.

The report points out that the gymnasium's metal panel roof has begun to buckle and needs to be replaced. Tuckpointing is also needed as well as improved water drainage around the building.

Hubbard added that the building lacks sufficient power outlets for today's education environment.

The H-BC Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended an internal review of the elementary school's boiler operating and repair expenses and not to rush to immediately replacement of the entire system.

Almost \$1 million needed for Hugo gym

H-BC Building and

Grounds Committee members recognize that the Hugo Goehle gymnasium also needs immediate attention.

The 11,750-square-foot gym was constructed in 1955 with the 5,000 square-foot locker room addition added in 2004.

The ICS report suggests \$945,022 in repairs and upgrades.

The largest repair ticket would go to a new roof (\$238,302) and upgrades to the current fluorescent lighting to the more energy efficient light-emitting diode or LED.

Lighting is slowly being upgraded each year.

"If we replace it, it is replaced with LED," board member Bosch confirmed with new building maintenance supervisor Dalton Bass.

Secondary school needs less maintenance

Upgrades to the current fluorescent lighting systems is recommended for the secondary school.

The assessment stated

replacing the current fluorescent lighting to LED provides better illumination, consumes less electricity and requires less maintenance over time.

However, the electrical upgrade come at a price of \$408,122.

The heating, cooling and at the 76,500 square-foot secondary school were not concerning to the engineers.

"Your mechanical systems are in good condition," Hubbard said.

The secondary school uses a geothermal system for both heating and cooling of the eight-year-old building.

A propane-fueled boiler provides dehumidification throughout the warmer months. The heat pump and boiler have a life expectancy of 20 years.

In 2019, electrical and propane costs at the secondary school were \$81,370.

Additional parking is also desired at the secondary school and was included in the 10-year plan to spend \$1.629 million over 10 years.

Drainage, lighting needs at off-site athletic fields

H-BC maintains an off-site athletic field, located south of the secondary school in Hills.

Drainage of the football field is an issue and needs to be re-graded to provide proper water run off.

The press box has water infiltration and repair is needed to prevent further deterioration.

High intensity discharge lighting is used to illuminate the field and the bulbs need to be replaced.

The report outlined \$238,157 in maintenance costs over 10 years.

Lighting in bus garages

Lighting upgrades are also in order for the 5,082-square-foot bus garage and 3,200-square-foot vehicle garage for energy efficiency and component longevity as with the secondary school.

The bus garage was built in 1997. The vehicle garage was erected in 1976.

Cost of the electrical upgrades is estimated at \$92,693.

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Rock Ranch wraps up lessons for 2020

Several area youth completed an extra six weeks of basic riding lessons at Rock Ranch near Hills, thanks to the new indoor arena that was finished in October. In previous years, the nonprofit ranch was unable to offer late fall horse riding due to the cold weather. Through a fundraising campaign, Rock Ranch put up the new facility and now offers riding experiences year-round. After a break, lessons begin again in February.

Pictured above: Marie LaRock (standing, far left) and assistant barn manager Leia Tyrrell (on horseback, right of LaRock) designed riding bareback as a new experience for beginner riders (from left) Addy Chapa, Jaycee Chapa and Gretchen Lefdal.

At right: Ariana Weidert (far left) of Adrian gains confidence by balancing in the saddle while led by Rock Ranch owner Marie LaRock. Weidert's grandmother, Pam Klaassen of Luverne (not pictured), joined her during the riding lesson.

Mavis Fodness photo/1210 Rock Ranch Last Lessons 2020



CELEBRATIONS

Card showers

John Thies will celebrate his 80th birthday on Wednesday, Dec. 16. Greetings may be sent to him at 1201 Linden St., Luverne, MN 56156.

Robert and Dianna Tomlinson will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Dec. 12. Greetings may be sent to 913 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne, MN 56156.

Gail and Anita Johnson will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, Dec. 22. Greetings may be sent to them at 410 S. Fairview Dr., Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Monday, Dec. 14: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, roasted tomato, bread, cinnamon apples.

Tuesday, Dec. 15: Hamburger, potato wedges, green peas, bun, raspberry dream cake.

Half-Price Day sponsored by Minnwest Bank.

Wednesday, Dec. 16: Beef roast with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, breadstick, pudding.

Thursday, Dec. 17: Chicken and noodles, carrots, fruit, dinner roll, ice cream.

Friday, Dec. 18: Honey mustard chicken with rice, Normandy blend vegetables, mandarin oranges, bread, chocolate peanut butter bar.

A free frozen food dinner will be available every Wednesday until the end of December, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Call Lynette Hoiland at 283-9856 to arrange to pick up a dinner or for home-delivered meals.

1900: Kenneth is youngest Rock County town

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

Rock County Village (continued from 12-03-20 edition of the Star Herald.)

Kenneth

Located on the line between sections 1 and 2, Vienna township, on the Worthington-Hardwick branch of the Rock Island railroad, seven miles southeast from Hardwick, is Kenneth, the youngest of Rock county's towns. Although it was the last to come into existence, it has outdistanced some of the other villages, and today is the largest of the county's unincorporated towns. Since its founding, Kenneth has been distinguished as a leading grain market and derives its support from a rich farming section. It is well supplied with the various business enterprises that go to make a prosperous country community.

Kenneth came into being as a direct result of the building of the Burlington road extension from Worthington to Hardwick, during the year 1899-1900, and was one of the four towns, three of which were located in Nobles county, that were created by this agency a decade ago. Plans for the new town of Kenneth were in the making for several months before the rails were laid to the proposed location. The track-layers reached Lismore, the nearest station on the east, June 9, 1900, and from that point continued their way westward into Rock county, passing through the Kenneth townsite during the month of July and reaching the terminus at Hardwick on the 4th day of August.

Before the spring of 1900 opened, negotiations were under way by T. H. Brown & Co., the townsite company connected with the Burlington road, for the purchase of a desirable site for the new town it had been decided to establish in Vienna township. The deal as finally closed in April for the promoters by their agenda, J. A. Kennicott, resulted in the transfer of twenty acres on sections 1 and 2. It was decided at that time to name the town



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

Kenneth, for the eldest son of Mr. Kennicott, in recognition of that gentleman's efforts in the company's behalf.

The townsite was surveyed by County Surveyor W. N. Davidson, the dedication was made by Thomas H. Brown July 20, 1900, and the papers filed for record ten days later, on July 30. The plat created from this survey formed the town into four blocks. The streets running east and west were named First, Second and Third, and were intersected by First Avenue west, Main avenue and First avenue east. A second plat of Kenneth was surveyed by W. N. Davidson for Andrew Messner on April 2, 1902. This survey was filed for record in May, 1902. No additions to the original townsite have been platted.

