



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, November 30, 2017

Towne Square apartments construction may begin next spring

Public hearing invites comment, offers details about PUD zoning for former Sharkee's property

By Lori Sorenson

Details are emerging for the Towne Square development coming next year to the former Sharkee's property on South Highway 75. In a public hearing Monday night, developer Bill Ludwig updated Luverne Planning and Zoning officials on the mixed-use development that will bring retail, office space, restaurants and apartments together on the 4-acre lot.

Ludwig and city planners believe a Public Unit Development Zoning District would best allow these plans to go forward, and the commission voted unanimously to recommend it to the City Council.

Building and Zoning Official Chad McClure said a PUD wouldn't change the current zoning — "community commercial" — but it would allow for Towne Square to deviate in three ways that would otherwise

require zoning variances.

1. Setbacks: Current zoning requires buildings to be set back 60 feet from the highway right-of-way. The Towne Square buildings would be set back only 15 feet, because most of the parking will be to the side and back of the building.

Ludwig explained that in the developments like this he's designed in other communities, commercial and residential parking lots are shared.

Businesses use the parking space when residents are gone to work, and residents use the lots when the businesses are closed.

2. Building height: The Towne Square highway-facing buildings will be three stories tall with businesses on the ground level and apartments on the second and third floors. Current zoning doesn't allow for three-story structures.

McClure said he's not sure why.

"Maybe it was a way to maintain a small-town, quiet atmosphere," he said. "I can't think of a practical reason."

3. Mixed land use: The Towne Square combination of businesses and residential dwellings in one place is only allowed conditionally by the current zoning ordinance.

All three of these issues could

Towne Square/continued on 8A

Nutcrackers showcased at Winterfest

Weekend features puppets, craft show, live music, Santa, ribbon cuttings and nutcrackers galore

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne will celebrate Winterfest 2017 this weekend with a full lineup of popular attractions.

The library will host its annual puppet show story hour Friday with surprise guest appearances.

The craft show at the school will again draw hundreds of vendors — 23 new ones — with unique gift offerings and entertainment. Santa will be on hand for Myhre photos benefitting SHARE.

And local voices will fill the air with sounds of music, this year at the American Reformed Church with a cantata and Luverne Street Music Children's Choir performance.

The front page of this week's Luverne Announcer details all the weekend activities and events, but the stars of the entire Winterfest celebration will again be nutcrackers.

New this year are nearly a dozen nutcrackers lining the Luverne City Park, and Luverne Area Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere encourages the community to attend the ribbon-cutting at noon Friday in the park.

"Join our sponsors as we celebrate the first step in our Luverne City Park Christmas Fantasy," she wrote in a Chamber email.

"Who knows what this first step

Winterfest weekend/see page 2A



Mavis Fodness photo/1130 Turkey Trek

Admission was free Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, to Minnesota's state parks. Ten people participated in the "Family Turkey Trek," a mile walk along the top of the Blue Mounds State Park cliff line that featured stories about native turkeys.

Turkey Trek helps park visitors walk off turkey dinner; offers free lessons about Minnesota native wild turkeys

By Mavis Fodness

No turkeys were spotted at the Blue Mounds State Park Friday afternoon during a Family Turkey Trek, and park naturalist Amber Brooks knows why.

"The last turkey seen in Minnesota was in 1880," she said adding for clarity, "The last native turkey."

Ten people joined Brooks on the mile walk from the Interpretive Center to the quarry and back, periodically stopping for a story.

"Europeans loved to eat turkey," she said.

Early settlers found the poultry's dark meat more to their liking versus deer or bison as they arrived in southwest Minnesota.

They would trap live turkeys to raise domestic meat, but the idea was not successful and it led to the extinction of the native Minnesota birds.

Wild turkeys seen in the area today came from Missouri.

Brooks said 29 wild turkeys were brought to Minnesota over a three-year period beginning in 1971. Today, there are more than 70,000 wild turkeys in the state.

"They were so successful, turkeys are now moving into places they are not supposed to be," Brooks said.

Backyards, parks and farm fields are the common locations for turkeys as they search for insects, seeds and an occasional salamander.

"Some turkeys are no longer afraid of people," she said.

She said it helps to spray water at them, make loud noises and wield a broom to show human dominance and scare turkeys away from humans.

Friday's Turkey Trek in the Blue Mounds was the third annual Minnesota state parks Free Parks Day, with the normal \$5 daily admission waived.

An estimated 30 vehicles entered the park north of Luverne Friday, according to park officials. Last year 70 vehicles passed through the Blue Mounds main office area.

Friday temperatures were in the low 50s with sustained north winds in the teens.



Lori Sorenson photo/1130 history center

History Center celebration Friday

Darrel Van Aartsen attaches exterior lighting at the History Center as a final step in the building's completion. According to Historical Society President Betty Mann, "Everything is done. The building is finally complete." A ribbon-cutting and open house is set for 10 a.m. Friday. See page 1B for a feature on the History Center and details about the celebration.

Seven Rock County properties to be sold in 2018 tax forfeiture sales

By Mavis Fodness

Seven Rock County properties will be sold next year in a tax forfeiture sale with one Steen property sold back to its owners by commissioners Nov. 21.

Randy Van Veldhuizen and Ryan Boltjes requested to pay \$8,552 in back taxes, late fees and penalties for the house at 123 W. Church Ave. in Steen. They wrote in a Nov. 16 letter to commissioners, "We anticipate the sale to be complete within the next two weeks."

Commissioners unanimously agreed to the sale and to exclude the Steen property on the tax-forfeited list. Van Veldhuizen and Boltjes have until Dec. 1 to make the paid-in-full payment.

County Auditor-Treasurer

Ashley Kurtz said her office originally had 16 properties on the tax-forfeiture list. Seven property owners made payments and one signed a 10-year payment plan.

Seven properties remain on the list; this is significant considering no properties were forfeited last year.

Tax delinquency of three years places properties in tax forfeiture, Kurtz said.

Previously five years was the threshold for non-homestead properties. "It's a faster turnover," Kurtz said. "Properties become less decrepit."

A proposed sale date of March 5, 2018, was set at the Tuesday meeting.

Kurtz is working with the

assessor's office to appraise the properties and set a basic sale price.

Cities and townships receive a 60-day notice and have first choice on the properties. Use by government entities is limited to green spaces or other public uses, Kurtz said.

The list of tax-forfeited properties includes:

- 108 S. Buckingham St., Hardwick.
- 103 S. Buckingham St., Hardwick.
- 213 W. Fourth St., Hills.
- 232 S. Steen St., Steen.
- 220 E. Railroad Ave., Steen.
- A parcel southeast of Dolar General and east of the railroad tracks in Luverne.
- 409 E. Dodge St., Luverne.



The Star Herald is Rock County's oldest business, documenting the news of its citizens since 1873

Article 48: Premium Packing Company comes to Luverne on 133-acre site along County Road 4

This is the 48th in a series that shares the rich history of Luverne as it celebrates 150 years. This week is Part II of a 1962 piece about the start of a meat packing company.

Rock County Historical Society President Betty Mann this week shares Part II of a news story from the April 12, 1962, Rock County Star Herald about Premium Packing Company planning a \$900,000 dressed beef plant west of town. It was the largest single private investment ever made in Rock County.

Luverne celebrates 150 years — Premium Packing Co./see page 6A

This week's moment in time is sponsored by:



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Blue Mound Quilters will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, at Luverne Pizza Ranch for their annual Christmas Party. Members are to bring Christmas challenge project, a fat quarter for exchange, and also caps for cancer patients.

Luverne Senior Citizens will meet at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, at the Luverne Senior Citizens Center.

Springwater Township Board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, in the home of the Clerk/Treasurer Teresa Kramer.

American Legion Auxiliary #123 will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, in the home of Dianna Tomlinson.

Blue Mound Cemetery Association will meet at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, in the home of Dick and Dolly Remme for a potluck Christmas party.

Pink Ladies of Sanford Luverne will meet at noon Monday, Dec. 11, in the Blue Mound Room for a Christmas potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share and tableware.

Parkinson's Support Group will meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, in St. John Lutheran Church, Luverne. Call Dianna, 507-530-3307, with questions.

Lady Luverne Red Hats will meet for dinner at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at The Bluestem. RSVP to Connie by Monday, Dec. 11, at 283-8470.

SHARE distribution Dec. 6 at Armory

The Rock County SHARE program will distribute groceries, clothing and toys to Rock County residents in need from noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at the Luverne National Guard Armory on South Freeman Avenue. Those wishing to receive from the program needed to apply by Thursday Nov. 30. Note: The SHARE program no longer accepts donations of used items. To support SHARE, mail tax-deductible donations to SHARE, P.O. Box 792, Luverne, MN 56156. Call Molly at 507-227-9282.

Hospice Tree of Lights deadline Dec. 1

The public is invited to submit name(s) in honor or remembrance of loved ones for the Sanford Luverne Hospice Tree of Lights for the upcoming holidays. Names received by Dec. 1 will be read at the lighting ceremonies. Call Sanford Luverne Hospice at 507-283-1805 with questions.

Lighting ceremonies are scheduled as follows:

- Edgerton: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at First State Bank SW.
- Hills: 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Tuff Village.
- Luverne: 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Cottage.
- Adrian/Ellsworth: 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Adrian Fire Hall.

Art gallery opens, artist talks Dec. 7-8

The Lord Grizzly Gallery at 113 E. Main St., Luverne, will celebrate its grand opening with its first artist talk and reception Dec. 7-8.

Artist Doug Burns will talk about his new body of work during an artist talk from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7.

The opening reception will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8.

Burns' work will be featured at the Coffey Contemporary Arts building from Dec. 8 through Feb. 1, 2018.

The gallery is open Mondays-Wednesdays by appointment, Thursdays from 4 to 9 p.m. and Fridays-Saturdays from 2 to 7 p.m.

Bank Night movie 'Elf' Dec. 7

The free Bank Nite movie, "Elf," rated PG, will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, 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.

Choir concert Dec. 8

Luverne Middle School and High School students will perform their winter choir concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in the high school gym. Admission is a donation to the food shelf — cash, toiletries or non-perishable food. Everyone is welcome to celebrate the season through music.

Hardwick's Old Town Christmas Dec. 9

Hardwick Community Club will host Hardwick's Old Town Christmas from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Hardwick Legion Hall.

A puppet show will begin at 2 p.m. followed by craft making, cookie decorating and pictures with Santa from 2:30 to 3:30.

All activities are free.

Roemen named tops at Farm Service Agency

By Mavis Fodness

Earlier this month, Stacey Roemen took a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Washington, D.C.

"I had seeing the Department of Ag on my bucket list," she sheepishly said.

Roemen and her husband, Greg, traveled to the nation's capital for a Nov. 16 ceremony honoring her for her dedication to the Farm Service Agency and assistance to the 650 producers in Rock County.

She was one of dozens of federal employees recognized for their work, an honor Roemen thought she would never receive.

"I didn't think I would have a chance," she said.

Rock County Farm Service Agency Director Fraser Norton nominated Roemen for the 2017 FSA Administrator's Award for Service to Agriculture earlier this year.

"This is the highest honorary award that management can nominate an employee for within the agency," Norton said.

Over the past several months leading up to the national recognition this month, Roemen was selected as the state winner followed by being named the Midwest region winner.

The reason for Norton's recommendation is simple.

"She always makes the farmers feel special," Norton said.

While some program technicians are uncomfortable when producers line up at the FSA counters for assistance, Roemen relishes the challenge.

Nothing was more challenging than when she joined



Submitted photo

USDA Farm Service Agency Acting Administrator Steven Peterson (left) presents Stacey Roemen of rural Ellsworth with a lifetime achievement award during a Nov. 16 ceremony in Washington, D.C., for her dedication to the Rock County FSA.

FSA in Lyon County, Iowa, in 1985 in the height of the farm crisis. A year later she joined the staff in Rock County.

Enrollment in farm programs gives producers opportunities to continue in business, a job Roemen takes seriously, according to Norton.

"On the odd occasion that Stacey does not know the answer to a question, she will thoroughly research all relevant procedures, notices and memos before asking others," Norton wrote in his nomination of Roemen for the award.

"The nature of her questions is such that they are always elevated by the district Program Management Team

to the state office level and sometimes even up the national level for an answer or interpretation such as happened recently with outstanding milk producer premium letters."

Roots in agriculture run deep for Roemen, who grew up on the Schilling family farm near Ellsworth where she continues to live and farm with her own family.

Her early experiences in agriculture led to ag banking courses through the Pipestone Vocational and Technical College.

"I really didn't know where I was going with the banking part of it," Roemen said.

A job application to a bank,

however, led to the job offer at the Lyon County Farm Service Agency office and started a dedication to administering various USDA programs.

