

Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, January 25, 2018

Crew 52 heads to Minneapolis for Super Bowl LII

Local volunteers join Crew 52 to deliver Minnesota Nice at the Feb. 4 game in US Bank Stadium

By Mavis Fodness

Five football fans with Luverne ties will have front row seats during the 10 days leading up to Super Bowl LII Feb. 4 at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Nancy Hoogland, Stacy Mente, Pat Baustian, Brooke Nattress and Jonny Solma decided months ago to be among the 10,000 volunteers at the mega event.

Solma echoed all five volunteers' reasons for stepping forward.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience," he said.

Each is part of Crew 52 and had similar application experiences. They applied online, were screened by event personnel, and attended one or more volunteer orientation sessions. About 30,000 individuals submitted applications.

In December they were notified they were chosen to work at least three days from Saturday through Feb. 4 for at least four hours per day.

All said they are excited to be a part of an event that is expected to bring a million visitors daily to downtown Minneapolis.

They recently received work assignments for the "Bold North"-themed event each day.

Solma is a 2013 LHS graduate and a graduate student at University of Minnesota Mankato. He will be working at the Super Bowl Live events on Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday.

As a sports management major, he understands the important role volunteers play in hosting a successful event.



Mavis Fodness photos/0125 Super Bowl LII All volunteers for the Super Bowl LII events kicking off this weekend were given apparel to wear during their assigned times at the events. Apparel includes a parka, scarf, hat, mittens and a backpack.



Super Bowl volunteer Pat Baustian (center) is volunteering to greet visitors at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport beginning Saturday before he passes the ball to Nancy Hoogland (left) who will work at the volunteer headquarters in Minneapolis and Stacy Mente who will be stationed at one of the Twin Cities hotels as a greeter. Also volunteering but not pictured are LHS graduates and current college students Brooke Nattress and Jonny Solma.

"It's a lot of action happening," he said.

Super Bowl Live is spread over a six-block venue on Nicollet Mall in downtown Minneapolis and includes free live concerts, sports broadcasts, food and winter sports activities.

Solma will receive his work assignments when he checks into the volunteer headquarters prior to his

three shifts.

At the volunteer headquarters, located blocks from the football stadium, Luverne's Nancy Hoogland will hand out the assignments Feb. 3 and 4.

"I am not a huge sports fan, but who isn't a Vikings fan?" she said.

Hoogland, Sanford Luverne patient coordinator, will direct people to the right locations and will make

sure volunteers have the correct credentials.

Credentials—including Crew 52 attire of black pants and shoes—were stressed during the training sessions.

Brooke Nattress, 2015 LHS graduate, will welcome visitors in the downtown Minneapolis skyways.

She said organizers of last year's Super Bowl learned that someone

duplicated a volunteer badge after a picture was posted on the Internet. That person was able to enter the stadium locker room and steal Tom Brady's game jersey.

Being vigilant will help keep visitors safe and possibly bring the event back to the state in the future.

Crew 52/continued on page 8A

Midwest Dry Cast to open this summer

County agrees to abate \$10,000 in taxes per year for incentive

By Mavis Fodness

Midwest Dry Cast will break ground this spring on a 100-by-250-foot \$1.75 million manufacturing building south of Luverne.

To help out, Rock County will abate up to \$10,000 per year in taxes over the next 10 years, according to action at the Jan. 9 County Board meeting.

In return, the business promises to create at least 12 jobs (paying more than \$20 per hour) in the first year and it will continue to pay taxes on 17 acres based on their value before the improvements.

The estimated county-share of the 2018 taxes on that ag land is \$425.

After 10 years the company will pay taxes based on the full value of the improved property.

SD Industries purchased the Luverne Township land in a private sale from Ron Fick last summer, and it was rezoned from agricultural to industrial.

The Alexandria, South Dakota, company will start producing agricultural concrete products, primarily floor slats for swine facilities, this summer.

Aaron Waldner of SD Industries

Midwest Dry Cast/see page 3A



Mavis Fodness photos/0125 Snow Coronation

Luverne crowns Snow Week royalty

Seniors Michael Rahm and Madelyn Aleman were named LHS Snow Week king and queen during coronation ceremonies Tuesday, Jan. 16. Faculty nominated 10 students for the honor. Other queen candidates were Emilie Bartels, Alexis Ferrell, Megan Rogers and Emma Verbrugge. Other king candidates were Cade Ver Steeg, Mark Robinson, Michael Rahm, Aric Meinerts and Hans Bakken



Madelyn Aleman (left) registers surprise as red confetti falls from the bucket revealing her selection as Snow Week queen. At right is candidate Emilie Bartels. In the photo at right, red confetti falls from the bucket held by Michael Rahm (center) signifying he was selected as Snow Week king. Pictured from left are Cade Ver Steeg, Mark Robinson, Rahm and Aric Meinerts.

City adjusts sludge process to meet new MPCA standard

By Lori Sorenson

Mayor Pat Baustian received a letter from the MPCA dated Jan. 11 that Luverne's wastewater effluent is testing high for ammonia content.

The agency informed the city it would be fined \$2,350, but that penalty is forgivable if the problem is addressed promptly.

Luverne's water and wastewater supervisor Al Lais said the city has been out of compliance from June through September for too much ammonia discharging into the Rock River.

One reason, Lais said, is that the state tightened its restrictions on the allowable amount of ammonia from 10 parts per million to less than 3 ppm.

For four months last summer, Luverne's effluent tested at 3, 5.4, 3 and 3.1 ppm. "We weren't over by very much," Lais said.

At the same time, the 600,000-gallon tank that stores Luverne's solid waste reached capacity before the sludge could be land applied to local fields (after harvest).

To make more space in the tank, the wastewater department drained the liquids off the top of the sludge and disposed of it through the oxidation process and discharged it into the Rock River.

This extra treatment process resulted in too much ammonia in the effluent that was discharged.

Lais said the water would not have been out of compliance by the MPCA's old standards, but the new standard put it over the limit and

MPCA and sludge/see page 2A



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Narcotics Anonymous meets at a new time: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays in the basement of St. Catherine Catholic Rectory, 203 E. Brown St., Luverne. Use east door. Call 507-220-0137 with questions.

Springwater Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, in the home of the Clerk/Treasurer Teresa Kramer.

Narcotics Anonymous meets at a new time: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays in the basement of St. Catherine Catholic Rectory, 203 E. Brown St., Luverne. Use east door. Call 507-220-0137 with questions.

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Mondays in the United Methodist Church.

Meditation and Mindfulness Practice meets at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in Hilger Commons at 215 N. Cedar Street in Luverne. Call Kim at 507-353-0041 or email kimberlyelizabeth@live.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays in the United Methodist Church, Luverne. Call 605-321-4324.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 8 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday in Runals Hall, Edgerton. Call 507-215-2956.

Luverne High School one-act play

Jan. 26 honors director

The Luverne High School one-act play, "The Most Likely Pages," will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, in the high school theater.

Admission is free but a freewill donation will take place in honor of fall-spring play director Sharon Boltjes, who is undergoing cancer treatments.

Sign up by Jan. 30 for Tai Ji Quan

Seniors are encouraged to improve their strength, flexibility and balance through a 12-week program of Tai Ji Quan through ACE Southwest Minnesota in the Luverne Senior Center. The class is adaptable to all levels of agility — including those with walkers or those who must sit. Sign up through Luverne Community Education, 283-4724. Cost is \$75 for the twice weekly classes Feb. 6 through April 26.

Bank Nite movie 'Beauty and Beast'

The free Bank Nite Disney movie, "Beauty and the Beast," rated PG, will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, at the Palace Theatre in Luverne.

Sponsored by First Farmers & Merchants National Bank and Papik Motors, a free, family-friendly movie is shown on the first Thursday of every month as it was done for "Bank Nite" in the 1930s. A cash prize drawing will follow the movie. Must be present to win.

Free tax help available at library

Volunteers through AARP will provide free tax services at the Rock County Community Library in Luverne starting Monday, Feb. 12. Call the library, 449-5040, to make an appointment. Appointments are required. Evening appointments are also available.

The service is free for any private individual with a simple tax format. It's not for commercial, farming or investment taxes.

Library offers Story Hour/Laptime

The Rock County Library will offer Story Hour for children ages 4-5 Thursday mornings from 10 to 11 a.m. from Thursday, Feb. 1, through Thursday, April 5. Story hours include stories, songs, crafts and more.

Laptime for children from birth through age 3 will meet every Friday morning from 10:30 to 11 a.m. beginning Feb. 2 through April 6. Laptime fun includes stories, songs, crafts and more.

Driver Education class begins Feb. 5

Students in the Luverne School District in grade 8 or above may sign up for a student driver education class to begin on Feb. 5. The fee of \$325 is due at the time of registration. Contact Community Education at 507-283-4724.

Rock Nobles Cattlemen's banquet Feb. 5

The Rock Nobles Cattlemen's annual banquet will begin with a social hour at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, at Grand Prairie Events in Luverne. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by guest speaker John Phipps, former host of US Farm Report. He has written award-winning humor and commentary for Farm Journal and Top Producer magazines since 1994.