Simultaneous with the arrival of the connecting iron band to the undeveloped townsite of Kenneth, during the latter part of July, 1900, building operations were commenced and the town assured of a reality. Before the month of August had passed three elevators had been completed and were prepared to handle the person's business. The three grain firms initially represented were Bemis & Howard, Ryan & Berg and E. A. Brown.

Although the greater part of the year 1900 was over before activity in the promo-

Bits, continued on page 7

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2010)

•Remember the Christmas blizzard of 2009?

Nearly two feet of snow and zero visibility closed roads to all travel that day, canceling holiday plans for families all over the Upper Midwest.

This year, those holiday blizzard memories will be recalled during a special presentation of the annual Christmas at the Palace Friday night, Dec. 10.

For many years the event has attracted local musical talent onstage to raise money for the Rock County Emergency Food Shelf and the historic Palace Theatre.

This year will be no different, except that emcee Terri Ebert will incorporate memories of Christmas blizzards into the program from a comfy chair in front of a fireplace.

Friday night's show will assume the tone of a special television broadcast, with the voice of local radio personality Roger Kohl announcing for "B-M-A-T TV" (for Blue Mound Area Theater).

Between the 13 musical acts onstage, the audience will hear prerecorded segments of local residents who shared their memories of Christmas blizzards.

25 years ago (1995)

•Luverne's new city administrator, Matt Hylan, plans to attend his first council meeting in late January and be on deck officially by Feb. 5.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity," Hylan said. He comes to Luverne after serving as city administrator for Hector since March 1993. He said he virtually developed the position, since the city changed from a city clerk to a city administrator form of government in 1992 and had only a short-term administrator before he took over.

Hylan said working with a small city staff, he's learned something about all departments. Hector has an annual budget of \$1.3 million including water and waste water treatment facilities, public works, a cemetery, airport and swimming pool. "Working in a small town, you wear all the hats. You deal with every single complaint," he said. Hector is located in Renville County, southwest of Hutchinson. ...

In addition to his experience at Hector, the Concordia College, Moorhead, graduate worked as a city manager intern for

the city of Moorhead between January 1991 and March 1993. He is working toward a master's degree in Urban and Regional Studies at Mankato State University.

50 years ago (1970)

•Luverne's city council faced a light agenda Tuesday as the result of their new bimonthly meeting policy to allow them more time for discussion of individual items.

Of main concern to the councilmen this week was the acquisition of railroad property which is now leased from Rock Island Lines. The property, located along Blue Mound Ave. has been offered to the city for purchase. Councilmen were unanimous that the city buy this property but they were also of the opinion that the price of 20 cents per square ft. was too much. City Administrative Assistant Richard Kirkham has been instructed to negotiate with the railroad to obtain a lower and more agreeable price on the property.

75 years ago (1945)

•Two new national records have been established by George Edmonds' poultry flocks here.

Announcement was made this week by the Minnesota Poultry Improvement Association that 83.1 per cent of Edmonds' flock of 670 Leghorn hens qualified for "record of performance." This record is the best ever made by any breed in the United States by any breeder trapping 300 or more birds.

To qualify for record of performance, a hen must lay 200 eggs per year which will average 24 ounces per dozen.

100 years ago (1920)

•Dr. C. O. Wright has made arrangement to take over the management of the Luverne hospital, for the present, at least, and will be given possession next Monday.

In this connection Mr. Wright announces that the same hospital corps will be retained, and that the institution will be conducted along the same lines, as near as possible, as it had been under the ownership and management of Dr. A. E. Spalding.

Dr. Wright had been quite closely associated with Mr. Spalding in hospital work ever since the hospital was first established.



Zooming with Santa and Mrs. Claus

The Luverne Area Chamber hosted Zoom chats with Santa and Mrs. Claus at their North Pole workshop Saturday, and children and families were encouraged to chat with the jolly couple online. Pictured here are Huntley (left) and Kallista (right) Van Grootheest and their cousin Afton Nuffer (middle) on a Zoom chat with Santa and Mrs. Claus, played by Rodger and Dianne Ossenfort. The Ossenforts typically appear at the Winterfest Craft Show at school, but the event didn't happen this year, due to the pandemic.

OBITUARIES

Charles Feikema

Charles D. "Chuck" Feikema, 70, Luverne, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020, at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home in Viborg, South Dakota.



Afuneralservice was Monday, Dec. 7, at the Christian Reformed Church in Luverne. Burial followed at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Charles Duane Feikema was born on May 28, 1950, to Clarence and Ann (Van Velzen) Feikema in Luverne. He was baptized and professed his faith at the Luverne Christian Reformed Church. He grew up on the family farm northwest of Luverne. He attended Edgerton Christian grade school and Southwest Christian High School in nearby Edgerton, graduating with the class of 1968. Following his graduation, Chuck enlisted in the United States Air National Guard Reserves where he served until 1975. He also began farming with his father and his brother, Robert.

On July 21, 1978, he married Charlene Wynia at the American Reformed Church in Luverne. The couple made their home on the family farm where Chuck was raised and

where he lived and worked his entire life. Chuck was passionate about farming and being a steward to the land and his animals.

Chuck was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in March of 2011 but continued to remain active on the farm until January of 2019, when he became a resident of Bethany Meadows in Brandon, South Dakota.

Chuck was a lifelong member of the Luverne Christian Reformed Church where he served as deacon, elder and on various committees over the years. He was a Rock Nobles Cattlemen's Association member and served as their local president. He was president of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association in 2005 and 2006. Chuck was honored as the State Cattleman of the Year in December of 2013. Additionally, he served on the Minnwest Bank Board of Directors and the Rock County Co-op Oil Board.

Chuck's love of horses took him to many team penning competitions around the area. He also loved camping with family, attending the National Cattlemen's Association Convention every year

and participating on various committees in the organization. He was a strong Christian man, devoted to his church and his family. Chuck's grandchildren were very important to him and it gave him joy to be able to influence their lives while they were around each other on the farm.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Char Feikema of Luverne; his children, Shawn (Becky) Feikema of Luverne, Michael (Staci) Feikema of Luverne and Ross (Lisa) Feikema of Sioux Center, Iowa; six grandchildren, Cathryn, Jackie, Madalynn, Jenna, Ella and Sabine; siblings John (Linda) Feikema of Orange City, Iowa, Robert (Arla) Feikema of Luverne and Ronald Feikema of Luverne; mother-in-law Arlene Wynia of Luverne; and many nieces, nephews, friends and other family.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his father-in-law, Melvin Wynia.

Memorials are preferred to Luverne Christian School Society or the Luverne Christian Reformed Church.