Roemen credits her parents, Faye Schilling and the late Donald Schilling, for her work ethic and respect for people. She also credits several co-workers over the 32 years she has worked with FSA.

She said Mary Jo Nath and Bev Wassenaar showed her effective program administrator skills, former FSA director Roger Carlson taught her how to read the program books, and Lynette Rother and Karen Rolag modeled office organization skills.

Norton said Roemen took many of those organizational skills and expanded them.

In his nomination form, Norton wrote that Roemen developed a producer tracking system, which is now used by other FSA offices, and she has kept Rock County in the state's Top 5 for annual farm program sign-ups.

"(Producers) know that when she has served them they won't have to return to have the issue re-explained or to sign a document that was missed at the time of their visit," Norton said.

The lifetime achievement award is Roemen's third professional honor.

The Rock County FSA office received the 2017 Minnesota State Step-Up Team Award in August. In July, Roemen and part-time FSA worker Julie Reitsma received the 2017 Harvest Recognition Award.

"This has certainly been an excellent year for this office," Norton said.



A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be conducted at noon, Friday, Dec. 1, to open the Luverne City Park Christmas Fantasy, which includes nutcrackers (above from left) the city of Luverne Public Works, Exchange State Bank, and St. John Lutheran Church.

Winterfest weekend kicks off on Friday/continued from page 1A

can lead to? Someday it might rival Falls Park in Sioux Falls."

The park will be open from noon to 9 p.m. until New Year's Day, but it will be open 24-7 through Winterfest Weekend.

"The City of Luverne Public Works and Electrical De-

partment has done an excellent job getting the park set up and ready for the display," Lanphere said.

The second annual nutcracker scavenger hunt is already underway, with more than 100 nutcrackers displayed around town, each with its own unique name.

There are multiple opportunities to win \$50 prizes. Maps are available at the Chamber office and on the Chamber website.

Nutcrackers at the History Center and Christmas Haus will be highlighted at the ribbon-cutting and grand opening Friday (see the re-

lated story.

Finally, the city's mascot, Philo the Nutcracker, will continue to make guest appearances around town and in local retail shops.

Details about the entire Winterfest weekend in Luverne are online at luvernechamber.com.



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County adopts new employee pay, classification schedule

By Mavis Fodness

A new employee classification system and pay schedule adopted by county commissioners on Nov. 21 allows current and future employees wage growth in their positions.

The action was the result of a six-month comparable worth study conducted by David Drown Associates Human Resources Inc. of Wayzata.

The study looked at local compensation levels and compared figures with those offered to positions regionally.

The last comparable worth study was completed for Rock County 24 years ago.

Since that time, county officials approved periodic pay and step raises in the decades since 2001.

The result led consultants to commend county officials on their current employee compensation plan.

"Overall, Rock County offers very competitive benefits to its benchmark communities, leading the way in most areas," said management consultant Tessia Melvin.

"There are only three areas where Rock County does not lead: family health insurance coverage, long-term disability, and accidental death and disability coverage."

Rock County employs 82 full- and part-time workers.

Melvin outlined two plans for improvement as a result of the study, which attempts to align the county's employee pay and benefits with that of the regional marketplace.

Commissioners unanimously approved the implementation plan that affects all county employees in 2018.

Under the approved plan,

all employees would receive a 2.5 percent COLA increase and their positions would move into the new job classification system. Cost would be \$193,778 for the salaries and step increases.

"The good news is you were doing a really good job and this is an easy fix," she said. "And with your budget the way you budgeted, it won't negatively impact you."

For their 2018 budget, county officials built in departmental pay raises of \$187,105 with some funds still unassigned in anticipation of the comparable worth study results and suggested fixes.

Melvin said the pay increases are suggestions to keep current employees and attract replacements to an organization that will pay market rate for their skills and abilities. Rock County's suggested pay increases and step adjustments are minimal when compared to other organizations.

"I have a lot of clients that I work with who aren't this lucky and they don't see that and they have high turnover," she said. "You do really invest in your employees."

In other business, commissioners:

- approved the minimum wage increase from \$5.50 to \$9.50 per hour in a contract renewal with Rock County Opportunities for cleaning services.

- Accepted the resignation of Ron Boyenga as the Southwest Health and Human Services committee's lay person representative. A replacement is being sought for the non-voting position.



Mavis Fodness photo/1130 CEO Facilitator

Cody Henrichs will facilitate the Southwest Minnesota CEO Program intended to introduce high school students to business leaders and learn how to develop their own businesses.

SW-CEO hires familiar face to lead schools' new entrepreneurial program

By Mavis Fodness

Next fall 20 area high school students can participate in a unique learning program led by Southwest Minnesota CEO Program facilitator Cody Henrichs of Luverne.

He's been hired to lead "Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities," a program designed to take students out of the typical classroom environment and into the world of business.

"This program will give kids actual experience of being with a CPA, finding out what it takes to file taxes, what it will take to get a business loan," Henrichs said.

"It's one part teaching real-life skills and another part designing their futures."

The class is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2018 and is open to students in Luverne, Adrian, Hills-Beaver Creek, Southwest Minnesota Christian, Edgerton, Ellsworth and Pipestone.

Students apply to the CEO program and are selected for participation.

Henrichs teaches art at Adrian Public Schools, a position he will relinquish

next school year to facilitate the CEO program.

He is also exhibiting the entrepreneurial spirit himself by starting his own business on Main Street Luverne.

The 2001 Luverne High School graduate and his wife, Nicole, are opening a non-profit arts education and exhibition facility called the Lord Grizzly Gallery in downtown Luverne.

"The key to success for me has always been to work as hard as I can ... I believe in the merit of hard work," he said.

"If I work my hardest, give it everything I had and it didn't work, it wasn't a failure; it was just hard work."

Through his experience he has found people and resources are available to help the hard work develop into successful plans. Knowing where these resources are is key.

"It is the goal of this program to take our kids ... to the people who do this stuff for a living," he said.

Take those kids who have an inkling or a slight bit of interest and give them

the tools."

Instead of meeting in a classroom for the 10-month course, Henrichs arranges face-to-face meetings with business professionals at their offices.

The local CEO course uses the model developed by the Midland Institute for Entrepreneurship in Effingham, Illinois.

In the model each student develops a detailed business plan, which he or she presents at a spring trade fair.

"This program is about opening up all the possibilities and find people who can make it happen," Henrichs said.

The Southwest Minnesota CEO Program is one of 37 locations offering the Midland Institute class.

Many students developed their high school plans into actual businesses, many of them in their hometowns.

"More often than not, people leave to start businesses that they could have started here," Henrichs said.

Martin Township road grader retires after 34 years

By Glenda McGaffee

Rob Brouwer's last day as Martin Township road grader operator will be Thursday, Nov. 30, after 34 years in the position.

"When I started, the township building was located by the elevator on Water Avenue," he said in a Nov. 24 interview. "The new maintenance building is a big improvement."

He said he took over the job in March 1983 from Dave Nelson.

"I remember a cold and icy winter day when I spent a half hour or more just trying to slide the door open," he said.

"The winter of 1996-97 was very memorable when I almost lived in the road grader. I recall sleeping a few hours and then going back out. Gawaine Diekevers, Dave Swanson and Doug Diekevers kept the snow blower operating."

He recalled other details about that winter.

"In 1997 I remember almost running into a lady who was stuck in a snow bank on the road. The wind was blowing and I was backing up to gain speed and saw something

"The winter of 1996-97 was very memorable when I almost lived in the road grader. I recall sleeping a few hours and then going back out."

— Rob Brouwer, Martin Township retiring road grader

shiny in the snow," he said.

"I looked and found the lady who delivered the Sioux Falls Argus Leader to area farmers. She was stuck in the snow and had been there for about three hours. I shoveled snow and she made it out of the snow bank. I watched to make sure she made it out. I never forgot that incident."

He said many of the past

Brouwer retires/see page 5A



Glenda McGaffee photo/1130 Brouwer

Rob Brouwer, pictured Nov. 24 in the Martin Township building, is retiring after 34 years of Martin Township road grading.

Ford honors Herman Motor service technician

Elmer Velasco, a service technician with Herman Motor Company in Luverne, was recently named a Ford Senior Master Technician in the company's 2017 Masters Program.

Velasco, who also reached the status of Drivetrain Master Retention, completed over 550 hours of Ford training to achieve the status, according to Frederiek Toney of Ford.

"As vehicle technology progresses, it requires increased levels of knowledge and skill for technicians to effectively complete advanced diagnostic and repair operations," Toney said.

"This commitment fulfills our customers' expectations that their vehicles are repaired by highly skilled, factory-trained technicians."

Velasco, who has been with Herman Mo-



Elmer Velasco

tors since 2014, lives in Rushmore with his wife, Hannah Velasco.

He was born in Kodiak, Alaska, and in 2000 moved to Worthington where he graduated from high school in 2010.

He graduated from Wyotech in Laramie, Wyoming, in 2011 and began working for Ford in 2012.

Bakken elected to Minnesota Farm Bureau Board of Directors

Rock County farmer Pete Bakken was elected to the Minnesota Farm Bureau Board of Directors at the organization's 99th Annual Meeting in Bloomington Nov. 17.

He'll serve a one-year term as chairman of the Promotion and Education Committee, which advocates for Farm Bureau and its members.

"I am excited to serve as a voice and advocate for the Promotion and Education Committee in our organization," said Bakken.

"I look forward to reaching out and continuously improving the image of the American farmer/rancher with consumers."

Bakken farms in western Rock County with his brother, Jay, raising beef and growing corn, soybeans alfalfa, cover crops and grass. Their farm

is also one of Minnesota's Discovery Farms.

Promotion & Education committee members work with programs such as Ag in the Classroom and safety education for farm children.

Minnesota Farm Bureau is the largest general farm organization in the state, focusing on farmers, families and food.

Through the grassroots process among 78 counties, members make their views heard to political leaders, state government officials, special interest groups and the general public.

Nationwide, the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) has nearly six million members in approximately 2,800 county Farm Bureaus. For more information visit www.fbmn.org.

Jackson Van Maanen
BENEFIT

Jackson is the son of Justin & Amanda Van Maanen, grandson of Sam & Barb Berghorst and Randy & Brenda Van Maanen

join us for a hog roast meal & silent auction

SAT. DEC. 9

5-8 pm • Luverne Eagles Club

If you'd like to donate an item for the silent auction, send to Dale & Cindy Reverts (1013 150th Ave, Luverne, MN 56156). Items must be received by December 2.

All proceeds go to the Van Maanen family to help with medical expenses.

Questions: call Dale Reverts 507-920-9149 or Cindy Reverts 507-920-5283

Joan Heeren
85
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Last of brood leaves teenage years behind

Next week marks another milestone in the Fodness household — we will no longer have a teen in the family.



RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

Adam turns 20 on Dec. 6, and he is quick to remind this empty-nest mom, "You're getting old."

I don't associate my adult children with my own advancing age; rather, it's about finally getting some well deserved "me" time.

Since my husband, Bryan, and I became empty nesters almost two years ago, the days have significantly slowed in pace for us.

We often find evening farm chores completed and supper eaten earlier than usual. Glances at the clock reveal it's only 5:30 p.m.

As the kids' ages crept toward the 20s, conversations have changed, and I realize I am no longer a central figure in their lives. Adam is the last to cross that threshold as he spends more of his time at college.

I will no longer be the first person he shares his good (or bad) news with, and major career or life decisions will be talked about with friends well before news reaches home.

As parents we should have seen this coming since the day they were born.

They learned to stand on their own two feet, dress themselves, cook (or at least attempt to) and recognize the difference between right and wrong.

I am not a parent who hovers or insists on guiding every minute of my children's lives. Allowing them a little freedom to make choices and (sometimes) suffer consequences has only strengthened them as people.

This hands-off parenting, however, has left a little misunderstanding among the kids.

A couple of them think since I didn't shed tears as I dropped them off at college that I didn't care about them. The idea couldn't be further from the truth.

I guess I was so careful to respect their space and not to intrude on the next step of their adult lives that the "no tears" ended up looking as if I simply didn't care.

I was letting them take flight as the home nest emptied over a nine-year period.

Tears or not, I have witnessed children with good work ethic, caring attitudes and a desire to improve professionally.

They couldn't have done that with their mom hovering nearby doing the work or making the choices for them.

Adam proclaims proudly as he reaches age 20, "I beat teen pregnancy."

With a heavy sigh and a roll of the eyes, I can only say with a smile, "He really makes a mother proud."

For this season of gift exchanges, consider those that are memorable

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

tirelessly to make our community a better place.