Bonnema named Big Buddy of Year

By Lori Sorenson

One positive person, one encouraging word can change the course of a child's life for the better.

That's why retired Luverne florist George Bonnema signed up to be a mentor through Rock County Big Buddies.

In the past two years with his Little Buddy, Will Soto, the arrangement has gone so well that Bonnema was named Big Buddy of the Year for 2017.

"The thing that stands out the most about George is his willingness to give of his time and talents," said Big Buddies coordinator Lisa Nath.

She noted that Bonnema is active in many community organizations, but he always finds time for his Little Buddy, Will Soto.

"It is so fun watching him interact with Will. He has wonderful ideas about things the two of them can do together, exposing Will to so many different adventures."

Big Buddies are asked to spend time — as much as their schedule allows — with their Little Buddies and to make the experiences positive for the kids.

Bonnema said he doesn't plan elaborate activities with Will.

"One time we took a 5-gallon bucket and scoop to The Lake in town, and we spent hours making things out of sand and digging water channels."

He said it made him smile to see other nearby children abandon their store-bought beach toys to join Will and his bucket.

Last week when it was cold, Bonnema said he spread a large sheet of blank paper on a table, and the two of them drew a map of a town and drove matchbox cars on their streets and alleys.

Another low-tech game they played this summer was floating corncocks down Poplar Creek near Bonnema's home in Luverne.

"They'd float down to the culvert, and we'd catch them and bring them upstream and do it again," Bonnema said.

The point, he said, is not what he and his Little Buddy do, it's that they spend time



Lori Sorenson photos/0125 big buddy bonnema

George Bonnema is the 2017 Big Buddy of the Year for the Rock County Big Buddies program. He's pictured with 7-year-old Luverne Elementary student Will Soto, who has been his Little Buddy for two years. Bonnema said being a Big Buddy has been a blessing in his own life. "You have so much to give, but you have so much to gain," he said. "These kids build into your life as much as you build into theirs."

together with positive interaction.

"He has some attention trouble, so I'm happy to do what he wants to do," Bonnema said.

"Sometimes we jump from one thing to another to another, but that's OK."

He said he signed up to be a Big Buddy with the hope that he could enrich a child's life, but he soon realized he's also a better person because of the program.

"You have so much to give, but you have so much to gain," Bonnema said. "These kids build into your life as much as you build into theirs."

He said his sister-in-law in Rochester mentored a boy all the way through high school and encouraged him to be all he could be.

Because she taught him how to cook, he grew interested in it as a profession and qualified for scholarships at Le Cordon Bleu chef

he's working in a restaurant. ... Mentoring lifted him out of poverty."

Bonnema said he thinks often about how different the boy's life would have been without a positive mentor.

"The potential we have to make a difference in a kid's life ... it's really overwhelming," Bonnema said.

About Big Buddies

Big Buddies of Rock County is open to all kindergarten through fifth-grade students in Rock County.

Mentors and their children generally spend one to two hours together weekly.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a Big Buddy or who knows a child that could benefit from a mentor can call 507-283-9165.

Bonnema said he hopes more people will consider volunteering.

"It's an opportunity to make a difference in a kid's life. ... to be a non-threatening person, someone they can trust," Bonnema said.

"We all have that opportunity."

The Big Buddy program currently has 16 buddy pairs, but there are many more children who could benefit from a positive mentor.

"We have lots of kids who have needs, but people aren't signing up," Bonnema said.

"God has given you these opportunities and we can either throw them away or make the most of them."



Big Buddies are asked to spend time — as much as their schedule allows — with their Little Buddies and to make the experiences positive for the kids. Bonnema said he doesn't plan elaborate activities with Will. They're pictured here tying bows on Christmas greenery last month.

MPCA and city of Luverne sludge/continued from page 1A

resulted in an MPCA citation. "This is the first time this sort of thing has happened," said Lais, who has been with the city for 45 years.

"But we've submitted a plan [to address it], and we should be OK."

The plan involves land-applying solids more than once a year to prevent too much sludge accumulating in the tank.

The city currently applies

nearly 700,000 gallons of sludge on farm ground contracted with various landowners. The waste, rich in nutrients, is applied after the fields are harvested in the fall.

"The farmers like it, because it has about the same nutrient content as hog manure," Lais said.

He added that the city pays for the equipment and labor for the application, which includes knifing the fertilizer

into the soil. The landowner pays an application fee.

"We have to get rid of it," Lais said.

"So if we have ground near Luverne to put it on, we're happy to provide the service."

Now Lais said he is making arrangements to apply sludge also in the summer on 16 acres of alfalfa between cuttings on land that the city owns south of the airport.

It involves a permitting

process that Lais said is almost complete.

"If I can get rid of 50,000 to 100,000 gallons in the summer, there will be that much more room in the sludge tank," Lais said.

"We won't have to get rid of the decant (the liquid)."

Once everything is finalized, Lais said he'll forward the plan to the state for what he hopes will result in forgiveness of the fine.

Advertisement for Dial-A-Specialist, a directory of local businesses including chiropractic, advertising, automotive, and computer services.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Jan. 15
 •Complainant requested welfare check on subject having breakdowns.
 •Complainant reported they had a disruptive patient in the lobby while on the phone with alarm company.
 •Complainant reported subject is refusing to answer the door for custody exchange.

Jan. 16
 •Deputy helped complainant unlock a vehicle without incident.
 •Complainant reported cell phone stolen from Luverne High School is now pinging at Casey's.

Jan. 17
 •Complainant reported a small green vehicle with two occupants driving down Bishop Street slowly and looked into a parked vehicle.
 •Complainant reported a little girl walking alone. Concerned because of her age and the outside temperature.
 •Complainant requested to speak to a deputy about a car they are having trouble getting back.
 •Complainant reported they did a search of a student's locker and found what he believes to be drugs.
 •Complainant reported finding a set of keys.
 •Complainant reported a party to notify owner about flashing lights.

Jan. 18
 •Complainant reported uncontrollable student, tearing up the classroom.
 •Party is trying to leave Sanford Luverne.
 •Complainant reported a light has been on in Hardwick for several days. Last night they saw the subject sitting in the chair, this morning subject is in the same chair with the same clothing on.
 •Deputy responded on a welfare check for suicidal subject.

Jan. 19
 •Complainant requested a welfare check on subject who walked out of the emergency room.
 •Complainant reported the odor of marijuana in their apartment complex. The complainant believes the occupants of 1, 2 and 4 are involved. Requesting a walk-through of complex.
 •LG Everest Inc. applied for an explosives permit.
 •Complainant reported theft at Teal's.
 •Complainant reported some people are going to take her out into the country and take her money.

Jan. 20
 •Complainant reported her estranged husband opening her mail without her consent.
 •Complainant reported the music from the speakers on Main Street is creepy and too loud. She can hear it in her apartment and wants it turned down/off.

Jan. 21
 •Complainant reported vehicle with South Dakota plates going from shoulder to shoulder.
 •Complainant reported a vehicle is parked in front of a trailer and they feel it is suspicious.
 •Complainant reported spark plugs on vehicle were cut.
 •Complainant reported stolen wallet in Hills.
 •Patient left Sanford Luverne against medical advice.
 •Complainant reported subject threatening to assault her and her boyfriend.
 •Complainant reported vehicle swerving over center and fog lines.
 •Complainant reported black male tried to purchase items with fraudulent gift card.
 •Spoke to Lyon County about a complainant and gave him information advising him Ellsworth is in Nobles County.

In addition, officers also responded to 24 burn permits, 8 ambulance runs, 1 lifeline activation, 2 animal complaints, 1 vehicle registration, 4 paper services, 18 traffic stops, 1 background check, 1 foreclosure sale, 4 drug court tests, 4 permits to purchase/carry, 1 follow-up, 1 warrant, 3 abandon 911 calls, 5 tests, 1 training, 2 school patrol issues, 1 child maltreatment, 2 fingerprint requests, 2 POR registrations, 1 transport, 1 road and drive law complaint, 1 property accident, 1 family and child issue and 2 deer accidents.



Lori Sorenson photo/0125 snow removal

Dodging a dumping

Luverne city crews work to remove snow at the corner of Main Street and Highway 75 Tuesday morning, Jan. 23, after several inches blanketed the area during Monday's blizzard. While it was plenty to shovel, Luverne and Rock County dodged the worst of the storm that dumped nearly a foot of snow as close as Nobles County. Schools, including Luverne and Hills-Beaver Creek, canceled classes Monday, and students returned on Tuesday. Adrian School District and many to the east remained closed Tuesday. High winds on top of new snowfall combined to decrease visibility and cause slick road surfaces. The Minnesota Department of Transportation advised no travel for all of southern Minnesota all day Monday and Monday night.

Farm service agency reminds producers of current policies

By Fraser Norton
 County Executive Director

Important Dates
 Jan. 30: 2017 LFP application deadline.
 Jan. 31: 2017 Wool Loan and LDP request deadline.
 Feb. 1: 2018 NAP Maple Sap sales deadline.
 Feb. 19: FSA office closed for Presidents Day.
 March 15: 2018 NAP Pasture and Spring-seeded Annual Crops sales deadline; 2018 Crop Insurance Corn, Soybeans, Oats and Spring-Wheat sales deadline.
 April 2: 2017 Small Grains Loan and LDP request deadline; 2017 LIP application deadline.
 Ongoing: Continuous CRP sign-up.