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

(1210 F)

Dorothy Kraayenhof

Dorothy A. Kraayenhof, 76, Luverne, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020, at Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



A funeral service was Saturday, Dec. 5, at the American Reformed Church in Luverne. Burial followed at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Dorothy Ann Jackson was born on April 21, 1944, to Floyd and Ilene (Oldre) Jackson at the Luverne Community Hospital in Luverne. She was baptized at the Kenneth Lutheran Church in Kenneth and received her confirmation in 1958 at the Blue Mound Lutheran Church in rural Luverne. She grew up on the farm north of Kenneth until her family moved to a farm north of Hardwick when she was in the eighth grade. Dorothy graduated from Luverne High School in 1962. Dorothy lived the rest of her life in

Luverne. After high school, she was employed at Tri State Insurance for six years.

On Aug. 2, 1967, she married Edward Kraayenhof at Blue Mound Lutheran Church. The couple later divorced. From 1968 until 1980 Dorothy was a homemaker and cared for their children. In 1980 she became the secretary at the American Reformed Church in Luverne, and she remained in that position until her retirement in 2009.

Dorothy was a member of the American Reformed Church. She was active in Circle, quilting, the Ladies Group, which provided kitchen service at various church events, and volunteering with her church group at Justice For All in Rock Valley, Iowa. Dorothy was a volunteer with ACE (formerly RSVP), Bookin' Buddies, and Good Samaritan Society — Mary Jane Brown

Home, serving coffee.

In her spare time Dorothy enjoyed sewing, crocheting, baking, flowers and plants, butterflies, and recently enjoyed reconnecting with people on Facebook. Dorothy will be remembered for her kindness, gentleness and her servant's heart.

Dorothy is survived by her two daughters, Loree Ness of Luverne and Kristi (Scott) Van Der Weide of Ankeny, Iowa; two grandchildren, Kathryn "Katie" and Anna Van Der Weide; siblings Milton (Susie) Jackson of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and David (Gwendolyn) Jackson of Brandon, South Dakota; and many nieces, nephews and other family.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother and sister-in-law Donald and Nancy Jackson.

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

(1210 F)

LACF awards/continued from page 3

Program, Homework Club, Kids in the Commons, School Supply Distribution, Youth Scholarship program, Bookin' Buddies, morning school greeters and a mentoring program have deep ties to the work of the Child Guide program.

"Being a part of the community is vital, especially with resources available to help," Crabtree said. "We have so many generous, caring people that want to help others and embrace the needs they have."

The Child Guide receives confidential referrals from staff, parents, community members, and businesses and connects them using resources from school and the community.

The program is fully supported by donations, grants and fundraisers, but is housed in the Luverne Elementary School, which allows Dinger to have the best access to students and families.

The volunteer base is strong with this program as personal connection is at the core of how Child Guide works, matching mentors and positive experiences with students.

Needs of youth and families is on the increase with Covid-19 stressors, and Dinger said she works hard to be a connector for families.

"This is a very stressful time for everyone, and we hope we can alleviate the stress by being a strong resource for individuals and families," Dinger said. "The community has been great in stepping up to help in any

'Our three award winners have demonstrated an outstanding call to action...'

—Emily Crabtree

way they can."

Outstanding Corporation or Business

The Rock County Star Herald is the 2020 LACF Outstanding Business or corporation, honored for creating a culture of philanthropy with a demonstrated commitment to philanthropy.

Crabtree said the Star Herald is a role model in the community through its financial support of nonprofit organizations and its leadership involvement with volunteer participation. She said accurate local news has been more important than ever during the pandemic.

"As we continue to reflect on the effects of Covid-19, having the correct and updated information for safety and education has been vitally important," Crabtree said.

"The Rock County Star Herald has been at the forefront of Covid-19 prevention by supporting, promoting and modeling Covid-19 protocol."

She said keeping the local public informed and up to date with current COVID-19 testing results has been a priority in addition to laboriously working with state, county, city and school officials weekly to provide the public with the information they need to stay safe and help slow the spread of the virus.

"A child's insert on hand-washing, masks and what it means to be safe during

Covid-19 ran for four weeks in an attempt to educate and calm the questions our youth may have but are afraid to ask," Crabtree said.

"All these things have made them a local leader for our community."

Star Herald manager Rick Peterson said support of non-profits and charitable giving spreads into the private sector during a pandemic.

"We're no different than so many local business that step up when and if they can to help others," he said.

"It's not just doing the right thing; it's more than that. It's the culture of the local businesses to do the right thing."

Crabtree said the Star Herald has supported local businesses and non-profits with low or no cost advertising spaces during portions of the lockdown period when hours were reduced and in some cases closed.

Early on during the pandemic, the Rock County Star Herald partnered with The Luverne Area Chamber of Commerce and KQAD/K101 for the Rock Solid We're in this Together radiothon promotion that sold over \$250,000 in local gift cards that went directly to local businesses.

Staff members at the Rock County Star Herald are personally involved in a wide array of volunteer organizations, including Dollars for Scholars, Alumni News, 4-H, Palace Theatre, Rock County



Sixty-seven inches and counting

Ashlyn Johnson is 16" of hair lighter after a Nov. 29 haircut by her mother, Heather Johnson, Luverne, who shared these photos on Facebook. The 15-year-old donates her hair to charitable organizations that make wigs for people who suffer from hair loss. This is her fifth hair donation in 10 years, according to Heather. "I cannot believe how fast this girl grows hair," she said. This donation makes 67.25 total inches of hair donated over the years. This year's donation is for Wigs for Kids, which doesn't charge families for wigs for children suffering from conditions that cause hair loss. Ashlyn's younger sister, Luella, also donates her hair, and after a cut this week is at 24 inches donated so far.

Bits/continued from page 6

tion of the new town was commenced, it saw the establishment of a number of enterprises. Early in October James A. Palmer opened his saloon. The pioneer merchant and first postmaster was J. L. Hogan. He was not long to have an unopposed field in the general merchandise business, for during the winter A. D. Parker became a resident of Kenneth and established a second general store. Mr. Parker at once created a building, 60x22 feet in size, to house his business. About the same time the firm of Trotter & Trotter, hardware dealers, commenced busi-

ness. The St. Croix Lumber company, during the same season, established a branch yard in Kenneth and installed Frank Underwood as agent. The depot was also erected in 1900, and James Costello became the first station agent.

The new town on the Burlington extension has at least been definitely located. The site chosen is twenty acres on the farms of Nelson & Wold, A. B. Turner, Eric Engebretson and Ben Hoven, on the line between sections 1 and 2 in Vienna township. About five acres is taken respectively from the northwest and southwest quarters of section 1 and the northeast and southeast quarters of section 2. The new town has been named Kenneth, in honor of the son of Jay A. Kennicott, Mr. Kennicott owns a section farm half a mile south of the

new town and has been instrumental in securing the location of the town." —Rock County Herald, April 20, 1900.