We could run a long list of these individuals, groups and organizations, but in reality, a person doesn't need to look very hard to find them — or even to find personal ways to improve one little corner of the universe.

A glance at our Community Calendar on Page 2A offers several current opportunities — SHARE, the Salvation Army, hospice, the Historical Society, Friends of the Library and others.

On Page 6A this week we have

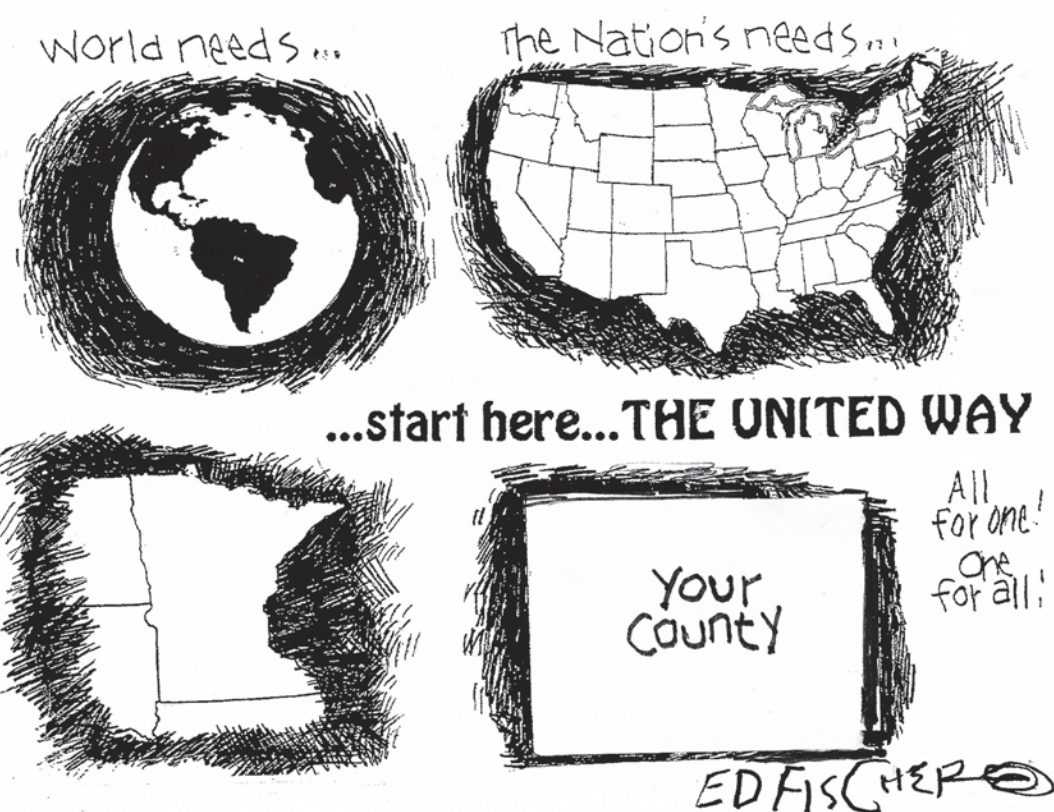
a lead story about the Luverne Area Community Foundation, an organization worthy of donations on its own. The LACF feature is about the myriad of local groups the foundation supports, and the list is impressive.

Please take time to read this story and to research ways to help.

Because, as we all know, it's more rewarding to give than to receive.

Have a blessed holiday season, dear readers. May all your gifts (both given and received) be memorable.

Want to do something to make a difference?..



Vietnam Veterans facing another silent enemy

To the Editor:

Veterans of the war in Vietnam have faced many challenges that extended beyond their time in the combat zone. Too many of these great Americans have died decades too early from issues that attacked them after they returned home. As if the enemy they faced in battle and the societal enemies they faced back at home were not enough, their war would not end easily.

Post Traumatic Stress would haunt them as they attempted to reintegrate into civilian life. The enemy they faced was not only brutal on the field of battle, but also with their use of booby traps of all sorts, unconventional warfare tactics, and the use of civilians to kill for them has kept veterans awake at night to this day. The use of Agent Orange, a defoliant used to clear jungle vegetation, would be found to bring cancer to our veterans later in life.

As with their other issues, our government has been slow to respond to the needs of those that fought for our freedoms. The battle over Agent Orange was a long one, beginning in the late '70s and being worked over with settlements in the '80s that did little for the veterans themselves. A completely disabled veteran was to receive \$12,000 over the course of ten years. A widow of an affected veteran would

receive a paltry \$3,700. This was just another example of the veteran paying more than once for our freedoms.

In the last week the news has broken that another form of cancer, one of the bile ducts, has been directly linked to servicemen's time in the Vietnam War. At this point, the main indicator ties the consumption of raw or poorly cooked fish with a parasite called a liver fluke. A 2016 study found that 20 percent of blood tests came back with positive results for liver fluke antibodies.

This bile duct cancer is extremely slow-acting, as the decades that have passed prove. When the first symptoms come to the surface, the veteran typically has only a few months to live and the disease is very painful. There is no way to guess how many Vietnam veterans were affected during their time in the country, as many ended up eating fresh water fish when they ran out of rations in the jungle.

Liver flukes are very common in the rest of the world, especially in tropical locations.

The worst part of this story is that the flukes can be knocked out with a handful of pills early in any infestation. So all of our veterans who have died to date could have been treated upon return to the United States and would have never had to face a painful death from bile duct cancer.

So, to all of you Vietnam guys out there, if you have any question as to whether or not you could have become infested with liver flukes please, please get in and find out.

Even some veterans that were surprised by the blood tests found cysts on their bile ducts, but they were found early enough to head off the development of cancer.

Your life is certainly worth a short amount of time to get tested. Please take this new threat seriously. Even though it has been four decades, your life may depend on it.

Curtis Hendel, Adrian American Legion and founder of Veterans Regrouped

VOICE OF OUR READERS

Help keep state park vital by becoming a 'Friends' member

To the Editor:

The Friends of Blue Mounds State Park is a revitalized group that is focusing our efforts on maintaining and improving the gem we all have access to right in our own back yard. Our group's sole purpose is to better the park for all, both locals and visitors. We would like to tell you about our goals and a few of the things happening at the park.

Recently the Star Herald highlighted some very exciting news. The safe drinking/showering water initiative has made huge strides with the help of Rock County Rural Water. We expect to see potable drinking water and showers in the park in the summer of 2018.

Secondly, we all have opinions on what we'd like to see done with the Interpretive Center (Manfred House), but the DNR has the final decision. The building has been deemed unsafe for anyone to enter, including park employees. Building a house into a natural living and breathing rock wall does not hold up well to the annual freeze, thaw, seeping moisture, and humidity that occurs. It might be possible to keep the building, but renovate it to an open-air picnic structure. Our group is hopeful about this possibility and continue to express our desire toward that end.

People travel far to access some of the best rock climbing in the tri-state area here; there are over 300 climbing routes at Blue Mounds! We are working to make the cliff line more accessible by clearing overgrowth for both climbers and hikers. Follow our Facebook page for future brush clearing events next spring. Many hands make light

work!

Finally, we are in the planning stages to improve the former beach area by adding a picnic shelter, new playground equipment, a nature play area and more. These goals are long-term as that area will be staging for the creek restoration starting in 2018.

We are aware that many, near and far, cherish this gem we have in our back yard. As we look forward to upcoming projects, we ask you to get involved. It's about helping to preserve and improve a true piece of our collective history — something we can all be proud of.

How can you help? First, become a member. Your membership will help provide financial assistance and strengthen our park community. Follow our Facebook page. Visit our booth at the Winterfest. Maybe you'd like to help out with an event or fundraiser? We are looking for a volunteer to build a bench or two for the park. Treated lumber and DNR-approved plans would be supplied.

The Friends of Blue Mounds State Park is part of the MN State Parks and Trails Council. Your membership and donations are tax deductible and specifically earmarked for Friends use. You can be sure your support helps Blue Mounds State Park directly.

Thank you for your interest and support in the park. Please contact us with any questions, concerns, or comments at jprekker@hotmail.com or call 507-283-4796.

**Taylor Graphenteen
On behalf of Friends of the Blue Mounds State Park**

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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. 17
 •Complainant reported debris in turning lane at West Dodge and North Kniss.
 •Complainant reported a white semitrailer with a side dump turned the corner at West Dodge and North Kniss and took out a fire hydrant. Headed southbound. Contacted city.
 •Complainant reported a blue Hyundai Elantra has a child in the front seat and two in the back with no restraints.
 •Complainant reported individual with prior history of assault is at motel threatening complainant.
 •Complainant at Mead Court reported alleged child maltreatment.

Nov. 18
 •Complainant reported a farmer is hauling manure out of the cattle yard and making a mess on the highway at County Road 1 and County Road 3. He is not cleaning it up.
 •Patrol reported a trooper is out on I-90, Mile marker 9 eastbound with a hitchhiker.
 •Complainant reported a man standing by a car with a gas can on County Road 3 just south of I-90.
 •Complainant reported a drunk man pulled a plastic gun on them and sped off in a white Cadillac. Someone broke into their house.
 •Complainant reported activated fire alarms at South Kniss restaurant.

Nov. 19
 •Sanford Luverne requested assistance with suspicious person.
 •Complainant reported a squad is sitting outside and looking into the house. He feels he is being harassed. Did not want to leave a phone number or a message.
 •Complainant reported she thinks it smells like gas at location on South Kniss. Owners didn't smell it.
 •Complainant reported her smoke alarm went off but it was just smoke. It stopped while on the phone.
 •Complainant reported a domestic disturbance between a juvenile and an adult male at location on East Bishop Street.
 •Complainant reported an erratic driver exited the interstate at County Road 4.

Nov. 20
 •Complainant came to Law Enforcement Center and requested to speak with deputy.
 •Complainant called LEC and requested to speak to deputy regarding suspicious activity at location on East Dodge Street.
 •Complainant reported tires dumped in ditch on 91st Street.
 •Complainant on S. West Park Street came to LEC and requested to speak with deputy regarding harassment.
 •Complainant from Mead Court came to LEC and requested to speak with deputy regarding harassment.
 •Complainant reported subject threatened to break her legs over a civil issue.
 •Complainant reported there have been some social media threats made by subject.
 •Complainant reported vehicle has parked on the street in front of location on W. Lincoln Street for over two weeks.
 •Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.

•Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.
 •Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.

Nov. 21
 •Complainant reported commercial burglary alarm at County Highway 4.
 •Complainant reported commercial burglary alarm at W. Hatting Street.
 •Complainant reported debris in roadway at U.S. Highway 75, mile marker 21.
 •Subject came to LEC and requested to speak with deputy regarding harassment.
 •Complainant on W. Dodge Street reported theft.
 •Dollar General reported theft.
 •Complainant requested welfare check on subject.
 •Complainant reported semitrailer parking in turn lane at Highway 75, County Road 7.
 •Complainant reported vehicle parked in his reserved parking spot at Blue Mound Towers. Complainant called back. Issue was resolved.
 •Reserved for POR registration.
 •Complainant reported domestic at City Centre Apartments.
 •Automated message reporting possible emergency at wheelchair lift at E. Dodge Street.
 •Complainant reported semitrailer traveling at hazardously low rates of speed on I-90, mile marker 6. Transferred to State Patrol.
 •Complainant reported possible open door at S. Oakley Street.
 •Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.
 •Complainant requested to speak with deputy for follow-up on domestic.

Nov. 22
 •Complainant reported plastic debris from semitrailer in roadway on South Kniss. Complainant removed from lane of travel to boulevard.
 •Complainant reported someone put a kid's bike in the back of his vehicle. Put in the bike impound.
 •Complainant reported his tire was slashed last night. Vehicle is in driveway. He will be home about 5:30 or 6 p.m.
 •Complainant on South Walnut reported the theft of her pickup.
 •Complainant reported a vehicle ran a stop sign arm. Driver was on cell phone.
 •Shopko reported a fake \$100 bill.
 •Shopko reported an employee stealing from business.
 •Reserved for tip information.
 •Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.
 •Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.

Nov. 23
 •Received general fire alarm. Received call from the church. Something was smoking in the oven. All is under control.
 •Complainant reported round bales on fire. No one is around.
 •Complainant reported alleged child maltreatment.
 In addition, officers responded to 1 deer accident, 21 traffic stops, 3 DWI incidents, 4 transports, 6 escorts, 22 ambulance runs, 3 alarms, 4 paper services, 10 animal complaints, 3 fingerprint requests, 7 log/alarm sheets, 3 drug court tests, 2 abandoned 911 calls, and issued 1 purchase/carry permit and 7 burn permits.