Farm Service Agency policy reminders

The following reminders include important information that will assist producers in maintaining Federal Farm

Program eligibility. Any questions should be directed to the Pipestone County FSA Office at 507-825-5478, or the Rock County FSA Office at 507-283-2369.

Firearms and dangerous weapons are forbidden in federal facilities. This includes any item prohibited by any applicable federal, state, local and tribal law and/or ordinance, as well as firearms, dangerous weapons, explosives, or other destructive devices designed to cause injury, death or property damage. Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in federal facilities is a crime punishable by fines and imprisonment.

Special accommodations will be made upon request for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, individuals should contact the FSA Office.

FSA supports the Risk Management Agency (RMA) in the prevention of fraud, waste and abuse of the Federal Crop Insur-

ance Program. FSA has been, and will continue to, assist RMA and insurance providers by monitoring crop conditions throughout the growing season. FSA will continue to refer all suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse directly to RMA. Producers can report suspected cases to the County FSA Office, the RMA office or the Office of the Inspector General.

Controlled Substance: Program participants convicted under federal or state law of any planting, cultivating, growing, producing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance are ineligible for program payments and benefits. If convicted of one of these offenses, the program participant will be ineligible during that crop year and the four succeeding crop years.

Program participants convicted of any federal or state offense consisting of the distribution (trafficking) of a controlled substance, at the discretion of the court, may be determined

ineligible for any or all program payments and benefits for up to five years after the first conviction, up to 10 years after the second conviction, and permanently for a third or subsequent conviction.

Program participants convicted of federal or state offense for the possession of a controlled substance will be ineligible, at the discretion of the court, for any or all program benefits for up to one year for the first conviction, and up to five years after a second or subsequent conviction.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, visit www.fsa.usda.gov. Please contact the Rock County FSA Office if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment to meet with the loan staff to discuss your options.

Call 507-283-2369, ext. 2, or stop by the Rock County FSA Office at 500 W. Gabrielson Road in Luverne.

Gary and Janine Papik receive spotlight for philanthropy/ continued from page 3

soccer games and recitals. Janine's roots run deep in the area, but Gary moved there as a boy. He came to town amid the frenzy of Luverne High School's victory over Rochester in the 1964 Minnesota State Basketball Tournament, something he talks about to this day. As for the cars, Gary started out washing them. He worked his way up and purchased Schoon Motor Company in 1990, renaming it Papik Motors. In 2013 Gary was Minnesota's TIME Magazine Quality Dealer of the Year, honored among the

nation's most successful auto dealers who demonstrate a long-standing commitment to effective community service. "When you have a big investment in the community, you want it to be as strong as it can be," Gary said. The dealership is a family business in the truest sense. Gary, Janine and all their children have worked there. Today, Jordan, Heidi and son-in-law Micky hold management positions. If the grandkids are interested, they're welcome too. Gary knows cars; Janine

knows music. In what used to be their home's formal dining room, she's filled the china cabinet with orderly rows of sheet music, and a piano sits at the center of the space. At Grace Lutheran Church across the street and Luverne High School just down the road, Janine has played music and directed choirs for years. Janine, Gretchen and Heidi all majored in music in college. Four years ago, Janine and her friend LaDonna Iveland were talking to Luverne's chamber director, Jane Wildung Lanphere, about op-

portunities for music lessons in Luverne. As with other projects, they found people in the community willing to make it happen. Luverne Street Music opened its doors in January 2013 with three teachers and a dozen students. "We connect teachers and students to give them lessons in whatever they want," Janine said, including a group of gentlemen in their 70s who simply wanted to play a few notes on violins. The nonprofit now serves over 100 students — children and adults from Luverne and

the surrounding area. There are group lessons, ensembles, summer music camp and children's choir. "It's amazing," Janine said. **SWIF impact in Luverne** In addition to grant giving, business finance programs are a critical piece of SWIF's community impact. SWIF partners with banks and credit unions, economic development organizations, nonprofit lenders and private investors to offer creative financing. As the organization

works to close the opportunity gap for children living in poverty, part of the solution is ensuring there are strong employers, solid jobs and a thriving economy for the next generation. Over the years, SWIF loans have supported 17 businesses in Luverne alone, including most recently Midwest Fire, Sterling's Grille and Café, Dragonfly Boutique and Oasis Care Home. In FY17, SWIF made 31 loans totaling more than \$1.1 million in southwest Minnesota.

Rock County EYE CLINIC
 507-283-2345
 104 N. Freeman Ave.
 Luverne, Minnesota
www.rockcountyeyeclinic.com
 50% off frame with purchase of lenses
 Jan. 2 - Jan. 31, 2018

Ring in the New Year and join us for our *January Sale*

Rock County EYE CLINIC

Rock County Eye Clinic, locally owned, community involved, clearly different.

A REMINDER FROM THE CITY OF LUVERNE STREET DEPARTMENT

It is the responsibility of all motorists to arrange for off-street parking so the Public Works Department can plow the city streets.

Please remove all vehicles from the street if it's snowing or snow is in the forecast.

Vehicles not removed from the street may be ticketed.

Order reprints of Star Herald news or sports photos
 They make great gifts! 283-2333

CELEBRATIONS

Open Houses

Fabian Deutsch will celebrate his 90th birthday with an open house from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, at the Colter Deutsch Truck Shed four miles west on County Road 270 to Hills, 31490th Avenue N.

Card showers

Gerald Winter will celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday, Jan. 27. Greetings may be sent to him at 678 90th Avenue, Luverne, MN 56156.

MENU

Monday, Jan. 29:

Chili, cheese sandwich bun, cracker, sherbet.
Program: Pinochle.

Tuesday, Jan. 30:

Meatballs in gravy, mashed potatoes, beets, bread, lemon sponge cake.
Program: Two-buck Tuesday sponsored by Eagles. SR Board meeting.

Wednesday, Jan. 31:

Sweet and sour chicken, rice, oriental vegetables, mandarin orange gelatin, brownie.

Thursday, Feb. 1:

Sausage egg bake, oven-baked potatoes, fruit cocktail, bread, coffee cake.
Program: Two-buck day; Pastor of Month Father Jennings of St. Catherine.

Friday, Feb. 2:

Ham boiled dinner (with cabbage, potatoes and carrots), peaches, cornbread, bar.
Program: Free meal giveaway.

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

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

Call Lauree Teunissen at 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.

LHS junior develops project to bring visibility to invisible illnesses

By Mavis Fodness

Former high school cheerleader Sage Ver Steeg looks like her classmates on the outside, but inside she doesn't have the energy to keep up with her 17-year-old peers.

Last year Ver Steeg, a junior on Luverne's FFCLA team, delivered a simple speech about invisible illnesses.

This year she went a step further by developing a website that offers support and care kits to those affected by invisible illnesses. It also educates those who are not.

Ver Steeg, daughter of Brad and Amy Ver Steeg of Luverne, has Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS), a rare connective tissue disorder that causes sudden joint dislocation and pain.

She suffered her first bone dislocation two years ago when she was a freshman.

"Ever since I was little, I had joint pain," she said. "We thought it was growing pains until I got older."

Cheerleading became an activity of the past when Ver Steeg was also diagnosed with a common illness that often accompanies EDS.

Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome is a condition in which the change from lying to standing causes an abnormal increase in heart rate. Dizziness, nausea and blurry vision usually accompany the racing heart.

Medications keep the illnesses under control, and Ver Steeg has turned her focus to less physical activities, such as Future Career and Community Leaders of America or FCCLA.

"It's been a drastic change since high school started," she said. "That's why people don't understand my illness — because it's not something they can see."

From the outside Ver Steeg appears to be a



Mavis Fodness photo/0125 FCCLA Sage Ver Steeg shows a few of the special gifts included in care kits for "The Visibility Project 1125" she developed last year. Ver Steeg's FCCLA project received a \$500 grant through Disney's Youth Service America program.

healthy teenager until a sudden pop from one of her joints echoes in the classroom or she becomes dizzy as she leaves for her next class.

Students afflicted with asthma, diabetes or dyslexia often feel similarly

misunderstood — sometimes hearing comments like, "Stop faking," or "She's looking for sympathy."

Ver Steeg wants to change those perceptions because others like her are affected by invisible

illnesses.

For almost a year, Ver Steeg devoted time developing an Instagram site called "The Visibility Project 1125" to bring awareness to conditions that aren't visibly noticed.

She received a \$500

grant from Disney's Youth Service America, which has a goal of inspiring young people to make a positive impact in their communities.

"I like the idea of giving back to the community that has helped me understand my illnesses more," she said.

Care kits are assembled from the grant dollars. The kits range in cost from \$30 to \$40 including shipping.

Each kit contains a pair of socks, lip balm and a special gift based on information provided by the applicant.

With each kit Ver Steeg has included a card that reads, "Something fuzzy for your feet, something sweet you cannot eat, something I thought was neat."

The neat gift could be a CC Bean hat, adult coloring book and pencils or a blanket personally sewn by Ver Steeg.