Mr. Messner purchased the Kenneth townsite from its original owners in June, 1901, and was responsible for its later development.

The story of the village of Kenneth will continue in the Dec. 17 edition of the Star Herald.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iw.net.

Local businesses host Angel Trees for SYS students

The annual Southwestern Youth Service Angel Tree in Magnolia will not be accessible to the public this year, due to pandemic restrictions.

Instead, Angel Trees are located in Lewis, Bomgaars, Sunshine and the Magnolia Cafe. The trees are decorated with cards with requests from SYS students, and churches, families, individuals, organizations and businesses collect the cards to fulfill wishes.

Follow the SYS Facebook page and people can call SYS at 507-283-4425 for gift ideas. Gifts can be dropped off at the west door of the facility by pressing the doorbell for staff to accept the items.

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520 N Spicer Ave
Jasper, MN \$144,900

Granite countertops and gorgeous custom cabinetry grace this beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home. Three bedrooms are located on the main floor with floor to ceiling windows to bring in natural light throughout the house. Large entry with tile floors brings you to a large living room open to the dining area with a bay window. Spacious family room adorns the lower level with a three sided gas fireplace. Impeccably maintained with new furnace, newer roof, new gutter guards and newer appliances. This home also features a 12 x 16 shed with cement floor.

11970 111th St
Leota, MN \$109,900

Open concept with new carpets highlight this 1.5 story home! The main floor features two bedrooms, bathroom, and handy laundry area. A welcoming entryway leads you to the open living area and kitchen. Two additional bedrooms are upstairs with an open space that could be used as a sitting area, office or play area. Abundant storage throughout. The basement includes one finished bonus room or non-legal bedroom. Huge backyard includes nice storage shed, fire-pit and large patio area.

From left, Renee Guy, realtor
605-359-7515
Sherri Thompson, realtor
507-227-6830
Gene Cragoe, broker/owner
507-920-3815
Emilie Boelman
administrative assistant
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507-283-2647 or 800-689-2647

Star Herald recaps top moments in local fall sports season

By Brennen Rupp

The 2020 fall sports season in Rock County was like no other, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

At the start of the fall sports season, it appeared the football and volleyball seasons would be played in the spring. That meant cross-country and tennis would stand alone as the only prep fall sports in Rock County.

Then the Minnesota State High School League changed course and opted to play a shortened volleyball and football season this fall, albeit with no state tournaments.

Those already shortened seasons were cut even shorter when Gov. Tim Walz issued Emergency Order 20-99 on Nov. 18. The order put a four-week pause on youth sports in the state of

Minnesota.

Teams across the state can begin practicing again on Dec. 21 with competitions being allowed to start on Jan. 4.

With no competitions left, let's take a look back at some of the best moments that happened this fall.

A perfect season

If it weren't for Covid-19, the Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots would have possibly been celebrating a nine-man state championship.

The Patriots cruised to a perfect 7-0 season that was capped by a section championship victory over Mountain Lake Area.

In its final poll of the season, the Associated Press recognized the Patriots as the top team in nine-man. H-BC dominated each

team they faced this season. In seven games the Patriots outscored their foes 338-35.

Section champions

If it weren't for Covid-19, the girls' cross country team for Luverne would have competed in the state meet.

The Cardinals were one of the most dominant teams in Section 3A all season.

Luverne put an exclamation mark on a strong season by winning the section meet. The Cardinals had three runners finish inside the Top 10.

Tenley Nelson placed fifth. Jenna DeBates finished sixth and Brooklynn Ver Steeg finished eighth.

Camden Janiszski would have qualified for state as an individual. Janiszski finished eighth on the boys' side.

Comeback city

The Luverne Cardinal football team enjoyed a successful 6-1 season that ended with a section championship.

The most memorable victory in the 2020 season was a 34-28 overtime victory over Redwood Valley.

Luverne and Redwood Valley both entered the Nov. 6 matchup with identical 3-1 records.

Redwood Valley jumped on Luverne early and looked to be the superior team. The visiting Cardinals led Luverne at halftime 21-6.

Luverne outscored Redwood Valley 28-7 in the second half and overtime period to pick up the 34-28 comeback victory.

The comeback victory

was Luverne's third straight victory. The home Cardinals finished the season on a five-game winning streak and with a 6-1 overall record.

First win

The 2020 season marked Dylan Gehrke's first as head coach of the Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball program.

In his first game as head coach, the H-BC graduate picked up the first win of his coaching career. The Patriots defeated Mountain Lake Area, 3-0 to open the season.

Never say die

The Luverne Cardinal volleyball team entered its Nov. 5 match against Pipestone Area with a 1-5 record.

The Cardinals lost to the Arrows 3-0 earlier in the season and appeared to be

on the brink of falling to 1-6 when they dropped the first two sets of the rematch.

Then a flip switched for the Cardinals.

Luverne won the third set of the match 25-23 and went on to take the fourth set 25-22 to force a fifth set.

In the fifth set, the Cardinals completed the comeback by defeating Pipestone Area, 15-11.

The win kickstarted a four-game winning streak for the Cardinals.

Clean sweep

On Sept. 17, the Luverne tennis program dominated Redwood Valley. The Cardinals swept Redwood Valley 7-0.

Luverne finished the season with a fourth-place finish in the section tournament.

Taryn Rauk signs letter of intent to play basketball at Dordt University

By Brennen Rupp

Taryn Rauk has been around the game of basketball since she can remember. As the daughter of a coach, she fell in love with the thrill of competition at an early age.

"Basketball has been a huge part of my life ever since I was a little girl," Rauk said. "My dad (Chad Rauk) coached basketball. I got to go to so many basketball games before I could even play."

Rauk started playing organized basketball when she was in fourth grade. The senior at Hills-Beaver Creek has been on the varsity squad for H-BC since she was an eighth-grader.

"I like basketball because it's a competitive sport and I love competing," Rauk said. "The one thing that I absolutely love about basketball is that it's a team sport. I love playing as part of a team. It's so much fun."

Rauk recently signed her letter of intent to play basketball at Dordt University. She said the opportunity to play basketball at the collegiate level is a dream come true.

"It honestly means the world to me to play college basketball," Rauk said.

"The game of basketball has been a huge part of my life for so many years, and the opportunity to get to play for four more years is amazing. I'm so grateful for this opportunity."

Dordt University is a private Christian university in Sioux City, Iowa. Rauk said she felt an immediate connection to the campus and head coach Bill Harmsen.

"I chose Dordt University because the first day that I walked on campus there I felt like I was at home," Rauk said. "Everyone there is so kind and makes you feel like you fit in. Their basketball program is good. I really like Coach Harmsen. He is an awesome basketball coach but he also invests in helping you grow as a person and strengthen your faith. I had an instant connection when I met the coaching staff and the team."