In the face of tight cash flows, producers need to keep eye on grain markets for price rallies

Most farm operators in the Upper Midwest have now completed their 2017 corn and soybean harvest and are finishing up with servicing equipment, as well as beginning end-of-the-year financial book work.

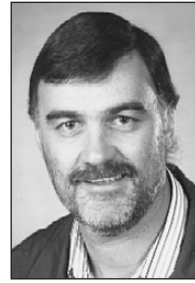
The late November and early December time frame is also a time to keep an eye on the grain markets to watch for any short-term corn and soybean price rallies. Many farm operators are facing tight cash flow situations as we end 2017 and head into 2018, so the opportunity to turn some grain inventories into cash would be a welcome opportunity.

The soybean market showed some surprising strength late in the week of November 13-17, posting an \$.18 per bushel increase on Nov. 17 in both nearby and July futures prices on the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT). This was the highest level for the nearby CBOT soybean futures price in several weeks. In addition, the basis level between the nearby CBOT and local cash soybean prices has tightened in some locations in recent weeks, which has resulted in some of the best cash soybean price bids that we have seen all fall.

Current CBOT January soybean futures closed at \$9.90 per bushel on Nov. 17, which is about the same as mid-November in 2016, but is over \$1.00 per bushel higher than mid-November in 2015. Nearby CBOT soybean futures on Nov. 17 closed near their highest closing price since late July this year.

There was a pretty sharp downturn in the soybean price immediately following the Nov. 9 USDA Crop Report and World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimate (WASDE); however, the soybean market seems to have recovered nicely in the week or so that followed.

The USDA Crop Report projected record 2017 U.S. harvested soybean acreage of 89.5 million acres, and a record U.S. soybean production of 4.42 billion bushels in 2017. This compares to a total U.S. soybean production of just over 3.9 billion bushels in both 2015 and 2014.



FSA News

By Fraser Norton, director
 Rock County Farm Service Agency

Local cash soybean prices in southern Minnesota offer a similar scenario, with closing cash soybean prices on Nov. 17 ranging from near \$9.00 per bushel to \$9.45 per bushel, with the higher price levels being at the soybean processing plants.

Cash soybean prices in other areas of the Midwest are lower levels, where a wider basis from CBOT futures prices exists. The basis level from the nearby CBOT futures price to the cash soybean price at the soybean processing plants tightened by about \$.15 per bushel from early November until Nov. 17, which has made the cash soybean price bids more competitive. The \$9.45 per bushel closing cash soybean price at the some soybean processing plants on Nov. 17 was one of the highest closing prices since late July.

The current short-term strength in the soybean market is being driven by increasing demand for soybeans, both in the U.S. and globally. The U.S. soybean export levels and the domestic soybean crush levels have exceeded expectations and were increased again in the most recent WASDE Report on Nov. 9. However, the recent WASDE Report also projected the U.S. soybean ending stocks, or the carry-over level at the end of the 2017-18 marketing year on Aug. 31, 2018, to be 425 million bushels. This is 41 percent higher than the final estimated soybean ending stocks for 2016-17.

The projected 2017-18 soybean ending stocks, as well as the all-important "stocks-to-use" ratio, would be at the highest levels in the past couple of decades. This will likely temper any large-scale soybean price rallies in the coming months, unless there are growing season

weather problems with the South American soybean crop this winter.

Many producers took advantage of some strong soybean price levels early in 2017 to forward-price a portion of their expected 2017 soybean production at cash prices above \$9.50 per bushel. However, the forward cash soybean prices had dropped below \$9.00 per bushel in many areas of southern Minnesota by late summer and fall until the recent spike in the cash price.

Producers need to pay attention to cash soybean prices in the coming weeks and take advantage of any good pricing opportunities, when they exist. Many farm operators in southern Minnesota had 2017 soybean yields that were average to above average, so a cash soybean price of \$9.00 per bushel is most likely at a profitable level.

Local cash corn prices in southern Minnesota have not been nearly as encouraging as current soybean prices. Current cash corn prices have remained near \$3.00 per bushel or lower in recent weeks, and really have not changed much since mid summer. There is really nothing on the horizon to suggest that the cash corn price will improve anytime soon.

The Nov. 9 USDA Report projected a record U.S. average corn yield of 175.4 bushels per acre, and the second highest total U.S. corn production at 14.6 billion bushels. This only trails the 2016 record U.S. corn production level of 15.1 billion bushels, which was due to a lower level of harvested corn acres in 2017.

The projected U.S. corn ending stocks at the end of the 2017-18 marketing year

on Aug. 31, 2018, is 2.48 billion bushels, which would be at the highest level in two decades. Corn basis levels between CBOT prices and local cash corn prices in recent months have been at the widest level in many years. Given the very strong 2017 corn yields in many areas of the upper Midwest, which increases the local supply of corn, those basis levels are not likely to improve anytime soon.

USDA is currently estimating the market year average (MYA) corn price for 2017-2018 in a range from \$2.80-\$3.60 per bushel, or an average of \$3.20 per bushel, which compares to \$3.36 per bushel for 2016-17 and \$3.61 per bushel for 2015-16. The cash corn prices in southern Minnesota have been running \$.10-\$.20 per bushel lower than the national MYA price levels. Very little 2017 corn was forward priced before corn harvest this year, so most farm operators are storing their corn, and hoping for better prices during the first half of 2018.

It is important for farm operators to develop a good grain marketing plan for the unpriced 2017 grain that is still in storage and to pay attention for temporary rallies in the grain markets. A good marketing plan should establish grain price targets that are based on realistic price expectations, as well as calculated crop production breakeven levels.

Producers are also encouraged to have target dates that are linked to grain marketing decisions and prices, especially with the unpriced corn and soybeans that are in storage.

Historically, in most years with large grain supplies, such as exist in 2017, cash grain prices for "old crop" corn and soybeans usually do not have large price increases following harvest unless there is a drought or other weather problem the following crop year.

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



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2015 Chrysler Town & Country

Stock #529239N
43K



Papik Price **\$21,990**

2006 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS

Stock #362086U
141K



Papik Price **\$5,990**

2010 Ford Fusion

Stock #298475P
96K



Papik Price **\$7,990**

2017 Jeep Grand Cherokee

Stock #884799Z
20K



Papik Price **\$34,990**

Brouwer retires/from page 3A

winters have not been as severe and he now has better equipment and the roads are better maintained.
 "Every year about a two mile stretch of road is built up and every seven years the board purchases a new road grader," he said.
 "The township board and the people have been good to me."
 Brouwer reminisced about former board members Cloutier, Nuffer, Don Soehl, John Van Wyhe, Jim Jacobson, Leonard (Shorty) Leenderts,

Dave Swanson, Dennis Erickson and Dan Siegfried.
 Present township board members are Gawaine Diekevers, Allen Nuffer, Josh Rheault, treasurer Lucas Sandager and clerk Doug Bos.
 Brouwer said with a smile, "My shoulder is sore from waving to everyone I met when I was operating the grader."
 In his retirement he plans to restore old tractors.
 An open house in his honor will be at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11, in the Martin Township building.



Lori Sorenson photos/1130 LACF awards

This year 26 organizations received a total of \$69,000 from the Luverne Area Community Foundation. Representatives attending the Nov. 20 ceremony in Sterling's restaurant include (front row, from left) Dr. Nicole Woodley of Sanford Luverne, Luella Voigt of Blue Mound Area Theater, Corrine Bonnema of the Luverne Farmers Market, Jennifer Lindsey and Sara Wahl of the Southwest Crisis Center, Lisa Nath of Big Buddies of Rock County, Carrie Soto of the Luverne Backpack Program, Cathy Shearer of the Blue Mound Ice Arena, (second row) Shirley Connor of Blue Mound Area Theater, Jamie Reisdorfer of Sanford Luverne, Helen Saum of Sanford Luverne Hospice, Ladonna VanAartson of Blue Mound Area Theater, Phil Paquette of Luverne Public Schools, Evan Verbrugge of the Rock County Sheriff's Office, Greg Burger of ATLAS, Jim Susie from the City of Hills, Harlan VandeKieft of the Rock County Ambulance, Sara Hartquist of SHARE, Emily Crabtree of LACF, (third row) Cory Grimm of Luverne Street Music, Tom Rolfs of Sanford Luverne, Craig Oftedahl of the school ALICE Committee, Joe Schomacker of Good Samaritan Mary Jane Brown Home, Jordan Winter and Wade Hiller of the school ALICE Committee, Eric Hartman of the Luverne Rotary Club and Lee Sells of the Rock County Ag Society. Organizations not represented in the photo are Luverne Senior Dining, Lutheran Social Services, Hills-Beaver Creek School, Rock County Community Library and Luverne Fire Department.

LACF conducts Celebration of Philanthropy

By Lori Sorenson

The Luverne Area Community Foundation celebrated its 2017 season with a Celebration of Philanthropy Nov. 20 in Sterling's restaurant.

"This event has become one of our favorite nights as we get the opportunity to share with you all the good things that have happened this past year through grant dollars that are supported by the donors we get to call Friends of the Foundation," LACF director Emily Crabtree told the private gathering that filled the restaurant.

"When you choose to make the Community Foundation one of your charitable organizations, you make a mark in creating change, health, and growth in the community you love and live in."

Monday's event was an opportunity to recognize the 26 organizations that received a total of \$69,000 from LACF. Representatives from most of the grant recipients spoke briefly about their work and about how the grant money is utilized.

Crabtree said these groups are an inspiration for the community.

"I was overwhelmed by their response of humility, humbled that selfless acts would be recognized in such a way," she said about what it was like to deliver grant news to recipients. "May we be lifted up by their examples."

The annual Celebration of Philanthropy also recognizes award winners in three different categories.

Spirit of Philanthropy

Betty Mann is this year's recipient of the Spirit of Philanthropy award, which recognizes commitment to charitable responsibility and generosity to inspire others to philanthropic action.

"Betty's inspiration as a person of philanthropy comes in many forms," Crabtree said. "She gives generously of her heart, her time, her money and her passion."

She mentioned Mann's passion for the History Center and her 23 years as president of the Rock County Historical Society that preserved Rock County



First Farmers and Merchants Bank, Luverne, received the Luverne Area Community Foundation 2017 Outstanding Business Award during a Nov. 20 ceremony in Sterling's. Pictured are (front, from left) Marylin VanGrootheest, LaDonna VanAartsen, Jill Buss, Michelle Jansma, Mike Schacht, Gayle Stegemann, Lisa Ehlers, Sandy Clark, LACF Director Emily Crabtree, (middle) Cris Oeltjenbruns, Tara Zewiske, Dale Roemmich, Lois Leuthold, Linda Goehle, Mike Engesser, Ryan Wynia, Peg Gacke, (back) Carol Foster, Brian Short, Paulette Richters, Mike DeBates and Jo Buss.

history through museums that grew from one building to six

"The research room and volunteers guided by Betty at the History Center have created a system of history collection that is invaluable," Crabtree said.

Mann said the work comes from her heart.

"It is so gratifying to help someone to find information on family or subject matter," she said.

In addition to her personal financial commitment to the community, Crabtree said Mann

donated her 2,800-piece nutcracker collection to attract people to the History Center.

"Betty told me that she gives because of how it makes her feel," Crabtree said.

Mann said, "I really enjoy doing things to help others. God has given me a great life and I feel happy when I can do something for others."

She said she hopes that her work will inspire others to do the same.

Nonprofit Spotlight award

The Luverne Backpack Program received the 2017 Nonprofit Spotlight award for providing at-risk children with nutritious, easy to prepare food for the weekends while they're away from school meal programs.

The program, now in its ninth year, serves 180 students from age 3 to grade 12 and relies

Philanthropy/continued on page 8A



Betty Mann (right with LACF director Emily Crabtree) received the 2017 Spirit of Philanthropy Award.

1962: Land for Luverne packing plant purchased from B.S. Hinkly

The following appeared in the Rock County Star Herald on April 12, 1962, and is the second part of the story.

\$1.25 Million Industry to Locate Here

Premium Packing Co. Plans To Employ About 75 Persons

Will Ship Beef Carcasses

Premium Packing Co. will not do the complete packaging of beef products as does a packing house. It will, as "dressed beef" implies, slaughter beef animals, hold them in its cooler for 24 hours and ship dressed carcasses to eastern markets. It will not cut and package beef as do packing plants. None of the meat processed here will be sold locally. It will go by rail and truck to eastern chain stores and wholesale outlets.

The plant, a one-story brick and steel structure, will be built by Klinger Construction Co., of Sioux City. Cost of the building vs. equipment is expected to be near a "60-40" basis. Total cost of the building, equipment and land is about \$900,000.



Bits by Betty

By Betty Mann,
president Rock County
Historical Society

Purchase From Hinkly

Land for the plant is under option by the Industrial Development Committee from B.S. Hinkly and is in the process of purchase. The committee will assign the option to buy the land to Premium Packing Co.