Ver Steeg has filled two care kits and is in the process of assembling four additional kits.

"It's just something to make them feel better," she said. "Helping people helps me feel better."

Locally Ver Steeg will educate elementary children later this spring about invisible illnesses and teach empathy for those not afflicted.

Next week she will present her visibility project at the regional FCCLA conference Jan. 31 in Tracy. She will compete in the STAR event or Students Taking Action with Recognition.

As a senior next year, Ver Steeg intends to continue her visible project with community residents sponsoring the costs of a care kit or its shipping.

Questions can be directed to Ver Steeg at thevisibilityproject1125@gmail.com.

"I want to make it easier on people because they are already battling their bodies. They don't need to put up with people being ignorant," she said.

1952: Part two of Rock County's booming poultry business

The following appeared in the Rock County Star Herald on Feb. 21, 1952. This is second of the two-part series.

Poultry Farming Is Million Dollar Business in County.

Census Shows Eggs Are Big Income Source



Bits by Betty

By Betty Mann, president
Rock County Historical Society

He must be qualified to inform his customers on latest methods of brooding and caring for chicks. He must provide the latest in poultry equipment and advise his customers in their proper use and operation, and help him maintain them.

He generally is called upon to cull the flock, so only the best layers are kept in the flock, and thus eliminates the need of feeding hens that are not producers.

He blood-tests the various flocks, so that when the hatching season rolls around, he is sure that the eggs he gets will produce the chicks he wants.

Some of the companies maintain a trucking service, delivering feed and equipment, buying eggs and poultry at the farm, thus saving the farmer the chore of loading and delivering his produce when he is busy with other farm work.

Some firms manufacture their own poultry feeds. Others sell nationally advertised brands.

Proper Feeding Important

Farmers raising poultry have found that proper feeding is one of the key factors in a successful poultry venture.

With these facilities, poultry raising has grown from the one time sideline stage in the overall farming program, to one of the more important phases of the agricultural industry, as it provides one of the main sources of income, not only in the winter time when other farming operations are at a standstill, but the year around.

With the growth of the poultry industry has come the need for poultry processing plants. Luverne has one of the plants at the Worthington Creamery and Produce Company where each year, thousands of chickens and turkeys are dressed and packed annually.

Plans are now being made by the Blue Mound Cold Storage Company, headed by a former Lismore man, Keith Madison, to install a processing plant at the cold storage plant on South Cedar street. This past year, the company processed turkeys at the Madison farm near Lismore, and used the facilities in Luverne for freezing and storing.

All these industries help to make Rock County a leader in the poultry industry, not only on the local level, but on a nationwide scale, and those who are in a position to know state that very few areas have as much to offer in the way of

opportunity in the poultry raising field as there is to be found right here.

Baby Chicks Are "Good Business"

A familiar sight from now on will be that of farmers coming out of hatcheries carrying those big boxes of baby chicks. To our ears there is sweet and appealing music from the symphony of "cheeps" that emanates from those boxes. We never tire of watching, with fascination, those cute, little baby chicks.

Those wee fellows are symbols of more than future eggs and poultry — they indicate a source of sizeable amount of Rock county income. Not the major share, it's true, but an important source of cash money for many a farm family. Hundreds of shrewd Rock county farmers look to those baby chicks as food business because they believe in a well rounded program of farm income. By buying baby chicks they indicate that they want to avoid the pitfalls of "putting all their eggs in one basket" in looking to a source of income.

Rock county has the facilities in progressive hatcheries and manufacturers to make it one of the leaders in the Midwest in efficiently serving the needs of the farmers of the community.

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

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iu.net.

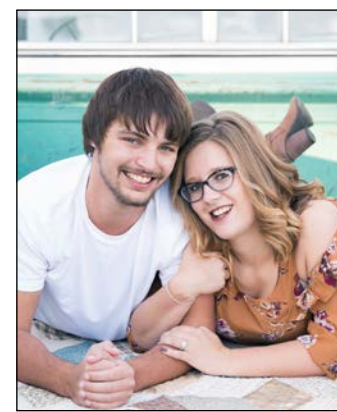
ENGAGEMENTS

Jeff and Missy Fick, Luverne, and Don and Jody Kramer, Ellsworth, announce the engagement of their children Meranda Fick and Johnathon Kramer.

Meranda is a 2015 graduate of Luverne High School and a December 2017 graduate of Southeast Technical Institute with a degree in business and early childhood. She is employed at Rock Rapids Kids' Club.

Johnathon is a 2014 graduate of Ellsworth High School and a May 2018 graduate of South Dakota State University, Brookings, with a degree in ag business.

The couple is planning



Johnathon Kramer and Meranda Fick

a May 26, 2018, wedding at Tabernacle Baptist Church in George, Iowa.

Melvin and Minnie Van Batavia, Steen, announce the engagement of their son Joel to Courtney Sheppard, Madison, South Dakota.

Courtney is the daughter of Jamie McKinney Madison and Dean Isakson, Pipestone. She is an optometric assistant at Madison Vision Clinic.

Joel is currently the loan officer at Dakotaland Federal Credit Union in Madison.

The couple is planning a March 3, 2018, wedding.



Courtney Sheppard and Joel Van Batavia

We welcome your good news!

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

Births, engagements, weddings and news tips are accepted by simply filling in the blanks. You can even upload pictures!

As follow-up, please give us a phone call to ensure your submission was received properly. Our phone number is 283-2333.

And ... remember to include a phone number so we can contact you with any questions/clarifications.

Caring For Chicks



Lori Sorenson photos

Paint, sip, create

Artists with Creative Spirits, Sioux Falls, led a group of local women in a painting session Tuesday, Jan. 16, in Luverne's Take 16 Brewery. The social and creative session involved sampling local craft beer and painting a "Scattered Dreams" canvas (at left) in the brewery tap house.

Above: Pictured are local participants (front, from left) Jennifer and Bailey Stratton, Judy Fenske, (back) Cori Fenske, Peggy Adams, Sherri Thompson and Missy Verbrugge.

Far left: Creative Spirits artist Kelsey Bageant leads the group through a step in the creative process. Clockwise from bottom are Missy Verbrugge, Bailey Stratton, Jennifer Stratton, Cori Fenske and Judy Fenske.



Midwest Fire celebrates 30th anniversary

Midwest Fire Equipment & Repair Company (Midwest Fire) celebrated 30 years of manufacturing top quality fire apparatus this month.

Midwest Fire is a direct dealer of tankers, tanker-pumpers, brush trucks, and fire rescue vehicles.

More than 900 trucks have been manufactured and delivered upon this pearl anniversary.

In 2013 the company was acquired by Midwest Fire CEO Sarah Atchison, who has since been named one of the Top 25 Women in Business by Prairie Business magazine.

The company has experienced record sales growth in recent years under Atchison's leadership and has been a finalist for numerous manufacturing and small business awards.

Many departments are so satisfied with their experience with Midwest Fire and their apparatus that they have purchased multiple units.

Clearview Fire and Emergency Services in Ontario, Canada, has purchased three pieces of equipment since 2014 and has plans to purchase more in the future.

"Since purchasing our first trucks in 2014, we have gone out of our way to recommend Midwest Fire to neighboring departments," says Deputy Fire Chief Roree Payment. "No one else compares to the value and service they provide."

Unable to make the trip for their first delivery, Payment visited the facility in October of this year to pick up the department's third truck.

"We felt like family from the time we walked in the door. We weren't just a number to them, there was



Sarah Atchison became chief executive officer with Midwest Fire in Luverne in 2013.

relationship with the associates and they knew us by name."

Dante Fire Department of Dante, South Dakota, received their first new apparatus in 70 years in November 2017 from Midwest Fire.

Fire Chief Mike Kotab appreciated that while they were in the decision-making process, Account Representative Jeff Bowen took the time to answer their questions thoroughly and even drive an apparatus to their department for demo purposes.

"On delivery day I brought six of my volunteer firefighters, and they made us experts on our new PTO (power takeoff) pump by the time we headed home," said Kotab.

"It's incredible to see a company put such effort, quality, and customer service into their work. We couldn't be happier with our experience from the first call to delivery."

Midwest Fire will be at the annual Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) at booth 3810 on April 26-28 to greet customers in person.

"We want to thank all the customers that have trusted us for 30 years," Atchison said. "It is an honor knowing that they have a choice and they continue to choose Midwest Fire. ... Firefighters are among some of the most noble people I have met and we are proud to serve them," said Atchison.

Midwest Fire Equipment & Repair Company has been manufacturing fire tankers and pumpers since 1987.

DEATH NOTICE

Charlotte Griffin

Charlotte Griffin, 87, Luverne, died Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018, at the Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home in Luverne. A memorial service was Wednesday, Jan. 24, at the Good Samaritan Society - Mary Jane Brown Home. Inurnment will be at a later date.

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

(0125 DN)

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2008)

•With a struggling Luverne retail market, two local offices are teaming up to hire a consultant to study current trends and suggest possible solutions.

The Luverne Area Chamber of Commerce requested \$2,900 from the Luverne Economic Development Authority for a \$5,400 proposal to consider opportunities for retail development.