Dordt will give Rauk an opportunity to continue to play a sport that she loves for four more years, but it will also give her an opportunity to pursue something else she's passionate about.

"I'm going to major in elementary education," she said.



Hills-Beaver Creek's Taryn Rauk signs her letter of intent to play basketball at Dordt University in Sioux Center, Iowa. Pictured (front, from left) are Tami Rauk, Taryn Rauk, Chad Rauk, (back) Jordyn Rauk and Brynn Rauk.

"I have always had a passion for helping kids. Ever since I was a little girl, I always said I wanted to be a teacher. I can't wait to see where this leads me in life."

Rauk is a three-sport athlete for the Patriots. She's been a member of the H-BC varsity squad for five years. She knows that she wouldn't be getting this opportunity to play college basketball without the support that she's received from the H-BC program.

"I will definitely miss playing basketball at Hills-Beaver Creek," Rauk said.

"Our community was always supportive. Our gyms would always be packed."

She credits her coaches at all levels of play growing up for her current success.

"I would not be where I am today without the amazing coaches that have coached me through my years at Hills-Beaver Creek," Rauk said.

"I have had great teammates that have helped me develop as a player. I will miss my girls. Every single year I've had an amazing group of girls to play with, and I could not be more thankful for that."

Seven Cardinals get all-district football honors

By Brennen Rupp

The South Central District announced their all-district team for the 2020 season recently and the Luverne Cardinals were well represented. In total the Cardinals had five players receive all-district honors.

LaShad Smit, Zach Ahrendt, Bailey Cowell, Cade Wenninger, Peter Baustian and Ethan Beyer all received first-team all-district honors.

Jamie McCarthy was named all district honorable mention.

Ahrendt, who will be playing college football at Southwest Minnesota State University, was named Offensive Lineman of the Year. Cowell was named Wide Receiver of the Year.

Smith was named Defensive Back of the Year.

Shaid Shear was named Special Teams Player of the Year.



Brennen Rupp photo/1210 LaShad Smith Luverne's LaShad Smith earned all-district honors for his efforts during the 2020 season. Smith was one of seven Cardinals to receive all-district honors.

Patriots well-represented on all-district team following perfect 7-0 season

By Brennen Rupp

The nine-man Southwest Conference announced its all-district teams on Tuesday, Dec. 1. The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots, the top-ranked team in nine-man football to finish the season, were well represented.

H-BC head coach Rex Metzger was named Coach of the Year.

Metzger guided the Patriots to a perfect 7-0 season that was capped off with a Section Championship.

The Patriots defeated Mountain Lake Area in the section championship, 52-7. That section championship victory capped off a season in which the Patriots outscored their opponents 338-35.

Seniors Tyson Bork and Gavin Wysong were named Offensive Players of the Year.

Senior, Tory Knobloch was named Offensive Lineman of the Year.

Bork, Wysong, Knobloch, Chase Bosch, and Zander Wysong all received all-district honors.

Calvin Erickson and Max Scholten both received all-district honorable mention.



Brennen Rupp photo/1210 HBC Duo Seniors, Gavin Wysong (#2) and Tyson Bork (#21) both received all-district honors for the Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots. Wysong and Bork were two of seven Patriots to receive all-district honors.

Trio of Luverne Cardinals earn all-conference volleyball honors

By Brennen Rupp

The Big South Conference announced its fall sports all-conference honors for the 2020 volleyball season on Monday, Nov. 30. The Luverne Cardinals had three players receive all-conference recognition.

Senior Gracie Zewiske finished her prep volleyball career with by receiving first-team all-conference honors

Junior, Elise Ferrell received first-team all-conference honors.

Junior setter Reghan Bork received honorable mention.

The Cardinals finished conference play with an even 5-5 record.

Luverne finished the shortened volleyball season with an overall record of 5-6.



Brennen Rupp photo/1210 All C photo Luverne's Elise Ferrell passes the ball during a match against JCC. Ferrell recently earned Big South All-Conference.

Red Rock coaches recognize H-BC volleyball player with conference designation

By Brennen Rupp

The Red Rock Conference released all-conference volleyball honors for the shortened 2020 season on Dec. 2.

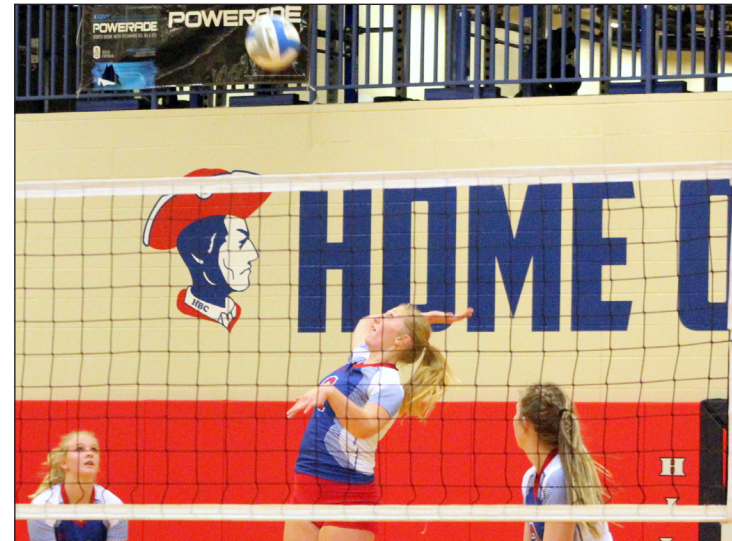
The Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots had two players receive all-conference honors.

H-BC senior Abby Knobloch received first-team all-conference honors for her efforts during her senior season.

Fellow senior Taryn Rauk received all-conference honorable mention.

The senior duo were two of Hills-Beaver Creek's top hitters during the 2020 campaign.

Under the direction of first-year head coach, Dylan Gehrke, the Patriots finished the shortened 2020 season with a 4-8 record.



Brennen Rupp photo/1210 Abby K Abby Knobloch, pictured here going up for a kill, was named to the Red Rock all-conference team for Hills-Beaver Creek.

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

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

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

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

We are streaming Sunday services live on Roger Sparks' Facebook page at 9:30 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
1033 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
Ron Nichols, Pastor / Ann Zastrow, Associate Pastor

Thursday, Dec. 10: 1:30 p.m. Women's board meeting. Friday, Dec. 11: Saturday, Dec. 12: 5:30 p.m. In-person worship service in Sanctuary. Sunday, Dec. 13: 9 a.m. Worship service. Limited seating is available. 10 a.m. Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom. 2 p.m. Online Christmas program. Tuesday, Dec. 15: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 16: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 8:15 a.m. Caring visitors meeting. 7-7:45 p.m. 6th-9th Confirmation classes. Online, TV and Radio Worship options are still available. Online Sundays 9 a.m. on the church website www.graceluverne.org, click Worship tab or go directly to our Facebook page at Grace Lutheran ELCA, Luverne. TV: Vast Channel 3 will air our worship service Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. — NEW TIME! Radio: KQAD-AM Radio will air our worship service on Sundays at 8:15 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 507-449-0291 or 605-215-9834
pastorapalmquist67@yahoo.com
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor

Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Worship service; worship online as well. Monday, 6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible study. See our Facebook page, Bethany Lutheran Church (Luverne). Also visit els.org with our sister churches for online worship opportunities.