By Products

Premium Packing will have yards for holding 1,000 live animals. By Products, such as meat scraps, tallow and hides, will be handled by special departments in the plant. Dennis said he expects the plant will ship about two loads of hides per week and an equal number of loads of tallow per week.

For its meat shipments, the plant's 440-head per day production will require an estimated total of 12 railroad cars per day. Delivery in Chicago will be on a next day service basis.

As an interstate shipper, the plant will operate within the codes of the Interstate Commerce Commission and U.S. Department of Agriculture. Its employees will be furnished with clean uniforms daily.

Most Modern Equipment

"There will be no more modern equipment in use anywhere in the country than we will have here," Dennis declared. He pointed out that meat dressing plants have to use

the most modern equipment to be competitive in the market. Cattle will be slaughtered under the humane slaughter requirements, with the use of power-operated stunning devices.

Dennis said his company has worked in close harmony throughout the planning stage for the plant with the Luverne Industrial Development Committee.

Frankly Appreciative

The president of the firm is frankly appreciative of the way city and county representatives of the county encouraged the plant and worked with the firm's leaders to make it a reality.

"I'm extremely happy with the way things have been going and the way we have been received," he said. The story continues next week.

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@iu.net.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2007)

•Luverne residents may see a rate increase for water and wastewater following a recommendation by Missouri River Energy Services.

Rate Analyst Karen Weeden presented results of a rate study she'd conducted on Luverne's water and wastewater use during the Committee of the Whole Meeting Tuesday, Nov. 20.

Due to operating costs, capital improvements and other factors, she recommended the city increase its overall wastewater and water rates.

To keep pace with rising costs, wastewater rates will increase 8.6 percent the first year, starting in 2008, and 8.5 and 8.3 percent the two years after that.

25 years ago (1992)

•After weeks of discussion, the Rock County Board of Commissioners Tuesday decided to go with its initial plan to join a regional landfill in Lyon County.

The Board tentatively agreed to join the Lyon County landfill at its Sept. 22 meeting. At the Board's following meeting, Schaap Sanitation in Nobles County requested that Rock County consider joining its landfill.

The Board instructed the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to review the two options and make a recommendation. Board member Jane Wildung is a member of SWAC. She said Bill Ketterling, who has the county contract for collecting materials for recycling, presented a third plan at SWAC's last meeting. Ketterling suggested the county transfer garbage to Dickinson County, Iowa.

"We talked long and hard and looked at all of the numbers," Wildung said.

In the end, SWAC recommended Lyon County. The regional landfill had originally planned to charge \$50 per ton, but Wildung said the fee might be lowered to \$45 per ton.

50 years ago (1967)

•The former Hills public School student today is worth \$3,000 to any Viet Cong who kills him, and all because he is devoting part of his time helping the South Vietnamese villagers to better themselves.

Sgt. John Bouwman, whose parents now live near Inwood and who is a brother to Mrs. Fred Tilstra, Luverne, is stationed with the 633rd Combat Support group of the U.S. Air Force in Plieku. For the past four months, he has been a member of an air rescue and recovery team which goes out to rescue downed pilots, and in addition works with Civics Action program which takes him out into the villages surrounding countryside.

75 years ago (1942)

•Ladies of the county will have an opportunity to get first hand information on buying, selecting and caring for war time clothing. Clifford R. Simon, county agent, says the Miss Linn, University extension clothing specialist will be in the county November 30, December 1 and 2, for this purpose. Miss Linn has a three-hour program of information on buying, selecting and caring of clothing which is now on the market.

All meetings will start at 1:30 p.m. and run for three hours. Two meetings are already scheduled: November 30 at the courthouse room in Luverne and December 1 in the annex of the Green Lantern in Hardwick. Plans are being made to schedule the meeting for December 2 in the vicinity of Hills and Beaver Creek.

100 years ago (1917)

•The suit of C.A. Eshelman against Andrew P. Ingelson, to recover damages for a horse so injured in an automobile accident that the animal had to be killed, still remains undetermined as to its merits, and the chances are that the case will never be settled in court, at least. The jury in this case in the district court, after being out for over eighteen hours, were unable to agree and were discharged by Judge Nelson on Thursday forenoon of last week. This is the second trial of this case, both trials resulting in a disagreement of the jury and it is said to be doubtful if another trial will be held.

Towne Square development details come into focus on South Highway 75/continued from page 1A

be resolved with variances and conditional use permits, but McClure said the Towne Square case is unique enough to qualify as a Planned Unit Development.

He pointed to the verbiage of the city's PUD zoning ordinance: "It is to accommodate such innovative proposals, even those that may 'mix' land uses within a development, exceed stipulated residential densities or depart from the traditional lot sizes, that the PUD district is developed."

McClure said there are good reasons for zoning restrictions, but PUDs allow for common sense exceptions that benefit the community.

"You can't create rules for everything," he said.

"This is an exception to the rule."

The last time the city used PUD as a development tool was in the 1990s for the Cashin Drive townhome neighborhood.

Water, neighbors and traffic

Warren Baker and Steve Cattnach were among the handful of community members who attended Monday's public hearing.

Baker asked how his property along Freeman Avenue to the east of Towne Square would be affected by storm water runoff. "I live downstream from this," he said.

McClure assured him that any construction of the size and scope of Towne Square is required by state law to have engineers develop a storm water management plan.

Engineers would likely consider a retention basin toward the east end of the lot, but McClure said Sharkee's and Mert's Repair had similar hard surfaces, and with the green space planned for Towne Square, water runoff may be similar.

Baker also asked what kind of tenants would be living in the apartments.

"I gotta live with these people," he said about his future neighbors.

City Administrator John Call said the apartments will be "marketrate" rentals, which means the units will cater to young professionals earning \$40,000 to \$50,000.

"These won't be the cheap apartments in town," McClure said.

Because market-rate rental units are in heavy demand



Landscaping, patios, balconies and other aesthetic details will be part of the plan, with parking in the rear of the buildings. The future Luverne Loop biking and hiking trail will be located along the south border (Hatting Street) and it will be a key component in the development plan. Developer William Ludwig said Towne Square could accommodate four or five business tenants in the primary ground level spaces. The two corner units on each end have drive-through capabilities.

all over the state, Minnesota officials are working with Ludwig to offer Workforce Housing Program incentives to help him build the quality units and keep the rates affordable for working professionals.

"They've been wonderful to work with," Ludwig said Monday night about Minnesota housing officials. "I haven't encountered this in other states where I've done business."

Cattnach asked about traffic patterns at Hatting and Highway 75.

"Right now you wait forever to get on Highway 75 at certain times of the day," he said.

McClure acknowledged that increased activity will certainly mean increased traffic, but the extent of traffic and driving patterns depend on the types of business tenants that occupy the property.

Call said it would be a good problem to have.

"Sometimes we like more traffic, because it means more people and more business," he said. "It's kind of a double-edged sword."

Traffic management, if necessary, would up to the Minnesota Department of Transportation, since Kniss Avenue is a state highway.

Meeting demand

Ludwig said Towne Square could accommodate four or five business tenants in the primary ground level spaces. The two corner units on each end have drive-through capabilities.

The primary building along Highway 75 on the north end of the property will be 6,000 square feet and three stories tall. The other highway-facing property will have 8,000 square feet and will also be three stories high.

The two residential buildings along Hatting Street will each have 4,000 square feet and will be two-levels, and Ludwig said construction will start first on the apartments.

"We'll start that first thing in the spring to prepare for some of the jobs that are coming with tru Shrimp and others," he said.

The Towne Square residential offerings will range from single to three-bedroom units of varying sizes and amenities. For example, some of the one-bedroom units will be

designed larger living spaces for couples, while others will cater to singles.

Ludwig called the corner apartments "prized units" with creative natural lighting. The number of single versus two-bedroom units is still to be determined.

Ludwig, an architect and urban planner from Des Moines, Iowa, originally brought his proposal to the city in June.

"The intent is to create a center of activity where people live, work, shop and entertain," Ludwig told the city in his initial proposal that was accepted this summer.

"We expect to attract people from the existing city limits as well as surrounding areas and highway travelers... Towne Square will become a destination."

The Planning and Zoning recommendation to develop the area as a Planned Unit Development Zoning District will go to the City Council for final approval at a future council meeting.



Philanthropy is showcased at annual LACF ceremony/continued from page 1A

on a volunteer board and charitable gifts.

BackPack Program president Carrie Soto reports that 98 cents of every dollar goes directly for the purchase of food, and businesses, churches, coffee groups, etc. volunteer to pack food bags each week to be placed anonymously in lockers of eligible students.

"We have a beautiful community and it becomes easy to think that issues like food insecurity don't exist," Soto said.

"By speaking about the issue, the challenges, and needs of many of the families that we serve, we have been able to help bring about a greater understanding and sense of collaboration."

She said this all falls in

line with the group's mission of "enriching lives one bite at a time."

Outstanding Business

First Farmers & Merchants Bank of Luverne received the 2017 Outstanding Business award, which recognizes a business that creates a culture of philanthropy within its organization.

Reading a statement from the bank, Crabtree said, "Leaders of FF&M share that 'We are grateful to live in a community that recognizes the needs of our community.'"

FF&M Bank financially supports youth programs, community fundraisers and events, educational needs, programs for senior citizens, agricultural projects and organizations, nutrition causes,

health and wellness programs and preservation programs.

There are 28 in all, and the bank staff members serve on 34 local committees and organizations.

The bank co-sponsors the free monthly family movie night and has served the Relay for Life and Backpack program from their beginnings.

"When a need in the community presents, FF&M reacts, often leading the charge with financial commitment," Crabtree said.

In-house fundraising through bake sales and cash for jeans day on Fridays is used for charitable programs.

"Bank employees are encouraged and supported to be involved on local boards, civic organizations and volunteer-based causes," Crabtree said.



Luverne's Backpack Program received the Luverne Area Community Foundation 2017 Nonprofit Spotlight Award. Pictured are (from left) LACF director Emily Crabtree and Backpack volunteers Cindy Arends, Rhonna Jarchow, Theresa Graff, Carrie Soto, Lisa Dinger and Ginger Schomacker.

Lori Sorenson photos/1130 LACF awards

Holiday Open House

Thank you for another wonderful year of serving you.

Please join us for our holiday open house.

Monday, December 4th

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Luverne Branch

Luverne Data Center



First Farmers & Merchants

We believe in you.™
Member FDIC. And the community.

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WWW.FFMBANK.COM



The 2,800-piece nutcracker collection (left) is a major draw for tourists visiting the History Center on East Main Street. In the center photo, Historical Society President Betty Mann talks to a group of visitors Monday about the replica sod shanty. "Can you believe a family of six lived in there," she remarked. Visiting that day were (clockwise from front, center) Lavonne (Untiedt) Schardin, Grafton, North Dakota; Tom Untiedt, New Hope; Jason Schardin, Brooklyn Center; Patsy (Untiedt) Kaski, Arizona, and Jon Schardin, Dickerson, North Dakota. At right, Darrel Van Aartsen attaches light fixtures to the exterior of the History Center Monday, completing one of the final building details.

Grand celebration

Replica shanty of first permanent county homesteader among many History Center attractions

Photos and text by Lori Sorenson

The History Center on East Main Street in Luverne will celebrate its grand opening next weekend with a ribbon-cutting and tours.

Historical Society President Betty Mann has often referred to the History Center as her "dream come true," and Friday will be another chance to reflect.

"I'm very pleased," she said Monday, adding that a few displays still need filling and a few details need to be completed. "But history never ends; you keep doing what you can."

One of the special displays at the History Center is Mann's nutcracker collection, now totaling over 2,800 pieces, which she donated to the History Center as a unique attraction.

"People used to come to my home to see the nutcrackers," she said. "Families, mostly, but I had a bus tour once."

She donated the collection to the History Center following the move from the former museum in the Masonic Lodge on Freeman Avenue.

And now the odd nutcrackers of all shapes, sizes, ages and origins are a big reason people come downtown. This summer more than 2,000 visitors toured the collection and the History Center.

"That's the reason I gave them to the museum; that was my hope — to get people to come in and see what we have," Mann said. "What we have is very special."

The History Center ribbon-cutting will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 1. Open house is from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and from 10-5 p.m. Saturday.

On average, about 250 visitors come per month — mostly to see the nutcrackers, but also to marvel at the other History Center offerings, which include tasteful displays telling Rock County's history — its churches, schools, communities, pioneers and businesses.

Mann said that's what's most satisfying for her. "People come in and do genealogy research, and sometimes they'll just come and read," she said. "I love that."