"The retail condition of Luverne is not at its best right now, so spending \$2,900 is probably a good idea," Jill Wolf said during an EDA meeting to consider the request.

"LEDA doesn't usually get involved with retail, but since this doesn't involve a particular retail business and since it involves the overall economic health of the community, I would support it."

25 years ago (1993)

•Rich DeSchepper was as surprised as anyone when he learned Monday morning his Sears Catalog Store would be closed by the end of 1993.

"You just don't expect something like this to happen," he said. DeSchepper was notified Sears plans to close all United States catalog stores because it isn't getting a fast enough return on its investment. The store closings will begin within 90 days. DeSchepper doesn't expect the Luverne store to last the year.

The news was completely unexpected for DeSchepper. Only last week he discussed making changes in the store with his district manager. And he knows of people who finished training for catalog stores a few days before the announcement.

50 years ago (1968)

•Thieves Tuesday night broke into a Ripco Oil Station located on Highway 23 in western Rock County about four miles north of Interstate 90, taking gas, oil, cigars, cigarettes, gum and candy, a report from the Rock County Sheriff's office said.

Entrance was gained by breaking a window on the south side of the building. After they entered the building, they turned on the gas pump and took 9.2 gallons of gas worth \$2.74 according

to the pump reading.

Also taken were 14 cartons of cigarettes, eight packs of cigars, 15 boxes of candy, four boxes of assorted nuts, seven cases of assorted beer brands, two cartons gum, a carton of cough drops, one card of "Smokies" and ten quarts of motor oil.

Manager Bill Humphrey closed the station at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday and discovered the break-in at 7:25 a.m. Wednesday. Officials said the break-in occurred sometime after the light snow Tuesday night. Tracks showed more than one person connected with the theft. The station is owned by Russ Ripley of Luverne.

75 years ago (1943)

•Luverne, Hills, Hardwick and Magnolia are formulating plans for observances of the president's birthday to raise funds for fighting infantile paralysis, it was announced this week.

For the first time since the observances were started 10 years ago, Luverne will substitute an entertainment program in place of the usual "birthday ball" that has been held here in the past. The program will be held in the school auditorium and the proceeds from the sale of tickets will be divided equally between the Rock County chapter and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The program will be held Thursday evening, Jan. 28.

100 years ago (1918)

•The order of Fuel Administrator Garfield closing all manufacturing plants not engaged in government work for a period of five days commencing with Friday morning, and all stores and other places of business not handling foodstuffs or drugs for a period of ten consecutive Mondays beginning with last Monday, was observed by Luverne concerns, both in the spirit and letter of the order.

Banks, drug stores, public garages and newspapers are exempted from complying with the order, but, in the case of newspaper plants, no job work of any kind can be done on Mondays.

The order applied to all states east of the Mississippi river, with all of Minnesota and Louisiana included.

SCHOOL NEWS

Bethany Lutheran releases dean's list

Andrew Jelken, son of James and Paula Jelken of Luverne, and Cora Mumme, daughter of Mark and Beth Mumme of Riverton, Wyoming, were named to the Fall 2017 dean's list at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato. To be named, students must earn a minimum of 14 credits and earn at least a 3.5 GPA.

Gust named to Gustavus Adolphus dean's list

Tatiana Gust, Luverne, has been named to the Fall 2017 dean's list at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. Tatiana is the daughter of Tim and Karis Gust, Luverne.

Lonneman makes dean's list

Mitchell Lonneman, Adrian, was named to the Fall 2017 dean's list at Mount Marty College in Yankton, South Dakota. To be eligible, students must earn a 3.5 GPA.

MSU Moorhead releases dean's list

Bryan Stanley and Bryana Thorson, both of Luverne, were named to the Fall 2017 dean's list at Minnesota State University in Moorhead. To qualify, students must earn a 3.25 GPA or higher with at least 12 graded credits.

St. Mary's announces dean's list

Kynzie Smedsrud, Luverne, and Alexa Huisman, Adrian, were named to the Fall 2017 dean's list at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Winona. Students must earn a 3.60 or better on a 4.0 scale to be named.

Kynzie is the daughter of Steve Smedsrud, Luverne, and the late Pat Smedsrud. Alexa is the daughter of Greg and Dawn Huisman, Adrian.

Area students named to USF dean's list

The University of Sioux Falls has named Heather Doerr and Audrey Emery to the Fall 2017 dean's list. Doerr is a senior majoring in elementary education, and Emery is a senior majoring in English education and secondary education.

To be eligible for the dean's list, students must earn a 3.5 or greater on a 4.0 scale.

Ebert makes dean's list at Illinois Wesleyan

Laurin Ebert was named to the Illinois Wesleyan dean's list for the Fall 2017 semester. She is a freshman majoring in chemistry/pre med.

Ebert is the daughter of Paul and Dyan Ebert, Big Lake, and granddaughter of Vance Ebert and Laurin and Rose Carroll, all of Luverne.

SMSU releases Fall 2017 dean's list

Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall has named several area students to the Fall 2017 dean's list.

Students named to the High Honors list with a 4.0 are Brenna Kramer, Adrian, Karli Schilling, Ellsworth, and Alizabeth Preker, Luverne.

Those named to the Honors list with a 3.5 GPA or higher are Darcy Lowman-Craig, Beaver Creek, Kelli Esselink, Hills, and Megan Westrum, Steen.

Crew 52 volunteers/continued from page 1A

"Minnesota hasn't hosted a Super Bowl since I have been alive," the 20-year-old Nattress said. "We can't let terrorists ruin an event."

The last Super Bowl in Minnesota was played in the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in 1992. The facility was demolished to make room for the U.S. Bank Stadium.

Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian knows his real-life job with the South Dakota Air National Guard will help him spot potential problems when he volunteers with Crew 52 at the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport.

Baustian was invited to be a volunteer through the Minnesota Mayors Association.

He will greet celebrities, Super Bowl VIPs and other travelers Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

"This is a great opportunity to experience something that you're unlikely to do in the rest of your life," he said. Inside his pocket he will



All volunteers for the Super Bowl LII events kicking off this weekend were given apparel to wear at the events.

"It's so exciting to just be a part of something so momentous across Minnesota and the entire world."

— Stacy Mente, Crew 52 member

carry city of Luverne commemorative pins encouraging people to visit southwest Minnesota and Luverne. Stacy Mente will greet

visitors at one of 15 Twin Cities hotels Feb. 3 and 4, the last days and hours before the game begins at 5:30 p.m.

Mente has professional training as a travel agent, so she understands the hospitality industry and said she enjoys seeing people excited about an event in Minnesota.

"It's so exciting to just be a part of something so momentous across Minnesota and the entire world," Mente said.

Crew 52 members received uniforms to wear during their assigned events. They will keep the clothing — shirts, coats, scarves, gloves and more — as a thank you from Super Bowl organizers.

According to the Volunteer for Crew 52 website, the volunteers' primary purpose is to be the "Face of Minnesota" as well as help law enforcement by providing 10,000 extra sets of eyes.



Mavis Fodness photo/0125 Super Bowl Volunteers

"Bold North" is the theme surrounding 10 days of activities prior to the Feb. 4 Super Bowl game in Minneapolis. Helping from the local area as volunteers called Crew 52 are (from left) Stacy Mente, Pat Baustian and Nancy Hoogland. Also volunteering but not pictured are LHS graduates and current college students Brooke Nattress and Jonny Solma.

Face Aging MN predicts rapid growth in senior population

Thirty-four percent of Rock County adults will be over 65 by 2030

By Lori Sorenson

Seniors are the fastest-growing segment of Minnesota's population, with at least 60,000 Minnesotans turning 65 every year from now through 2030.

That's according to Face Aging Minnesota, which just released demographic predictions about the state's senior population.

The organization, comprised of Minnesota's long-term care provider associations, created a map that shows how each county's senior population will increase from now through 2030.

It uses three colors, with blue showing states where 21 to 27 percent of adults are over 65 and red representing counties with more than 35 percent over 65.

Many counties fall in the category between, brown, with 28 to 34 percent of their adults over 65.

Rock County's color stays brown through the years, but its percent of aged population grows from the low end of 28 percent in 2015 to 34 percent in 2030.

Most of Minnesota is currently brown, with plenty of blue — and even light blue (with less than 20 percent aged population).

But the Minnesota map in 2030 turns mostly brown and red — a prediction a good share of the state will have 30 to 35 percent of their populations over 65.

The only spots of blue are in the metro counties of the Twin Cities.

Many greater Minnesota counties will see a faster rate of aging — some expected to have more than 45 percent of their adults over 65.

The map can be viewed at www.faceagingmn.org.

"The rapid growth in our senior population is something that affects every Minnesotan, from seniors and their loved ones to professional caregivers and policymakers," said Gayle Kvenvold, president and CEO of LeadingAge Minnesota.

"This map illustrates how dramatic the demographic shift is in a short amount of time. Seniors are a critically important part of our communities now and their role will continue to grow in coming years."