American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne
Ph. 283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org
Mike Altena, Pastor

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. indoor service. Worship 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.

First Assembly of God Church
1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luverneumc@iw.net

Thursday, Dec. 10: 1-3 p.m. Food Shelf curbside. Saturday, Dec. 12: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Sunday Dec. 13: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday school. 10:30 a.m. Worship service — SD In-house worship service — Services held on radio and live on Facebook. YouTube will also have services posted. 4:30 p.m. Genesis to Revelation Bible Study with safe distancing. Monday, Dec. 14: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 16: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Thursday, Dec. 17: 1-3 p.m. Food Shelf curbside pickup.

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

Worship services in-person and through Facebook Live Sunday 10:15 a.m.* 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday, Dec. 13: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school Christmas program practice. 10 a.m. Worship service at Bethlehem. Worship will be streamed live to Facebook at Bethlehem of Hills, Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. You can find more info on our website blchills.org. 6 p.m. 8th-9th grade Confirmation. Tuesday, Dec. 15: 2 p.m. Bible study at Tuff Home; 2:30 p.m. Bible study at Village.

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

Listen ... and act!

We're journeying through December toward Christmas, so I invite you to consider some of those who journeyed to see the newborn king. Those shepherds in the wide open fields were the first to receive the message of God's great action of grace. Their lives were repetitive, perhaps even monotonous. Most every day looked the same. And then they received news that changed their lives ... and the world! They received, listened and responded.

Maybe you've heard it said that there is a huge difference between listening and merely hearing. When you listen, you receive the meaning of the message and process it; you are likely to take action based upon what you have heard.

The Shepherds were the first recipients of the good news: "Today, in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ..."

After receiving the message, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened." They listened. They received the message. They acted in response by going to find Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Clovis Chappell was a noted preacher about 75 years ago. He wrote a story from the perspective of a shepherd who was there that night, heard the message, but elected not to go to Bethlehem with the rest. He thought it better to stay in the fields as usual.

In the story, this shepherd shares how the others came back rejoicing and how they spoke about finding the child in the manger just as the messengers had said. The shepherd who stayed behind expresses regret. "I wish I'd gone that night, but I missed it." Hopefully, Chappell's story has caused people to pause and reflect, "I don't want to be like the shepherd who missed out."

We don't want to miss

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Jason
Cunningham
First Presbyterian Church,
Luverne

*Hopefully,
(Clovis)
Chappell's
story has
caused
people to
pause and
reflect,
"I don't
want
to be like
the shepherd
who
missed
out."*

the news of Christmas!

The call still comes to us every Christmas: "Born unto you is a Savior who is Christ the Lord." We are called to not only hear, but to listen.

When Jesus grows up and teaches the Sermon on the Mount, he says that people who hear his words and put them into practice are like a wise man who built his house on a rock. May we be people who are listening for the Lord! We are called to truly listen to the Good News!

When we, like the shepherds of old, fall down in awe, wonder and commitment before the manger of God's love, Christmas comes once again. May you truly experience Christmas this year! Listen: Born unto YOU was a Savior!!! And that is good news to bring great joy!

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Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

Page 10 December 10, 2020

Rock County Commissioners meet Nov. 3

Rock County Board of Commissioners 9:00 A.M.
Herreid Board Meeting Room/Zoom Video Meeting Nov. 03, 2020

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all who were in attendance. Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to approve the November 03, 2020, County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Williamson, to approve the October 20, 2020, County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Burger, to call or order a Public Hearing at 9:03 A.M. for the purpose of hearing comments regarding a tax abatement application for A-1 Jet LLC/Momadic Properties, declared carried on a voice vote.

The tax abatement application request to abatement taxes on new construction for a period of (5) years:

1. 100% for 2021 payable 2022
2. 80% for 2022 payable 2023
3. 60% for 2023 payable 2024
4. 40% for 2024 payable 2025
5. 20% for 2025 payable 2026

The new construction will be located in the Greenvale Addition of 401 W. Edgell in the City of Luverne and the new business will employ 4-5 jobs; tax abatement total is estimated at \$3,788. There were no attendees at the public hearing.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Reisch, to close the Public Hearing at 9:08AM, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to approve the tax abatement request for A-1 Jet LLC/Momadic Properties, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board discussed economic development issues regarding loss of businesses to border states; the Administrator was directed to initiate some type of meeting with community leaders, regional, state and federal representatives to address the business loss to border states.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented a brief election update stating that Rock County will have a high ninety percent voter turnout and that they are experiencing great cooperation from local and regional post offices in delivering mail ballots in a timely manner. She stated that all election results can be viewed on the Secretary of State's website and that the Canvassing Board is scheduled to meet November 12 at 9:00 A.M. The County Board stated they appreciate all efforts of the Auditor/Treasurer and her staff.

Kurtz presented the claims for payment to include (2) additional claims and per diems of \$2,300.00; motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the claims, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's office.

NOVEMBER 3, 2020 CLAIMS OVER \$2,000	
A & B BUSINESS INC	\$2,512.68
BREMIK MATERIALS, INC	2,485.50
CEMCAST PIPE & PRECAST	3,768.00
CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN LLP	4,400.00
COMPUTER CLINIC	9,180.00
CONTECH ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS LLC	12,915.23
FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-ADMIN FMR	7,034.42
HENNING CONSTRUCTION, INC	39,722.43
LANPHERE/LARRY	4,702.50
LUVERNE/CITY OF	63,487.15
NEW SIOUX CITY IRON CO	5,067.98
NOBLES COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	18,213.75
REMME CONSTRUCTION	6,350.00
SANDERS INC	4,094.25
SEACHANGE	6,847.86
52 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	17,966.89
TOTAL	\$208,748.64

The County Board was in receipt of the Fund Balance report which reflected a partial distribution of the October 15 tax collection; motion by Burger, seconded

by Williamson, to approve the Fund Balance report, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Reisch, to set the Truth and Taxation meeting for December 8, 2020 at 6:00PM, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, to move the December County Board meeting dates of Dec 15 and Dec 28 to Dec 08 and Dec 22 with the start time on Dec 8 to the late afternoon, declared carried on a voice vote.