The round Main Street window showcases the Luverne Automobile, a source of local pride.

The Christmas Haus gift shop overlooks the parking lot near the entrance and beckons shoppers with its twinkling lights and holiday colors.

"These crazy little round blinking balls have been really popular," Mann said. "They're so ugly they're cute."

She also points to the handcrafted "ginger houses" with holes in their floors. When placed on a bulb,



Historical Society President Betty Mann (above) has often referred to the History Center as her "dream come true," and Friday will be another chance to reflect. "... history never ends; you keep doing what you can," she said about a few details need to be completed. At right, the blinking ornaments in the Christmas Haus have been popular items.



their lighted interiors reveal countless miniature indoor details.

But many treasures are found in the rooms inside.

Mann would like the community to know that proceeds from the sale of Christmas Haus merchandise are used to help fund the operation of the History Center and the Hinky Haus with monthly costs of \$1,000.

Sod shanty tells story of early pioneers

One of the inside attractions is a sod shanty built as a replica of the first homestead claim in Rock County.

north of the Iowa border.

"The dimensions were 9 feet across the front and 16 feet long, which sounds doable," Mann said. "But it was 7 feet tall at the front and slanted down to 9 inches tall in the back."

Mann has done research on other sod homes, dugouts and other claim shanties. Her own great-grandfather, Morris C. Smith, arrived in Rock County in 1869 and built a sod home. "They cut chunks of sod and stacked them on top of each other," she said.

But she isn't aware of others being built like the Estey home.

"The dimensions are just bizarre," Mann said. "But I've read in several places this is what they were."

She said it was made out of logs from the river — there were no trees on the prairie except by the river.

"We don't know what the roof was made of," Mann said of the Estey home. "We don't know what the front door was. But we know the dimensions."

Luverne High School students Hans Bakken and Knute Oldre were helping with projects at the History Center when the shanty project was being considered, and they took on the challenge of building it.

"I'm so proud of those two boys," Mann said. "They took it on and figured it out, and I just let them go with it."

They used logs from the river (donated by Mike Davis) as the early settlers would have had to do, but in order to make it safe, they

built a 2-by-4 frame and attached the split logs to the outside.

The shanty and all the other History Center displays will be open for tours during Winterfest this weekend.

The History Center ribbon-cutting will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 1, and the open house will be from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and from 10-5 p.m. Saturday.

The Rock County Historical Society is led by board members Betty Mann, Linda Bakken, Dolly Remme, George Langford, Jan Brandenburg, Naidine Aanenson, Keith Elbers, Greg Burger, Al Stoakes, Jane Wildung Lanphere, and Ron Feucht.

The society currently has 155 members, and a group of volunteers meets Tuesday afternoons at the History Center.

The Historical Society welcomes all volunteers and can be reached at 507-283-2122.



Children are encouraged to participate in a scavenger hunt this weekend in the History Center.



At left are handcrafted "ginger houses" in the Christmas Haus gift store. They have holes in their floors and when placed on a bulb, their lighted interiors reveal countless miniature indoor details. Proceeds from the sale of Christmas Haus merchandise are used to help fund the operation of the History Center and the Hinky Haus with monthly costs of \$1,000.

Above are display cases that were once used in Luverne's legendary Nelson Bros. Department Store. Also displayed nearby is an original Nelson Bros. sales ledger book.

At right is a covered wagon recently rebuilt and donated by Eugene Sandager, Hills, to the History Center. "Can you imagine traveling across the country with all your belongings in there," Betty Mann remarked Monday during a tour for visitors.





John Rittenhouse photo/1130 lgh 9

Luverne seventh-grader Kamryn Van Batavia attempts to take the passing lane away from New Ulm's Madeline Gag during a conference hockey game at the Blue Mound Ice Arena Nov. 21.

Girls open conference play with split

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne girls' hockey team opened Big South Conference play by splitting a pair of games at the Blue Mound Ice Arena.

New Ulm saddled the Cardinals with an eight-goal setback Nov. 21, but LHS broke even by skating to a four-goal victory over Minnesota River Saturday.

The 3-2 Cardinals play in Windom Thursday before hosting Mankato West.

Luverne 5, MR 1

The Cardinals evened the conference record at 1-1 by rolling to a four-game home win over Minnesota River

Saturday.

Led by multi-point games from Shelby Kracht (four points), Kamryn Van Batavia (three points) Rozilyne Oye (three points) and Reghan Bork (two points), Luverne scored five unanswered goals in the first two periods of play to set the stage for a four-goal contest.

Kracht, who led the Cards with three assists, opened the scoring with a goal 1:10 into the first period before Van Batavia made it 2-0 with 11:11 remaining in the stanza.

Oye capped a three-goal first period for Luverne when she netted her first of two goals

at the 9:25 mark of the stanza.

Oye and Bork upped the lead to 5-0 by registering power-play goals in the second period.

Oye struck first with 10:33 remaining and Bork added another tally with 2:12 left in the period.

Minnesota River avoided being blanked when Emma Doherty-Bohn scored 6:21 into the third period.

Van Batavia charted two assists for the winners, while Oye and Bork added one each.

Emilie Bartels saved 21 of the 22 shots she faced in goal for the Cards.

Luverne finished the game with 46 shots on goal.

NU 8, Luverne 0

The Cardinals received an eye-opening experience when they opened Big South Conference play against the New Ulm Eagles Nov. 21 at the Blue Mound Ice Arena.

The Eagles, a veteran team led by four solid seniors, controlled the game from beginning to end during an eight-goal drubbing of LHS.

NU scored at least two goals in every period and outshot the Cards 49-11 during a convincing victory.

Ali Beltz led the charge for the Eagles by turning in a four-point effort that included her registering a hat trick.

NU got off to a fast start by netting three first-period goals.

Madeline Gag opened the scoring 2:30 into the contest and Jayda Helget upped the lead to 2-0 with a goal that came with 8:44 remaining in the stanza.

Dani Weiss capped the three-goal period by scoring with 7:25 remaining.

LHS played its best period of the night during a second stanza that included both teams directing eight shots on goal.

NU, however, put the puck in the net twice.

Beltz registered a power-play tally with 7:24 remaining

and Jackie Cowing scored 1:05

later to make it a 5-0 difference. The Eagles completed their conquest by scoring three times in the third period.

Beltz wrapped up her hat trick by scoring twice in the first 8:40 of the period.

Elle Cooper registered the final goal of the night with 6:00 left to play.

Molly Scheid led the Eagles with two assists, while Caleigh Heck, Gag, Beltz, Weiss, Helget and Lauren Klein charted one assist each.

Emilie Bartels made 41 saves in net for LHS, while Cassie Reed turned in an 11-save shutout for NU.



John Rittenhouse photo/1130 lhs fb

Luverne football players Payne Bonnett (front, left), Declan Beers (front, middle), Charlie Reisch (front, right) and Tyler Reisdorfer (back, right) made the 2017 South Central District Western Division All-District Football Team. Max Skattum (back, left) and Nathan Nekali (back, middle) drew honorable mention. LHS finished the season with a 5-5 record.

Luverne football players rake in postseason honors

By John Rittenhouse

Six Luverne High School football players received postseason honors for their on-field performances during the 2017 season.

Four Cardinals made the South Central District White Division All-District Football Team and two more Cardinals drew honorable mention recognition.

Making the 31-player All-District squad from LHS include seniors Declan Beers and Tyler Reisdorfer and juniors Payne Bonnett and Charlie Reisch.

Junior Max Skattum and sophomore Nathan Nekali are two of 15 players to draw honorable mention recognition from the league's coaches.

Redwood Valley and Pipestone, which shared the

District championship with 6-1 records, led the league by receiving six and five All-District selections respectively.

RWV seniors Logan Josephson, Mitchell Irlbeck, Travis Rebstock and Thomas Amberg and juniors Corbin Wabasha and Cole Woodford made the team.

Seniors Garrett Ploeger and Tyl Woebler and juniors Matt Enger, Braeden Rieck and Chris Najera represent the Arrows.

Jackson County Central and Blue Earth Area matched Luverne by landing four All-District selections.

Seniors Ethan Lindley, Jacob Tvinnereim, Dylan Svoboda and Preston Mix are the Huskies on the team.

Seniors Jacob Vaske, Jordan Huse, Rylee McGuire and

Trevor Oppedal represent BEA.

Windom seniors Wyatt Minion and Luke Gilbertson and junior Alex Borsgard grace the All-District roster.

St. James senior Austin Durheim and junior Jacob Brey and Martin County West senior Aaron Burmeister and junior Tahri Risk round out the roster.

Other players receiving honorable mention include BEA senior Joe Schavey and sophomore Caelan Sanders, JCC seniors Zach Poelaert and Damien Van Westen, MCW seniors Logan Ebeling and Colby Williamson, Pipestone seniors Jamison Vander Wal and Jordan Baatz, RWV senior Spencer Quast and sophomore Chad Maddock, Windom seniors Dalton Smith and Kadon Eldor and St. James junior Parker Jones.

Seven Adrian gridders grace honorary list of athletes

By John Rittenhouse

Seven members of the Adrian High School football program collected postseason honors from the Southwest District Eastern Division coaches.

Two Dragons made the 2017 All-District team and two other Adrian players received honorable mention.

Three more AHS players made the District's All-Academic football squad.

Seniors Ryan Wieneke and Landon Rogers made the 26-player All-District roster, while senior Nick Harder and sophomore Lance Luettel landed two of 14 honorable awards doled out by the coaches.

Senior Skylar Polzine and juniors Tucker Wieneke and Dakota John are three of 20 members of the District's All-

Academic Team.

District champion Wabasso led all teams by landing six All-District selections.

Seniors Nick Altermatt, Cooper Taylor, Colton Taylor, Isaac Schmeising, Jacob Plaetz and Ty Kemp are the Rabbits on the roster.

New Ulm Cathedral placed five players on the All-District roster.

Seniors B.J. Mages, Colton Braulick, Tyler Wilson, Nate Hauser and David Berg represent the Greyhounds.

Murray County Central secured four All-District selections.

Senior Zach Aanenson and juniors Kolten Wendorff, Teagan Peschges and Noah Boerboom grace the list for the Rebels.

Tracy-Milroy-Balaton, Sleepy Eye and Springfield

gained three All-District selections each.

Seniors Moses Dolan, Austin Buchholz and Nash Meyer made the team from T-M-B, while senior Carter Tauer and juniors Landon Strong and Isaac Velasquez represent SE.

Springfield's selections include senior Devin Johnson, junior James Ploeger and sophomore Decker Scheffler.

Other honorable mention selections include Wabasso seniors Myles Zeug and Tony Franta, NUC seniors Zack Helget and Matt Guggisberg, MCC juniors Justin Benda and Ethan Swanson, T-M-B juniors Jake Byrne and Matt Timmerman, SE senior Zach Haala and junior Jacob Berg and Springfield senior Andrew Beckman and sophomore Mason Rommel.



John Rittenhouse photo/1130 ahs fb

Adrian's Ryan Wieneke (back, middle) and Landon Rogers (front, second left) made the 2017 All-Southwest District Eastern Division Football Team. Nick Harder (front, left) and Lance Luettel (back, right) received honorable mention. Skylar Polzine (back, left), Dakota John (front, second right) and Tucker Wieneke (front, right) made the District's All-Academic Team.

Schedules to test LHS winter teams as season begins

What should be an interesting winter sports season for Luverne High School teams begins in full force this week.



FROM THE SIDELINES

By John Rittenhouse, sports editor

All six of the LHS squads will have faced their first tests of the campaign before the coming week-end is complete, and each team faces different types of challenges with their schedules.

Fans of the Luverne hockey teams might want to make sure they take in as many December games as possible.

The LHS girls, a team that was expected to be hard-pressed to produce points this year, has turned some heads by sporting a 3-2 record after recording a home win Saturday.

The Cardinals face a hectic schedule the rest of this year as they are expected to play 18 of their 25 regular season games before Jan. 1.

That leaves seven more regular season games after the first of the year, and two of them will be home games.

The LHS boys, the defending Section 3A champions, are scheduled to play 15 of their 25 games on the road this season.

Twelve of the 25 games are scheduled to take place prior to Jan. 1, and 10 of the 13 games after the first of the year are road contests.

The LHS wrestling and gymnastics teams will spend a good share of their seasons competing at other venues.

The Cardinal wrestlers will not compete in Luverne until January.

Luverne will take the mat at eight different venues between Saturday and Jan. 13 before hosting

three triangulars from Jan. 16 to Jan. 30.

The Cardinal gymnasts will make their first and only home appearance in the month of December on Tuesday after opening the season in St. James on Friday.

Luverne's next three outings will be on the road before they host the first of two January meets on Jan. 12.