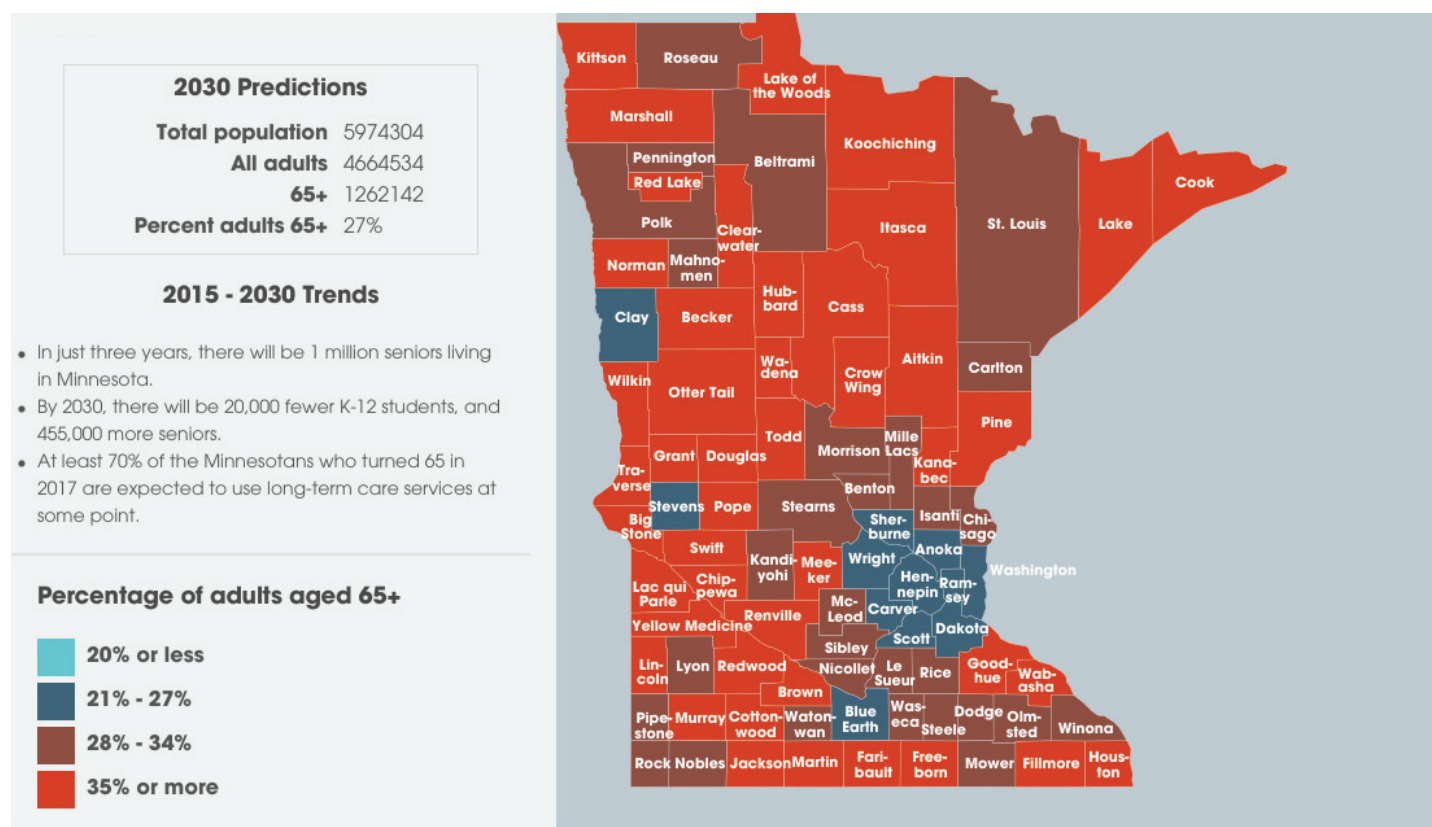
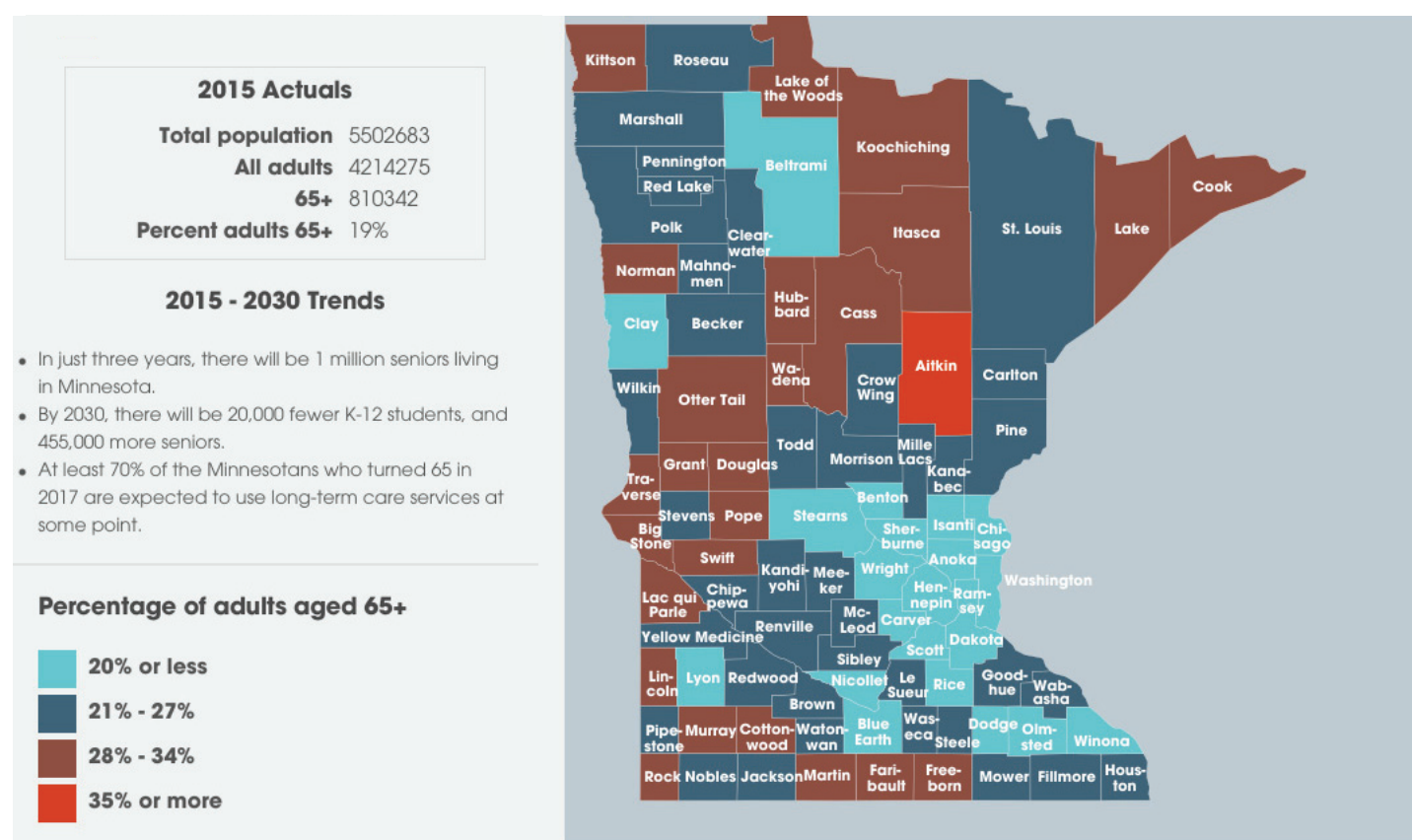
In just three years, there will be one million seniors living in Minnesota. By 2030, 25 percent of our adult population will be 65 or older.

Considering only the greater Minnesota counties, those concentrations of seniors are much higher.

"We need to rethink how we all face aging," said Patti Cullen, president and CEO of Care Providers of Minnesota.

"We not only need to think about how we meet seniors' needs to keep them living as independently as possible in the communities that they call home, we need to embrace the essential value of elders in all aspects of our communities, from emulating their high levels of civic engagement to better tapping into their wisdom and experience to improve society for all of us."

The Face Aging MN campaign aims to raise awareness about the unprecedented growth in Minnesota's senior population, how it affects all ages of the population and what we need to do to ensure all Minnesota seniors get the care and services they need.



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John Rittenhouse photo/0125 lw DeSollar 1

Luverne junior Dalton DeSollar scrambles in an attempt to register a reversal during a match against Marshall's Grant Louwagie at the Luverne Triangular Jan. 16.

Debut/continued from page 1B

for Tom Brown, who emerged from the event with a 2-0 record. Brown edged Marshall's Tyler Timm 8-2 before winning by injury default against

Pipestone's Logan Winge. Jed Dooyema pinned Pipestone's Angel Campos in 1:46 during the second match, while Riley Cowell and Braydon Ripka drew forfeits.

Match wrap-ups
Marshall 66, LHS 3
106 (M) Roth pins Cowell.
113 (M) Lar pins Ripka.
120 (M) La Eh by forfeit.
126 (M) Hodges by forfeit.
132 (M) Jensen 12-8 Oeltjenbruns.
138 (M) Louwagie pins DeSollar.