Mark Sehr, Engineer requested authorization for final payment of \$12,790.24 payable to Northwest Asphalt & Maintenance on SAP 067-030-015, mastic crack filling/leveling on CSAH 4, CSAH 6 and CSAH 7; motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to approve, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Engineer requested to purchase (3) JD R240 Rotary Disc Mowers for \$31,500; trade-in value of existing rotary disk mowers is \$20,000, so net cost of the purchase is \$11,500.00. A second price quote from Jaycox Implement that includes trade-in value is \$22,000. Motion by Reisch, seconded by Overgaard, to approve the quote from John Deere for \$11,000 for the purchase of (3) rotary disc mowers, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Engineer stated that his department is wrapping up construction projects in the small cities of the county; presented as information only.

The Administrator requested to purchase a Universal Power Supply unit to be installed at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center as the current equipment is not working due to age; the cost of the equipment is \$14,661.75 and is an E911 eligible expenditure. Motion by Thompson, seconded by Reisch, to approve the purchase and to pay the expense from E911, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board was in receipt of a meeting notification for the AMC District VIII virtual meeting scheduled from November 5, 2020.

The Administrator presented a brief update of the CARES funds and stated that the committee needs to meet and develop a plan to utilize the remaining funds.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he attended the following meetings: Plum Creek and Executive Plum Creek meetings.

Commissioner Thompson stated that she attended the following meetings: Southwest Health & Human Services.

Commissioner Williamson stated that he attended the following meetings: Rock County Opportunities and Southwestern Mental Health.

Commissioner Burger stated that he attended the following meetings: Sergeant Union negotiation, Southwestern Mental Health, Sharing Hands Nursing Partnership

Commissioner Overgaard stated that he attended the following meetings: Hazardous Mitigation planning meeting and stated that Rock County was represented well.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to move into closed session at 10:00 A.M. for the purpose to discuss Sergeant Union negotiation details, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Burger, to arise from closed session at 10:23 A.M., declared carried on a voice vote.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Thompson, seconded by Overgaard, to adjourn, declared carried on a voice vote.

(12-10)

Vance probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ROCK DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

In Re: Estate of Court File No.: 67-PR-20-261
Michael Allan Vance, a/k/a Michael A. Vance,
Deceased

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING
FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
IN SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:
It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of December, 2020, at 8:30 O'clock A.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship

and for the appointment of Vickie Fikse, whose address is 4821 Washburn Avenue S., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55410, as administrator of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: November 16, 2020 /s/ Terry Vajrt
District Court Judge

Douglas E. Eisma
Attorney for Petitioner
Eisma and Eisma
130 East Main
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828
I. D. #158343 (COURT SEAL)

(12-03, 12-10)

Buys probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ROCK DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

In Re: Estate of Court File No.: 67-PR-20-256
Herman Leonard Buys,
Deceased

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING
FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
IN SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:
It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of December, 2020, at 8:30 O'clock A.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Rock County Courthouse, Luverne, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above name deceased, dated December 3, 2012, and for the appointment of Leann Kay Hoogland whose address is 301 E. 2nd Street, PO Box 54, Hardwick, MN 56134, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: November 27, 2020 /s/ Terry Vajrt
District Court Judge

Douglas E. Eisma
Attorney for Petitioner
Eisma and Eisma
130 East Main
Luverne, MN 56156
(507) 283-4828
I. D. #158343 (COURT SEAL)

(12-03, 12-10)

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CARDS OF THANKS

Words cannot express our gratitude for the donations, prayers, and encouragement offered to our family after the fire at our farm home. The compassion and generosity that has been shown continues each day. We certainly have a long road ahead, but we are truly blessed to be surrounded with such amazing friends, family, neighbors, and first responders.
From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you, The Meinerts Family Allan and Evonne Michelle Daniel, Bryanna, Daemon, and Chase
(12.05-12.10)

Thank you for the cards, calls, emails and messages for my 80th Birthday!
Wes Pierson
(12.10-12.12)

EMPLOYMENT

Ellsworth Public School is accepting applications for a full time Paraprofessional. Applications can be found online at <https://www.ellsworth.mntm.org/district/district-vacancies.cfm> or by calling the school office at 507-967-2242. (11.21-12.10)

EMPLOYMENT

New Prairie Insulation of Beaver Creek has full time insulation installer positions available. Monday-Friday; Health insurance, vacation pay, holiday pay, retirement plan, bonus, opportunities; will train. Call 605-376-3006. (tc)

HELP WANTED

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

HELP WANTED

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

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2020 Congratulations FALL SPORTS TEAMS



FOOTBALL 7-0 SEASON



Section 3 Nine-Man CHAMPIONS / AP 9-Man State CHAMPS

Members of the H-BC Championship team include, (front row, sitting, from left) Gavin Wysong, Tyson Bork, (next row, kneeling) Alex Dysthe, Justin Roelfs, Collin Schoneman, Cole Rozeboom, Dewell Rauk, Calvin Erickson, Chase Bosch, Tryce Bennett, Zander Wysong, Tory Knobloch, Thomas Dysthe, Ty Bundesen, Brayden Metzger, Logan Susie, Connor Vandervoort, (3rd row, standing) Alex Harris, Gideon Taubert, Brock Harnack, Austin Allen, Donovan Leenderts, Max Scholten, Drew Leenderts, Cole Baker, (back row, standing) Coach Eric Harnack, Coach Jason Rauk, Coach Chris Harnack, Cody Moser, Aiden Kerkhove-Brandt, Cooper Gehrke, Joshua Wiersema, Luke Fuerstenberg, Troy Durst, Robbie Drake, Andrew Harris, Riley Tatge, Casey Kueter, Coach Dalton Bass, Oliver Deelstra, Damion Meinerts and Coach Rex Metzger

VOLLEYBALL 4-8 SEASON



The 2020 H-BC volleyball team members are (front, sitting) Emma Kodetand (left) and Abi Olsen; (kneeling, from left) Hannah Fick, Tess VanMaanen, Kenadie Fick, Lauren Tatge, Annie Bos, Avery Vis; (back, from left) Jacey VandenHoek, Sam Moser, Taryn Rauk, Abby Knobloch, Taylor Durst and Allie LaRock.

Photo by Valocity Studios



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



As we enter another week of combating the COVID-19 pandemic, we all need to renew our efforts and take individual responsibility to keep ourselves and others safe. I know some of you are tired of me and others that have been beating the "wear a mask" drum for along time. We'll keep beating that drum until everyone puts on a mask so we can slow the spread and eventually beat the virus.

Luverne has always been a community that has come together to help each other out in a time of need. The time for all of us to come together has never been greater. How about we all give each other a gift this Christmas season? That gift would be to simply put on a mask.