The good news for the gymnasts is their Feb. 1 meet against Marshall will not be their final home appearance as the Cardinals host the Section 3A meet Feb. 17.

The Luverne boys' basketball team, which plays 14 of its 25 games on the road this winter, has a lot of home showings early in the year.

The Cardinals host Southwest Christian to open the season Friday, and it will be their first of nine home games prior to Jan. 20.

After that, eight of Luverne's next 11 games will be on the road.

The LHS girls' basketball team could have the school's most favorable schedule with 13 of their 25 games being played at home.

Six of Luverne's first eight games will be staged in town prior to Dec. 20, including the season opener staged Tuesday (Nov. 28) against Edgerton.

As usual, all of Luverne's schedules are subject to change due to the weather.

I'm hoping for a mild winter with limited events being rescheduled.



John Rittenhouse photo/1130 hbc fb

Six Hills-Beaver Creek football players received postseason honors last week. Preston Maassen (left), Jesse Elbers (second, right), Garrett Raymon (right) and Trenton Bass (below) made the 2017 South District Western Division All-District Football Team. Jax Wysong (second, left) and Gavin Wysong (below) received honorable mention.

Six Patriots grace roster of South District Western Division Football Team

By John Rittenhouse

Six members of the Hills-Beaver Creek High School football team received postseason honors from coaches from the South District Western Division last week.

Four Patriots made the 33-player All-District team and two more H-BC players landed a pair of the 20 honorable mention selections doled out by the coaches.

Seniors Trenton Bass, Jesse Elbers and Preston Maassen and junior Garrett Raymon made the All-District team from H-BC.

Sophomore Jax Wysong and freshman Gavin Wysong drew honorable mention.

Red Rock Central and Russell-Tyler-Ruthton, which placed first and second respectively in the District, led all teams by securing five selections each to the All-District squad.

Seniors Sam Hansen, Brady Rasmussen, Garrett Marsh, Spencer Simonson and junior Jared Schroeffer made the team for RRC, while seniors Westin Kirk, Jonah Johnson



Bass



Wysong

and Jake Fischer and juniors Cooper Hansen and Carter Hansen represent R-T-R.

RRC's Hansen was named the District's Back of the Year, RRC's Isaac Jenniges was named the District's Coach of the Year and R-T-R's Kirk was named the District's Defensive Player of the year.

Westbrook-Walnut Grove, Mountain Lake Area and Edgerton-Ellsworth matched

H-BC by placing four players each on the All-District squad.

W-WG seniors Anthony Ross and Kyle Kuehl, junior Andrew Quade and sophomore Abraham Stoesz made the team for W-WG, while senior Jeff Wright, juniors Drake Harder and Jesse Jepsen and sophomore Abraham Stoesz represent MLA.

E-E seniors Trey Gilbertson and Jaden Bloemendaal and

juniors Zach Johnson and Perker Carlson cracked the list.

Gilbertson was named the District's Lineman of the Year.

Renville County West senior Eric Piceno, junior Jaime Castillo and freshman Jaden Kolker grace the All-District list, as do MACCRAY seniors Braden Hoekstra and Sam Hilbrands.

Fulda junior Levi Spittle and Heron Lake-Okabena senior Wyatt Schumacher round out the All-District team.

Other honorable mention selections include RCC senior Jordan Rogotzke and junior Austin Irlbeck, R-T-R senior Evan Swanson and junior Jon Lucero, W-WG junior Ethan Parker and sophomore Jace Paplow, MLA seniors A.J. Vongsy and Reynaldo Capetillo, E-E seniors Landon Buckridge and Mitch Schaap, RCW senior Trent Kjersten and sophomore Jack Howard, MACCRAY juniors Kelby Jaenisch and Jakob Zuidema, Fulda senior Dalton Slinger and junior Eli Gonzalez and HL-O seniors Ethan Becker and Hunter Lubben.



Submitted photo

Skating debut

Three members of the Blue Mound Figure Skating Club opened the 2017-18 season at the New Ulm Fall Festival Nov. 18-19. Hannah Henning (left), Riley Severtson (middle) and Kendall Buss (right) combined efforts to win eight event titles at the competition. The threesome scored enough points for the BMFSC to place fourth in a field of nine teams led by Sioux Falls. Find complete results for the local skaters on the Star Herald website.

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WINTER STANDINGS

BSC girls' hockey	Waseca 1-0	Marshall 0-0	Fairmont 0-1
New Ulm 1-0	Windom 1-0	Luverne 1-1	Middle River 0-1
			Worthington 0-1

Dining & Entertainment

Sunday, Dec. 3
9am - 1pm
Adults \$7.00 10 & Under \$3.00
American Legion
Luverne
124 W Main

HELD OVER one day only!

Craft Show
324 W Main St
Luverne

Saturday, December 2
10am-2pm

PALACE THEATRE UPCOMING EVENTS

November 30 • 2 p.m.
Afternoon Escape Movie "Same Kind of Different As Me"
(Sponsored by Papik & First Farmer's & Merchants)

December 1-3 • 7 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 2 p.m. Sun.
"Daddy's Home 2"

December 7 • 6 p.m.
Bank Nite FREE Family Movie - "Elf"
(sponsored by Papik & First Farmer's & Merchants)

December 9 • 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Luverne Street Music presents "The Sounds of Christmas"

December 30 • 8 p.m.
Chase & Ovation present "A Salute to the Music of Prince"
Tickets are on sale now for Season Sponsors and Business Underwriters,
Public on sale is Nov. 27

Box office is open Monday-Friday, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
507-283-4339

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Holiday Items
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403 E 7TH ST, HILLS, MN
Home of Collin & Cheri Leuthold

FRI., DEC. 1 • 12-7PM | SAT., DEC. 2 • 9AM-12PM

Hope to see you there!

SANDI DEBRUIN
712-541-7446

Sports Scores & Stories updated daily.

star-herald.com

Star Herald CHURCH

Page 4B November 30, 2017

St. Catherine Catholic Church
203 E. Brown St., Luverne
St. Catherine Ph.: 283-8502; email: stcatherine@iw.net
St. Mary Catholic Church, Ellsworth
Saturday, Dec. 2: 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Catherine. Sunday, Dec. 3: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine; Sunday School and CLW. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 3:30 and 7 p.m. Faith Formation. Thursday, Dec. 7: 9 a.m. Head Start. 1-4 p.m. Fun Day.

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

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
Thursday, Nov. 30: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 7 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Sunday, Dec. 3: 9:15 Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Morning Service. 6 p.m. Evening service. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study at First Baptist Church. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 6:30 p.m. Awana. Thursday, Dec. 7: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study at FBC. 7 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — graceluverne@iw.net
Ron Nichols, Pastor; Stephen Hilding, Associate Pastor
Thursday, Nov. 30: 8:30 a.m. Missions in Action. Friday, Dec. 1: 6:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Saturday, Dec. 2: 5:30 p.m. Worship with Communion. Sunday, Dec. 3: Noisy Sunday. 8:15 a.m. Radio broadcast. 9 a.m. Worship with Communion; First-grade milestones and baptisms. Charitable Giving Conference followed by coffee fellowship; Adult Study; Grades 1-5 Christmas practice. Monday, Dec. 4: 4:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 9 a.m. Staff meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study. 10 a.m. Worship at Tuff Home. 3:15 p.m. Faithweavers. 5:30 p.m. Youth Supper. 6 p.m. Woven Worship with Communion. 7 p.m. Confirmation grades 6-9; Chancel Choir rehearsal. Thursday, Dec. 7: 8:30 a.m. MIA. 1:30 p.m. Endowment Meeting.

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
Friday, Dec. 1: 10 a.m. Church decorating. Sunday, Dec. 3: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 9:15 a.m. Bible Class. 10:15 a.m. Worship. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 11 a.m. Rebekeh Circle at Pizza Ranch. 3:30 p.m. Catechism Class. 6 p.m. Soup Supper. 7 p.m. Advent Vespers.

American Reformed Church
304 N. Fairview Dr., Luverne
Ph. 283-8600; email: office@arcluverne.org
Mike Altena, Pastor
Friday, Dec. 1: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. 4 p.m. REFIT Fitness Class. Saturday, Dec. 2: 9 a.m. Christmas Program practice for grades K-5. 7 p.m. Christmas Cantata. Sunday, Dec. 3: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion. 10:50 a.m. Family Education. 1 p.m. Commons reserved. 7 p.m. Junior RCYF; Senior RCYF. Monday, Dec. 4: 6 p.m. Esther Circle. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 10 a.m. Staff meeting. 6:45 p.m. Bible Study Fellowship. 7 p.m. Ridder Team Meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 4:30 p.m. REFIT Fitness Class. 5:30 p.m. Midweek meal. 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs/YEL. 6:45 p.m. Rachel Circle. 7 p.m. Abide Praise Team. 8 p.m. Adult Choir; Girls Night. Thursday, Dec. 7: 5:30 p.m. Tumbling Tikes.

First Assembly of God Church
1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4
Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 10 a.m. Morning Worship. 6:30 p.m. School of the Holy Spirit. Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Kids Connection; Men's Bible Study with Pastor Ken; Women's Bible Study with Pastor Gloria.

United Methodist Church
109 N. Freeman Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4529; email: luverneumc@iw.net
Dorie Hall, Pastor
Thursday, Nov. 30: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf. Saturday, Dec. 2: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Sunday, Dec. 3: 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:30 a.m. Celebration Service; Hanging of the Greens. Potluck and Cookie Exchange. 4:30 p.m. Genesis/Revelation Bible Study. 6 p.m. ALIVE Youth Group. Monday, Dec. 4: 8 p.m. AA Meeting. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Care Meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 1-3 p.m. Sewing Day. 6:30 p.m. FUEL and Confirmation. 8 p.m. AA meeting. Thursday, Dec. 7: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Food Shelf.

Living Rock Church
500 E. Main St., Luverne
Ph. 449-0057; www.livingrockswmn.org
Billy Skaggs, Pastor
Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship; Kids Rock Children's Ministry. 6 p.m. Youth Ministry. Life groups meet throughout the week.

New Life Celebration Church
110 N. Oakley, Luverne
Ph. 449-6522; email: newlifeceleration@gmail.com
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship at 110 N. Oakley. Every third Thursday: 5 p.m. Food give-away at Senior Citizens Center. Bible Study groups meet at various times and day

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net — www.fpcluverne.com
Sunday, Dec. 3: 9 a.m. Sunday school. 10:15 a.m. Worship. 11:15 a.m. Coffee and fellowship. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 3:15 p.m. Youth Club. 6 p.m. Bells. 6:10 p.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. Choir; Evangelism and Stewardship Committee. Thursday, Dec. 7: 10 a.m. Worship service on Channel 3.

St. John Lutheran Church
803 N. Cedar St., Luverne
Ph. 283-2316, Dial-A-Devotion Ph. 283-4005
email: stjoh@iw.net — www.stjohnlutheranluverne.org
Gary Klatt, Pastor
Thursday, Nov. 30: 9 a.m. Little Lambs devotions. 11:30 a.m. Mary Jane Brown Home devotions by Jessica. Saturday, Dec. 2: 1 p.m. Decorate church for Christmas. 5:30 p.m. Worship. Sunday, Dec. 3: 9 a.m. Worship. 10:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program rehearsal. 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study. 4 p.m. LYF Christmas Party. Monday, Dec. 4: 9 a.m. Circuit Pastors' Conference in Fulda. 7 p.m. Elders Meeting. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Little Lambs Devotions. 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 6 p.m. Advent Worship. 6:40 p.m. Supper. 7 p.m. Senior Choir; KFC/Catechism; High School Bible Study. 8 p.m. Kingdom Builders. Thursday, Dec. 7: 9 a.m. Little Lambs Devotions. 9:45 a.m. Ministerial Association at Christian Reformed Church. 11:45 a.m. Women's Society Christmas Luncheon.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. 669-2855; email: www.zionlutheranhardwick.com
Thursday, Nov. 30: 3:30 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Friday, Dec. 1: 3:30 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3. Sunday, Dec. 2: 9 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study. 10 a.m. Mentor Program. 10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion. 4:30 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Program. Monday, Dec. 4: 1 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 6 p.m. Advent service with Rev. Boeder. 6:45 p.m. Choir practice. 7 p.m. Confirmation at St. John. Thursday, Dec. 7: 3:30 p.m. Worship service on Channel 3.

Ben Clare United Methodist Church
26762 Ben Clare Ave., Valley Springs, S.D.
igtwb@WOW.net
Bill Bates, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

First Lutheran Church
300 Maple St., Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. (605) 757-6662
Intern Pastor Laura Phillips
Sunday, Dec. 3: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. 6-8 p.m. First Lutheran Preschool Academy fundraiser at Shindigz in Brandon. Monday, Dec. 4: 7 p.m. Intern Team Meeting at Palisade Lutheran. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 7 p.m. Confirmation.