145 (M-L) open.
152 (M) Hugnes 17-10 Dooyema.
160 (M) Stahl pins Renken.
170 (L) Brown 10-8 Timm.
182 (M) Martin by forfeit.
195 (M) Bahr by forfeit.
220 (M) Felcyn by forfeit.
285 (M) Felcyn by forfeit.

Pipestone 50, LHS 24
106 (L) Cowell by forfeit.
113 (L) Ripka by forfeit.
120 (P) Budden by forfeit.
126 (P) Suda by forfeit.
132 (P) Burnett by forfeit.
138 (P) Lange 13-2 Oeltjenbruns.
145 (P) Wipf 13-1 DeSollar.

152 (L) Dooyema pins Campos.
160 (P) Fenton by forfeit.
170 (L) Brown by default.
182 (P) Ploeger by forfeit.
195 (P-L) open.
220 (P) Vander Wal by forfeit.
285 (P) Krakow by forfeit.

Adrian girls nip RRC Falcons in overtime Saturday

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian girls' basketball team recorded back-to-back victories last week. The Dragons defeated Murray County Central by five points in Adrian Thursday before posting a six-point win in overtime over Red Rock Central Saturday in Lamberton. Adrian, 6-10 overall, shoots for its fourth consecutive win when it plays in Hills Thursday.



John Rittenhouse photo/0118 agb 6

Adrian senior Paige Bullerman buried a field goal with one second remaining to force overtime in Lamberton Saturday.

Paige Bullerman (15 points and 10 rebounds) and Lexi Slater (15 points and 12 rebounds) carried the offensive load for the Dragons. Hannah Bullerman added five rebounds and five assists to the winning effort, while Kaitlyn Christians chipped in three steals.

8, M. Bullerman 1 1 0-0-5, Balster 1 0-0-4
2, Christians 2 1 0-0 7, Lonneman 4 0 0-0 8, Slater 2 0 11-16 15, P. Bullerman 7 0 1-2 15.

Team statistics
Adrian: 22 of 57 field goals (39 percent), 14 of 26 free throws (54 percent), 35 rebounds, 19 turnovers.
RRC: 20 of 51 field goals (39 percent), 12 of 22 free throws (55 percent), 23 rebounds, 19 turnovers.

Adrian 51, MCC 46
The Dragons registered consecutive wins for the second

time this season when they topped the Rebels by five points Thursday in Adrian. AHS gained some separation in a tightly contested game by outscoring MCC 33-29 in the first half. When the Dragons sported an 18-17 scoring edge in the second half, their victory was complete. Hannah Bullerman (18 points, five rebounds and three steals) turned in a stand-out performance for Adrian. Bailey Lonneman (eight rebounds), Slater (seven rebounds), Paige Bullerman (nine rebounds), Avery Balster (four steals and three assists) and Moriah Bullerman (four assists) also made key contributions to the win.

Box score
Kemper 0 0 0-0 0, H. Bullerman 6 1 3-5 18, M. Bullerman 1 0 0-0 2, Balster 2 1 1-4 8, Nelson 1 0 0-0 2, Christians 1 0 0-0 2, Lonneman 2 0 0-0 4, Rogers 0 0 0-0 0, Slater 4 0 1-3 9, P. Bullerman 3 0 0-2 8.

Team statistics
Adrian: 22 of 51 field goals (43 percent), five of 14 free throws (36 percent), 35 rebounds, 21 turnovers.



John Rittenhouse photo/0125 lgb 5

Luverne junior Jadyn Anderson releases a shot in traffic during Friday's 58-54 home loss to Jackson County Central.

Adrian 60, RRC 54
The Dragons collected their sixth victory of the season when they topped the Falcons in overtime Saturday in Lamberton. Adrian sported a 28-25 advantage after 18 minutes of play before falling behind by two points (48-46) late in regulation play. Adrian's Paige Bullerman buried a six-foot shot with one second remaining to knot the score at 48. AHS owned the overtime session by doubling RRC's scoring output (12-6) to win the game by six points.

AHS wrestlers win opener at Plum Creek Duals

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian wrestling team collected its third win of the 2017-18 season during the Plum Creek Duals in Tracy Saturday. Adrian opened the tournament by defeating United

39-30. The win was followed by losses to New Ulm (37-28) and Minneota (67-12). Adrian's Logan Taylor experienced a 3-0 day that included his registering three first-period pins.

Taylor stuck United's Griffin Johnson (1:18), NU's Jackson Bode (1:45) and Minneota's Zach Fier (1:12). Scot Edwards went 2-1 for the Dragons, while Quinton Wolf and Dominiq Canales both went 1-0. Jesus Anaya, Brody Loosbrock, Brent Hokeness and Chandler Combs went 1-1, while Isaac Bullerman, Max Lehman and Jaime Castenada went 1-2. Logan Sherer and Axel Martinez lost the only matches they wrestled, while Preston Nelson went 0-2 and William McElice went 0-3.

145 (A) Castenada by forfeit.
152 (A) Combs 5-2 Mortenson.
160 (A-U) open.
170 (U) Mortenson pins Lehman.
182 (U) Schmitt pins McElice.
195 (U) Lehman by forfeit.
220 (U) Johnson by forfeit.
285 (A) Edwards pins Henriksen.

New Ulm 37, Adrian 28
106 (N) Brandes 7-2 Anaya.
113 (A) Taylor pins Bode.
120 (A) Bullerman 11-2 Syverson.
126 (A) Canales by forfeit.
132 (N) Ranweiler t.f. Sherer.
138 (N) Howk t.f. Nelson.
145 (N) Ranweiler pins Castenada.
152 (N) Stark by disqualification.
160 (N) Miller by forfeit.
170 (A) Lehman by forfeit.
182 (N) Hernandez pins McElice.
195 (A-N) open.
220 (A-N) open.
285 (A) Edwards by forfeit.

Minneota 67, Adrian 12
106 (A) Taylor pins Fier.
113 (A) Wolf pins Wambcke.
120 (M) Lozinski pins Bullerman.
126 (M) Buysse pins Loosbrock.
132 (M) Reiss pins Hokeness.
138 (M) Pesch pins Martinez.
145 (M) Kloos 12-0 Castenada.
152 (M) Van OverBeke by forfeit.
160 (M) Banks by forfeit.
170 (M) Buysse pins Lehman.
182 (M) Laleman pins McElice.
195 (M) Lozinski by forfeit.
220 (M) Esping by forfeit.
285 (M) Espins 3-2 Edwards.

The 3-9 Dragons wrestle at the Windom Triangular Thursday.

Match wrap-ups
Adrian 39, United 30
106 (A) Anaya by forfeit.
113 (A) Taylor pins Johnson.
120 (U) Hubbard 9-8 Bullerman.
126 (A) Loosbrock by forfeit.
132 (A) Hokeness by forfeit.
138 (U) Hernandez 6-4 Nelson.



Coy Gonnerman
Sport: Hockey
Position: Forward
Parents: Craig and Becky Gonnerman
Favorite Subject: Shop Class
Extra Curricular Activities: Golf, hockey, hunting, snowmobiling.
Future Plans: Go to Lake Area Tech in Watertown for diesel mechanic.



Samantha Pierce
Sport: Gymnastics
Parents: Travis and Stephanie
Favorite Subject: Math
Extra Curricular Activities: Tennis, gymnastics, golf, choir, student council, National Honor Society, math league
Future Plans: Go to college.



Mikel Terry
Sport: Basketball
Position: Point Guard
Parents: Norma Dickerson & Boyce Parker
Favorite Subject: Math
Extra Curricular Activities: Basketball, football
Future Plans: Go to college and become an athletic trainer.



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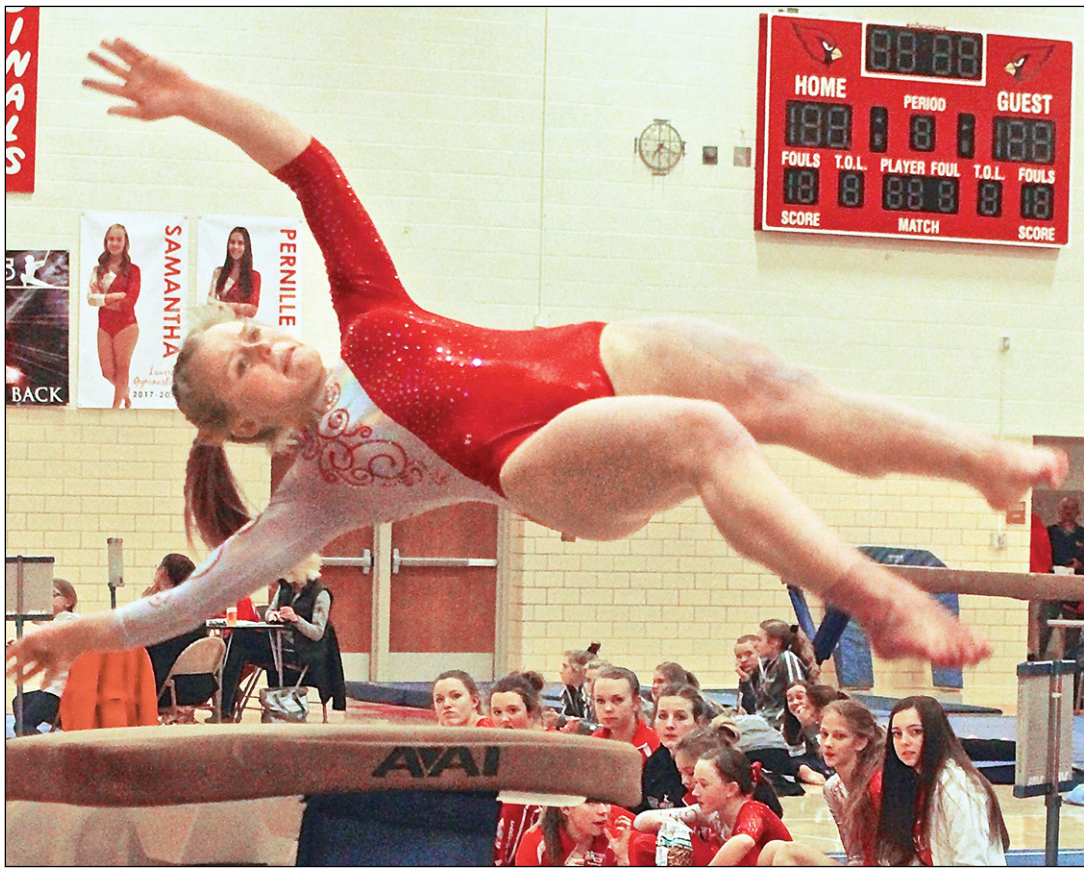
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John Rittenhouse photo/0125 gym 5