Luverne School Update



An update from Superintendent Craig Oftedahl sent to parents on Tuesday, December 1, outlined the school's plans for the remainder of the year. The current learning models will continue through the holiday break.

The District recognizes the need to keep students, staff, and the community safe and will continue with recommended guidelines of masks, social distancing and proper hygiene. Moving forward the District will look at more prescriptive measures for classrooms and grade levels to provide the most opportunity for in-person student learning. Please do your part to keep everyone safe!

CURRENT LEARNING MODEL

Pre-K: in-person
Elementary: hybrid
Middle/High School: distance learning

WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL December 21 - January 1

LEARNING MODEL STARTING JANUARY 4

Pre-K: in-person
Elementary: in-person
Middle/High School: hybrid



Governor Tim Walz held a news conference on Monday, November 30 to address the current coronavirus situation and the recent surge in cases.

Governor Walz thanked those that made the effort to socially distance, to stay with their family and for doing what has been asked to protect the frontline health care workers. Walz said adjusting plans was not an easy thing to do, especially in a year as difficult as this. For those that did gather, he urges people to keep close track of their symptoms and consider getting a test five to seven days after the gathering to help detect any transmission so people can isolate as appropriate. He expects to start seeing an increase in cases as a result of Thanksgiving travel and gatherings as early as a week from now, but more likely in a two to three week time period.

The Minnesota Department of Health on Monday reported 5,801 new coronavirus cases and 15 new deaths, a daily toll that was low by the standards of recent weeks. Many hospitals are close to capacity.

Walz and Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm cautioned against reading too much into short-term fluctuations given reporting delays over the holiday weekend. Malcolm said a few metrics appear to be improving, but deaths are likely to head back up again. The governor said the guidance against gatherings that put a lid on Thanksgiving celebrations will probably be similar for Christmas.

"When we look at the bigger picture, we really believe that we are still in a very serious point in the pandemic, and a very pivotal point for where things go from here," the commissioner said.

Governor Walz said Monday that his administration plans to release details next week on when Minnesota will start getting its first doses of coronavirus vaccines and who will be the first to get them. He said he expects to hold "a very extensive briefing" for reporters and the public, possibly next Monday or Tuesday, on where Minnesota stands in the process. Details are still being worked out on the federal level about who gets priority - such as senior citizens and health care workers - and what the distribution plan will look like, he said.

COVID-19 INCUBATION TIMELINE COVID-19 HAS UP TO A 14 DAY INCUBATION PERIOD

DAY 0
MIKE WAS EXPOSED TO COVID-19.



DAY 5
MIKE GOT TESTED & THE RESULTS WERE NEGATIVE.

DAY 8
MIKE THOUGHT HE WAS OKAY. HE ATTENDED DINNER WITH FRIENDS AND A LARGE FAMILY GATHERING. HE WAS CONTAGIOUS ON DAYS 8 & 9 (48 HOURS BEFORE SYMPTOMS) & NOW HE HAS EXPOSED 23 PEOPLE.



DAY 10
MIKE BECAME SYMPTOMATIC & TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19.

STAY SAFE MN



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

Luverne
MINNESOTA
Love the life!

Sincerely,

Patrick T. Baustian
Mayor Patrick T. Baustian





2020 Congratulations FALL SPORTS TEAMS



FOOTBALL

6-1 SEASON

Members of the Luverne Cardinal Section 3AAA Championship team include, (front row, from left) Casey Sehr, Eli Radtke, Cade Wenninger, Arekel McLaughlin, Bailey Cowell, Carlton Oftedahl, Trevor Halverson, Jayson Rops, (second row) Jack Schlosser, Zach Kruse, LaShad Smith, Nathaniel Cole Kraty, Zach Ahrendt, Ethan Teunissen, Jack Voorhees, (back row, standing) Andy Halverson, Ayden Bonnett, Brock Behrend, Kaleb Hein, Jaimie McCarthy, Connor Overgaard, Ethan Beyer, Justin Dohlmann, Braydon Ripka, Peter Baustian, Shaid Shear, Gannon Ahrendt, Michael Aning, Ashton Sandbulte, Trygve Gangestad and Luke Bosch.

Section 3AAA CHAMPIONS

TENNIS



Photo by Jim Juhl, Myhre Studio

4th Place Section Tournament

Luverne girls' tennis team includes (sitting, from left) Elisabeth Kelm, Elise Jarchow, Lauren Ver Steeg, Sarah Stegenga, Priscilla Muehr, (second row) Rylee Anderson, Brynn Thier, Chloe Schoeneman, Morgan Jonas, Jacey Smith, Solveig Tofteland, Mia Wenzel, Isabella Lanoue, (third row) Ainslie Robinson, Rayann Remme, Roselynn Hartshorn, Emma Lusty, Morgan Hadler, Averill Sehr, Lacey Saker, (back) Tori Hemme, Hope Thorson, Anya Jarchow, Kristin Rud, Olivia Wieneke, Coach Jon Beers, Rozilyn Oye, Katharine Kelm and Cassi Chesley.

VOLLEYBALL 5-6 SEASON



Photo by Jim Juhl, Myhre Studio

The Luverne High School 2020 volleyball team members include (front, sitting, from left) Grace Sandbulte, Christina Wagner, Kamryn VanBatavia, Elise Ferrell; (middle) Trista Baustian, Reghan Bork, Silvia Recuero, Gracie Zewiske, Paige Sandbulte, coach April Wallace; (back) coach Sara DeBeer, Macy Stratton, coach Avery Van Roekel, Crystal Sayavong, McKenzie VanGrootheest, Sadie Reisdorfer and Morgan Gonnerman.

CROSS COUNTRY



Photo by Jim Juhl, Myhre Studio

Luverne cross country team members include (front, from left) Eli McLendon, Leif Ingebretson, Grace Ingebretson, Jenna DeBates, Kayla Bloemendaal, Maddy Schepel, Levi Gonnerman, Kaleb Hemme, (second row) Owen Janiszkeski, Ryan Fick, Andrea Luitjens, Maria Rops, Makena Nelson, Tenley Nelson, Tiana Lais, Camden Hoven, Sage Viessman, Brady Bork, (back) Ethan Rahm, Griffen Jarchow, Brynn Boyenga, Pierce Cunningham (behind), Regan Feit, Elizabeth Wagner, Avarie Brecher, Camden Janiszkeski (behind), Brooklynn Ver Steeg, Ashton Eitrem and Carsen Tofteland.



Luverne cross country girls' Section 3A Champs include (front, from left) Tenley Nelson, Regan Feit, Brooklynn Ver Steeg, (back) Jenna DeBates, Tiana Lais, Elizabeth Wagner, Makena Nelson and Kayla Bloemendaal.

Girls' Section 3A CHAMPIONS

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