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st St., Garretson, S.D.
Ph. (507) 597-6257 — firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Intern Pastor Laura Phillips
Sunday, Dec. 3: 9 a.m. Worship service. 10 a.m. Sunday School. Monday, Dec. 4: 7 p.m. Intern Team Meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 7 p.m. Confirmation at First Lutheran. Thursday, Dec. 7: 1:30 p.m. WELCA meets at home of Dottie Matus.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St., P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
Email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com
Worship Leader Michael Blank
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Church Ph. 507-483-2492; cell 227-7821; email: adrmagumc@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/adrianmagnoliaumc
Kristi Franken, Pastor
Sunday, Dec. 3: 9 a.m. Magnolia Worship Service. Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Magnolia UMC.

Steen Reformed Church
112 W. Church Ave., Steen
Ph. 855-2336
Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship; service broadcast on KQAD. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School. 6 p.m. Youth Group. Evening worship at 6 p.m. first and third Sundays. Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Midweek.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pastor Maggie Berndt-Dreyer
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270
e-mail: bethlehmluth@alliancecom.net
Saturday, Dec. 2: Youth group helps with New Direction Christmas Party in Brandon. Sunday, Dec. 3: 9 a.m. Communion at Tuff Chapel; Sunday School Christmas Program practice. 10:30 a.m. Communion at Bethlehem. Tuesday, Dec. 5: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 3:15 p.m. Bible Study at the Village. Wednesday, Dec. 6: 9 a.m. Quilting. 6:30 p.m. Church Board. 7 p.m. Grades 9-12 Youth Night.

Advent hope, peace

Advent is a season in the church year when God's people prepare for the coming of Christ,



BUILT ON A ROCK

By Gary Klatt, pastor,
St. John Lutheran
Church, Luverne

both in the manger in Bethlehem and in judgment on the Last Day. Christians look at both of these events with joyous anticipation because we know what they mean for us. The birth of Jesus means that God has fulfilled His promise of sending a Savior to deliver sinners from the judgment we deserve because of our sins. The Last Day means the end of suffering and pain in this sinful world and the beginning of eternal life in Heaven. Both are guaranteed by a faithful and loving God, who through his only-begotten Son has paid the price of redemption in full.

Advent is a time of remembering how sinful we have become. We live in a land of prosperity and blessing for everyone. But we fail to recognize what we have because we are constantly tempted to always be looking for more and better instead of cherishing what we have. Our families are broken because we refuse to accept God's design for marriage and family. Our nation struggles to find good leadership because we are so quick to destroy the reputations of one another. Too many leaders see themselves as better than the people they serve. Business is all about making money and we no longer care about quality and customer satisfaction. Even our justice system is broken because it no longer thinks about law as it is written, but now seeks to enforce what is "politically correct." We have good reason to be concerned about the future of our families and our nation.

Advent does provide hope. It reminds us that God is still involved with

his creation by continuing to work his plan for that creation. He remains good and faithful to his promises, every one of them. The entire Bible shows how he has worked throughout history to bring sinners to repentance so that he can put them back on the right path through forgiveness of sins. Every generation of mankind has fought against him, but he keeps sending messengers with his law and gospel, and by his Holy Spirit he has worked faith into the hearts of believers in every one of those generations. And he promises to continue doing it until his Son returns on the last day. This hope is a gift for everyone.

Advent is also a source of peace. For when sins are forgiven, they are replaced with God's own love and holiness. We are filled with the Holy Spirit who guides and directs us to see and believe all that the Scriptures say. With our sins forgiven for the sake of Jesus, we are adopted into the family of God and made full inheritors of eternal life in heaven. Because this is God's gift, paid for by Jesus on the cross, we are assured that it is complete and guaranteed. We can focus on helping others to hear about it so that the Holy Spirit can work in them what he has worked in us.

May this Advent season be a time for you to receive the full measure of God's love as he prepares you for the coming of his Son, Jesus Christ, both Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hills United Reformed Church
410 S. Central Ave., Hills
Office Ph. 962-3254
hillsurc@alliancecom.net
Alan Camarigg, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship Services.

These Weekly Church Page Messages are contributed to God's Work through the Church and by these concerned and responsible citizens & businesses:

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RENTALS

For Rent: one-bedroom apartment near downtown Luverne. \$290 per month. No Pets. Call 605-201-6427. (tc)

For Rent: 2 Bedroom Duplex in Luverne. \$500 a month. No smokers, no pets. Call 507-227-1423 (11.16-12.3)

LOST/FOUND

Missing Boston Terrier has one blue and one brown eye. Last seen Thursday going east from Manley MN. Any info call 605-251-2555 (11.30-12.17)

MISCELLANEOUS

HAVE A UNIQUE SERVICE OR BUSINESS? Get the word out to over 1.4 million households. Call WIDE AREA CLASSIFIEDS today, 507-359-7326. (tc)

WORK WANTED

Wanted: snow removal jobs in the Luverne area. Call 507-920-0573 to inquire. (11.12-12.31)

CARDS OF THANKS

Thank you to all who sent greetings or came to my 90th birthday party. Special thanks to my family for sponsoring it and my Bible Study group for serving it. God has granted me 90 wonderful years and I look forward to what he will do in the future.

Julie Schuur (11.26-11.30)

WINDOWS

We custom build and install Energy Star Therm-O-Loc Windows. Call Mike at Adrian Glass for a free in-home demonstration and estimate. 101 E. Pearl, Adrian, MN 56110. 507-483-2228 or 605-770-7677 or email mbyler@santel.net. (tc)

GIVE AWAY

Free to a good, loving home: three adorable, kittens. Would like them to stay together if possible. Call 507-283-9794. (11.16-12-3)

EMPLOYMENT

Southwestern Center for Independent Living (SWCIL), is seeking an Independent Living (IL) Specialist for Murray, Rock, and Nobles Counties. Full time: 40 hours per week during normal business hours. Must have knowledge of disabilities and their characteristics, reliable transportation, and pass a DHS background study. Primary job functions include: providing independent living skills training, advocacy, and peer counseling services to individuals with disabilities including youth in schools and adults in the community. This position will also provide benefit planning services in coordination with the area Workforce Center. Persons with disabilities constitute more than 50% of SWCIL's governing board and employees in decision-making and staff positions. Persons with disabilities are strongly urged to apply. Minimum qualifications require a four year degree in a human/social services or related field or a two year degree in a human/social services field combined with one year of experience in a disability related position. To apply, send cover letter, resume and 3 references to: ILS Program Manager, SWCIL, 109 S. 5th Street, #700, Marshall MN 56258 or swcil@swcil.com. SWCIL is an equal opportunity employer. (11.16-12.7)

EMPLOYMENT

Adrian Public School is currently seeking applicants for a Long Term Substitute Middle School Language Arts/9-10 English Instructor beginning January 2nd through February 5, 2018. Interested Applicants please send a letter of application, resume, current letters of recommendation, college transcripts, a copy of MN Teaching license, and a completed district application to Mr. Roger Graff, Superintendent, Adrian, Public School, PO Box 40 Adrian, MN 56110 (11.12-11.30)

WANTED: Assistant Teacher for Rock Rapids Head Start Center. Monday- Thursday, 26 hours a week, 37 weeks per year. Eligible for benefits, including IPERS. For more information or to apply online, please visit www.midsioux.org. 1-800-859-2025. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (11.19-12.7)

CNA: Parkview Manor is looking for CNAs! Benefits include health insurance, PERA retirement plan, holiday pay, and a \$2,000 scholarship available for students! We will provide training or pay for experience. Wages are based on experience level. If interested, contact Darnell Krull at (507) 967-2388 or Sam Quam at (507) 967-2482. (tc)

Dispatcher - Rock County Part-time Dispatcher for local public transit system. Must work well with the public and team members, be capable of working with various computer programs, 2-way radios, telephone system, and have the ability to complete multi-tasked projects in a fast-paced environment. Read about us, learn more about this opportunity, and apply online at www.unitedcapmn.org. AA/ADA/EOE Employer. (11.26-11.30)

Dietary Aide: Parkview Manor is looking for part-time Dietary Aides! Benefits include vacation, PERA retirement plan, and holiday pay. Training is available on-site. Wages are based on experience level. If interested, contact Sam or Arlys at 507-967-2482, or come visit us to pick up an application! (tc)

EMPLOYMENT

MN VETERANS HOME

DIRECTOR OF NURSING (RN Admin Supervisor)

Join our staff in "serving those who have served" in a place of opportunity and growth. This position is responsible for the quality of nursing care at the Minnesota Veterans Home. Annual salary: \$71,889 - \$106,675. Great benefits package including low cost health, dental and life insurance; retirement program and generous vacation, sick and holiday leave. For complete job summary, qualifications and to apply: <https://mn.gov/careers>. For further information, call 507-283-6211. EEO/AAO



HELP WANTED FULL TIME INFORMATION SYSTEMS ASSISTANT

Perform operational computer-related tasks within a bank data center located in Luverne. Qualified candidate will have a strong attention to detail, problem solving skills and computer skills with an emphasis in computer applications and processes. Two year post-secondary education with technology emphasis is preferred.

Please send resume to: timnissen@ffmbank.com
First Farmers & Merchants Bank
Attn: Tim Nissen
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Sanford Luverne Medical Center

is currently accepting applications for FT (Full-Time), PT (Part-Time) and PRN (Part-Time as Needed) positions:

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- LPN, HOSPICE - PRN
- PARAMEDIC - FT
- RECEPTIONIST - PT, PRN
- RN, INPATIENT - FT
- SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST - PRN

To apply, visit sanfordhealth.jobs search "Luverne" in the location search bar.



Sanford Luverne Medical Center | 877-243-1372

NOW HIRING

2nd and 3rd shift Assembly Operators, Maintenance Techs and Health, Safety and Environmental Techs

Gates Corporation is excited to join the Community! Formerly Atlas Hydraulics, Gates is growing in Brandon, SD and we are hiring 2nd and 3rd shift Assembly Operators, Maintenance Techs and Health, Safety and Environmental Techs. These roles have competitive pay and benefits.

Applications will be accepted online at www.gates.com/careers or in person at our facility (700 East Redwood Blvd, Brandon SD).

Gates Corporation is the world's leading manufacturer of power transmission belts and fluid transfer products. Gates products are recognized by distributors, original equipment manufacturers, and installers as the premium brand for quality and technological innovation, a reputation we have built for over a century since our founding in 1911.

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IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD NOTICE ROCK COUNTY PROPERTY OWNERS*

*This will affect the amount of property tax you pay in 2018, and it may affect your eligibility for a property tax refund.

HOMESTEAD

Have you purchased or moved into a property in the past year?
Contact the Land Records Office to file a homestead application if you or a qualifying relative occupy the property as a homestead on or before December 1, 2017.

Who is a qualifying relative?
For agricultural property, a qualifying relative includes the child, grandchild, sibling, or parent of the owner or owner's spouse.
For residential property a qualifying relative also includes the owner's uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece.

When do I apply?
You must apply on or before December 15, 2017.
Once homestead is granted, annual applications are not necessary unless they are requested by the Rock County Land Records Director.
Contact the Land Records Office by December 15, 2017 if the use of the property you own or occupy as a qualifying relative has changed during the past year.

CHANGES IN YOUR HOMESTEAD STATUS

If you should sell, move, or for any reason no longer qualify for the homestead classification, you are required to notify the Land Records Office within 30 days of the change in homestead status.

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY OWNERS

If you have agricultural land that you own and farm yourself or have a son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister or other legal entity farm, you may be eligible for a special agricultural homestead.
If you think you are eligible, please stop in the Rock County Land Records Office, or if you have any questions, please call 507-283-5022.

Tom Houselog
Rock County Land Records Director



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Office Manager & Bookkeeper Position
Two Year Accounting Degree Required.
Quickbooks Experience.
Inventory And Sales Tax Knowledge Is A Plus.
Email Resume And References To: ndilly@sondfarms.com

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Rock County STAR HERALD

Christmas Coloring Contest



PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED
IN EACH AGE CATEGORY!
WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN THE
DECEMBER 21 STAR HERALD

RULES

1. Contest is open to children ages 4 through 9.
2. Color the picture below with paints, markers, crayons or colored pencils.
3. Decision of judges is final.

ALL entries must be returned to the Star Herald office no later than NOON ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13.
Please return your colored entry to the Star Herald office rolled or flat - DO NOT FOLD.



NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

AGE _____

PARENTS' NAME(S) _____

PHONE NUMBER _____