Luverne junior Melissa Teal sails over the vault during Thursday's home gymnastics meet against Jackson County Central. Teal recorded a score of 8.6 during the event.

Huskies down LHS gymnasts

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne Cardinal gymnastics team took its first Big South Conference setback of the season when it entertained league power Jackson County Central for a meet Thursday.

The visiting Huskies turned in a commanding performance that featured athletes winning all four individual event titles and the all-around championship during a 137.75-127.75 victory.

Luverne, which slipped to 1-1 in league competition with the loss, received a strong showing from sophomore Meghan Witte.

Witte placed in three events and finished third in the all-around competition with 33.175 points.

Witte placed third on vault with an 8.875 effort and finished fourth on the bars and floor with respective 7.75 and 8.8 tallies.

Luverne's Madigan Flom placed third on the beam with an 8.3, while Samantha Pierce finished fourth on the vault with an 8.825.

JCC's Brooklyn Schuett claimed the all-around (35.4), vault (9.175) and floor (9.275) championships.

JCC's Abby Schneekloth secured the bars and beam crowns with 8.35 and 9.225 tallies.



John Rittenhouse photo/0125 gym 8

Sophomore Anna Huisman produced a score of 7.525 on the beam during Thursday's home meet against JCC.

Luverne, 5-7 overall, competes in Worthington Thursday.

Individual results
Vault: Witte, 8.875; Pierce, 8.825; Melissa Teal, 8.6; Meghan Mollberg, 8.55;

Anna Huisman, 8.325.
Bars: Witte, 7.75; Huisman, 7.35; Teal, 6.4; Pierce, 6.25; Flom, 5.25.
Beam: Flom, 8.3; Witte, 7.75; Pierce, 7.65; Huisman, 7.525; Mollberg, 6.55.
Floor: Witte, 8.8; Huisman, 8.6; Pierce, 8.375; Flom, 7.875; Mollberg, 7.025.

Is my elusive dream really that unreasonable?

FROM THE SIDELINES

By John Rittenhouse, sports editor

I wouldn't say it's on my bucket list, but I would like to experience something one more time before my time on earth expires.

The way things are shaping up, I'm beginning to think the top item on my wish list will never be granted.

I wouldn't think being able to experience the two-week period between the NFC championship game and the Super Bowl with the Minnesota Vikings being in the big game is an unrealistic request.

However, after watching another opportunity to live my dream blow up in front of my eyes on Sunday, I'm beginning to think my wish may never come true.

It's not that I expected the Vikings to beat the Philadelphia Eagles in last weekend's NFC title tilt.

In fact, after watching Minnesota nearly blow a 17-point halftime lead to New Orleans one week earlier, I had a hunch things would not end well for the Vikings on Sunday.



But by no means did I believe we would take a 38-7 beat-down at the hands of the Eagles. In fact, I was harboring some hope that the Vikings might surprise me and pull out a victory.

Needless to say, that didn't happen.

The Eagles outplayed Minnesota in every way on the field, and their superior coaching staff, from top to bottom, devised a game plan that totally destroyed the Vikings on both sides of the ball.

Ultimately, it's hard for me to believe this cast of Vikings players and coaches will ever make my dream come true.

As I indicated earlier, it's not like I'm asking for a Vikings Super Bowl title.

I just want to experience the 14-day period between the biggest football games of the season as an adult.

The Vikings did qualify for four Super Bowls from 1970-1977 when I was a kid, but all I recall from those

days was watching disappointing losses.

I was too young to realize how fortunate I was to be watching my team play in the biggest game of the year back then.

I was 16 years old when the Vikings made their last Super Bowl appearance in 1977, so I was young and foolish enough to think it would happen many more times in the coming years.

Forty-plus years later, I'm beginning to realize how wrong I was.

As disappointing as it may have been, watching the Vikings fall to the Chiefs, Dolphins, Steelers and Raiders in those championship games was a gift.

With every passing year, it's becoming clear my dream of experiencing the two magical weeks of excitement and anticipation leading up to a Super Bowl with my team in it may never happen again in my lifetime.

Patriot girls prevail at DSU Shootout

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek girls' basketball team posted a victory at the Dakota State University Shootout Saturday in Madison, South Dakota.

H-BC squared off against Freeman Academy-Marion during the attraction.

The night belonged to the Patriots, who rolled to a 69-31 victory to extend their winning streak to nine consecutive

games.

H-BC gained control of the game by outscoring FA-M 42-20 in the first half.

The Patriots went on to sport a 27-12 scoring advantage in the second half to complete a 37-point conquest.

Sidney Fick (20 points and three assists) and Grace Bundesen (18 points, 10 rebounds and three assists) led the Patriots to victory.

Whitney Elbers and Kourtney Rozeboom added seven and five rebounds respectively to the winning cause.

The 10-3 Patriots host Adrian Thursday.

Box score
K.Fick 0 0 0-0 0, Bos 0 0 0-0 0, Tilstra 0 0 0-0 0, Spath 0 0 0-0 0, Hagen 1 1 0-0 5, Knobloch 3 1 0-0 9, S.Fick 6 2 2-2 20, Bundesen 6 1 3-4 18, Ka.Rozeboom 0 0 0-0 0, Rauk 1 0 0-0 2, Gehrke 0 0 0-0 0, Elbers 3 0 0-1 6, Ko.Rozeboom 3 0 3-5 9.

Ellsworth boys lose seventh consecutive contest Friday

By John Rittenhouse

The Ellsworth Panther boys lost their seventh consecutive basketball game when they traveled to Mountain Lake Friday.

Mountain Lake Area had its way with the Panthers by saddling EHS with a 71-37 setback.

The Wolverines gained control of the contest by opening a 46-21 lead in the first half.

MLA completed its 34-point conquest by outscoring the Panthers 25-16 in the second half.

Brandon Kramer turned in an 11-point, 10-rebound effort

for the Panthers, while Grant Jansma led EHS with 12 points.

Zach Buntjer charted three steals and Sam Kramer passed for three assists for Ellsworth.

The 1-12 Panthers play at Edgerton Public School Friday.

No box score was available from this game.



John Rittenhouse photo/0125 egb 8

Ellsworth High School senior Devin Dreesen puts up a three-point shot during Saturday's girls' basketball game in Edgerton. Dreesen and the Panthers snapped an eight-game losing skid by posting a home victory over the Fulda Raiders Thursday.

Panthers snap eight-game losing skid

By John Rittenhouse

The Ellsworth girls' basketball team put an end to an eight-game losing streak when the Panthers posted a six-point home win over Fulda Thursday.

The win was followed by a 38-point loss at Edgerton Public School Saturday.

Ellsworth, 4-11 overall, hosts Southwest Christian Thursday.

Edgerton 69, EHS 31

Ellsworth's bid to win consecutive games didn't pan out when the Panthers played the Flying Dutchmen in Edgerton Saturday.

The Flying Dutchmen outscored Ellsworth in both halves of the game to secure a 38-point victory.

An extended run by Edgerton in the first nine minutes of the first half gave the hosts a

commanding 22-7 lead.

Ellsworth countered with a 7-0 spurt capped by a field goal from Devin Dreesen to trim the difference to eight points (22-14) with 2:06 remaining in the opening stanza.

Edgerton answered by scoring the final four points of the half to sport a 26-14 lead at the break.


Snap/continued on page 4B

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Guest Speaker - John Phipps

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He currently farms in East Central Illinois and has been in the family for seven generations. His son Aaron returned to the operation in 2008.

Since 1994 he has written award-winning humor and commentary for *Farm Journal* and *Top Producer* magazines.

From August 2005 until October 2014, John was the TV host of *US Farm Report*. He now adds commentary from his farm every week.

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